

Sunday 5 December 2021 | Advent 2



Message from Rev. Aaron Moad

Today is the second week of Advent. Last week we discussed that Advent was a time of preparation to celebrate the first

Advent Jesus' birth and a time of waiting and preparation for the second Advent, when Christ will return and usher in the Kingdom of God in all its glory. This is tricky because although we know that the first Advent occurred over 2000 years ago and we celebrate it annually, we must be vigilant because the second Advent is yet to take place and there is no telling when it will happen. Jesus may return today or tomorrow or next week, next year or next millennia, we don't know when, but we need to be ready. There is no place for complacency.

This week the second week of Advent is about peace.

One of the enduring symbols of the Christmas story is when the angels appear to the shepherds and proclaim, "Peace on earth," in Luke 2:14.

Jesus brought about peace, in the most unexpected ways, when he arrived. The Jews, particularly the zealots, wanted a rebellion. They wanted a militant, warrior, Messiah, a hero, to liberate them from oppressive rule of the Romans and bring about peace in a violent way.

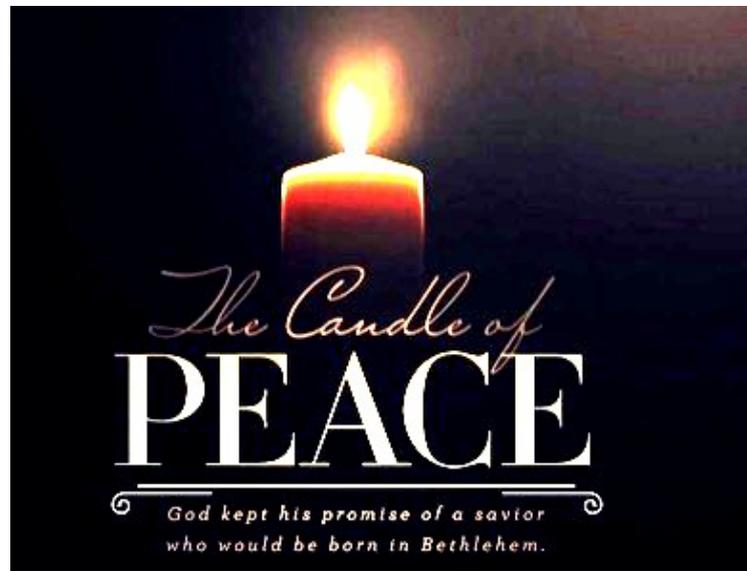
But Jesus had something else in mind. Jesus brings us peace in many ways.

First, he gives us inner peace. Because of what he did on the cross, we don't have to fear death, evil or sin. This grants us an inner peace he says "Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid." (John 14:27). Not only do we have the peace that comes from our assurance of salvation, but we also have the peace of mind knowing God will heal this broken world and will come again.

Second, we have peace with others. We put aside our differences "There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus." (Galatians 3:28). We put aside our differences, especially with other believers, because we belong to the same family. We have the same purpose: to let others know about the peace that Christ brings.

Jesus gives us shalom (the Hebrew word for peace): Shalom, goes far beyond not fighting with others or peace as we know it. Shalom means, harmony, wholeness, completeness, prosperity, welfare and tranquillity. Shalom is, in essence, how things are meant to be: it's how things are in heaven.

Proverbs 3:5 says, "Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not rely on your own insight." Peace from God, biblical peace, allows us to trust in God's promises, through restful, tranquil faith, despite the dark, scary world around us.



If you or someone you know is in need of help or support during these difficult times, please let us know and how we can help by calling either;

* The office: (07) 5524 9035 * Rev. Aaron: 0411 325 527 * Your Pastoral Carer

"We are all in this together"

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 Second Sunday in Advent! Summer! December!

On behalf of our church family I wish all who celebrate (or have celebrated) a birthday this month, much happiness and many blessings as you begin another year of a life that is healthy and loving.

No matter how well we plan, December always seems to be a very busy time. Although there is a lot of things happening, not only with our family and friends but also within our church family, I encourage you not to lost sight of the most important thing in December... the birth of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ, born in a stable and cradled in an animal feed box, with angels announcing His birth to an unlikely bunch of shepherds! Our God is a God of surprises!!!

As we begin our journey of Regeneration, are you prepared for the surprises that God has in place for BPUC?

God bless you all.

Elizabeth Wells,

BPUC Church Council Chairperson

What's Happening This Week

Today	Church Picnic 5pm
Wednesday	Prayer Meeting 8am Fellowship Lunch 11:45am Worship Singers 2pm
Thursday	Men's Bible Study group 9am CWCI Bible Study 10am Evening Bible Study group 6:30pm
Saturday	Messy Church 4pm
Next Sunday	Worship Service 9am

Church Roster

	<u>TODAY</u>	<u>NEXT SUNDAY</u>
Organist	Lillian	Audrey
Greeter	Cilla & Abby	Judy & Peter
Bible Reader	Lynn W & Barbara J	Judy & Jill
Morning Tea	Vai & Dorothy McA	Janice & Pat
Hall Set Up	Ray	Peter
Cleaning	Shirley T & Aaron	Messy Church
Communion	Shirley & Jill	-----

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

Messy Church Is Back next Week!!!

Messy Church is back at Banora Point Uniting Church with a special Messy Christmas next Saturday, 11 December from 4.00 pm. If you can help in any way, big or small, please get in touch with Elizabeth via email: bpuchurch@optusnet.com.au



Special Times For December 2021

Picnic Tea in the Park	Today @ 5pm - Ray Pascoe Park (next To Kennedy Drive Boat Ramp)
CC Executive Meeting	Monday, 6 December @ 7pm At the Church
Messy Church	Saturday 11 December @ 4pm
Church Council Meeting	Monday 13 December @ 7pm
Christmas Carol Service	Friday 24 December @ 7pm
Christmas Day Service	Saturday 25 December @ 9am
Boxing Day Service	Sunday 26 December @ 9am Ray Pascoe Park (next To Kennedy Drive Boat Ramp)

Offerings

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

Fred's Place

There has been a proposal we assist clients of Fred's place by providing some small gifts and/ or non-perishable food items at Christmas.

If any one wishes to contribute to this, a basket will be available in the hall on 5th, 12th and 19th of December.

Contact Marshall Pagan for any queries.

Invitation To Lunch

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

When: Wednesday 8th December 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 6th December 2021) Contact Janice