



BANORA POINTER



Sunday 18 May 2025

A message from Rev. Aaron Moad



"Love Like Jesus Loved"

In John 13:31–35, we find Jesus speaking to His disciples in the moments just before His arrest. These verses are both powerful and profound, as they capture the heart of Jesus' final instructions to those closest to Him:

"A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another." (John 13:34–35)

At the core of this passage is a simple but revolutionary command: **love one another**. But Jesus doesn't leave love open to interpretation—He defines it "As I have loved you,". In other words, don't love based on your convenience, emotions, or what someone else deserves. Love the way *I* have loved *you*.

This is the kind of love that kneels to wash feet. The kind of love that bears betrayal with grace. The kind of love that sacrifices, forgives, serves, and ultimately lays down its life. It is active, humble, and powerful. And it is this kind of love that Jesus points to as the defining mark of His followers.

In a world often marked by division, anger, and self-interest, Jesus' command stands out as radically different. What if the Church—the people of God—were known first not for our theology, music, or good works, but for how deeply and genuinely we love—not just the easy to love, but also the difficult, the broken, the outcast, and even those who oppose us?

Jesus calls this a **new command**, not because the idea of loving others was a new concept, but because the standard had changed. The law taught people to love their neighbour; Jesus now commands us to love as **He** loved. Jesus raises the bar, and the power to meet it doesn't come from ourselves—it comes from Him.

We live in a time when many are seeking authenticity. They want to see faith that isn't just spoken but lived. And Jesus tells us plainly: the world will recognise His disciples not by status, buildings, or programs, but by love. Real love. Transformative love.

So, let's take this command to heart. In our homes, may we love with patience and grace. In our church, may we bear with one another, forgive, and encourage. In our community, may we be quick to serve and slow to judge. In every sphere, let's mirror the love of Christ so that others might see Him in us.

As we reflect on this passage, let's ask ourselves: How am I loving others today? And how can I better reflect Jesus' love in my daily life?

May we be a church that is unmistakably marked by love—Christ's love—so that through us, the world may see His glory.

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

Acts 11:1-18

John 13:31-35

What's Happening This Week

Today	Chaira Companions 12 Noon
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 10.15am

Church Roster

Today Next Sunday

Duty Elder	Robyn	Robyn
Organist/Pianist	Jill/Mel	Audrey
Greeters	Denise & Joan C	Joyce & Marshall
Bible Readers	Robyn & Yesha	Dudley & Walter
Prayers for Others	Joyce	Aaron
Morning Tea	Hazel & Sylvia	Mary & Chris
Hall Set Up	Craft Club	Nigel
Sound Room	Nigel	Elizabeth
Cleaning	Craft Club	Helene

*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 or Your Pastoral Carer

Other upcoming events for your diary

Congregational Mtg 25 May after worship service
Mainly Music 27 May 9.30am
Book Swap, Coffee & Chat 28 May 9.30am
Craft Club 30 May 9am
Men's Breakfast 31 May 8am
Safe Ministry Tng 7 June 9am
Church Council Meeting 10 June 7pm
Fellowship Lunch 11 June 12 noon
Chaira Companions 15 June 1.30pm
Elders' Meeting 8 July 4pm
Pastoral Care Meeting 29 August 10.15am

Pastoral Care Meeting

This quarter's Pastoral Care team meeting takes place this Friday 23 May at 10.15am, at the church hall.

Congregational Meeting

As advised last Sunday, a short Congregational Meeting will be held on Sunday 25 May, immediately after our worship service. This is for the sole purpose of electing a Church Elder. Morning Tea etc., will be held after that meeting, as normal.

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.**

Safe Ministry with Children Training

All church volunteers are required to do the Safe Ministry with Children Training. This training has recently been updated, so it is recommended that every volunteer should do a refresher course, as some training is now required to be done annually. Rev Aaron will be running a session on **7 June at 9am at the church**, for those who may find online access challenging or prefer a group setting.

Alternatively, volunteers can complete the training online at <http://hub.ucaqld.com.au/resources/safe-church>

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