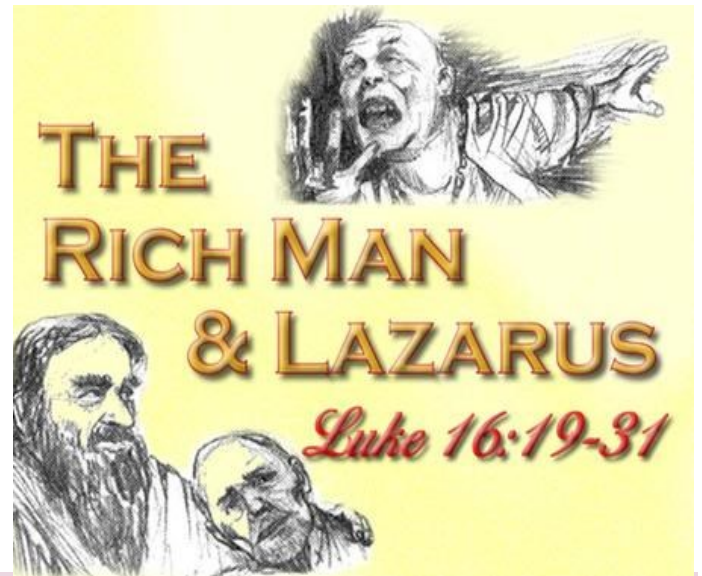




BANORA POINTER

Sunday 25 September 2022 | Pentecost 16



Message from Rev. Aaron Moad

Luke 16:19-31 Parable of The Rich Man and Lazarus



Sadly, money is the most important thing in many people's lives. Do we know the name Bill Gates most for his computer genius or his billions? How many people have to have the latest styles of designer clothes, the newest car, the biggest TV, the newest model of phone, the nicest house on the block, because they want people to know how much money they have?

This morning's text, Luke 16:19-31 deals with money and the love of money. Paul told us: "The love of money is the root of all evils; it is through this craving that some have wandered away from the faith and pierced their hearts with many pangs" (1 Tim 6:10). This narrative about the rich man and Lazarus makes very clear that "the love of money is the root of all evils."

There is nothing inherently evil about being wealthy though, notice Paul says "The **love** of money is the root of all evils..." The rich man is not condemned because he is rich, it is the priority we put on money that condemns us. The rich man put his love of money before the love of his neighbour.

In this parable there is a reversal the expected fortunes, it contradicts the widespread belief of that time. It would have been shocking to Jesus' audience, in first century Judah wealth was a sign of

God's favour and poverty a sign of sin, but Jesus turns that on its head. Jesus' preference was always for the vulnerable, sick and poor that society turns a blind eye to or outright shuns.

We have to remember not to take a passage out of context. We need to go back a few verses to discover who Jesus was telling this story to so we can fully understand the passages meaning. If we go back to verse 14 we find that this is a section of a lengthy conversation Jesus is having with a group of people including his disciples, but we find that there are Pharisees present too, who are described as "lovers of money" (Luke 16:14). Jesus switches his attention from his followers and addresses these Pharisees directly. The rich man represents the Pharisees who are lovers of money, lovers of the Law who think that their relationship with Abraham secures their future. Jesus has news for them though, he tells them that the Law and the Prophets aren't salvation and that putting their love of money before their love of their neighbour separates them from Abraham and God.

Jesus told this parable to deal with riches. Jesus had just said, "You cannot serve God and mammon" (Lk 16:13). Mammon is a Semitic word for money or riches. Jesus told this parable to the Pharisees, who were lovers of money (Lk 16:14). Too many times we think of the rich people as those with millions, but all of us have more money than most in the world, we are the rich in this world, and we all know Lazarus we see him all the time. Are we going to help him?



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

What's Happening This Week

Wednesday	Prayer Meeting 8am Worship Singers 2pm
Thursday	Men's Bible Study group 9am CWCI Bible Study 10am
Next Sunday	Worship Service 9am

Church Roster

	<u>Today</u>	<u>Next Sunday</u>
Communion Preparation	-----	Isabell, Jean & Jill
Communion Elders	-----	Neil & Audrey
Duty Elders	Neil & Robyn	Elizabeth & Robyn
Organist	Jill	Lilian
Greeters	Joyce & Daphne	Neil & Nellie
Bible Reader	Yesha & Nigel	Lumiere & Audrey
Children's Message	Jane	Aaron
Prayer For Others	Aaron	Aaron
Morning Tea	Patricia & Chris	Dorothy & Shirley
Hall Set Up	Brian & Walter	Nigel & Terryll
Cleaning	Lorraine & Lumiere	Aaron & Shirley

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

Pastoral Care Meeting—Cancelled

Due to unforeseen circumstances, the Pastoral Care meeting that was scheduled for 26 September has been cancelled. New date is to be confirmed.

Upcoming events for your diary

Messy Church	8 October @ 4pm
Church Council Meeting	10 October @ 7pm
Fellowship Lunch	12 October @ 11:45am
Thursday Night Bible Study	13 October @ 6:30pm
Craft Group	14 October @ 9am
Chiara Companion	16 October @ 1:30pm
Mainly Music	18 October @ 9am
Men's Breakfast	29 October @ 8am
BPUC Fete	5 November @ 8am
Church Elders Meeting	14 November @ 4:30pm
Pastoral Care Meeting	TBA @ 10am

Rosters - Help Needed

Please let Janice know if you can help with greeting, cleaning or any other rostered duties. We really need more people to 'share the load'.

Please contact Janice.

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

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

BPUC Church Fete

SATURDAY 5TH NOVEMBER 2022 - 8.00AM TO 11.30AM
IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO HELP IN ANYWAY PLEASE SEE TERRYLL

Invitation To Lunch

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

When: Wednesday 12th October 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 10th Oct. 2022) Contact Janice