



BANORA POINTER



Sunday 11 May 2025

A message from Rev. Aaron Moad



The Shepherd Who Sees, Speaks, and Secures

Have you ever felt lost—not geographically, but spiritually? Not the kind of lost that happens when you miss a turn, but the deeper, disorienting kind: when your soul feels off course, when your heart is heavy, when you wonder if God sees you at all?

In a noisy, crowded world filled with empty promises and self-serving leadership, it's easy to feel unseen, unheard, and unprotected. But Scripture reveals something extraordinary: God is not distant or disinterested. He is a Shepherd. He sees us, He speaks to us, and He secures us with His own hands.

1. God Seeks the Lost, the Broken, and the Forgotten

In *Ezekiel 34*, God rebukes Israel's unfaithful leaders—those who exploited and neglected the very people they were called to protect. The people were scattered and suffering, like sheep without a shepherd. But God steps in with a breathtaking promise: *"I myself will search for my sheep and look after them."*

That's not delegation. That's divine intervention. God Himself comes looking. He doesn't send a proxy. He doesn't wait for us to find our way back. He moves toward the broken. Toward the wounded. Toward the forgotten.

He says *"I will bind up the injured and strengthen the weak"*. What a picture of compassion. And in Jesus, this promise becomes flesh. Jesus walks dusty roads, touches lepers, dines with outcasts, and ultimately lays down His life for the lost.

Maybe today you feel forgotten. Maybe you wonder if anyone notices your pain. The Good Shepherd does.

2. God Speaks, and His Sheep Know His Voice

In *John 10*, Jesus is questioned at the Feast of Dedication. People demand clarity: *"Are you the Messiah? Tell us plainly!"* And Jesus answers with a deeply relational truth: *"My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me."*

His voice isn't just heard—it's recognised. It cuts through the static of fear, distraction, and lies. The question isn't, "Is God speaking?" The question is, "Are we listening?" If His voice feels distant, maybe we've

been tuning in to the wrong frequencies. Today is a good day to turn down the noise and lean into the voice that brings peace.

3. God Secures His Sheep with Unshakable Hands

Perhaps the most breathtaking promise of all is found in *John 10:28* *"I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; no one will snatch them out of my hand."*

No one. Not your past. Not your fear. Not your worst mistake. Not even your doubt. If you belong to Jesus, you are held—firmly, lovingly, eternally—in His nail-scarred hands.

This doesn't mean life is without danger. Sheep still face wolves. Valleys still come. But the Shepherd never leaves. And His grip never fails.

A Personal Challenge

So what does this mean for us—here, now, in real life?

It means we get to choose the voice we follow. Culture is calling. Comfort is calling. Control is calling. But only one voice leads to life.

Will you let yourself be found today?

Will you stop trying to fix yourself before coming home?

Will you tune out the chaos and listen for His voice?

Will you rest in the truth that you are secure—not because of what you've done, but because of who He is?

You don't have to prove your worth. You just have to listen, respond, and trust.

We are not alone in a harsh world. We are pursued by a Shepherd who sees us fully, speaks to us clearly, and holds us tightly.

Ezekiel pointed to Him. John revealed Him. And now we walk with Him.

So whether you're weary or wondering, hurting or hopeful—know this:

The Shepherd is near. He sees. He speaks. And He secures.

Let's follow Him—faithfully, confidently, and together.

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

Ezekiel 34:11-16

John 10:22-30

What's Happening This Week

Tuesday	Mainly Music 9.30am Elders' Meeting 4pm
Wednesday	Prayer meeting 8am Book Swap, Coffee & Chat 9.30am Fellowship Lunch 12 noon
Thursday	Men's Bible Study 8.30am KYB (CWCI) 10am Evening Bible Study 6.30pm
Friday	Craft Club 9am

Other upcoming events for your diary

Chaira Companions 18 May 12 noon
Mainly Music 20 May 9.30am
Book Swap, Coffee & Chat 21 May 9.30am
Pastoral Care Meeting 23 May 10.15am
Craft Club 30 May 9am
Men's Breakfast 31 May 8am
Church Council Meeting 10 June 7pm
Fellowship Lunch 11 June 12 noon
Elders' Meeting 8 July 4pm

Church Roster

	<u>Today</u>	<u>Next Sunday</u>
Duty Elder	Elizabeth	Robyn
Organist/Pianist	Jill/Mel	Audrey
Greeters	Denise & Hazel	Robyn & Joan C
Bible Readers	Lena & Joyce	Robyn & Yesha
Prayers for Others	Tambar	Joyce
Morning Tea	Pat & Steph	Hazel & Sylvia
Hall Set Up	Ross	Craft Club
Sound Room	Ross	Nigel
Cleaning	Aaron & Jane	Craft Club

*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 12 noon on Wednesday 14 May in the "Secret Garden" South Tweed Sports Club for fellowship and lunch. RSVP to Janice by 12 May.

Men's Breakfast

Meeting for breakfast at 8am on Saturday 31 May at the Twisted Fig Café (near Bunnings in Tweed Heads South). **All men are welcome.**

Church Building Security

We would ask everyone to please be security aware. If you are the last person/persons to leave the church building after a service or other event, please take a little extra time to go round **both the church (incl. former cry/quiet room) and the hall** to ensure all doors and windows are locked, and that all lights, fans etc. are turned off. Thank you

Carpet Donation

Dudley is offering a carpet—size 260cm x 180cm approximately, to anyone who wants it. All he asks is that you collect it. If you are interested, please talk to Dudley for more details.

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 or 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