



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

8 August 2021

*****LECTIONARY THEMES*****

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

There will be no face-to-face worship as we are still in lockdown. However, we invite you to join us in our weekly **Prayers at 9:00am** and to tune in to the **e-service** at

<https://ourcommonlife.org.au/8-august-2021/>. The **RCL Year B Readings** for this week are

**2 Samuel 18:5-9,15,31-33; Psalm 130
Ephesians 4:25-5:2; John 6:35,41-51**

E-Services

Also all our e-services remain available on our website, so you are welcome to revisit them anytime

under E-Broadcasts on the BRUC Web-page:
www.ourcommonlife.org.au

We hope that we will be able to resume our face-to face services next Sunday
Next Sunday 15 August 2021

Montville 8:15am: Worship Service
Maleny: 9:45am: Worship Service
Palmwoods: 10:00am Holy Communion

RCL Year B Readings

1 Kings 2:10-12;3:3-14; Psalm 111
Ephesians 5:15-20; John 6:51-58

Dear God – Father and Sustainer of us all.

As the Olympics come to an end, we are conscious that, in most endeavours in life, there are winners and losers. In all life situations and experiences, we pray for your grace to prevail. Please help winners to respond with humility and understanding of how others feel, and may losers be uplifted, encouraged, and reassured as they realise their very best efforts have not been good enough. Lord, hear our prayer

Rev Graham

Being True to Oneself

Ephesians 4:25-5:2,

'To thine own self be true' are oft-quoted words from Shakespeare's *Hamlet*. But who am I? What is my true self? Sometimes I seem to be many selves. But maybe, as the Scriptures suggest, we have but two major selves that we should be concerned about. There is the old self, and there is the new self. The old self is the self that is basically self-centred – driven by desire. The new self is created after the likeness of God (Ephesians 4:23-24).

That passage in The Letter to the Ephesians goes on to say that this sort of life is marked by honesty and integrity. It avoids both bitterness and hurtful words toward other people. It means reflecting God's own self as revealed by Jesus, living in love as Christ loved us. (Ephesians 5:1) To which self are we going to be true?

Being true to the old self means living lives that are basically selfish. Even religion is engaged in with selfish motives. It's all about me, blessings for me and my family, heaven for me, success for my church, praise for good deeds, congratulations for attainment. The new self gives itself in service for God and for others, accepts the price of love, makes sacrifices for the good of the whole, cares for and encourages those who are in need, longs to see a world where everyone is appreciated and respected, where peace, integrity and cooperation flourish.

In baptism, our new selves are affirmed, but it requires, on our part, cooperation with the Holy Spirit, the intentional putting away of our old selves and the renewal of our minds in the power of the Spirit (Ephesians 4:22) Then let us be true to that new self, the one that reflects the grace and love of God. It's not easy. So much of our capitalist, consumer, individualistic, and hedonistic society is built on the understanding that people always act according to their old selves. It calls for humility and courage to be true to our own new selves, but that is our calling. That is our struggle.

- How do you describe yourself? What gives you your identity?
- What does a life created according to the likeness of God look like?
- Above, we have contrasted the old religious self with the new. What would this contrast look like if we applied it to some other area of life, say politics?
- How much of a struggle do you find it to live the new life signified in your baptism?

Rev Ron Potter

Piula Publications

Pastoral letter from the moderator:

Dear friends in Christ,

Many across our state are in the midst of yet another COVID-19 lockdown. Feelings of frustration, being overwhelmed and exhausted even anxious after what has been a particularly trying time are warranted.

I am reminded of Paul's encouragement to the church in Galatia when he says "Let us not become weary in doing right, for we will reap a harvest if we do not give up" (Gal 6:9)

When there is darkness and despair within our communities, people need a place where they can rejoice and find light. For many, this is found through our church, be that through pastoral care, education through our schools, support services through our agency or chaplaincy within hospitals.

Do not underestimate the importance of our work within our communities. It is valued and we play a vital role.

On behalf of the entire Uniting Church in Queensland, thank you for all you are doing every day in upholding the physical safety and spirit of our congregations and wider communities.

In Christ,

Rev Andrew Gunton

Moderator

Uniting Church in Australia, Queensland Synod

UPDATED FIRST AID BOOKLETS

The booklets requested from Faye Gledhill are available @ Maleny UC for \$3.00

SAFE MINISTRY WITH CHILDREN TRAINING

15 August at 1:30-2:30 pm at Maleny church.



Child Protection Training - all the church members, please make an effort to join this training.

DATE CLAIMER – SUNDAY 29 AUGUST

Frontier Services BBQ Fundraiser after Combined Family Worship at Maleny



OFFERING

Kindly remember to continue to give your weekly/monthly offerings. They can be Direct Debited to: Blackall Range Uniting Church, ANZ Bank, BSB 014-507 A/c 3762 29735.

MALENY UNITING CHURCH FRIENDSHIP GROUP

Invites you to our "PINK CUPPA" in AID of the McGrath Foundation on Thursday 19th August 2021 at 9:30 am The Orangery, Cairncross Corner. \$20 this includes a Donation to the McGrath Foundation



Speaker: Cathy Apelt, Breast Care Support Nurse.

Please reply by 12 August.

- Patricia email pstlcklev@bigpond.com or •
- **Marnie phone 54999394** or • add your name to the list at the back of the church - thanks

Marnie and Patricia

he ain't heavy his my brother, she ain't heavy she's my sister

The theme today is *he ain't heavy his my brother, she ain't heavy she's my sister* (The Hollies). That seems to be Paul's message in Ephesians 4-5. That we need to carry one another (Eph 4:2). This is our calling (Eph 4:1). Paul uses several metaphors, including one of undressing and dressing - "take off the old" and "put on the new" (Eph 4: 20-23) and this means as the late Rev Ron Potter reminds us in his reflection on Ephesians 4-5, is to live different lives: to be transformed in Christ by the Spirit.

The Hollies sing:

The road is long
With many a winding turn
That leads us to who knows where
Who knows where

And that is major difference, we as Christians know where the long winding road leads. Our Lord, said "I am the bread of life. I am the way, the truth and the life. I am the light of the world. I have come from heaven so that those who come to me may have eternal life. May have life in abundance."

That is why we pray: "give us this day our daily bread!" That is why we carry one another in love, in Christ. Shalom Liena

Ministry Contacts:

Minister: Rev Liena Hoffman 0490 421 874
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

Community Pastor Pastor Kay Nixon
kaynxn43@gmail.com 0412 539020

Tongan Siale Lolohea 0476 306 815

Community BRUC Chair: Bruce Johnson 0407 180 864
Internet: <http://www.ourcommonlife.org.au>



Blackall Range Uniting Church
Maleny Uniting Church,
Montville Uniting Church, Link:
Palmwoods Uniting Church

Fund Raising Ideas

Containers for cash

The containers for cash fund raiser has kicked off. Thanks to all who are already dropping their cans and bottles. To help you here is what can be cashed and what cannot

C10478264



Plate200 and/or Cuppa100

These are fun fundraising activities! Invite 10 persons to dinner and have them contribute \$20 to the dinner this will raise \$200. And make sure to invite a couple you do not know well or want to introduce to others!. And if like me, you cannot cook, but can bring ice-cream and strawberries for desert, b uddy up with someone who can cook! Or invite 10 persons for a cuppa and scone and ask them to contribute \$10 for the bottomless cuppa and scones and raise \$100!!

