



# 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 24<sup>th</sup> December 2023

**Montville: 8.15am** Worship  
**Maleny: 9.45am** Worship  
**Maleny: 7pm** Combined Carols Service  
**Palmwoods: 3.30pm** Reflections in the Garden

#### RCL Year A Readings (Advent 4)

2 Sm 7:1-11,16  
Lk 1:46b-55 or Ps 89:1-4,19-26  
Rom 16:25-27  
LK 1:26-38

#### Christmas Day Services Services 25<sup>th</sup> December 2023

**Montville: 8am** Christmas Day Worship Service  
**Maleny: 8am** Christmas Day Worship Service  
**Palmwoods: 9am** Christmas Day Worship

#### RCL Year A Readings (Nativity 2)

Is 62:6-12  
Ps 97  
Ti 3:4-7  
Lk 2:(1-7), 8-20

#### COMING UP NEXT YEAR

##### Maleny

KYB – commences the last Friday of January (January 27<sup>th</sup>)  
Ladies Group – commences back in February  
Meditation Group – Commences January 24<sup>th</sup>  
Connect Groups – re-recommence through January  
Pilates – commences Monday, January 8<sup>th</sup>

**Montville** – Montville Gallery has a new display commencing January 6<sup>th</sup>.

**Palmwoods** – usual activities resume in early January.

#### CHRISTMAS EVE @ MALENY

A combined evening Family Service on Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> December, 7.00pm and finishing by 8.00pm at Maleny. **All Welcome**

#### CONSULTATION 2024 UPDATE

In preparations for calling our new Minister, Presbytery will be conducting a consultation with the Blackall Range (Maleny, Montville and Palmwoods) congregation on the weekend of February 17<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup> (to be confirmed).

A survey will be available in paper form and on-line in early January for congregation members and Church Council will complete an additional survey Monday, January 29<sup>th</sup>.

The Council asks the congregation to prayerfully consider responses to the survey.

Thank you.

#### PLEASE NOTE

Next week will be the final edition of Our Common Life for 2023 until January 22<sup>nd</sup> and the Office will be closed through January too. For urgent matters, feel free to ring the contacts listed below.

In the meantime, have a safe and happy Christmas & New Year period.



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

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

# The Way of Submission

**Luke 1:26-38**

Submission, that's a hated word! We hear of people being beaten into submission. It suggests servile, humiliating defeat. It implies weakness. It reeks of insincerity when we see people using apparent submission as a ruse to get what they want. But Mary's words of submission in Matthew 1:38 have been highly extolled throughout the years. She is pointed to as a model for us to follow for she was submissive to the will and word of God, ready to serve God's purposes in whatever way it was asked of her, irrespective of the cost.

Voluntary submission to the will and word of God lies at the heart of Christian discipleship. We are called to place ourselves in the hands of God, ready for service. This is powerfully voiced in John Wesley's Covenant Prayer which he encouraged his followers to pray at the beginning of each new year.

"I am no longer my own, but thine. Put me to what thou wilt, rank me with whom thou wilt. Put me to doing, put me to suffering. Let me be employed by thee or laid aside for thee, exalted for thee or brought low for thee. Let me be full, let me be empty. Let me have all things, let me have nothing. I freely and heartily yield all things to thy pleasure and disposal. And now, O glorious and blessed God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, thou art mine, and I am thine. So be it. And the covenant which I have made on earth, let it be ratified in heaven. Amen."

- What do you understand submission to mean?
- Under what circumstances would it be wrong for a Christian to be submissive?
- To whom should we, as Christians, submit?
- Perhaps you would like to reflect further and meditate on the words of The Covenant Prayer.

**Rev Ron Potter**

**Piula Publications**

## **MONTVILLE REFLECTION GALLERY DISPLAY**

Montville has a new display .. [the Bush Christmas](#).

Earlier this year the congregation at Montville decided that again this year for Christmas we would have a theme in the church for Christmas of a Bush Christmas. Are there things that come out of our Bush culture that can help us think about the birth of Jesus? Are there things in nature that help us reflect on the wonderful new life God offers to us in Jesus?

The display features wonderful banners that celebrate the Christmas story .. with a twist.

## **Staying safe during heatwaves**

Heatwaves are a serious issue, causing more harm than any other natural disaster in Australia. Seniors are especially vulnerable to their effects.

**Prepare for hot summers in Queensland with [free resources](#) courtesy of Bluecare.**

BlueCare's heat health resources were co-funded by the Queensland Government and created in partnership with Griffith University.

### **MINISTRY CONTACTS:**

**Minister: Rev Anita Monro**

**Mobile 0409 273 059**

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

**Community Pastor: Pastor Kay Nixon**

**Mobile: 0412 539020**

**E: [kayn43@gmail.com](mailto:kayn43@gmail.com)**

**Church Office Contact:**

**Peter Callaghan M: 0458 263 322**

**Office Hours: Tuesday 9 am to 12 noon**

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

**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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