



BANORA POINTER

Sunday 18 February 2024



A message from Rev. Aaron Moad



Good morning

As we begin our journey through the season of Lent, we are called to reflect deeply on our faith, our relationship with God, and our commitment to living lives that honour His will. This week, our Scripture reading from Matthew 3:13-4:11 presents us with an account of Jesus' baptism and his temptation in the wilderness. In this passage, we witness Jesus, after his baptism by John the Baptist, being led by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil.

It's important to know that temptation itself is not a sin. In our human experience, we will undoubtedly encounter moments of temptation, where we are enticed by desires or distractions that may lead us away from God's path. So, we mustn't feel guilty of being tempted, even Jesus, in his humanity, faced temptation. What really matters is our response to the temptation, and the choices we make in the face of temptation.

Jesus' response to temptation serves as a powerful example for us. In the face of temptation, he relied on his understanding of the Scriptures, stating, "It is written: 'Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.'" (Matthew 4:4) Jesus draws strength from Scripture, demonstrating the importance of knowing and understanding Scripture as a shield against temptation.

Jesus' resistance to temptation was not merely a matter of willpower but stemmed from his unwavering commitment to Father's will. Each time the devil tempted him, Jesus responded with a firm affirmation of his faithfulness to God

the Father. He declared, "Away from me, Satan! For it is written: 'Worship the Lord your God and serve him only.'" (Matthew 4:10) Jesus remained steadfast in his devotion to God, refusing to succumb to the allure of worldly temptations.

As we reflect on Jesus' experience in the wilderness, we are reminded that temptation is an inevitable part of our human experience. However, we are not left defenceless in the face of temptation. Through prayer, the study of Scripture, and a steadfast commitment to God, we can resist temptation and remain faithful to His will. However when we do sin we can rely on the Grace of God and what Jesus did through his life, death, and resurrection that if we are repentant and ask we will be forgiven.

During this season of Lent, let us take time to examine our lives and identify areas where we are vulnerable to temptation. Let us immerse ourselves in prayer and Bible study, seeking strength and guidance from God to overcome temptation. Let's also remember that we are not alone in our struggle against temptation; God is with us, ready to provide us with the strength and grace we need to resist.

May this Lenten season be a time of spiritual renewal and growth as we seek to draw closer to God and live lives that reflect His love and grace.

Grace and peace

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

Genesis 3:1-13

Matthew 3:13-4:11

What's Happening This Week

Today	Chaira Companions 1.30pm
Tuesday	Mainly Music 9.30am
Wednesday	Prayer meeting 8am Book Swap, Coffee & Chat 9.30am
Thursday	Men's Bible Study 8.30am KYB (CWCI) 10am Evening Bible Study 6.30pm
Friday	Pastoral Care meeting 10am
Saturday	Men's Breakfast 8am

Other upcoming events for your diary

Mainly Music 27 February 9.30am
Book Swap, Coffee & Chat 28 February 9.30am
Craft Club 1 March 9am
Elders/Council Meeting 12 March 7pm
Fellowship Lunch 13 March 11.45am
Congregational Meeting 17 March 10am
Chaira Companions 17 March 12 noon
Men's Breakfast 25 March 8am
Pastoral Care Meeting 24 May 10am TBC

Church Roster

Today Next Sunday

Duty Elder	Neil	Robyn
Organist	Audrey	Jill
Greeters	Mary B & Joan C	Sylvia & Nigel
Bible Readers	Lumiere & Sylvia	Dudley & Nigel
Morning Tea	Sylvia & Vai	Mary & Chris
Hall Set Up	Nigel	Brian
Sound Room	Nigel	Elizabeth
Cleaning	Craft Club	Lorraine W & Helene

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

Nominations

Nomination forms for Church Council, for the positions of Elder, Councillor, or both, are available from CC Secretary Janice. Please speak to Rev. Aaron or any member of CC for more information.

Pastoral Care Meeting

Please note that a meeting of the Pastoral Care team will take place in the church hall on Friday 23 February commencing at 10am.

Church Roster

We are always on the lookout for more volunteers for our church roster. At the moment we are really in need of more volunteers for Cleaning. Ideally we would like to have 2 people rostered on together each time. If you are able to help please talk to Janice.

Men's Breakfast

Meeting for breakfast at 8am on Saturday 24 February at the Twisted Fig Café (near Bunnings in Tweed Heads South), then on to our church hall for Carpet Bowls.

All men are welcome.

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

Newlife Robina

Newlife Robina's Seniors' Ministry Tuesday Chapel Service is taking place on 20 February at 12.15-1.30pm NSW time at Newlife Church, 4 Greenwich Court, Robina.

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