



# BANORA POINTER

Sunday 8 October 2023



## A message from Rev. Aaron Moad



Good morning

In our gospel reading Matthew 21:33-46 Jesus tells a parable about a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a winepress, and built a watchtower. He then leased the vineyard to tenants and went on a journey. When the harvest season arrived, the owner sent his servants to collect the produce, but the tenants mistreated and killed them. The owner then sent more servants, who faced the same fate. Finally, he sent his own son, thinking the tenants would respect him. However, the wicked tenants conspired and killed the owner's son, hoping to inherit the vineyard themselves.

While this parable may seem like a simple agricultural story, it carries a profound spiritual message. The landowner represents God, the vineyard symbolises the world or the Kingdom of God, the tenants signify the religious leaders of Jesus' time, the servants represent the Old Testament prophets, and the son is none other than Jesus himself. The rejection and mistreatment of God's messengers and, ultimately, the crucifixion of Jesus demonstrate the failure of the religious leaders to recognise God's presence and purposes.

But what does this parable mean for us today?

**Caring for God's Vineyard:** As followers of Christ, are called to be responsible caretakers of God's creation. This encompasses both our individual lives and our collective role as the Church. Our faith is not a passive endeavour but a dynamic partnership with God in nurturing the Kingdom.

**Accountability to God:** In our spiritual journey, it's vital to understand that we are accountable to God. Our lives should reflect a sense of stewardship and accountability for the gifts and opportunities he has granted us. Just as the tenants were accountable for the vineyard's produce, we are accountable for how we utilize our God-given talents and the abundant resources

he has given to us and use them to advance his Kingdom.

**Respecting God's Messengers:** The rejection and mistreatment of God's messengers in the parable remind us of the importance of recognising and respecting those who bring God's message into our lives. Prophets, ministers, teachers, and mentors all have a role in shaping our faith journey. We must be open to their guidance and instruction.

**Embracing the Son:** The ultimate act of accountability is our response to Jesus, the Son of God. By acknowledging and embracing his teachings, we bear fruit in our lives and contribute to the advancement of God's Kingdom. Just as the owner sent his son, God sent Jesus to guide us into the abundant life he offers.

Perhaps we can ask ourselves:

How can I continue to contribute to the growth of God's Kingdom?

Am I accountable for the gifts and blessings God has entrusted to me?

Do I recognise and respect the messengers of God in my life?

Have I made Jesus as the cornerstone of my life?

The Parable of the Wicked Tenants highlights our responsibility and accountability in caring for God's Kingdom and recognising his Son as our cornerstone. May we be faithful stewards, bearing the fruits of love, compassion, and grace, and may our lives reflect the profound message of this parable in all we do.

Grace and peace to you all,

Rev. Aaron

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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.

**Today's Bible Readings**

**Isaiah 5:1-7**

**Matthew 21:33-46**

## What's Happening This Week

<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Mainly Music Meeting</b> 9am <b>Elders/Council Meeting</b> 7pm
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Prayer Meeting</b> 8am <b>Fellowship Lunch</b> 11.45am <b>Book Swap, Coffee &amp; Chat</b> 9.30am
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Men's Bible Study group</b> 8.30am <b>KYB (CWCI)</b> 10am <b>Bible Study</b> 6.30pm
<b>Friday</b>	<b>Craft Club</b> 9am

## Church Roster

	<u>Today</u>	<u>Next Sunday</u>
Duty Elders	Robyn & Elizabeth	Audrey & Elizabeth
Organist	Audrey	Jill
Greeters	Jane & Ellie	Joyce & Walter
Bible Readers	Noah & Joyce	Walter & Audrey
Morning Tea	Sylvia & Shirley T	Shirley T & Steph
Hall Set Up	Walter	Craft Club
Cleaning		Craft Club

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

## 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

## Other upcoming events for your diary

**Sunday School** 15 October during Sunday Service  
**Chaira Companions** 15 October 1.30pm  
**Mainly Music** 17 October 9.30am  
**Book Swap, Coffee & Chat** 18 October 9.30am  
**Craft Club** 27 October 9am  
**Men's Breakfast** 28 October 8am  
**Pastoral Care Meeting** 3 November 10am  
**Fellowship Lunch** 8 November 11.45am  
**Elders/Council Meeting** 14 November 7pm  
**Church Fete** 18 November 8am  
**Messy Church** December 4pm TBC



mainly music

## Mainly Music

In preparation for the next term, the Mainly Music team will be having a meeting and toy clean up morning on Tuesday 10 October starting at 9am

## Sunday School

Our Sunday School will be commencing next Sunday 15 October. It is planned to take place during our normal worship service, and will be held in the hall. If you know of any kids who could benefit from our Sunday School, please do spread the message!

## Fellowship Lunch

Everybody is welcome to join the 'Happy Lunchers' at 11.45am on Wednesday October 11th in the "Secret Garden" South Tweed Sports Club for fellowship and lunch. RSVP to Janice by 9 October.

## Samaritan's Purse Christmas Child

It is that time of year again, and this year's supply of Christmas Shoeboxes are sitting on the table in the foyer. This is a wonderful project, and we encourage you to be a part of it. Please take a box (or more) plus the leaflets which explains the project and gives very good gift ideas. A donation to cover project costs per shoebox is detailed on the leaflet and is strongly encouraged please. **Boxes to be returned by 23 October.**

## 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