



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

NOTICES:

Face to Face Services Services 2nd July

Montville: 8.15am Service
Maleny: 9.45am Communion
Palmwoods: 10:00am

RCL Year A Readings (Pentecost 5)

Genesis 22:1-14;
Jeremiah 28:5-9
Ps 13 & 89
Rom 6:12-23
Matt 10:40-42

Face to Face Services Services 9th July

Montville: 8.15am Communion
Maleny: 9.45am Service
Palmwoods: 3pm Reflections in
Community Garden

RCL Year A Readings (Pentecost 6)

Genesis 24:34-67;
Zechariah 9:9-12
Ps 45 & 145
Rom 7:15-25a
Matt 11:16-30

COMING UP NEXT WEEK

Tuesday 4th 9:30- noon Cuppa
Craft @ Maleny
11:00am Erowal Service
Wednesday – 8.30am Meditation at
Maleny Church
Friday – 1.30pm KYB at Maleny UC

COMING UP IN JULY

Friday the 14th at 11am Joyce
Butterfield;s Celebration of Life at
Maleny UC
Tuesday the 18th at 10am - Blue
Care's 70th birthday at Erowal.
Sunday 30th at 9:45 at Maleny -
Congregational Servcie

IN BRIEF

Maleny Neighbourhood Centre has put out an
urgent call for men's winter clothes.

Uniting News 27th June 2023

There is a lot of news items in this week's
Uniting News. Perhaps think of subscribing to it?
Here is the e-mail: uniting.news@ucaqld.com.au.

NAIDOC Week 2-9 July 2023



The UCA joins many
others in celebrating
NAIDOC week (who
remembers what
NAIDOC is an
acronym of? Answer
on 2nd page)

This year the theme "*For Our Elders*". **Wesley
Mission Queensland** has prepared a resource book,
including First Nations' Inspired recipes! Here is a
link to the resource book: [Download the resource here](#)

UnitingCare Queensland has also a hub or
resources and calendar of events: [Click here to view
events across the state!](#)

Let us join others in celebrating NAIDOC week.

Joyce Butterfield: Thanksgiving Service

A thanksgiving service celebrating the life of Joyce
Butterfield will be on Friday 14th July at 11am at Maleny
UC.

Ministry Contacts:

Minister: Rev Liena Hoffman

0490 421 874

minister@ourcommonlife.org.au

Friday off-day.

Church Office Contact:

Peter C mobile: 0458 263 322

Hours: Tuesday 9 am to 12 noon

Email: admin@ourcommonlife.org.au

Community Pastor: Pastor Kay Nixon on mobile

0412 539020

kaynrxn43@gmail.com

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

For Church Hall Hire:

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

**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

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



Blackall Range UC inc: Maleny UC, Montville UC, Palmwoods UC.



**AND from From the Mary
Burnett newsletter: June
20233 vol 6 Issue 60
Graham's Reflections**

Greetings Mary Burnett Presbytery, and God's richest blessings to you all. "Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light." (Matthew 11:28-30) As I have travelled around the Presbytery meeting with ministers, pastors, chaplains, congregations, and church councils, there is a distinct commonality in almost all conversations - church work is heavy going. Church leaders are tired, frustrated, and increasingly feeling discouraged. The heavy load of leadership is taking a heavy toll on people. Leaders are working harder, and largely with no recognisable gain. Trying to balance budgets, source and train volunteers, fill preaching and music rosters, manage property and administration, and still find the energy and time to be true to the core purpose of the church - making disciples, can extract a heavy toll. In our lectionary readings for July we hear then a very welcome passage from Matthew 11. Above our struggles, weariness and tears comes the beckoning cry of Jesus, "Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest". The most obvious message - that of comfort and rest, is why so many people cling tightly this passage. What an attractive promise to anyone who has felt driven into the ground by forces that seem too great for us. But this passage holds so much more than just a promise of release from any troubles. It is not a guarantee of an easy life. Jesus is not promising to solve our problems or remove the need for us to work through them.

You see, the image of the yoke is not one that symbolises relaxation or inaction. It is a tool for heavy work. A yoke is a wooden bar that runs across the necks of two animals of burden

(usually bullocks or donkeys) to allow them to pull together to share the load. A few years ago, our family visited the Bunya Mountains and went on a wagon ride. I sat up the front because there was no room left in the back. The teamster was keen to tell me about the horses. And as with other animals that are teamed together, he had one older more experienced horse with a younger one. While the younger was strong, it needed to learn from the other and takes its lead to know what was expected. Jesus in offering his yoke says, "allow me to not only share the load, but also allow me to teach you how to deal with these burdens." "Come to me," says Jesus, "and get into the harness with me and work shoulder to shoulder with me." "Learn from me", Jesus also declares, "for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls". Rest comes not from trying to offload our encumbrance but learning from the gentle and loving heart of our Lord how to find rest, even while shouldering the responsibilities of leadership and discipleship. This passage is not just a message of comfort, but a call to change our ways and commit ourselves to life connected to Jesus. He is not saying this work will be easy, but that the yoke he offers differs from the crippling yoke of society, of religiosity, or of meeting other peoples' and our own expectations. Fulfilment will only be found in taking on the yoke that fits right, putting our shoulder to the task for which we were created, and the best news of all is that that means being yoked to one who is gentle and humble in heart and who enables our whole being to relax and be at peace, despite the pressures surrounding us. Perhaps, (a little tongue-in-cheek) this is an opportune time to point out our need for someone to take up the important burden of Presbytery Chairperson. In all seriousness though, the image of taking on any challenging role like this may not immediately sound like an image of rest, however Jesus promises that he will help shoulder the load, and when yoked to him, the fit can be easy and light, and give rest to your soul. Perhaps he is calling you! May you be blessed, and find rest labouring not only for, but with the master. Grace and peace,

Pastor Graham Huth

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