



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

NOTICES:

Face to Face Services
Sunday 18th December

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

RCL Year A Readings
 (Advent 4)

Is 7:10-16
 Ps 80:1-7, 17-19
 Rom 1:1-7
 Mt 1:18-25

Face to Face Services
Saturday/Sunday Christmas

Christmas Eve Service –
 7pm Combined at Maleny
Christmas Day Service Times –
 7am Montville
 8am Maleny
 9.30am Palmwoods

RCL Year A Readings
 Isaiah 9:2-7; 52:7-12; 62:6-12;
 Psalm 96, 97 & 98
 Titus 2:11-14; 3:4-7;
 Hebrews 11:1-12;
 Luke 2:1-20; John 1:1-14

COMING UP NEXT WEEK

Sunday to Friday - Christmas Lights and Trees Festival, Maleny: 7pm – 9pm daily

Tuesday - Carols at Erowal at 11am

Christmas Eve Service – 7pm Combined at Maleny

Christmas Day Service Times –
 7am Montville
 8am Maleny
 9.30am Palmwoods

MONTVILLE REFLECTION GALLERY DISPLAY



The NEW Bush Christmas Display is up! Come and enjoy!

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

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

CHRISTMAS BOWL APPEAL

The annual Christmas Bowl Appeal is supported by many individuals throughout Australia and in our own congregation. The theme this year is 'Give Hope'.

Packs with envelopes and other information will be available this Sunday.

MALENY CHRISTMAS LIGHTS AND TREE FESTIVAL

Many thanks to all those who have signed up on the roster for our Christmas Lights and Trees festival. And, for those who have done some marvelous work with preparations for the event.

If you are interested in assisting with food treats, please add your name to the roster and tick the Food section.

For further info contact: Peter Callaghan 0458 263 322.

Tuesday 20th December 11am, Carols at Erowal

Carols at Erowal have been postponed to Tuesday the 20th!

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!

Carols are definitely on!



LETTER TO MATTHEW

Matthew 1:18-25

Dear Matthew,

I have just a few questions to ask you. You set out to tell us how the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place, but you say nothing about the manger or the shepherds. I know Mark skipped right over the topic, and John gave it a very different treatment, but Luke told us about those things. Why not you?

The other thing is, you trace Jesus' family tree back through Joseph, yet you say that Joseph was not his biological father. I can see that you were trying to emphasise that Jesus embodied God in a unique and thorough-going way. I get that. But if God used Mary to bring his Son, the Messiah, to birth, why not also Joseph?

Your story reminds me of the beginning of the Bible where it says that the Spirit of God moved over the invisible, formless nothing and spoke creation into existence. In saying that Jesus was conceived by the Spirit, were you trying to say that, through him, God brought a new creation into existence? Paul spoke about that.

I think I understand why you included the story about the wise men. You wanted it known that Jesus was the Messiah for all people, not just for Jewish people.

I hope you don't mind me asking these questions. Thank you for collecting the material about Jesus and putting it together so powerfully. You have given us a remarkable and wonderful picture of Jesus. Thank you.

Rev Ron Potter Piula Publications

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

NEW VINE UPDATE

The New Vine is published and copies have been emailed.

Printed copies will be available at Maleny, Montville and Palmwoods from this Sunday.

Cash for Cans Reference Number C10478264

ADVENT PRAYER: OPEN OUR EYES

(Wild Good Worship Group)

Open our eyes, Lord,
Especially if they *are half-shut*
Because we are tired of looking,
Or *half open*
Because we fear we see too much,
Or *bleared with tears*
Because yesterday and today and tomorrow
Are filled with the same pain,
Or *contracted*
Because we only look at what we want to see.

Show us the world as in your sight,
Riddled by debt, deceit and disbelief
Yet also
Shot through with possibility
For recovery, renewal redemption.

And lest we fail to distinguish vision from fantasy,
Today, tomorrow, this week,
Open our eyes to one person
And with all this,
Open our eyes, in yearning, for Jesus.

MINISTRY CONTACTS:

Minister: Rev Liena Hoffman
0490 421 874

minister@ourcommonlife.org.au

Friday off-day.

Church Office: 07 5429 6995

Hours: Tuesday 9 am to 12 noon

Email: admin@ourcommonlife.org.au

Community Pastor: Pastor Kay Nixon
0412 539020

kayn43@gmail.com

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0476 306 815

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For Church Hall Hire:

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

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