



# BANORA POINTER

Sunday 26 April 2026

A message from  
Rev. Aaron Moad



## Listening for the Right Voice

There is something powerful about recognising a voice. In a crowded room, you can hear your name spoken and instantly know who it is. Not because it is the loudest voice, but because it is familiar.

In John 10, Jesus describes this kind of relationship with His people. He says His sheep know His voice. They recognize Him, and they follow. But we live in a world full of competing voices. Voices that shape our priorities, our identity, and our understanding of what matters. Some of those voices lead us toward life. Others pull us away from it.

So the question becomes: **How do we recognize the voice of Jesus, and what happens when we follow it?**

## The Shepherd Who Stands at the Gate

Jesus uses an image His listeners would have understood well. A sheepfold in the ancient world was often a simple enclosure with an open entrance. At night, the shepherd would lie across that opening, using his own body as the gate. Nothing could come in without going through him. Nothing could go out without his knowledge.

So, when Jesus says, "I am the gate," He is describing both protection and care. He is the one who keeps danger out and holds His people safely within. But He also warns that there are other voices, thieves and bandits, who seek to harm and scatter the flock. Not every voice that calls us is trustworthy.

By contrast, the Shepherd calls His sheep by name. This is not distant or impersonal. It is a relationship built on recognition and trust.

And then comes the promise: "I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly."

## What Does Abundant Life Look Like?

We often think of abundant life in individual terms, our own peace, success, or fulfillment. But the New Testament shows us something richer.

In Acts 2, we see what happens when people truly follow the voice of Jesus. Their lives begin to take shape in community. "They

devoted themselves..." to teaching, fellowship, breaking of bread, and prayer.

This was not casual involvement. It was a shared life. A loving community. They supported one another, shared their resources, gathered regularly, and lived with joy and sincerity.

Abundant life was not something they experienced alone. It was something they lived together.

## From Individuals to a Community

The voice of Jesus does not simply call individuals, it forms a people.

The sheep who hear the Shepherd's voice become a flock.

This challenges the way we sometimes think about faith as something private. The early church reminds us that following Jesus draws us into relationship, with Him and with one another.

Their life together became a powerful witness. Acts tells us that "the Lord added to their number daily." People were drawn not just to what they believed, but to how they lived.

## Following the Voice Today

The invitation for us is simple, but profound.

To listen for the Shepherd's voice.

To learn to recognize it above the noise.

And to follow, not just individually, but together.

Because the life Jesus offers is not meant to be lived alone. It is a life of shared faith, shared hope, and shared love.

As we reflect on these readings, we might ask ourselves:

Whose voice am I listening to?

Am I allowing the Shepherd to lead me?

And how am I participating in the life of His people?

Jesus is still calling. And when we follow Him, we discover not only life, but a community in which that life can truly flourish abundantly.

**Grace and peace,**

**Rev Aaron**

## 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 2:42-47 & John 10:1-10

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## What's Happening This Week

<b>Tuesday</b>	Mainly Music 9.30am Book Club 1.30pm
<b>Wednesday</b>	Prayer Meeting 8am Book Swap, Coffee & Chat 9.30am
<b>Thursday</b>	Men's Bible Study 9am CWCI (KYB) 10am Evening Bible Study 6.30pm

## Other upcoming events for your diary

<b>Mainly Music</b>	5 May 9.30am
<b>Book Swap, Coffee &amp; Chat</b>	6 May 9.30am
<b>Craft Club</b>	8 May 9am
<b>Elders' Meeting</b>	12 May 4pm
<b>Fellowship Lunch</b>	13 May 12 noon
<b>Chaira Companions</b>	17 May 12 noon
<b>TCCEA Prayer Meeting</b>	19 May 4pm
<b>Pastoral Care Meeting</b>	29 May 9.30am
<b>Men's Breakfast</b>	30 May 8am
<b>Church Council Meeting</b>	9 June 7pm

## **Church Roster**

	<b>Today</b>	<b>Next Sunday</b>
Duty Elder	Elizabeth	Neil
Organist/Pianist	Audrey	Mel
Greeters	Lynn & Hazel	Lynn & Stephanie
Bible Readers	Walter & Joyce	Robyn & Lynn
Prayers for Others	Aaron	Jane
Morning Tea	Mary & Chris	Shirley T & Dorothy Mc
Hall Set Up	Craft Club	Ross
Sound Room	Elizabeth	Nathan
Cleaning	Craft Club	Aaron & Jane

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

## Church Duty Roster

We need your help please! We are looking for more volunteers to help with our duty roster. We have a particular need regarding the hall set up, but if you can help in any way, please do talk to Janice. Thank you.

## Mainly Music



Mainly Music starts back this week. The [mainly music](#) numbers attending at the end of last term were very good indeed, so lots of help is needed. We are always on the look out for new volunteers to help with this wonderful outreach ministry. If you are interested in finding out more, please talk to Lynn.

## Fellowship Lunch

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

## 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 Shane Hambling 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