

Sunday 15 January 2023



A message from Rev. Aaron Moad

Happy New Year it's 2023.

The end of one year and the beginning of another is usually a time to look back to what has been and to look forward to what can be. It is a good time to reflect on the things that went well for us as well as the things that didn't go to plan. It is a time of change, a time where we can start new things and leave things behind.

From the beginning, God's people have been drawn to seeking newness. In the Bible, we read about the Hebrew people timing festivals and special events around the new moon.

The Psalmists sing of praising God with a new song. The prophets spoke of God creating a new thing on the earth and putting a new heart and a new spirit within his people.

Jesus spoke of a new commandment (to love one another) and at the last supper proclaimed a new covenant as he lifted the cup. John's Revelation speaks of a new heaven and a new earth.

Paul writes with joy in one of his letters to the church in Corinth, "So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!"

It seems that God has gifted us with an internal desire to seek out newness...to maintain hope and to believe in God's plan. As we enter into a New Year, may we place our hope in life and grasp onto the notion of newness and joy.

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I pray that 2023 will be a year of new beginnings where we honour the things we did in the past but realise to grow we must leave some things behind.

I pray that as God is beginning new things, that you'll walk in his strength as some things end. That as you move forward, you make a conscious choice to end those things (within your control) that distract and deter you from God's plan for your life.

I pray that 2023 will be a year for 'increased discipleship'. Make this a year that you will make a personal commitment to God to deepen your walk with him through a greater commitment to Christian service, bible study, ministry participation, personal witness, and stewardship. We often want more out of God without giving him more of us. Commit to give God more of you in 2023.

I praise God for his provision over your life and family during 2022, but I'm also excited about God's will do in your lives in 2023. With all that's going on in the world today, what a refreshing word it is to know that your life is in God's control; and it will flourish and be sustained by his authority!

May the Lord's blessings exceed our imaginations in 2023; as we raise our commitment to him both individually and corporately as the Banora Point Uniting Church family.

I wish you all a happy, blessed, and safe New Year.

Acknowledgement of country

Banora Point Uniting Church acknowledges the Bundjalung people, the traditional custodians of the land on which we meet, we pay respect to their Elders, past, present and future.

What's Happening This Week

Today	Chaira Companions 1.30pm
Wednesday	Prayer Meeting 8am
Thursday	Men's Bible Study group 8.30am CWCI 10am

Upcoming events for your diary

Mens Breakfast	28 January 8am
Rev John Hopping's Induction	28 January 2pm
Craft Group	3 February 9am
Mainly Music	7 February 9.30am
Fellowship Lunch	8 February 11.45am
Border Council of Churches	8 February 4.30pm
Messy Church	11 February 4pm

Church Roster

	<u>Today</u>	<u>Next Sunday</u>
Communion Preparation	_____	_____
Communion Elders	_____	_____
Duty Elders	Neil & Elizabeth	Audrey & Robyn
Organist	Jill	Jill
Greeters	Lorraine & Noah	Jan & Mary B
Bible Reader	Robyn & Dorothy B	Lynn & Nigel
Children's Message	Aaron	Neil
Morning Tea	Kristine & Stephanie	Sylvia & Lorraine S
Hall Set Up	TBA	Nigel
Cleaning	Aaron	Lorraine W

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

Mothers Day Sales Table—Friday 5 May 2023

It is planned to hold a sales table at Banora Point Shopping Village on this date. If you have any 'unwanted' Christmas gifts please consider donating them for this event. Any other donations would also be most welcome. Please speak to Neil if you can help.

Rev John Hopping's Induction

Our former supply minister is being inducted as the Minister in Placement at Tallebudgera Uniting Church at 2pm on Saturday 28 January 2023. **All are welcome to attend**

There Is Support Available

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

Rev. Aaron: 0411 325 527

Your Pastoral Carer

Offerings

As the Body of Christ here at Banora Point, there are many ways we can contribute to Christ's ongoing mission. Volunteering in local community groups is one way we can be the presence of Christ sharing the Gospel in action in our community.

Another important way we can contribute to the mission of Christ at Banora Point Uniting Church is financially. The offering enables the Uniting Church to have a continued presence in Banora Point, it allows us to run our current outreach programs and will help us meet the changing needs of our local community in the future. Our offerings are received physically during the Worship Service every week or if you prefer you can choose to give electronically, directly into our account. You can do this by direct debit or at your local Commonwealth Bank branch. Please contact Neil Rackham if you need any assistance.

Banora Point Uniting Church 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