



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 17th September 2023

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

RCL Year A Readings (Pentecost 16)

Ex 14:19-31
Ps 114 or Ex 15:1b-11, 20-21
Rom 14:1-12
MT 18:21-35

Face to Face Services Services 24th September 2023

Montville: 8.15am Worship
Maleny: 9.45am Worship
Palmwoods: 3.00pm Reflections in the Garden

RCL Year A Readings (Pentecost 17)

Ex 16:2-15
Ps 105:1-6, 37-45
Phil 1:21-30
Mt 20:1-16

COMING UP NEXT WEEK

Sunday - 5.30pm Maleny Church Hall Friendship tea. Bring a plate to share.

Monday – 9am Church Council at Montville Church

Monday – 4pm Pastoral Carers meeting at the Manse.

Wednesday – 8.30am Meditation at Maleny Church

Thursday – 10.30am George Diefenbach's Thanks Giving Service, Maleny Church

Friday – 1.30pm KYB at Maleny UC

COMING UP IN SEPTEMBER

September 30th – Garage Sale at Maleny UC

Men's Group

It is time to stir ourselves into some action. In response to a number of requests, we plan to meet for the usual BBQ at the amphitheatre (with a smoky fire) from around midday on Thursday 28th Sept. - B.Y.O. food and drink. All men are welcome - a great chance to reconnect.

Chappy Chris Is Urgently Seeking Volunteers

Mentors, Tuckshop and Maleny IGA 'Rewards Program' is #41849. For details, please chat with an IGA staff member.

Helping at the school is one way to be salt and light within the Maleny community. Interested? Questions?

Please contact **Chappy Chris** on **0433643686** or

chris.boughen@suchaplaincy.org.au

October 1st @ Maleny Uc – Celebration Of Creatures Great And Small

Come celebrate our pets as we celebrate Francis of Assisi, the patron of animals and all of God's creation – Bring your pets and have them blessed in this season of creation.

George Diefenbach's Thanksgiving Service

George's thanksgiving service is scheduled for Thursday 21 September at 10:30am at the Maleny Uniting Church.

Our hearts and prayers go out to Betty, children Dale and Jodie and their family, Joanne (foster daughter) and other family members and friends as we remember George.

We give thanks for the gift that George's life was to many and for the indelible prints he has left in the lives of many, and also in the town and community of Maleny.

Ladies' Friendship Group – CANCELLED

The Ladies' Friendship Group Croquet event has been cancelled due to the funeral of George Diefenbach as many in the congregation will wish to attend. Our love to Betty and the family at this time.

E: admin@ourcommonlife.org.au

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

Thanks For the Gift

Matthew 20:1-16

It's great to be given a gift, isn't it? Or is it? What if it's a puppy and you're not ready for the food and vet bills, the exercising and training that goes with owning a dog? And the receiver is placed under obligation to the giver, for example: you receive a gift and then feel the need to reciprocate in some way. We know that there is no such thing as a free lunch. There's an uneven power balance between giver and receiver. The choice lies with the giver. Even if hints are given, the receiver has to accept what someone else has chosen.

Maybe that is why people have trouble with the grace of God. They have to accept that they are not in charge; they have to accept whatever they are given. They are under obligation to use the gift of life, and all other gifts, properly. If salvation is by grace, then it is not to be looked upon as a reward for services rendered.

In the parable of the Labourers in the Vineyard, Jesus made it clear that life at its best, life lived in the love and grace of God, is a gift. Heaven is not a reward for services rendered; it is a gift. People who approach it in terms of wages will be disappointed. Instead of trying to win heaven as a reward in the future, let's live the life of heaven now, as far as it is possible, with gratitude and joy. Enjoy the gift of life; enjoy the gift of new life in Christ.

- Think of examples of the power imbalance between giver and receiver. When has receiving a gift placed you under an obligation to the giver?
- List some of the gifts have you received from God.
- If salvation is a gift, why do people think that they have to earn it?
- How can we best show our appreciation for God's gift of new life in Christ?

Rev Ron Potter

Piula Publications

MONTVILLE REFLECTION GALLERY DISPLAY

The beginning of July sees a new display in the Reflection Gallery of beautiful artworks by the late Dr Michael Simpson who continues to inspire us through his legacy of art. And we thank the Rev Geraldine Wheeler for having her very special artwork in the gallery.

SEASON OF CREATION

Season of Creation starts this week! It's a time where Christian communities around the world pray and act to care for Creation, beginning September 1 (World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation) and ending October 4 (the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi, the Patron Saint of Ecology).

[Season of Creation website](#)

MINISTRY CONTACTS:

Minister: Rev Liena Hoffman

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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.**

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