

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

Face to Face Services Sunday Services 30th June 2024

Maleny: 9.45am Let us join together for the **Combined** Worship Service and fellowship over a tea, coffee and BBQ.

> RCL Year B Readings (Pentecost 6)

> > 2 Sm 1:1,17-27 Ps 130 2 Cor 8:7-15 MK 5:21-43

NOTICES

Face to Face Services Sunday Services 7th July 2024

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

> RCL Year B Readings (Pentecost 7)

> > 2 Sm 5:1-5, 9-10 Ps 48 2 Cor 12:2-10 Mk 6:1-13

COMING UP THIS WEEK

Sunday – 9.45am Combined Service at Maleny Wednesday – 8.30am Christian Meditation at Maleny UC. Friday – 1.30pm Maleny KYB @ Maleny UC.

DATE CLAIMERS

Sunday, July 21st 4.30pm – Maleny Local Pain Collective is conducting a community information session in the Maleny RSL. More information coming soon.

Ladies Friendship Group – July 18th

COMBINED SERVICE THIS SUNDAY

Blackall Range UC conducts its combined service on June 30th at Maleny UC.

As part of the Service we will be honouring John Daniels, a long-standing Church Council member and our lay representative at Presbytery and Synod. John has retired due to health reasons.

After our combined Service, the Maleny Ministry Team (MMT) are firing up the BBQ to host a **Great Aussie Outback Sausage Sizzle** in support of Frontier Services. Suggested \$5 per sausage.

We would like to raise a good amount to support the wonderful services Frontier Services provide to bush families across the Nation.

Read about his commitment to forming lasting relationships with families here:

https://frontierservices.org/news-media/frontiernews/ **REFLECTION GALLERY** A new display, by Wendy Jarrott Smith, "Nourish and Flourish" artworks, has been installed in the Reflection Gallery. See <u>https://montville.ourcommonlife.org.au/reflection-gallery/</u> for more information.

UPDATE ON OUR PRESBYTERY MINISTER

Presbytery let us know: Pastor Graham emailed us yesterday to advise that he is steadily improving. His appetite, energy and strength are quickly returning. We praise God for the healing that has occurred, and we know that Graham and Ann-Louise are thankful for the prayers and messages which they have received from so many during this time. The Presbytery team have also appreciated your prayers in the challenges of the last couple of months!

Reflection from Rev Bruce Moore, Moderator – Forgiveness

"Is it better for me to forgive someone and to take on the cost of that forgiveness myself" ... is a question that struck me in a book I read recently titled "Forgive" by the Rev Tim Keller.

Take yourself there for a moment and tap into what it feels like to hold a grudge against someone? What is it like to carry around resentment and judgement. I wonder what it costs us to do so, what it really costs us?

I know for myself forgiveness is really difficult to swallow, particularly when the sense of injustice is huge, and it feels like we have been totally wronged or robbed by someone else.

I am not suggesting that you wash over or minimise the pain or harm that you have experienced, but does holding a grudge cause you even greater pain, a greater cost to yourself? As they say... "when we hold onto resentment, it's like drinking poison and expecting the other person to get sick".

Research shows that holding onto a grudge can impact your mental and physical health, alongside of the ongoing damage to relationships and particularly with those that are significant to us. Resentment for me, is like a wave that is constantly eroding away the shoreline of what is important or sacred in my life, leaving not much other than debris and rubble in its wake. This is the tragedy of not wrestling with forgiveness.

The teachings and example of Jesus are crucial in understanding how forgiveness works. Ultimately forgiveness is about the restoration of community. The objective of forgiveness is not to humiliate, but it does involve calling-out that which is wrong or what has caused us pain or harm. The act of forgiveness, then invites us into a place with the help of God's Spirit, not simply relying on our strength, to make a choice about seeking to restore relationship built on the principles of Justice, Humility and Love (Micah 6:8)

On a personal level, I have been reflecting much on forgiveness and times in my own story and experience where I have worn the cost of what it has meant not to forgive. I want to acknowledge that this is not easy, human emotions & relationships are complex and sometimes it all just seems too hard.

My Christian Faith has taught me that forgiveness is a matter of choice, a deliberate act of love that can light the way to inner peace and in God's strength it is possible.

These ancient words say it all under the hand of the Apostle Paul: "Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice at wrongdoing but rejoices with the truth... Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things." (based on 1 Cor 13)

Love trumps everything; it is at the very heart of what it means to forgive.

As difficult as it might be... I choose to "forgive"! What do you choose?

MINISTRY CONTACTS:

Minister: Rev Anita Monro Mobile 0409 273 059 E: <u>minister@ourcommonlife.org.au</u>

Community Pastor: Pastor Kay Nixon Mobile: 0412 539020 E: <u>kaynxn43@gmail.com</u>

Church Office Contact:

The office is temporally closed. Please email if that is convenient. E: <u>admin@ourcommonlife.org.au</u>

Internet: http://www.ourcommonlife.org.au

For Church Hall Hire Calendar: <u>https://ourcommonlife.org.au/calendar-hall-hire/</u>

Kindly remember to continue to give your weekly/monthly offerings.

Direct Debits to Blackall Range Uniting Church, ANZ Bank, BSB 014-507 A/C 3762 29735

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