



# Our Common Life

## Blackall Range Uniting Churches



Maleny | Montville | Palmwoods

Uniting in Christ | Acting with love | Living with hope | Witnessing in faith | Working for justice

**23 May 2021**

**WELCOME TO WORSHIP**



### Prayers

**9:00am at Maleny**

### Services

**Montville 8:15am: Worship Service**

**Maleny: 9:45am: Worship Service**

**Palmwoods: 15:00pm Garden Reflections**

### RCL Year B Readings

**Acts 2:1-21 or Ezekiel 37:1-14**

**Psalm 104:24-34, 35b**

**Romans 8:22-27 or Acts 2:1-21**

**John 15:26-27; 16:4b-15**

Catch up on our E-Services under E-Broadcasts on the BRUC Web-page: [www.ourcommonlife.org.au](http://www.ourcommonlife.org.au)

### Next Sunday 30 May 2021

**Combined Interactive Family Service 9:45am**

### RCL Year B Readings

**Isaiah 6:1-8 ; Psalm 29**

**Romans 8:12-17 ; John 3:1-17**

## Ron Potter and Piula Publications

Rev Ron Potter has a remarkable ministry of art and literature. For many decades Ron has written reflections, almost weekly, of scripture passages, generally following the cycle of the Revised Common Lectionary. These have been published under *piulapublications.com*. *Piula* is the Samoan word for Beulah, referring to Isaiah 62 vs 4 where the promise of Israel being called Beulah – meaning a happy marriage between God and His people through the bridal metaphor. *Piula* is a name borrowed by Ron

whilst he and Ruth were in ministry in Samoa for a time (late sixties)(Note: Piula Theological College, Samoa now have their own website and Piula Publications).

Persons and groups within Maleny, and later BRUC have benefited from and been blessed by Ron's reflections. And for this particular ministry we give thanks!

This week will be Ron's last contemporary contribution. However, the wonder of the written word is that: "*Words, once they are written, have a life of their own.*" (*Carol Burnett*). So, with Ron's permission we will delve into the archives and continue with these valued reflections.

It is necessary though to acknowledge and thank Ron for his faithful ministry through the written word. Thank you Ron!

## \*\*\*LECTIONARY THEMES\*\*\*

### The Work of God's Spirit in Human Experience

**John 15:26-27; 16:4b-15**

This year, Pentecost and Wesley Day are only one day apart. This might encourage us to focus on the close link between the Holy Spirit's work in our lives and John Wesley's emphasis on experiential religion. On the 24<sup>th</sup> May 1738, the Rev. John Wesley, Fellow of Lincoln College, Oxford, went to a Moravian meeting in Aldersgate Street, London, and there, during a reading from Luther's *Preface to the Epistle to Romans*, felt his heart strangely warmed and felt that he did trust in Christ, Christ alone for his salvation and, "An assurance was given me that He had taken away my sins, even mine, and saved me from the law of sin and death.'

So, we have this emphasis present in the heritage of the Uniting Church that our relationship with God through Christ is more than a theoretical dogma; it is, by the action of God's Spirit in our lives, a lived experience. Not that we are saved by the experience itself, but

the action of the Holy Spirit effects a change in us, a confidence in God's love and salvation, and joy in following him.

The foundations for our faith lie in the Bible, in Church tradition, in reason and in personal experience. When we feel that God is speaking to us through any one of these it is wise to see how that word is confirmed or otherwise via these other channels as well.

- How have you experienced the work of the Holy Spirit in your life?
- Do you experience the Holy Spirit as a 'friend at court' as John 15 and 16 suggest?
- Why is it Important that God's Word spoken through one of the four ways listed above should be validated by the others?
- How is the activity of the Holy Spirit in the Church manifest today?

**Rev Ron Potter**

**Piula Publications**

Palmwoods - Growing Together is on at the **Community Garden at 4pm** this Sunday (Bring your dinner).

We will be planting out our new Bush Tucker garden together then sharing together over a meal.

#### **MEDITATION QUIET DAY 12 June 2021**

There will be a Quiet Day at the Maleny Anglican church, led by Kathryn Houston - a director of the World Council's guiding board and national co-ordinator of the School of Meditation - between 9.30 am - 2.00 pm on Saturday, 12 June. All interested are invited to attend. Bring lunch to share. If you are interested in going, please let me know by Tuesday 8 June so I can advise organisers of our numbers. Graham [0429 944 051] or email [[grandar@bigpond.net.au](mailto:grandar@bigpond.net.au)]

#### **Pastoral Care**

Next pastoral care meeting will be on Thursday **3<sup>rd</sup> June at 4pm** in the Maleny church.

#### **REFLECTION GALLERY**

The artist whose paintings are currently on display in the Montville Uniting Church is Wendy Jarrott-Smith of the Maleny Baptist Congregation. Her bright, abstract acrylics, together with the words she has written to accompany them are arousing much interest. The Gallery is open each day 10am till 3pm.

#### **OFFERING**

Kindly remember to continue to give your **weekly/monthly offerings**. They can be Direct Debited through the ANZ Bank, BSB 014-507 A/c 3762 29735.

## **Ministry Contacts:**

**Minister:** Rev Liena Hoffman 0490 421 874  
[minister@ourcommonlife.org.au](mailto:minister@ourcommonlife.org.au)

Friday off-day.

**Church Office:** Jing Wang 07 5429 6995

Hours: Tuesday/Thursday 9 am to 12 noon

Email: [admin@ourcommonlife.org.au](mailto:admin@ourcommonlife.org.au)

**Community Pastor**

Pastor Kay Nixon

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**Community BRUC Chair:**

Bruce Johnson 0407 180 864

**Internet:**

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Maleny Uniting Church,  
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## **Uniting Church Australia**

In this time the UCA is calling us to specially pray and remember two Issues: Domestic Violence and Family Protection Month during May. A service of lament by QLD UCA can be followed on this link:

<https://vimeo.com/547741591>. Also, National Reconciliation Week runs from 27 May – 3 June.

## **The Wesley Covenant Prayer**

**"I am no longer my own, but thine.**

**Put me to what thou wilt,**

**rank me with whom thou wilt.**

**Put me to doing, put me to suffering.**

**Let me be employed by thee**

**or laid aside for thee,**

**exalted for thee or brought low for thee.**

**Let me be full, let me be empty.**

**Let me have all things, let me have nothing.**

**I freely and heartily yield all things**

**to thy pleasure and disposal.**

**And now, O glorious and blessed God,**

**Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,**

**thou art mine, and I am thine. So be it.**

**And the covenant which I have made on earth,**

**let it be ratified in heaven. Amen."**

**Sunday 30 May**

**Special day**

**It is family service with focus on the children, followed by the AGM and super regreshments!**

**Blackall Range Uniting Churches acknowledge the Jinibara and Kabi Kabi / Gubbi Gubbi peoples who are the traditional owners of this land.**