



# BANORA POINTER

Sunday 31 October 2021 | Pentecost 23



## Message from Rev. Aaron Moad

The Gospel of John contains so many memorable phrases.

“For God so loved the world that he

gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.” (John 3:16)

“Jesus said to them, “I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.” (John 6:35)

“Again Jesus spoke to them, saying, “I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life.” (John 8:12)

“I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another.” (John 13:34)

“Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.” (John 14:6)

And we find another one of these in our reading John 8:31-36: “The truth will make you free” (8:32), which is sometimes translated as “The truth will set you free”.

What does Jesus mean by “truth” and “freedom”?

There is a danger that we might take this verse out of context and make the words ‘truth’ and ‘freedom’ mean whatever we want them to mean, which for those of us in the in the western world

## FREEDOM IN CHRIST



often has to do with what makes us feel good and personal liberty and independence.

If we look at the full statement things become clearer, “If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples; <sup>32</sup> and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free.” He says this to Jews “who had believed in him” (8:31). Many of Jesus’ Jewish followers came to believe in him, but 8:31 and the conversation that follows indicates that their belief was short-lived. Jesus uses their example of lapsed faith to assert that true disciples “continue in my word.” Continue in my teachings.

We can begin to see then that “the truth will set you free” is not an affirmation of personal independence. What emerges is the idea that faith is a continuing relationship. The word translated as “continue” in John 8:31 is *meno*, is often translated as “remain” or “abide” indicates an enduring relationship between Jesus and the believer.

So what (or who) is the truth? And what does it mean to be free, to be freed to do what?

As we see in John 14:16 Jesus is the way, the truth, and the life. So as disciples’ freedom doesn’t mean that we are free to do whatever we want. The type of freedom Jesus is talking about, is freedom to be in a relationship with God. This is a relationship that is intimate, like a relationship between a child and their parents. If we abide or remain in the truth (Christ) we will be freed from sin, evil and death. We will be free serve our God, we will be free to walk in the light of eternal life.

### Banora Point Uniting Church

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### Acknowledgement To Country

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.

**Our Mission: To love God and love our neighbours**

## A Message From Elizabeth

The AGM of the Tweed Coast Christian Education Association (TCCEA) will be held at the Presbyterian Church, corner Florence & Wharf Streets, Tweed Heads on Tuesday, 02 November 2021 at 6.00pm (AEDT). Everyone is welcome to attend. Jemma Gill continues to teach SRE at Banora Point High School on Mondays and at Tweed River High School on Fridays. She is looking forward to when lessons will be face to face, hopefully in a couple of weeks. Emma Tabacaru finished at Kingscliff High School at the end of last term. She is on maternity leave, awaiting the birth of her third child. The Board is stepping out in faith that additional funds will be forthcoming so that they can offer Kingscliff High School, SRE classes on 2 days per week at the start of next year. This is a mission of our congregation. Jemma is keen to come to a service and share her teaching experiences with us. However, Jemma lives in Coolangatta, QLD, so at present she is only allowed to cross the border and return on her teaching days. Jemma is going to provide us with a report to include in "the Pointer". On that day, (TBA) - Church Council has approved for a retiring offering for the TCCEA. Please pray for Jemma, the schools and all who serve and support the work of TCCEA.

God's richest blessings to all.

*Elizabeth Wells,*

BPUC Church Council Chairperson

## What's Happening This Week

<b>Monday</b>	<b>Catch-up with Rev. Aaron 9:30am</b>
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>TCCEA - AGM 6pm</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Prayer Meeting 8am</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Men's Bible Study group 9am</b> <b>CWCI Bible Study 10am</b> <b>Evening Bible Study group 6:30pm</b>
<b>Next Sunday</b>	<b>Worship Service 9am</b>

## Church Roster

	<u>TODAY</u>	<u>NEXT SUNDAY</u>
Organist	Jill	Lilian
Greeter	Robyn & Virginia	Cilla & Abby
Bible Reader	Audrey & Dudley	Sylvia & Nigel
Morning Tea	Janice & Terryll	Pat & Judy
Hall Set Up	Alan & Ray	Nigel
Cleaning	Janice & Alan	Sylvia & Nigel
Communion	— — — —	Isabel & Robyn

*If you are unable to do your roster, please organise a swap AND let Janice know ASAP.*

## Morning tea and chat with Rev. Aaron

Please join Rev. Aaron for morning tea and a chat, Monday mornings at Twisted Fig Café, (near Harvey Norman & Bunnings, in the Tweed Homemaker Centre, Tweed Heads South, at 9:30am.

**Everyone is welcome.**

## HELP PLEASE!!!

We desperately need more people to help with the roster, especially cleaning and morning tea.

**The more we have helping, the less we each have to do.**

Please contact: Janice

Also please let Janice know dates you are unavailable by the middle of each month, if possible. Thanks everyone.

**Many hands make light work – So thank in advance for your help.**

## Tithes

Please continue to direct debit/credit directly into your nearest Commonwealth Bank Branch or Please contact Neil Rackham if you need any assistance.

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

# Invitation To Lunch

*Everyone is most welcome to join the Happy Lunchers... ..*

**When:** Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> November at 11:45am

**Where:** In the "Secret Garden" South Tweed Sports Club

**Why:** To enjoy friendship, lunch and fellowship.

For more information and to RSVP (By 8<sup>th</sup> November 2021) Contact Janice