



# BANORA POINTER



Sunday 28 July 2024

## A message from Rev. Aaron Moad



Our reading today from John 6:1-21, tells us about two significant events in Jesus' ministry which reveal the multifaceted identity of His and our relationship with Him. We see how John masterfully weaves together the stories of the miraculous feeding of the five thousand and Jesus walking on water to illustrate deeper spiritual truths about Jesus' nature and our faith journey.

The reading begins with Jesus crossing the Sea of Galilee, followed by a large crowd drawn by the miracles He performed. Instead of using the word miracle John uses the word "signs," emphasising that these events point beyond the miracles themselves to reveal Jesus as the Son of God. As Jesus sees the approaching crowd, He poses a question to Philip: "Where are we to buy bread for all these people to eat?" John clarifies that Jesus asks this to test Philip, as He already knows what He intends to do.

Philip's response focuses on the impracticality of the situation, highlighting the sheer cost of feeding such a multitude. His concern for the logistics tells us that even the disciples don't understand who Jesus is and the extent of His divine power. Andrew then brings a boy with five loaves and two fish to Jesus, but he too doubts their sufficiency. Despite their doubts, Jesus proceeds with what He knew from the beginning. He blesses the food, distributes it, and miraculously, everyone is fed with twelve baskets of leftovers. The crowd, recognising the miracle, sees Jesus as "the prophet who is to come into the world."

However, their recognition leads to a misunderstanding. They want to make Jesus their king, seeing Him as a provider who can meet their material needs. Jesus retreats to the mountain alone, indicating that His kingship and mission transcend their immediate desires and expectations. This sets the stage for the

second story in our reading.

As the disciples head back across the lake, they encounter a fierce storm. Amid the darkness and turbulent waters, they see Jesus walking on the sea, which terrifies them. Jesus reassures them with His presence, saying, "It is I; do not be afraid." When He joins them in the boat, they reach their destination immediately. This episode contrasts starkly with the earlier scene of abundance and contentment. Here, the disciples face fear and uncertainty, yet Jesus comes to them in their time of need, demonstrating His power and reassuring presence.

These intertwined stories highlight two critical aspects of Jesus' identity: as the provider who miraculously meets physical needs and as the Saviour who comes to His followers in their deepest fears and anxieties. They also reflect our tendencies to seek Jesus for material benefits while often failing to grasp the deeper significance of His presence and power in our lives.

As we reflect on these passages, we are reminded that our relationship with Jesus is not merely transactional. It's not about making Him a king to fulfill our earthly desires but about recognising His authority and presence in every aspect of our lives, especially in our moments of fear and need. Our consumer-oriented culture often leads us to seek immediate gratification and solutions, but the true essence of following Jesus lies in trusting His presence and guidance through life's storms. John 6:1-21 challenges us to move beyond a superficial understanding of Jesus as a provider to a deeper faith in Him as our Saviour who walks with us through life's challenges.

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**

**2 Kings 4:42-44**  
**John 6:1-21**

## What's Happening This Week

<b>Tuesday</b>	Mainly Music 9.30am
<b>Wednesday</b>	Prayer Meeting 8am Book Swap, Coffee & Chat 9.30am
<b>Thursday</b>	Men's Bible Study 8.30am KYB (CWCI) 10am Evening Bible Study 6.30pm

## Other upcoming events for your diary

<b>Mainly Music</b>	6 August 9.30am
<b>Book Swap, Coffee &amp; Chat</b>	7 August 9.30am
<b>Craft Club</b>	9 August 9am
<b>Church Council Meeting</b>	13 August 7pm
<b>Fellowship Lunch</b>	14 August 11.45am
<b>Chaira Companions</b>	18 August 1.30pm
<b>Pastoral Care Meeting</b>	30 August 10.15am
<b>Men's Breakfast</b>	31 August 8am
<b>Elder's Meeting</b>	10 September 4.30pm
<b>Fashion Parade</b>	25 September 10.30am
<b>Church Fete</b>	9 or 23 November 8am

## Church Roster

Today                      Next Sunday

Kids' Church	Lynn & Pat	Terryll & Stephanie
Duty Elder	Elizabeth	Audrey
Organist/Pianist	Jill & Mel	Jill & Mel
Greeters	Lynn & Robyn	Joan C & Robyn
Bible Readers	Dudley & Neil	Dorothy B & Nigel
Morning Tea	Lorraine S & Wendy	Shirley T & Audrey
Hall Set Up	Nigel	Neil
Sound Room	Elizabeth	Nathan
Cleaning	Craft Club	Lorraine W & Helene

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

## Kids' Church

Kids' Church starts back today! A really interesting programme has been put together for this term. Please pass on the message to family and friends with kids.

## Greetings Cards

A little reminder to everyone that there are lots of lovely greetings cards for sale in our Hall. Monies raised from those sales go to church funds.



## Mainly Music

As you can see from the events happening this week, Mainly Music is starting back this Tuesday. **At the end of last term we had 26 kids plus their parents/carers attending, which is exciting to see. However, this number means we need lots of volunteers, including kitchen helpers. If you feel you can assist, please do talk to Lynn.**

## Church Fete

Many thanks to all those who have signified their support for a church fete this year by putting their names on the pre-roster sheet in the church foyer. Whilst we are a little short in numbers on a few stalls, the committee feel we have enough to move forward with a Fete this November. We hope to finalise the date in the next 2 weeks or so, but it will be on either the 9th or 23rd November. Watch this space for more information in the coming weeks.

## 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