Our Common Life

Blackall Range Uniting Churches

Kenilworth | Maleny | Montville | Palmwoods

January 27 2019

We extend a sincere welcome to everyone. If you are visiting with us, please let us get to know you after the service. Morning tea is served in the Hall.

Services Today

Montville	8.15am	Rev Bruce Johnson
Maleny	9.45am	Rev Graham Dempster
Palmwoods	10.00am	Rev Bruce Johnson
	1.00pm	Tongan Service

Services Next Week February 3 2019

Montville	8.15am	Rev Bruce Johnson
Maleny	9.45am	Rev Bob Philpot **HC**
	(*Back to School Sunday*)	
Palmwoods	10.00am	Pastor Kay Nixon
	1.00pm	Tongan Service

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Lectionary Readings This Week

Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10 Psalm 19
1 Corinthians 12:12-31a Luke 4:14-21

Lectionary Readings Next Week

Jeremiah 1:4-10 Psalm 71:1-6
1 Corinthians 13:1-13 Luke 4:21-30

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The Week Ahead

Reflection Gallery Montville Open Daily (See Over)

Tuesday January 29
7.00am Prayers at Moyra's 5494 2661
9am-3pm Church Office open 5429 6995

Wednesday January 30
8.30am Christian Meditation 5435 8152

Thursday January 31
9am-3pm Church Office open 5429 6995

Friday February 1
9.00am Christmas Tree Festival Debrief Mtg
1.30pm Know Your Bible (KYB) 5494 2486

Saturday February 2
8.30am Prayer Meeting at Maleny Church

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Uniting in Christ | acting with love | living with hope| witnessing in faith | working for justice

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Unity in Diversity

1 Corinthians 12:12-31a

When Paul spoke of the Church being one body made up of many interdependent parts, he was using a figure of speech that could be applied in other communities as well. For example, it could be applied to Australia – a nation made up of many personalities, capabilities, experiences; religions, races, occupations, etc.

And the point that Paul made in relation to the Church could also be made in relation to our country. Just as no one part of the body can dismiss any other part as being unwanted, so no section of the Australian community can rightly dismiss any other healthy part of the community and say, 'We don't want you.' Each has a part to play. "If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honoured, all rejoice together with it."

As with the Church in Corinth, so with the nation of Australia, it would not be necessary to make this point if it were not that there are divisions and quarrels among us. We need to be reminded of what ought to be so that we can tackle what actually is happening among us. This requires that we listen to each other instead of shouting at each other, that we respect each other and encourage the contribution that each section of the community can offer. When we demonize some section of the community, we help to tear the whole apart.

Unfortunately, religion has, on occasions, disrupted the sense of unity and cooperation, but if we see God's love reaching out to each person and to each and every section of the community, we will recognize that God's Spirit is urging just that cooperation and unity that make for a healthy nation. As members of the body of Christ we are called to work for the unity of Christ's people, but likewise we are called to do what we can for the unity of our nation as part of our world-wide activity of seeing what is good for the whole planet and its peoples. The true source of all human unity is God.

- What implications are there for seeing your family, congregation, work team, club or association as one body with many interdependent parts?
- Where do you see division and quarrels among members of our nation?
- What more could be done to recognize and embrace the diversity in our country?
- Comment on this: while religion sometimes tears people apart, God is the source of true national unity.

Rev Ron Potter ***Piula Publications***

BACK TO SCHOOL SUNDAY

Next Sunday 3 February, the Maleny congregation will celebrate Back to School. During the service we will wish our young people every success as they start a new school year. And we will pray for them and their families. We will also commit to God the work of our leaders involved with children's ministries, Youth Group, Kidz Biz, school teachers, chaplains and RI teachers. We invite all members of our congregation to keep these people in prayer in the weeks ahead. Please pass this message on to families with young children

FROM THE MALENY CHURCH COUNCIL

The Church Council meeting last Monday considered a letter from Dr Palmer regarding the activation of clause 39 (b) to the Assembly's decision on marriage – the 15th Assembly decision stands. Rev Bruce Johnson provided a helpful explanation of the decision to the Council.

We know that some of our church family are finding this decision very difficult to accept or to understand. The Church Council has not changed its position and that is that same gender marriages will not be celebrated in the Maleny Uniting Church building or grounds.

If you are struggling with the Assembly's decision Rev. Bruce Johnson is happy to come and speak with you and to listen to your concerns. Please contact Bruce on 0407180864 or via email on b_hjohnson@me.com

CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL

Our Christmas Tree Festival was a great success thanks to the hard work put in by the team, and the support from the congregation and the community. The Planning Team will hold its debrief meeting on **Friday 1 February, at 9.00am** at the Maleny church. If you have any feedback, the team would love to hear from you. Please contact any member of the Planning Team.

MONTHLY PRAYER MEETING

The monthly prayer meeting will recommence on **Saturday 2 February** at the Maleny Church.

Please not these changes:

First Saturday of the month, and 8 30 am start,

(**not** 9 00am as held previously).

Prayer is the backbone of any church and we urge you to consider joining this group when prayer is offered for our church, its mission in the community and the wider world. The time of prayer is open to all three churches in our cluster.

MALENY PASTORAL CARERS AND GROUP LEADERS MEETING – A Meeting is to be held on **Monday 4 February at 9.00am.** We would like all Pastoral Carers and Group Leaders to attend.

Dorothy Tietze 5494 2486

RI TEACHERS AND THOSE WORKING IN CHILDREN'S MINISTRY.

A free training and information workshop for those working in children's ministry will be held at St. George's Anglican Church Maleny on **Monday 4 February from 9.15am – 2.00pm**. Carole Danby, a Children's Ministry Facilitator, will lead the workshop. Morning tea is provided, please BYO lunch. For more information contact Faith McKinnon or Merilyn Milton.

REFLECTION GALLERY MONTVILLE

The Reflection Gallery currently presents paintings by Marilyn Cook of Mapleton. Her colourful and thoughtful abstract paintings will be on display until the end of February. Open from 10.00am till 3.00pm each day.

OFFERINGS RECEIVED FOR 2018

	Budget	Actual	%	*2017*
Maleny	84,000	76,467	91%	*80,070*
Montville	33,000	26,155	79%	*32,667*
Palmwoods	21,000	15,675	75%	*19,980*
	138,000	118,297	86%	*132,717*

AVERAGE ATTENDANCES FOR 2018

	Adults	Children	Total	*2017*
Maleny	62	4	66	*70*
Montville	17	0	17	*20*
Palmwoods*	26	6	32	*45*
	105	10	115	*135*

(* Palmwoods attendances include the Tongan Service)

The figures above show that the Combined Offerings for the three congregations were approx. $20,000 below our 2018 Budget, and $14,000 less than the Offerings received in 2017.

DINNERS OF EIGHT OR SIX

If you are willing to host a dinner twice a year, please tell Dorothy. More people means more time can be spent getting to know each other and forming better friendships. Everyone shares the contribution of food so that's not a burden. There are still many who have not shared a meal together. Rosters will be made for beginning February.

ECUMENICAL MENS BREAKFAST

Due to the resignation of Col Harding as the coordinator, we are in urgent need of (at least) one man to offer to be involved in planning the year's events, in consultation with men from other churches. You will join Murray Robertson and Stan McCallum for this task. Please contact either Stan or Murray. And if anyone has suggestions for good speakers for the breakfasts, please let one of them know. Thanks to Col for his contribution last year.

FROM REV BRUCE JOHNSON

Heather and I would like to invite anyone from the congregation to come to lunch at our place on **Sunday 24th February** following the morning service. Our address is 19 Attunga Court, Witta. If you would like to join us please write your names on the "sign-up" sheet in the hall or email me on b_hjohnson@me.com as soon as possible. Please also let us know if you have any special food needs. We are planning to make this invitation every time there is a 5th Sunday in a month, so if you can't make it this time, you might be able to come in the future.

OFFERINGS can be Direct Debited through the ANZ Bank, BSB 014-507 A/c 3762 29735.

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Ministry Contacts:

Minister	Rev Bruce Johnson 0407 180 864 b_hjohnson@me.com
Church Office:	Jing Wang 5429 6995
Hours:	Tuesdays/Thursdays 9 am to 3 pm
Email:	admin@malenyuniting.com.au
Palmwoods	Pastor Kay Nixon kaynxn43@gmail.com 0412539020 Siale Lolohea 0436 463 538
Maleny Chair:	Peter Callaghan 0458 263 322
Internet:	www.malenyuniting.com.au www.palmwoodsuniting.com
Notice Sheet:	Please send your contributions to Muriel Wilson before 10 am Wednesday murielw56@bigpond.com
	Maleny Uniting Church, Montville Uniting Church, Palmwoods Uniting Church