



# BANORA POINTER



Sunday 27 July 2025

## A message from Rev. Aaron Moad



### Lord Teach Us to Pray

In this week's readings—**1 Thessalonians 5:16–24** and **Luke 11:1–13**—we're invited into something deep and personal: a life of prayer. When the disciples come to Jesus and say, **"Lord, teach us to pray,"** they're not just asking for words—they're asking how to stay connected to God in everyday life.

Paul, in his letter to the Thessalonians, says something similar: **"Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances."** It might sound like a tall order, but it's not about being perfect. It's about staying open to God, moment by moment. Both of these passages show us that prayer isn't something we check off our to-do list. It's a way of living with God—honestly, daily, persistently.

Here are three simple but powerful reminders from these scriptures:

#### 1. Prayer is about relationship, not performance.

When Jesus teaches the Lord's Prayer, it starts with **"Father."** That one-word changes everything. Prayer isn't about having the right words or sounding spiritual. It's about knowing who you're talking to—a loving, generous Father who cares for you.

Sometimes we put pressure on ourselves to pray "the right way." But Jesus shows us that what matters most is trust, not perfection. Just show up. Talk to God like you would talk to someone who loves you and wants what's best for you—because that's exactly who He is.

#### 2. God invites us to keep asking—not because He's distant, but because He's close.

Jesus tells a story about someone knocking on a friend's door in the middle of the night, asking for help. It's a funny

picture, but His point is clear: Don't be afraid to keep asking, seeking, and knocking. God isn't bothered by our persistence—in fact, He welcomes it.

This doesn't mean we always get what we want, when we want it. But it *does* mean that God listens. And He gives us what we truly need—including the gift of His Spirit, His presence with us every step of the way.

#### 3. A praying life is a joyful, grounded life.

Paul says, **"Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances."** That doesn't mean we ignore pain or pretend everything's fine. It means we keep turning toward God—whether things are going great or falling apart.

When we stay connected to God in prayer, we find strength, peace, and even joy that doesn't depend on what is going on around us. Prayer helps us live with hope. It reminds us we're not alone, and that God is working, even when we can't see it yet.

#### So, what now?

Maybe your prayer life feels a little stuck. Maybe you've been asking and waiting, and you're tired. Or maybe you're just not sure how to start. That's okay.

Jesus doesn't say, "Pray perfectly." He says, **"Ask."**

He doesn't say, "Figure it all out." He says, **"Seek."**

He doesn't say, "Be worthy." He says, **"Knock."**

Start small. Be real. Keep showing up.

The One who calls you is faithful—and He's listening.

**Always.**

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

**1 Thessalonians 5:16-24 & Luke 11:1-13**

## 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 (CWC) 10am Evening Bible Study 6.30pm
<b>Saturday</b>	Working Bee 9am

## Church Roster

	<u>Today</u>	<u>Next Sunday</u>
Duty Elder	Neil	Audrey
Organist/Pianist	Audrey	Jill
Greeters	Denise & Lynn	Terryll & Lynn
Bible Readers	Dudley & Walter	Terryll & Lynn
Prayers for Others	Aaron	Elizabeth
Morning Tea	Pat & Chris	Shirley T & Dorothy M
Hall Set Up	Craft Club	Ross
Sound Room	Ross	Nathan
Cleaning	Craft Club	Lynn & Terryll

*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** 5 August 9.30am  
**Book Swap, Coffee & Chat** 6 August 9.30am  
**Craft Club** 8 August 9am  
**Church Council Meeting** 12 August 7pm  
**Fellowship Lunch** 13 August 12 noon  
**Chaira Companions** 17 August 1.30pm  
**Pastoral Care Meeting** 29 August 10.15am  
**Men's Breakfast** 30 August 8am  
**Elders' Meeting** 9 September 4pm  
**Fashion Parade** 17 September - 10.30am

## Working Bee

**We are organizing a Working Bee this Saturday, 2 August, starting at 9am and lasting approximately 2 hours. The focus of work will be the church front garden beds, and the goal is to carry out a significant clean up exercise on them. If you can help, please bring your own garden tools etc. The more people that help the more we can get done!!**



## Mainly Music

The first session of the new term begins on Tuesday. We are always on the lookout for volunteers, so if you can help, please talk to Lynn or Lorraine.

## Fellowship Lunch

Everybody is welcome to join the 'Happy Lunchers' at 12 noon on Wednesday 13 August in the "Secret Garden" South Tweed Sports Club for fellowship and lunch. RSVP to Janice by 11 August.

## 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.

## 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