



BANORA POINTER



Sunday 25 May 2025

A message from Rev. Aaron Moad



The Peace That Stays, The Hope That Grows

Life often brings moments when the ground feels unsteady—when anxiety rises, the future feels uncertain, and peace seems just beyond reach. But it's in these valleys of life that God reveals deeper truths—truths that invite us into a life not of fleeting comfort, but a life of lasting peace, resilient hope, and powerful love.

Today's Scriptures offer us this invitation. In John 14:23-29, Jesus speaks to His disciples on the very night before His crucifixion. Instead of giving them instructions on how to avoid the troubles of the world and the challenges of being His followers, He offers something far greater: His peace. "Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you," He promises—not a peace that depends on calm circumstances, but a peace grounded in His presence.

Paul, writing to the Church in Rome in Romans 5:1-5, echoes this truth and introduces another powerful reality. He reminds us that peace with God is ours through faith in Jesus Christ, but he also speaks openly about suffering. Paul doesn't dismiss pain—instead, he teaches us that suffering is not meaningless. Through suffering, endurance is born. From endurance comes character, and from character springs hope.

Here are three transformational truths from these passages:

1. Peace is not the absence of trouble, but the presence of Christ.

The peace Jesus gives isn't about escaping life's storms. It's about having Christ's presence within us amid the storms. When He says, "Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid," He is inviting us into a peace that stands firm even when everything around us is shaking. This peace comes from knowing God makes His home in us—His Spirit dwells within, steadying our hearts and calming our fears.

2. Hope is not wishful thinking—it is born through tested faith.

Paul's words challenge us to see suffering differently. Hope doesn't come from a life free of pain. It is forged through the trials we face when we choose to trust God despite difficulty. Paul reminds us that our faith deepens when tested by hardship. This hope is not fragile or fleeting. It is a confident expectation rooted in the love God pours into our hearts through the Holy Spirit.

3. The Holy Spirit empowers us to live with love and courage.

Jesus promised the Spirit as our Advocate—our guide, teacher, and comforter. When life overwhelms us, the Spirit reminds us of Jesus' words and strengthens us to love, forgive, and hope boldly. The Spirit's presence means we are never alone; God is actively working in us to live out His love and courage every day.

Together, these passages call us to a deeper, Spirit-anchored life. They remind us that Jesus has not left us alone. In our confusion, the Holy Spirit teaches. In our fear, Jesus gives peace. In our trials, God's love produces hope. And through it all, the Father makes His home in us.

So let us be people who live unafraid, not because life is easy, but because Christ is with us. Let us love Him by keeping His commands and trusting that we are never alone. And when we suffer, let us not despair but allow endurance to grow within us. For in the hands of God, nothing is wasted—not even our pain.

Let this be our witness: that we are people of peace, hope, and enduring love, because God is not far away—He is here.

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

Romans 5:1-5

John 14:23-29

What's Happening This Week

Today	Congregational Meeting
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	Craft Club 9am
Saturday	Men's Breakfast 8am

Other upcoming events for your diary

Mainly Music 3 June 9.30am
Book Swap, Coffee & Chat 4 June 9.30am
Safe Ministry Tng 7 June 9am
Church Council Meeting 10 June 7pm
Fellowship Lunch 11 June 12 noon
Craft Club 13 June 9am
Chaira Companions 15 June 1.30pm
Men's Breakfast 28 June 8am
Elders' Meeting 8 July 4pm
Pastoral Care Meeting 29 August 10.15am

Church Roster

	<u>Today</u>	<u>Next Sunday</u>
Duty Elder	Robyn	Audrey
Organist/Pianist	Audrey	Jill & Mel
Greeters	Joyce & Marshall	Nigel & Joan C
Bible Readers	Dudley & Walter	Robyn & Lynn
Prayers for Others	Aaron	Elizabeth
Morning Tea	Mary & Chris	Shirley T & Dorothy McA
Hall Set Up	Nigel	Ross
Sound Room	Elizabeth	Nathan
Cleaning	Helene	Aaron & Jane

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

Congregational Meeting

A short Congregational Meeting will be held today immediately after our worship service. This is for the sole purpose of electing a Church Elder. Morning Tea etc., will take place as usual after that meeting.



Craft Club

Craft Club is on again this Friday, 30 May. Why not come along and share your creativity, or just enjoy this very sociable group!

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>

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