



# 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 29<sup>th</sup> October 2023

**Maleny: 9.45am** Combined  
Worship Service, Harvest Festival  
and Service of Closure  
**Maleny: 11am** farewell morning tea  
for Rev Liena

RCL Year A Readings  
(Pentecost 22)

Dt 34:1-12  
Ps 90:1-6, 13-17  
1 Thes 2:1-8  
MT 22:34-46

#### Face to Face Services Services 5<sup>th</sup> November 2023

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

RCL Year A Readings  
(Pentecost 23)

Jos 3:7-17  
Ps 107:1-7, 33-37  
1 Thes 2:9-13  
Mt 23:1-12

#### COMING UP NEXT WEEK

**Saturday 28<sup>th</sup>** – 8am Ecumenical  
Gathering, Maleny Anglican Hall  
**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

**Carols in the Park** – December  
1<sup>st</sup>, 7pm in Tesch Park Maleny

## Harvest Thanksgiving Festival

### 1 Corinthians 3 vs 1-16

*"I planted the seed, Apollos watered it, but God made it grow. So neither he who plants nor he who waters is anything, but only God makes thing grow".*

#### Mystery

There is a mystery in ministry. Mystery, like a good mystery, is multi-layered. I remain dumbfounded that God chose to entrust the ministry of the kingdom to us, persons of wavering faith, who, throughout history and now, continue to falter and fail. Yet he has chosen us to be his co-workers, to work with him and through him.

Only God makes things grow. Although this is double clear, and we think we know it I believe there are some mistakes we continue to make:

**To compare:** the one is to compare: one ministry agent to another; one preacher to another; one worship style to another; one ministry to another - and this where differences inevitably arise and then conflict.

**To confuse:** Another mistake is we confuse our calling. We think we need to be productive - we talk about plans and growing the church, more members,

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more activities - when we are only called to be witnesses, persons that plant and water. Remembering "that she who plants or she who waters is nothing", will keep us humble. It is only God who makes things grow, and in humility we can be zealous and work as co-workers of and build with God on our foundation - Jesus Christ - by planting and watering. And the angels will do the harvesting (Matthew 13:39). Shalom Liena

Lord God, heavenly Father,  
we thank you for all your benefits.  
You have given us body and life  
and have graciously sustained us to this day.  
Do not take your blessing from us.  
Preserve us from greed,  
that we may serve you only,  
love you and abide in you  
and not defile ourselves by idolatrous love  
of wealth or goods,  
but hope and trust only in your grace;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one true God, now and forever. (Prayer Source: [Veit Dietrich](https://acollectionofprayers.com/), d. 1549, Trinity 15  
<https://acollectionofprayers.com/>)

# Overall Direction for Life

**Matthew 22:34-46**

Communication needs to be interpreted for it to make sense. The Bible, the laws of the land, any writing at all needs to be interpreted. This interpretation usually takes place against the background of some fundamental principles. So, the High Court, when called upon to do so, interprets the Australian Constitution and the judiciary interpret the laws made by parliament. When asked by a lawyer to state the basic principle by which the Mosaic Law should be interpreted, Jesus quoted Deuteronomy 6:5, love God with all one's heart, soul and mind. To this, he added Leviticus 19:18, love your neighbour as yourself which he suggested was all tied in with love toward God.

However, Jesus was not mainly interested in ideas. He was concerned about life and how it is lived. So, for him, love for God and neighbour is not just a guiding principle; it is the basic orientation of life. It is the power, the motivation, the direction for living. It is a reflection of the love that God has for us all.

The guiding light for morality is love for God and for people – unconditional, generous love. The standard against which all laws are to be judged is that love which respects humanity and seeks the best for all. The shaping force for interpersonal relationships is *agape* love. God who created the universe out of love, rescued sinful humanity out of love, dwells in the depths of our own lives out of love, calls us to reflect this love in our relationships with God and with other people.

- What are some ways in which people express their love for one another?
- How can we express our love for God?
- What does it mean for love to be the overall direction for our lives?
- When is it hard to live by these two great commandments, to love God with all our being and to love our neighbour as we love ourselves?

**Rev Ron Potter**

**Piula Publications**

## **MONTVILLE REFLECTION GALLERY DISPLAY**

**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.

### **Ladies Friendship Group - November**

Next meeting 16th November 9/30-11/30am we plan to visit Pattemore House, Maleny to learn the history and share morning tea on the veranda.

Cost \$15. Please put your name on the paper at Maleny church or let Dorothy Tietze know for catering and organise transport.

### **MINISTRY CONTACTS:**

**Minister: Rev Liena Hoffman**  
**0490 421 874**

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

**Community Pastor: Pastor Kay Nixon on mobile**  
**0412 539020**

**[kaynxn43@gmail.com](mailto: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**

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who are the traditional owners of the land upon which we live and worship.**

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