

The Banora Pointer



Don't be Afraid As The Lord Is With You

We hope you enjoy your time acknowledging the Lords
direction and support in these trying times

Preacher: Pastor Debra Pinkerton

Sunday 20 December 2020

Advent Sunday 4



Our Mission: to love God and love our neighbours

The Banora Point Uniting Church acknowledge the indigenous traditional owners and custodians of this land, the Goori people and their Elders, past, present and future.

Banora Point Uniting Church

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Message from Pastor Debra Pinkerton

A Daily Prayer For Christmas

Lord Jesus, we remember at this time that you came to disturb the world, and to turn the lives of humankind to God.

You brought love to those who were unloved, hope to those who had nothing to look forward to, peace to those who were full of anxious daily cares.

But you also brought judgment, to those who thought they were good, to those who were content with their own lives: to those who looked down on other people and who were sure that they knew everything about God.

We pray that you will come into our lives at this time to turn us all again to you: to help to see ourselves as we really are and to remove from each one of us all that is unworthy so that we may truly share in your kingdom and know the joy of your loving presence.

Lord Jesus, we pray that you will prepare us for your coming into the world: that in these difficult economic times you will drive away despair from our politics, that you will revive our dreams of justice and restore our passion for what is right, good and true.

May your love motivate our care for this neighbourhood and for the wider community and help us all to play a part in helping to overcome the social ills that drag so many into despair. Inspire our citizenship so that it rises above the mediocre.

Too often we have been silent and missed opportunities to share with others the message of love which you brought into the world and we ask that you will give us all an unquestioning faith, the deep faith of Mary and show us a new way to live so that, with your forgiveness and with an awareness of your presence, we can truly claim to follow you in thought and word and deed.

Lord Jesus, as we complete this last hectic week before the celebration of your birth, we pray that you will give us eyes to search the face of the stranger and there see your face. Give us sensitivity for those whom we know who are ill at this time, in despair or struggling to handle their pain.

Merciful Father, accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, my Saviour, Jesus Christ my Lord. Amen. ~ *Written by Margaret Appleton, posted on the this is church website. This is abridged. Visit the website to see the original version*

Pastor Debra Pinkerton



A Message From Elizabeth

"We wish you a Merry Christmas, we wish you a Merry Christmas, we wish you a Merry Christmas, and a Happy New Year!"

A special welcome today to Audrey Biggs who will be leading our worship service. Thank you Audrey for accepting the invitation to do this. Our love and prayers are with you now and always.

Church Council had a very happy and productive meeting last Monday night. Relevant issues discussed/decided at this meeting are contained within these notices.

Christmas Eve Service of Readings and Carols will be held on Thursday, 24 December 2020 at 7pm. Christmas Day Service on Friday 25 December 2020 will be at 9am.

On behalf of your Church Council/Elders, I wish you love, joy, hope and peace at Christmas and a happy, healthy, Spirit lead New Year.

Elizabeth Wells,

Chair, BPUC Church Council

Updating Of Contact Details

Every so often we need to make sure our records are accurate and up to date. So there will be a letter sent out accompanied with an "Update of Details" form for you to fill out and bring or send back to Banora Point Uniting Church. If you do not receive one and would like one, please contact Les at the church to organize a form to be sent to you.

Update from Church Council/Elders Meeting

Held on Monday 14 December 2020

The following matters were discussed:

- ◆ Several folk have requested to transfer their membership to BPUC, and we will formally welcome them during a service later in January.
- ◆ Council received some enquires as to when further groups/activities can resume, including Messy Church and Mainly Music. Our COVID safety officer, Ross Biggs, is following up with Presbytery and the relevant bodies. We'll keep you posted.
- ◆ Council received an enquiry about the recent update to our Church profile. Following the consultation meeting with the congregation during which there was an overwhelming response for us to "Regenerate", Council updated our profile to reflect that we are seeking to Regenerate. The profile was updated to reflect this, and needed to be submitted to Presbytery by 1 December 2020 so that it could be taken to Synod placements for approval to advertise nationally for a ministry agent who will have the necessary skills and gifts to lead us on our journey of regeneration. Council is hopeful that we may be able to advertise before the end of the year. We will keep everyone informed as updates occur.

A Treasurers Message To The Congregation

Friends,

Thank you all for your marvelous support and love during these difficult times. Please continue to direct debit/credit directly into your nearest Commonwealth Bank Branch or take advantage of my offer to pick up offerings from homes within the Banora/Tweed area.

Bank details are:

Account Name: The Uniting Church in Australia Banora Point Church

(Note: Your Bank website may limit the number of characters you can put into the account name box so "The Uniting Church in Aust" is OK)

BSB No: 062 611

Account No: 10120762

Most importantly- please keep safe.

My prayers go out to each and everyone of you.

Neil Rackham

Carol Singing On BPUC Front Lawn



The worship singers are wanting to have a carol singing happening on the front lawn of the church on Wednesday 23rd December at 7pm ready to sing when it is nearly dark. We will have song sheets and keyboard help and we can really sing while distancing in rows. We would like to hold some automatic candles and feel the blessing of a carol singing in the open air. Come along if you enjoy singing the carols and songs of Christmas.

SUNDAY SERVICE

Sunday service will be available on YouTube, via email to your personal email address, the BPUC YouTube Channel or by clicking the link on the Banora Point Uniting Church Website: www.banorapointunitingchurch.org.au

"When the Angel leaves the Room" ~ Luke 1:26-38, 46-55

If you have not received any emails and would like to keep updated via this method, please call Leslie or Pastor Debra or email: bpuchurch@optusnet.com.au

Sunday Church Services

If you wish to join in the Sunday Service, please contact Les (Admin Officer) on (07) 5524 9035 between 10am and 1pm on the Thursday prior to the Sunday Service

