

Sunday 4 September 2022 | Pentecost 13



## Message from Rev. Aaron Moad

### What is the difference between a believer and a disciple?

Jesus called out to those first disciples, "follow me, and I will show you how to fish for people".

Jesus invites us to acknowledge the presence and power of God's kingdom. He urges us to think and live in a new way a transformed way. But the centre of his invitation is essentially: Follow me! This is an invitation to a new belief and a new way of living. It's a call to be with Jesus, to hang out with him, to learn from him, to share life with him. Following (being a disciple) implies more than just belief. We can believe from afar but not follow, following is active, it is putting into practice the things we learn from the person we're following.

So how can we follow Jesus, given the fact that he is no longer with us in the flesh? To begin, we follow him by acknowledging him as Saviour and Lord, and by entering into relationship with him by grace through faith. We come to Jesus "just as we are," trusting him to forgive us and forge an unbreakable relationship with us. Then, in the context of such a new covenant with Jesus, we enjoy his presence through prayer, Scripture reading, worship, and service in the world.

Jesus makes himself known through his followers/disciples; we are his presence in the world. When his disciples gather together, he is there, when his disciples are serving, he is working through us.

In its simplest form, a disciple is a student, learner, pupil, and

follower of Jesus.

The issue arises when church members declare ourselves to be followers, but without identifying, acknowledging and accepting our responsibilities as disciples.

What holds us back from the deeper commitment of not just believing in Jesus but following him?

In following Jesus, those original disciples left their nets, boat, and father. We could look at the passage metaphorically, the nets could be likened to the entanglements and entrapments in life (fears, doubts, hurts, unforgiveness and sin); the boat to our trust in material assets and securities, and the father to our comfort zones. Christ is more than faithful and totally worth leaving our "nets", "boats" and "father" to follow.

In discipleship, the process begins with following the lead of Jesus as he sets the example. We are also invited to come alongside and keep in step with Jesus in a relationship. This is what discipleship looks like.

A disciple is a believer who follows Christ. There is no difference between a believer, a follower, and a disciple of Christ except that the follower puts what they have learned into action. A disciple takes seriously the command to love God, love one another and make disciples. Jesus' call to "follow me", is asking us not just believe invites us to take the next step into discipleship.

Have you taken that next step to follow Jesus' example?

If you haven't are you ready to take that next step and follow Jesus?



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

**MINISTER:** Rev. Aaron Moad | Phone: 0411 325 527

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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

<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Mainly Music</b> 9:30am
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Prayer Meeting</b> 8am <b>Worship Singers</b> 2pm
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Men's Bible Study group</b> 9am <b>CWCI Bible Study</b> 10am <b>Thursday Night Bible Study</b> 6:30pm
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>Messy Church</b> 4pm

## Upcoming events for your diary

<b>Messy Church</b>	<b>10 September @ 4pm</b>
<b>Church Elders Meeting</b>	<b>12 September @ 4:30pm</b>
<b>Fellowship Lunch</b>	<b>14 September @ 11:45am</b>
<b>Craft Group</b>	<b>16 September @ 9am</b>
<b>Prayer &amp; Christian Meditation</b>	<b>16 September @ 10am</b>
<b>BPUC Congregation Meeting</b>	<b>18 September @ 10am</b>
<b>Chiara Companion</b>	<b>18 September @ 12pm</b>
<b>Men's Breakfast</b>	<b>24 September @ 8am</b>
<b>Pastoral Care Meeting</b>	<b>26 September @ 10am</b>
<b>Church Council Meeting</b>	<b>10 October @ 7pm</b>
<b>BPUC Fate</b>	<b>5 November @ 8am</b>

## Church Roster

	<u>Today</u>	<u>Next Sunday</u>
Communion Preparation	Shirley & Stephanie	-----
Communion Elders	Jill, Robyn, Elizabeth	-----
Duty Elders	Elizabeth & Jill	Elizabeth & Robyn
Organist	Lilian	Audrey
Greeters	Lorraine & Kalend	Jane & Elspeth
Bible Reader	Jill & Judy	Georgina & Patti
Children's Message	Jane	Aaron
Prayer For Others	Aaron	Georgina
Morning Tea	Sylvia & Vai	Judy & Stephanie
Hall Set Up	Peter & Terryll	Messy Church
Cleaning	Aaron & Shirley	Messy Church

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

## BPUC Congregational Meeting

Everyone is invited and encouraged to attend the Congregational Meeting, which will take place following our worship service on **Sunday 18 September 2022**. No morning tea will be served on this day.

## Contemplative Prayer & Christian Meditation

Please come along on the **17th of September at 9am** in the Church Hall, for a workshop on Contemplative Prayer and Christian Meditation. Both of these Spiritual Disciplines are designed to enrich your personal prayer time with God and bring peace to your day. **All are welcome.**

## 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

## Pastoral Care Meeting

NEXT PASTORAL CARE MEETING will be held on **Monday 30<sup>th</sup> May 2022**, in the hall beginning with a cuppa at 9.30am and meeting beginning at 10am. Georgina Stanton.

# Invitation To Lunch

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

**When:** Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> September 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 12th Sept. 2022) Contact Janice