



**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

**31 July 2022**

**WELCOME TO WORSHIP**



I am the light  
of the world!

**Face to Face Worship Service**

**Sunday 31 July 2022**

**Maleny: 9:45am: Combined Worship Service**  
**RCL Year C Readings**

Hosea 11:1-11 and Psalm 107:1-9, 43  
 Ecclesiastes 1:2, 12-14; 2:18-23 and Psalm 49:1-12  
 Colossians 3:1-11; Luke 12:13-21

**Next Sunday 7 August 2022**

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

**RCL Year C Readings**

Isaiah 1:1,10-20, Psalm 50:1-8, 22-23;  
 Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16, Luke 12:32-40

Gracious God  
 Thank – you for loving  
 me, my family and my  
 community. Help me to  
 love others as you love  
 me.  
 Amen

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

## Living Heaven Now

**Colossians 3:1-11, 12-17**

We speak of heaven as being a place, but we know that it is not a physical location. It belongs to the realm of spirit. In contrast to the life that we experience day by day, life there is perfect. Everything is as God wants it to be. Instead of people living away from God, they live in intimate, love-filled relationship with God. Instead of life being taken over by selfish desires, life is actually lived in love for God and for one another.

People reflect the love-filled nature of God as they were always meant to. Rather than thinking of it as a place though, I find it more helpful to think of heaven as a state of being or another form of existence. People like Paul thought that, in the resurrection, Jesus entered into this form of existence and now shares in God's reign, or as he put it, "is seated at the right hand of God". However, Christ is not remote or out of contact, and the boundary between earth and heaven is not as hard and fast as people usually imagine.

Right here in this world, through our relationship with Jesus Christ, we can know something of the life of heaven, of life lived in a joyful and faithful relationship with God. It doesn't matter what religious denomination a person belongs to, whether they see themselves as top dog in their world or a reject, whether they are refined or rough and ready, all that matters is Christ. Through him, we are not restricted to living only on the earthly level; we are introduced to living in the heavenly dimension.

We need then to live as people who belong in that realm. That means setting our minds and hearts on the things of heaven and avoiding those things that arise out of selfish desire. Colossians 3:5 and 8 gives a list of the sort of things to avoid while Colossians 3:12-17 gives a more positive indication of what that involves.

- How does the idea of heaven put forward here differ from popular concepts of heaven?
- Which is more helpful to you, to think of heaven as a place or to think of it as another form of existence?
- Do you have any advice to give to people trying to get rid of the things listed in Colossians 3:5 and 8?
- What strikes you as most important in Colossians 3:12-17?

**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 2<sup>nd</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> Aug – Cuppa Craft at Maleny Church 9:30 – 12 noon

### ALL WELCOME :

#### STORY TELLING & SOUP ON SUNDAY

Malcolm and Nancy Baker are hosting a casual get together at **Mary Cairncross Park at noon on Sunday 14th August**. We hope to spend time with friends swapping stories about the past 80 years of Malcolm's life. (If you are unable to attend and would care to contribute please email your memories to [malcolmb737@gmail.com](mailto:malcolmb737@gmail.com)).

Food provided will be soup and bread rolls. Please bring your thermoses and chairs, and a plate or container of anything else you might like to share. Please RSVP by 7th August

#### COMBINED SERVICE AND CONGREGATIONAL MEETING.

This will be held next Sunday 31 July at Maleny, commencing at 9:45am.

A family friendly worship time followed by the Congregational Meeting. At the meeting the revised budget will be presented. Plus an update from the Mission Task Group that has been considering the future ministry options of our Blackall Range Congregation. The task group will present their findings and recommendations for the future directions of the congregation. These findings and recommendations will be emailed later this week. Please take time to read this before the meeting. We encourage all members to be present, your chance to be fully aware of our future options and to be ready to be involved as you can. Thanks for your prayerful support for the work of the task group, as we choose the "road less travelled".

#### NEXT NEW VINE - CONTRIBUTIONS PLEASE

It is time to start preparing for our next NV edition. Given recent developments within our congregation and the work of the Task Group etc, not to mention the gospel imperative, this edition will concentrate on **CHANGE**. I'm asking for contributions on this topic please - change of life circumstances, how we adapt to change, what change means, conversion - prose, poetry, photos - whatever you think would be useful, would be appreciated. Never contributed before? Well let's change that, and have a go! Spring a surprise in the Spring edition. Contributions by **Sunday 21 August** would help enormously.

Many thanks in advance, Graham

#### GARAGE SALE

Bring one, Bring all .. Our annual Garage Sale is happening August 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> this year.

Set up in the morning of Friday 26<sup>th</sup> and clean up late afternoon on Saturday.

We are also looking for people to help set up, sell and clean up .. Please add you name to the roster at Church.

So start collecting items that you want to donate! All funds raised will be distributed to Maleny community organisations.



#### FAMILY PICNIC

A family picnic for Sunday September 18<sup>th</sup> at Bob Grice's place from 12noon. All welcome and bring a plate to share.



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](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

[kayn43@gmail.com](mailto:kayn43@gmail.com) 0412 539020

**Tongan Community** Siale Lolohea 0476 306 815

**Internet:** <http://www.ourcommonlife.org.au>

#### For Church Hall Hire:

<https://ourcommonlife.org.au/calendar-hall-hire/#>

Or email: [admin@ourcommonlife.org.au](mailto:admin@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**