



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

**NOTICES:**

**Face to Face Services**  
**Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> December**

Montville: 8.15  
 Maleny: 9.45am  
 Communion Service  
 Palmwoods: 10am  
 Worship Service

RCL Year C Readings  
 (Advent 2)

Is 11:1-10  
 Ps 72:1-7, 18-19  
 Rom 15:4-13  
 Mt 3:1-12

**Face to Face Services**  
**Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> December**

Montville: 8.15  
 Communion Service  
 Maleny: 9.45am  
 Palmwoods: 16.30  
 Carols in the Garden

RCL Year C Readings  
 (Advent 3)

Is 35:1-10  
 Ps 146:5-10 or Jas 5:7-10  
 Mt 11:2-11P  
 Lk 1:46b-55

**COMING UP NEXT WEEK**

**Tuesday:** Cuppa Craft  
**Wednesday:** 8:30am Maleny Meditation  
**Wednesday:**  
**Friday:** 1:30pm Maleny KYB  
**Sunday:** Carols in Palmwoods  
 Community Garden

**COMING UP DECEMBER**

14<sup>th</sup> Carols, Montville  
 18<sup>th</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup> Christmas Lights Festival  
 20<sup>th</sup> Carols at Erowal  
**Christmas Eve Service** – 7pm Combined  
 at Maleny  
**Christmas Day Service Times** –  
 7am Montville  
 8am Maleny  
 9.30am Palmwoods

**Montville Reflection Gallery DISPLAY**  
**The NEW Christmas Display is up! Come and enjoy!**  
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**Tuesday 20th December 11am, Carols at Erowal**  
 Carols at Erowal have been postponed to Tuesday the 20<sup>th</sup>!  
 Calling for good voices to join Helen Bock and Dorothy at the annual  
 Erowal Carol singing with the residents. Always, a joyous and life-  
 transforming event!

**Maleny Christmas Lights and Tree Festival**

The Teams Roster for our Christmas Lights and Trees festival is  
 now available.

Each night of the festival, we have a great time of fellowship with  
 visitors and each other. It is a real opportunity for mission.

Consider joining a team or creating your own team of 4 to cover a  
 night. It's as easy as filling in the Roster form on the front table at  
 Church.

For further info contact: Peter Callaghan 0458 263 322 for  
 questions.  
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**Liena on Leave 5-15 December 2022**

Liena is finally crossing the Tasmin to spend a few days with her  
 brothers in Inglewood, Taranaki. If you need pastoral care in this  
 time please contact:

Maleny: Bruce Johnson (0407180864);  
 Montville: George W (0418806522)  
 Palmwoods: Kay N (0412539020).

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**UNITING CARE'S 'FAMILY, CHILD AND  
 INDIVIDUAL SUPPORT'**

For families struggling through a difficult  
 separation, Christmas can be an especially  
 stressful time. UnitingCare's 'Family, Child and  
 Individual Support' (FCIS) helps families navigate  
 these trying situations through mediation. This  
 includes interconnected services like children's  
 counselling and helping parents design a Parenting  
 Plan that has the child's best interest at heart. For  
 one family who became clients of FCIS just six  
 weeks before Christmas, donations to the  
 UnitingCare Christmas Appeal meant the difference  
 between a joyful and disappointing holiday. When  
 the parent's separation left mum and her two young  
 boys without a Christmas tree, FCIS was able to  
 provide a small gesture of hope: a gift voucher that  
 allowed the purchase of a tree, decorations and  
 lights. Your generosity this Christmas has the  
 potential to effect real change for real families. If  
 you are in a position to give to a disadvantaged  
 family this Christmas, [please donate here.](#)



## I BELIEVE

The Advent wreath with the candles is remembered differently. Some have 4 Advent Sundays candles of Hope, Peace, Joy & Love. My reflections this year follow the tradition of 4 Sundays of Hope, Faith, Joy, Peace and the centre candle, Love, being the Christ candle which is lit on Christmas Day. This 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday then we reflect on faith. It is also known as the Bethlehem candle as we are called to reflect upon Mary and Joseph's faith as they travel up to Bethlehem and the birth of their child, Jesus Christ, the Saviour.

My reflection is around a well-known song: *I Believe* (by Mahalia Jackson)

*I believe for every drop of rain that falls; A flower grows;  
I believe that somewhere in the darkest night, A candle glows;*

*I believe for everyone that goes astray; Someone will come to show the way, I believe, I believe,  
I believe above the storm the smallest prayer, Will still be heard,*

*I believe that someone in the great somewhere, Hears every word, Every time I hear a newborn baby cry, Or touch a leaf, Or see the sky, Then I know why,  
I believe, Every time I hear a newborn baby cry, Or touch a leaf, Or see the sky, Then I know why, I believe (Why I believe)*

Indeed, it is when we reflect upon the marvel of the birth of a baby that we are compelled to believe that there is greater Being, a divine being. Similarly, when we stop to pick up a fallen leaf or touch a new spring leaf, or see the wonders of the sky bright blue or sketched in colours of sunrises and sunsets we ourselves cannot create or recreate, we cannot but acknowledge and profess the presence and reality of a mighty Creator.

Yet it is also the birth of a baby, yet another baby that reminds of the population of the world, the neglect and abuse of babies. A dry leaf in spring reminds us of climate change. Smoke and dust in the sky reminds us of droughts and disasters. These experiences cast doubt on our faith, and some even lose their faith in light of the realities of our world today.

Advent reminds us that God revealed his heart through the birth of Jesus Christ. God's love for the world, creation and creatures is manifest in the coming of Jesus Christ. Truly the Saviour of our crazy amazing world: awesome, yet also awful. In this time of Advent, as we reflect upon Bethlehem, the birth of Christ and the faith of Joseph and Mary, may the Holy Spirit encourage us to *indeed believe* each time we hear a new born baby, cry, or touch a leaf or see the sky. Shalom Liena

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**Kindly remember to continue with your offerings. They can be Direct Debited to Blackall Range Uniting Church, ANZ Bank, BSB 014-507, A/C 3762-29735**

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### Advent: Journey to Joy

QLD Synod are following a *Journey to Joy* this advent. Welcome to join them in your personal Bible study of Connect Groups. All kinds of resources are available at this link:

[Advent 2022 Resources – Uniting Church in Australia, Queensland Synod \(ucaqld.com.au\)](http://ucaqld.com.au)

WE are closing our season of JOY and will be entering a season of PEACE

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### Finances: Budget vs Actual Offerings

Actual offerings to 20 Nov are: \$53,528, being approx 10% behind budgeted figure of \$60,577. We give thanks for offerings received and pray for the management of our resources.

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Cash for Cans Reference Number C10478264

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### Morning Prayer For Fellow-Prisoners Dietrich Bonhoeffer

O God, early in the morning I cry to you.  
Help me to pray  
And to concentrate my thoughts on you;  
I can't do this alone.

In me there's darkness,  
But with you there's light;  
I'm lonely, but you don't leave me;  
I'm feeble in heart, but with you there's help;  
I'm restless, but with you there's peace.  
In me there's bitterness,  
but with you there's patience;  
I don't understand your ways,  
But you know the way for me.

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### Ministry Contacts:

Minister: Rev Liena Hoffman  
0490 421 874

[minister@ourcommonlife.org.au](mailto:minister@ourcommonlife.org.au)

Friday off-day.

Church Office: 07 5429 6995

Hours: Tuesday 9 am to 12 noon

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

Community Pastor: Pastor Kay Nixon  
0412 539020

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

Tongan Community: Siale Lolohea  
0476 306 815

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

For Church Hall Hire:

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

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