



BANORA POINTER

Sunday 26 February 2023



A message from Rev. Aaron Moad



As we enter into the season of Lent, we are called to reflect on the significance of Jesus' temptation in the wilderness. Matthew 4:1-11 recounts the moment when Jesus was led by the Spirit into the wilderness, where he fasted for forty days and forty nights. During this time, Satan approached him and tempted him three times. It is through this story that we see Jesus' strength in resisting temptation and his unwavering devotion to God.

The first temptation Satan presents to Jesus is to turn stones into bread. Satan tempts Jesus by appealing to his physical hunger, but Jesus responds by quoting scripture, saying, "Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God" (Matthew 4:4). This is a reminder to us that while our physical needs are important, our spiritual needs are just as crucial. We must seek nourishment not only for our bodies but for our souls, turning to scripture, Jesus and his teachings for guidance.

In the second temptation, Satan tempts Jesus by offering him all the kingdoms of the world if he bows down and worships him. Jesus responds by again quoting scripture, saying, "You shall worship the Lord your God and him only shall you serve" (Matthew 4:10). This is a reminder that our loyalty should be to God and God alone. We must not be tempted by the temporary pleasures and promises of the world, but instead focus on our eternal relationship with God.

In the final temptation, Satan tempts Jesus by telling him to throw himself off the pinnacle of the temple, saying that the angels will save him. Jesus again responds by quoting

scripture, saying, "You shall not put the Lord your God to the test" (Matthew 4:7). This is a reminder to us that we should never put God to the test. Instead, we must trust in him and have faith that he will guide us through all of life's challenges.

As we enter the season of Lent, we are called to reflect on our own lives and the temptations that we face. Like Jesus, we are called to resist these temptations and focus on our relationship with God. Lent is a time for preparation and self-reflection, a time for us to deepen our faith and seek forgiveness for our sins.

We can use this time to look inward and identify areas of our lives where we need to make changes. Perhaps we need to be more patient with our loved ones or more generous with our time and resources. Or maybe we need to show grace letting go of grudges and forgiving those who have wronged us. Whatever it may be, we can use this time to make a commitment to improving ourselves and our relationship with God.

In Matthew 4:1-11, we see Jesus demonstrate his unwavering faith and devotion to God. As we embark on our own Lenten journey, let us strive to emulate Jesus' strength and trust in God. Let's use this time to deepen our faith and grow closer to God. Let's resist the temptations that lead us away from him and focus on becoming more like Jesus living a life of love and service to others.

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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

Tuesday	Mainly Music 9.30am
Wednesday	Prayer Meeting 8am
Thursday	Men's Bible Study group 8.30am KYB (CWCI) 10am Bible Study Group 6.30pm
Friday	Craft Club 9am

Church Roster

	<u>Today</u>	<u>Next Sunday</u>
Duty Elders	Elizabeth & Jill	Neil & Audrey
Organist	Jill	Lillian
Greeters	Jane & Walter	Jan & Joan C
Bible Readers	Dudley & Barbara	Yesha & Audrey
Children's Message	Aaron	Aaron
Morning Tea	Mary & Chris	Shirley T & Kristine
Hall Set Up	Nigel	Craft Club
Cleaning	Lorraine W & Helene	Craft Club

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

Other upcoming events for your diary

Mainly Music 7 March 9.30am
Fellowship Lunch 8 March 11.45am
Messy Church 11 March 4pm
Congregational Meeting 12 March after service
Elders/Church Council Meeting 14 March 7pm
Craft Club 17 March 9am
Chaira Companions 19 March Noon
Men's Breakfast 25 March 8am

Uniting World's Lent Event

Amongst the chaos – the hustle and bustle of a new year, global conflict, poverty, pandemic and climate change – challenges and distractions can feel overwhelming. But life isn't always meant to be this way.

As it says in Ecclesiastes 7:29 (GNB):

"This is all that I have learnt: God made us plain and simple, but we have made ourselves very complicated."

Now more than ever, we need to be living mindfully, refocusing, and training our hearts towards what really matters.

Lent is an opportunity to disrupt our everyday routines by living more simply, taking up a spiritual discipline or just being more intentional about our lives and habits.

Many choose to give up food, social media, chocolate or coffee, while others commit to journaling or daily prayer.

We want to help you make this Lent a meaningful one, giving you the chance to make a difference in your own life and the lives of others. For more information please see www.unitingworld.org.au/lent-event-is-coming

Fellowship Lunch

Everybody is welcome to join the 'Happy Lunchers' at 11:45am Wednesday March 8th in the "Secret Garden" South Tweed Sports Club for fellowship and lunch. **RSVP to Janice by 6th March**

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Everyone is invited and encouraged to attend our Congregational Meeting, which will take place following our worship service on **Sunday 12 March 2023**. **No** morning tea will be served on that day.

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