



BANORA POINTER



Sunday 17 August 2025

A message from Rev. Aaron Moad



The Holy disturbance the unshakeable Kingdom

This week's scriptures bring us face to face with one of the more startling images of Jesus. In Luke 12:49–56, He says, *"I have come to cast fire upon the earth, and how I wish it were already ablaze! Do you think that I have come to bring peace to the earth? No, I tell you, but rather division!"* These aren't the words of a gentle comforter, but of a Saviour who knows that His kingdom will shake the foundations of our lives and our world.

Hebrews 12:18–29 picks up that same theme. It reminds us that God's voice once shook the earth at Sinai and will shake it again, this time not only the earth but also the heavens, so that only what cannot be shaken may remain. The passage ends with the reminder: *"Our God is a consuming fire."*

Here are three truths from these passages:

1. The Kingdom Confronts Us — Jesus' fire disturbs false peace.

We often think of peace as the absence of conflict, but Jesus knew there's a kind of "peace" that ignores injustice and sidesteps hard truth, just so we get along with one another. He came to disrupt this false peace. His fire is not destructive it is refining it is the holy heat of God's love, burning away the lies that keep us from Him.

When Jesus talks about division, even within families, it's not conflict for the sake of conflict. But He's warning us that following Him will sometimes cause conflict because our values don't align with the values and priorities of the world around us. The Kingdom confronts us with a choice: cling to what is comfortable or let the fire of Christ's truth change us.

2. The Kingdom Refines Us — God's shaking removes what is temporary.

Hebrews 12 tells us that God shakes the world so that *"what cannot be shaken may remain."* Shaking is unsettling, it rattles the things we thought were stable. But God's shaking is never pointless. It's also a refining process, separating what's eternal from what's temporary.

Sometimes the things we lose in the shaking are exactly the things

that were keeping us from real life, abundant life. Our routines, our assumptions, our misplaced securities – they may feel solid, but if they aren't rooted in Christ, they will crumble. The shaking of God's Kingdom is an act of mercy, removing what won't last so that we can stand on what will.

3. The Kingdom Anchors Us - Our hope rests in what cannot be shaken.

But here's the good news: the goal of God's fire and shaking isn't fear, but security. *"Since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us be thankful,"* Hebrews says.

When the foundations of this world tremble, the foundation of God's Kingdom remains. When everything else proves temporary, His promises endure. When our strength falters, His grace sustains us.

To belong to this Kingdom is to know that whatever storms come, we are anchored to the unshakable King. That's where courage comes from. That's where hope is born.

So what now?

Maybe you feel the shaking in your own life right now. Maybe you're facing changes you didn't choose, or divisions you wish weren't there. Remember this: the same God whose fire confronts and refines is the God who keeps you secure.

So don't resist His work—receive it. Let Him burn away what doesn't belong. Let Him remove what won't last. And stand, with gratitude, in the Kingdom that cannot be moved. Because when the fire has done its work and the shaking has settled, what will remain is what cannot be taken away—the unshakable Kingdom of God.

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

Hebrews 12:18-29 & Luke 12:49-56

What's Happening This Week

Today	Chaira Companions 1.30pm
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

Church Roster

	<u>Today</u>	<u>Next Sunday</u>
Duty Elder	Neil	Dorothy
Organist/Pianist	Jill & Mel	Audrey & Mel
Greeters	Denise & Stephanie	Hazel & Dorothy B
Bible Readers	Nigel & Sylvia	Ellie & Yesha
Prayers for Others	Terryll	Audrey
Morning Tea	Hazel & Terryll	Shirley & Pat
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.***

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

Mainly Music 26 August 9.30am
Book Swap, Coffee & Chat 27 August 9.30am
Pastoral Care Meeting 29 August 10.15am
Men's Breakfast 30 August 8am
Craft Club 5 September 9am
Elders' Meeting 9 September 4pm
Fellowship Lunch 10 September 12 noon
Fashion Parade 17 September 10.30am
Chaira Companions 21 September 12 noon
Church Council Meeting 14 October 7pm



Craft Club

Craft Club is on again this Friday. All are welcome to come along and try a craft activity. Men are welcome too—there is a man in this group already!

Men's Breakfast

Meeting for breakfast at 8am on Saturday 30 August at the Twisted Fig Café (near Bunnings in Tweed Heads South). **All men are welcome.**

Fred's Place & You Have a Friend

We are still requesting warm clothing, especially jackets, plus warm blankets. Also non-perishable foods and toiletries items. All donations can be left in the church foyer. Please contact Marshall or Jill for more detailed information. Many thanks to all for your donations to date.

Fashion Parade

Ladies, the Fashion Parade is next month on Wednesday 17 September at 10.30am. Please put the date in your diary and ask some friends to come along. The donation is \$15 for lunch, and there will be lucky door prizes and a guessing competition. If you can help with a slice or a small donation for the making of sandwiches, please see Jan or Mary.

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