



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

19 June 2022

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

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



Face to Face Worship Service

Sunday 19 June 2022

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

RCL Year C Readings

1 Kings 19:1-4, (5-7), 8-15a & Psalm 42 & 43
Isaiah 65:1-9 & Psalm 22:19-28
Galatians 3:23-29 Luke 8:26-39

Next Sunday 26 June 2022

Montville 8:15am: Worship Service
Maleny: 9:45am: Worship Service
Palmwoods: 15:00pm Reflections in the Garden

RCL Year C Readings

2 Kings 2:1-2, 6-14 and Psalm 77:1-2, 11-20
1 Kings 19:15-16, 19-21 and Psalm 16
Galatians 5:1, 13-25; Luke 9:51-62

Prayer for the Holy Spirit: St Anselm (11th Century)

O holy Counselor,
 sweetest consolation of the sorrowful,
 gracious Spirit come down now with your mighty power
 into the depths of our hearts.
 Gladden there with your brightness every dark retreat,
 and enrich all with the dew of your abundant comfort.
 Kindle our hearts with holy favour,
 that the incense of our prayers and praises
 may ever go up to you, our God;
 through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord. Amen.

Identity

Galatians 3: 23-29

The wearing of a uniform identifies people as belonging to a particular group or organisation. Think of the military or police force, school or sporting team, corporate body or nursing staff. It also helps to unify the group. When wearing a uniform, people are reminded that they do not function purely as individuals, they are part of a team. Individual distinctions fade in the light of a common identity.

So it is with those who place their faith in Christ. Other ways of identifying themselves fade into insignificance compared with the Christ-identity that they share. In writing to the Galatian Christians, Paul referred to the early baptismal practice of putting a white robe on people as they came out of the waters of baptism. This represented being clothed with Christ. Christ is the uniform that over-rides all other identities, things like ethnicity, social standing or sexuality (Jew or Greek, slave or free, male or female). Of course, differences still exist, but they do not define us. We are all, irrespective of our differences, equally children of God and heirs of God's promise.

The formation of the Uniting Church in Australia forty-two years ago is a continuing reminder of this. Division occurs within the Body of Christ when other identities are given preference over the identity we have in Christ. When we identify more with some doctrine than with Christ the unity is shattered. When we identify more with some political stance than we do with Christ we divide the Church. When we identify more with some particular denomination than we do with Christ we undermine that unity which is both Christ's will and gift for his Church. When we identify more with our cultural or racial identity than we do with Christ we undermine the unity that we have in Christ.

- During your life, what uniforms have you worn? Did you feel as though they gave you a particular identity at the time?
- What gives people their identity, that is, their sense of who they are?
- In your life, which of the following identities rivals the identity you have in Christ: political, cultural, racial, national, familial, occupational, doctrinal, denominational, or other?
- Underlying Galatians 3:23-29 is the message that God is reaching out to all people through Jesus Christ. What implication does this carry for us today?

Rev Ron Potter

Piula Publications

COMING UP for next weeks– Details below

- Wednesday – Maleny Meditation at 8:30am
- Friday – Maleny KYB at 1:30pm
- Tuesday 21st June – Cuppa Craft at Maleny Church 9:30 – 12 noon

TASK GROUP UPDATE

The task group has commenced its work. A lot has been already discussed, but here are just two points that were highlighted:

1. Why do Christians find it so hard to share their faith with others?
2. How does the wider community perceive the church: the wider church, and specifically our Blackall Range churches? As part of this process, we want to hear from church members and groups from each of our 3 worship centres. Be on the lookout for ways that you can contribute, before the task group meets again on Wednesday 29 June.

MEN'S GROUP

Now that the rainy weather seems to have passed, it is again time to stir ourselves into some action. In response to a number of requests, we plan to meet at the **amphitheatre** (with a warming fire) for a casual BBQ about **midday next Thursday** (23rd June). It is a chance to reconnect. BYO food and drink. All men are welcome. Suggestions for future outings will be welcomed.

THE NEW VINE

Copies of the *Winter edition of The New Vine* are available at the back of each church today. Copies are not labelled, so just feel free to take one.

LADIES ECUMENICAL MORNING TEA

Saturday 25 June at 9.30 am at Catholic Church.
Nancy

We pray our blessings on Pastor Adam Gallagher, his wife Kylie as they conclude their ministry at Maleny Baptist Church on the 19th June 2022. Pastor Adam is taking up a full-time placement with St Vincent's Care Services. And our prayers are with our friends at the Baptist Church as their journey continues.

Wednesday 29th June 9:30-12:30 TULE meeting at MNC and the topic is Resilience. Speakers are: Tricia Cranney (Uniting Care Disaster Relief) Reb Deborah Bird (Anglican Church) who will be speaking on Narrative and Grief and Rev Liena (Uniting Church) who will be speaking on Therapy of Liturgy in Grief.

CONTAINERS FOR CHANGE

The "cash for cans" and bottles programme is rumming with a collection point in the grassed area at the rear of IGA.

Any recyclable cans and bottles generate 10c each for Church funds an easy revenue earner!!!

Please quote the church account number **C10478264** when you

deposit these items at the collection point...
..... Stan McCallum



Montville Uniting Church – NEW DISPLAY

The Gallery features some very interesting works of art by Julie Mengel. Julie says that these works are the embodiment of her explorations over the past few years, as we have all experienced isolation in one form or another. At her home in the hills of Bli Bli, she has been able to slow down and take time to enjoy the feel of the landscape, her creek and the local beaches.

Thank you for your support. Please continue to pray for the Gallery and its outreach.

Grace and peace to you. Barbara Willcocks and Ruth Potter
rpotter@westnet.com.au 07 5478 6484 or 0455 444 453
barbara.willcocks@gmail.com 07 5478 6995 or 0403 541 257

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

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 Community Siale Lolohea 0476 306 815
Internet: <http://www.ourcommonlife.org.au>

The Church Hall Hire:

<https://ourcommonlife.org.au/calendar-hall-hire/#>
Or emailadmin@ourcommonlife.org.au or 5429 6995



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

Blackall Range Uniting Church acknowledges the first peoples who are the traditional owners of the land upon which we live and worship.