



# BANORA POINTER

Sunday 7 July 2024

**A message from  
Rev. Aaron Moad**



In today's lectionary reading (Mark 6:1-13), we find a powerful and challenging passage that speaks to the heart of our journey of faith and service. Jesus returns to His hometown, with His disciples, only to be met with scepticism and rejection. The people who knew Him as the carpenter's son could not reconcile the familiar figure they watched grow up with the profound wisdom and miracles He had become known for. Their unbelief was so deep that even Jesus, the Son of God, could not perform many miracles there. This stark rejection in Nazareth serves as a poignant reminder of the resistance we might face when we step out in faith.

Jesus' experience in His hometown highlights an aspect of our walk with God that we don't really talk about: rejection is part and parcel of the journey. As followers of Christ, we are called to spread the gospel and serve others, but this path is not always met with open arms. Just as Jesus faced disbelief and rejection from those who knew Him best, we too may encounter resistance, scepticism, and even hostility, often from the most unexpected places.

When Jesus sends out the twelve disciples, He prepares them for the reality of rejection. He instructs them to take nothing for their journey except a staff—no bread, no bag, no money in their belts—signifying their dependence on God's provision and their commitment to the mission. He also gives them a sobering directive: "If any place will not welcome you and they refuse to hear you, as you leave, shake off the dust that is on your feet as a testimony against them." (Mark 6:11, NRSV). This instruction is not just about moving on; it's about recognising that rejection is an inevitable part of the mission and that our value and purpose are not diminished by it.

For us, this teaching is both a challenge and an

encouragement. It is a challenge because it calls us to a place of vulnerability. Sharing the gospel and serving others can leave us exposed to criticism, rejection, and even ridicule. Yet, it is also an encouragement because it reassures us that rejection does not define our worth or the validity of our message. Just as Jesus faced rejection and continued His ministry, we too must persevere, knowing that our efforts are seen and valued by God. Furthermore, this passage invites us to reflect on our response to rejection. Jesus did not retaliate or harbor bitterness; He simply acknowledged their unbelief and moved forward with His mission. This teaches us to respond to rejection with grace and resilience, we're to just move on, shaking the dust off our feet (Mark 6:11). It encourages us to maintain our focus on God's call, trusting that He is with us even when others turn away. In our daily lives, whether we are sharing the gospel, serving in our communities, or simply living out our faith, we will encounter moments of rejection. Strangers, colleagues, even friends, and family might dismiss our message or misunderstand our intentions. In these moments, let us remember Jesus' example and His words to the disciples. Let's find strength in knowing that rejection is a shared experience with His earliest followers and even Jesus himself.

As we continue to serve and spread the good news, let's do so with unwavering faith and courage. Rejection may come, but it is not the end. Our mission remains, and God's love endures. Shake the dust off our feet, press on, and keep our hearts anchored in the truth that we are deeply loved and called by God, no matter the response of the world around us.

Grace and peace

Rev Aaron

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

**Church Office:**

63 Darlington Drive, Banora Point, NSW 2486  
Postal: PO Box 577 Banora Point, NSW 2486  
Phone: 07 5524 9035  
Email: bpt.uchurch@gmail.com

**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**

**Ezekiel 2:1-5**  
**Mark 6:1-13**

## What's Happening This Week

<b>Tuesday</b>	Elders' Meeting 4.30pm
<b>Wednesday</b>	Prayer Meeting 8am Book Swap, Coffee & Chat 9.30am Fellowship Lunch 11.45am
<b>Thursday</b>	Men's Bible Study 8.30am KYB (CWCI) 10am

## Church Roster

	<u>Today</u>	<u>Next Sunday</u>
Kids' Church	Jane	N/A
Duty Elder	Neil	Walter
Organist/Pianist	Jill & Mel	Audrey
Greeters	Joan C & Noah	Lorraine S & Hazel
Bible Readers	Joyce & Stephanie	Walter & Nigel
Morning Tea	Pat & Hazel	Shirley T &
Hall Set Up	Marshall	Ross
Sound Room	Nathan	Ross
Cleaning	Aaron & Jane	Nigel & Sylvia

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

## Fellowship Lunch

Everybody is welcome to join the 'Happy Lunchers' at 11.45am on Wednesday 10 July in the "Secret Garden" South Tweed Sports Club for fellowship and lunch. RSVP to Janice by 8 July.

## 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

**Book Swap, Coffee & Chat** 17 July 9.30am  
**Chaira Companions** 21 July 12 noon  
**Evening Bible Study** 25 July 6.30pm  
**Craft Club** 26 July 9am  
**Men's Breakfast** 27 July 8am  
**Kids' Church** 28 July 9am  
**Mainly Music** 30 July 9.30am  
**Church Council Meeting** 13 August 7pm  
**Fellowship Lunch** 14 August 11.45am  
**Pastoral Care Meeting** 30 August 10.15am  
**Elder's Meeting** 10 September 4.30pm  
**Fashion Parade** 25 September 10.30am

## Fred's Place & You Have a Friend

Winter is now upon us and it is time to show our compassion to those in need. There is need for warm clothing, especially jackets, plus warm blankets. Also non-perishable foods and toiletries items. Marshall and Jill will be delighted to hear from you if you can assist.

## Book Swap, Coffee & Chat

A reminder that this is on again this Wednesday and will continue every Wednesday. We do NOT stop for School Holidays. So, please come along and browse the books, and enjoy home baked morning tea, coffee, & chat. Please bring your friends and neighbours.

## School Holidays recess

Mainly Music, Kids' Church (after today) and Evening Bible study are now in recess for the School Holidays. Please note start back dates above in 'other upcoming events'.

## Kids' Church Leaders Meeting

If you are a leader or helper of Kids' Church (or would like to be), please join us for a meeting after church today. We will be discussing our plans and ideas for term 3, and checking in on how we are going. New energy, ideas and perspectives are always welcome.

## 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