



NOTICES

Face to Face Services Services 8th October 2023

Montville: 8.15am Communion Service
Maleny: 9.45am Worship
Palmwoods: 3.30pm Reflections in the Garden

RCL Year A Readings (Pentecost 19)

Ex 20:1-4, 7-9, 12-20
Ps 19
Phil 3:4b-14
Mt 21:33-46

Face to Face Services Services 15th October 2023

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

RCL Year A Readings (Pentecost 20)

Ex 32:1-14
Ps 106:1-6, 19-23
Phil 4:1-9
Mt 22:1-14

COMING UP NEXT WEEK

Open Daily - New Display at Montville Church's Reflection Gallery
Wednesday – 8.30am Meditation at Maleny UC
Friday – 1.30pm KYB at Maleny UC

COMING UP IN OCTOBER

Sunday October 15th – Maleny Friendship Tea 5.30pm – Sue's Africa Photos
Tuesday 17th – Maleny Cuppa Craft
Thursday October 19th – Ladies Freindship Group meets
Sunday October 29th – Harvest Festival @ Maleny & Rev Liena's Service of Closure At Maleny UC
Sunday October 29th 11am – Rev Liena's farewell morning tea.

MONTVILLE REFLECTION GALLERY DISPLAY

This week we installed a **new exhibition "Among the Trees"**. The previous display that was there throughout July, August and most of September featured beautiful "Church Drawings" by Dr Michael Simpson. A big thank you to Michael.

Among The Trees, is a Father and Daughter exhibition that explores, the Artist's experience of such solitude and observance as they walked among nature throughout various part of Australia. Imagery taken from the Sunshine Coast to far North Queensland throughout Central Queensland, South Australia and New South Wales is the subject for this exhibition.

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

SUPPORT FOR 'SOIL & SOUL'

Palmwoods Community Garden could do with some help please. The garden has managed to be self-sustaining through members and grants for the past 8 years but this looks to be a challenging summer.

We will be needing to purchase some water for our tanks. Kindly, one of our members has donated \$100 but we still need at least \$140 to fill one tank. (they each cost \$240 to fill and are getting low) Any help would be gratefully appreciated.

Bank Details: Heritage Bank /Account Name: PCBA. Account No: 9510249 BSB: 638 070 Ref: Water.

40 Days of Prayer - Week 4

Our 37th Synod Session approaches focusing on "Renewal - Faith for a New Season." Join us as we prepare and seek God's renewal for the Uniting Church in Queensland. Pray with us from September 10th to October 20th.

Please visit [this page](#) each week for the latest reflections, videos and prayers.

GOD'S HARVEST

Matthew 21:33-46

Somehow the idea has gained popularity that Christianity is mainly about beliefs – about creeds, doctrine, biblical texts and church statements. Or it's about structures, organization, church membership and attendance. But both of these miss the point. Jesus made it plain that his life and work was mainly about human life and how it is lived – what he called kingdom fruit.

What we believe is important, and church membership and attendance is not to be neglected, but they are means to an end – life lived the way that God wants it to be lived, life lived according to the values of God's kingdom; that is, a living out of the great command-ments: love to God and love to neighbour.

Addressing the situation of his own time, Jesus took the well-known image of Israel being God's vineyard and he said that, like any farmer, God wants to get a harvest from his property. However he pointed out that, over the centuries, the leaders of Israel had rebuffed every effort made by God to get what he was looking for. God even sent his own son, but he fared no better than earlier agents.

So the kingdom of God will be taken away from Israel and given to another people. This has often been interpreted to mean that the Church now takes the place of Israel as God's chosen people. It is now the vineyard and its leaders are the farm managers. But this again misses the point.

What God is looking for is a people who live by the standards and relationship values of God's kingdom. The priority outcome expected from beliefs and church involvement is Christ-like living. A successful church is not one which has a large membership, healthy bank balance, the right doctrine or plenty of activity going on. It is the church that is producing saints, godly people, Christ-like people.

Of course there is no perfect church just as there are no perfect saints, but the desire to see people alive to God and demonstrating love as respect, care and compassion toward others are what gives a church its Christ-inspired purpose. Bible study, doctrine, organization, as well as other aspects of church life, are to lead to lives aglow with the love of God and lives shaped by the compassion of Christ.

- In Matthew 21:33-46 we have metaphors of vineyard and temple building mixed together. Can you identify them? What are they saying?
- What do you think of the idea that the church should be a training ground for saints? How could we do it better?
- If it is the Spirit of God that creates Christ-like people, what part do we play?
- Talk about kingdom fruit reminds us of Paul's fruits of the Spirit (Galatians 5:22). What are they? Are you able to add to his list of fruits of the Spirit?

Rev Ron Potter

Piula Publications

OUR HARVEST – OCTOBER 29th

The Harvest Festival is entrenched in the life and worship of churches across various denominations.

It may of course, be held at different times during the year depending which harvest is being celebrated. Southern Africa traditionally hold it during October with the harvesting of the winter wheat. Queenslanders will share this experience as wheat, fruit and other crops are harvested during October.

Origins for the harvest festival are several, notably: **The festival of weeks/Shavout** (7 weeks after Passover): **Numbers 28 vs 26 (also Deuteronomy 16 vs 9-12/ Exodus 23:13):** *“On the day of first fruits, when you present to the LORD an offering of new grain during the Festival of Weeks, hold a sacred assembly and do no regular work.”*

Profoundly God has always called his people during harvest celebrations to consider the poor, the widows, the strangers, the orphans and this is emotively evident in **Leviticus 19 vs 9-10.**

In this spirit we celebrate harvest festival. Not to raise funds. But to celebrate and worship God and give thanks. And to remember the poor and the foreigners.

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

kaynxn43@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.**

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