



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 13th August

Montville: 8:15 (Holy Communion)
Maleny: 9.45am
Palmwoods: 3pm Reflections in
Community Garden

RCL Year A Readings

(Pentecost 11)
Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28
1 Kings 19:9-18
Ps 105:1-6, 16-22, 45b & Ps 85:8-13
Rom 10:5-15
MT 14:22-33

Face to Face Services Services 20th August

Montville: 8:15
Maleny: 9.45am
Palmwoods: 10am (Holy
Communion)

RCL Year A Readings

(Pentecost 12)
Genesis 45:1-15
Isaiah 56:1, 6-8
Ps 67 & Ps 133
Rom 11:1-2a, 29-32
Mt 15:(10-20), 21-28

COMING UP NEXT WEEK

Wednesday – 8.30am Meditation
at Maleny Church

Friday – 1.30pm KYB at Maleny
UC

COMING UP IN AUGUST

16th August The New Vine
contributions due

17th August Ladies Friendship

26th August Ladies Ecumenical
Morning Tea

27th August AGM

IN BRIEF

THE NEW VINE

It's time to stop thinking about the Spring Edition and to send your SMORGASBORD contribution to grandar@bigpond.net.au no later than Wednesday, 16 August. That's this coming Wednesday! I'll stay up late to collect from any stragglers. Thanks. Graham.

LADIES' FRIENDSHIP GROUP 17TH AUGUST: OPEN INVITATION

"PILGRIMAGE to IONA and BEYOND" will be presented by Heather Johnson on Thursday, 17th August at 9.30am to 11.30am at Maleny UC.

This is an open invitation from the Ladies' Friendship Group to all who would like to hear about some of Heather and Bruce's recent overseas adventures.

Contact: Barbara, 5494 2238.

LADIES ECUMENICAL MORNING TEA is on Saturday 26th August. It will be at the Baptist Church commencing at 9.30am. Speaker Deanna Kelly. Names on sign on sheet at Maleny or phone Ruth 0447004950

GARAGE SALE

A garage sale at the church is planned for Saturday 30th September at Maleny UC. Please look around your house and decide what you don't want anymore and would like to be sold at the garage sale. Goods can be left in Liena's garage by arrangement or delivered to the church just before the sale. There will be a sheet at the back of the church for you let the organisers know how you can help.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The AGM of the Blackall Range Uniting Church will be held at Maleny UC on Sunday 27 August 2023 at 11:30am. Please prayerfully consider the important business we will be considering and voting on, and come if you are able. The business includes the budget for this financial year, a proposal for restructuring the BRUC Council and governance of the church and a draft position description for elders in our church. We will also officially receive the audited financial report from the last financial year and vote for who will fill the new Council positions.

E: admin@ourcommonlife.org.au

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

The Possible Impossibility

Matthew 14:22-33

It's impossible! It's ridiculous! I can't go on! It's beyond me! I'm sinking into a heap! Does anything of that resonate with you? Then you will have feelings for Peter. In the dark, early hours of the morning the disciples were making heavy going of rowing their boat across the wind-swept, turbulent sea when they recognized Jesus coming toward them across the water.

No, he reassured them, it really was he, they had no need to be afraid. Yes, he told Peter, it's OK for you to come meet me, so Peter leapt out of the boat and went across the water, but he hadn't gone far before he realized what he had done. People can't walk on water. It's impossible. And he couldn't. He began to sink. "Save me!" he cried, and Jesus took him by the hand rebuking him for his lack of faith.

Faith overcomes fear, but if fear takes over faith goes out the window. With faith the impossible becomes possible. They clambered back into the boat and the crew resumed their rowing, but now it was different. The wind abated and the waves subsided and they sensed the presence of the very Lord of Creation. The Creator is present in the Christ as Christ is present in the Creator. To place our faith in Jesus Christ is to entrust ourselves to the God of creation.

Faith moves mountains, but faith in God as embodied by Jesus transforms the mountains from being threatening, foreboding obstacles to being the heights from which we see the vista of God's remade world. When people say that the way outlined in the Sermon on the Mount (Matthew chapters 5-7) is impossible, Jesus meets us with, "You of little faith, why do you doubt?"

- Have you ever found yourself in an apparently impossible situation?
- How did you come through it?
- Can you think of occasions when faith in a doctor or some other person brought you through an apparently hopeless situation?
- Is it realistic to think that we can live perfectly the way of Jesus given the sort of world that we live in?

Rev Ron Potter

Piula Publications

FAITH

Matthew 14: 31

"How little faith you have! Why did you doubt?"

Faith is not a commodity that comes in small, medium or large portions. Faith is a life in relationship to God. And doubt is not the opposite of faith – doubt is part of faith. Faith is in the words of Eugene Peterson "A Long obedience in the same direction". It is amidst the doubts – the trials, the suffering, the hesitance, the disbelief – to turn towards God, to live towards God. To always move in God's direction.

This is a prayer for faith and about faith.

Prayer of Thomas à Kempis

For Trust in You

O Lord my God,

do not be far from me.

My God, have regard to help me.

I have many thoughts and great fears afflicting my soul.

How will I pass through unhurt?

How will I break them to pieces?

This is my hope, my one only consolation, to flee to you in every tribulation, to trust in you,

to call on you from my inmost heart, and to wait patiently for your consolation.

Source of this version: Freely modified from *Prayers of the Middle Ages*, edited by J. Manning Potts, 1954.

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

kayn43@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

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