



Sunday Bulletin

Cairns Lutheran Parish

Trinity Lutheran Church

472 Severin Street, Manunda

Parish Website: www.cairnslutheran.org.au

admin@cairnslutheran.org.au

Pastor: 0447 782 969

Our Saviour Lutheran Church

Golflinks Road, Atherton

Email: oslc01@outlook.com

***17th – 21st Sundays after Pentecost
September 24th – October 22nd 2023***



Acknowledgement of Country

The Lutheran Church of Australia acknowledges God the Father, creator of all, who in His sovereignty entrusted the care and protection of the land on which the church members worship to the Traditional Custodians of this nation. The church recognises the continuing connection that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples have to the land, sea, sky and waterways. They pay their respect to Elders past, present and emerging.



Prayers

- ✚ Our members who are currently unwell and/or continuing medical treatment
- ✚ The staff and students of Peace College, and all other schools, as they begin the final term of the year, especially those in Year 12 as they look to the end of their school days.
- ✚ Principal Shane Jurecky that God will continue to guide him and give him strength, compassion and diligence in the final term of his first year as Principal of Peace College.



Ways of Giving:

The 2023 budget required that members would need to provide \$1812.29 in offerings each week. **Currently, as of the August 31 Financial statement, offerings have dropped slightly to \$1600.48 a week, a shortfall of \$211.81 per week, or a shortfall of \$11,014 for the year.**

It is seven months since our AGM and six weeks since the Special General Meeting and, to date, Church Council have received not one recommendation on how to balance our budget. The problem will not just go away!!



Containers for Change

Collect small drink containers and bring them to church where two tubs are provided for collection. Alternatively, take them directly to a collection point. **\$230.50 has been raised by the efforts of a few people so far this year.**
Our code is: **C10162743**

Date Claimer

On Sunday September 29th Our Saviour Atherton celebrate their 70th anniversary at their service at 11:00am. The service will be led by LCA Bishop Paul Smith and LCAQD First Assistant Bishop Ben Hentschke will be in attendance. Members of Trinity are invited to attend this special service for this small congregation of committed Christians whose focus is spreading the word of God in their community.





Listening and Learning Tour

LCAQD Bishop Mark Vainikka and Pastor David Schmidt, Ministry and Mission, spent a very valuable two hours talking with Trinity Church Council about our congregation on Monday, September 11. The conversation was mainly based around calling a pastor which involved discussion of our finances, our mission, and how we are managing without a pastor.

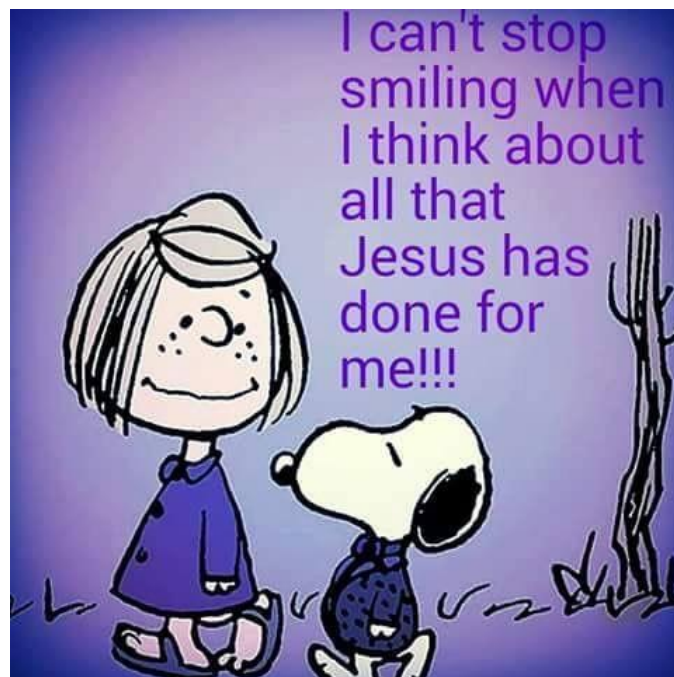
The Queensland District is looking at ways to support us. In the call process, their responsibility is to ensure that the congregation are able to financially and spiritually support a pastor.

Are we presently able to call a pastor? We have a duty of care to have certainty to support the mission of the congregation for at least four years. Currently our decreasing financial situation is a concern, and the congregation lacks focus and cohesion.

What is our next step? It was suggested that the congregation have a facilitated, self-reflective workshop in a safe environment to engage and discuss our mission as a Lutheran Church in Cairns. This would involve as many of the congregation as possible in a series of meetings of different formats and possibly different participants. Once we have a collective mission, we can move to the next step in calling a pastor.

Prayer is needed to enable us to continue to nurture our faith, and to find a way to follow God's instruction to share our faith with those in our community.

"In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven." [Matthew 5:16](#)



Thoughts shared by a Trinity member

Trinity Mission Statement: “We are called by God to shine the light of Christ, by the power of the Holy Spirit, through His Word, into the time and place God has placed us.”

- ✚ Are we fulfilling this?
- ✚ Am I fulfilling this?
- ✚ Can I give 2 examples of a time I’ve let my light shine?
- ✚ If I’m asked to tell a stranger why I believe in Jesus (a Christian)? Am I able to do this without hesitation?
- ✚ How long have we had this mission statement? (10 years?)
- ✚ Should we be seeing results? (Attendance and finances have both declined which doesn’t mean we haven’t been fulfilling our mission statement, however, it does put us into decline. It’s always been said if we can increase attendance the rest will follow.)
- ✚ We all want to leave a church of some kind for our children, we need to look forward with ideas that will give us a positive future.
- ✚ We all want to call another pastor. The obstacles in front of us have been explained. We all need to be cohesive in our approach to how we will attain this.
- ✚ Without a singular mindset we risk the LCA Queensland District setting the guidelines. The demographics in our congregation indicate we should be mature enough to do this ourselves, even with our diverse views.
- ✚ The main focus of the Lutheran church in the past to raise funds for a pastor and pay the congregations expenses has always been freewill giving. This is no longer the case.
Facing the cold hard facts, if Wontulp moves out, so do we. At the moment they are our life blood.
- ✚ We need a long-term, sustainable income. All ideas are welcome, but they must also come with an implementation strategy.
- ✚ Sunday services: Our lay leader numbers are quite limited, with this presenting a challenge to the Pastoral Assistants as they try to do their job to the best of their ability. Let’s not forget home Communion and Hospital visiting in particular. The end result may well be we can sustain only 2 Sunday services a month??
- ✚ Are we placing too much expectation on too few!
- ✚ Is it fair to place our elected Church Council under the pressure of watching our reserve funds being depleted after exploring many options to increase the level of giving. All of us can come up with short term solutions, but this only delays an even more difficult decision.



Professional Standards - LCA Standards of Ethical Behaviour

God created the church to continue his work on earth. Its task is to celebrate love and life, and to be the vehicle for God's continued work of bringing love to life in the world. The church lives on the gifts of God - God's forgiveness, God's love, God's own life. In its worship the church experiences the love of God in words and actions of forgiveness and of empowerment. Infused with the real presence of Jesus Christ, love comes decisively to life every time the people of God gather.

The life of a Christian is a life of faith active in love, empowered by the love of Christ himself. Indeed we have no other obligation, except to participate in this world transforming gift of God's love.

Love changes people. The experience of being loved brings with it a kind of newness that brings out the best in us. We become more open to the gifts of life and the needs of others, and we live in a new way, a renewed way. Love brings life.

In our personal behaviour we demonstrate God's love by:

- setting a good example of Christian living
- treating each other with dignity and respect
- being courteous, kind and compassionate in our words and actions
- not abusing people (including members of our family), verbally, physically, emotionally, sexually or spiritually
- acting responsibly in potentially addictive activities which may cause harm to our family, such as abuse of alcohol, addictive substances or gambling
- refraining from engaging in, viewing or possessing pornographic materials; and
- cultivating a lifestyle of reconciliation.

In our pastoral caring we demonstrate God's love by:

- ensuring that our caring ministry is for the benefit of the other and not for ourselves
- maintaining appropriate boundaries keeping appropriate records and storing them securely
- maintaining privacy in regards to our pastoral care, ensuring that confidential information is not disclosed, even to family members, without permission²
- undertaking relevant training on a regular basis³
- considering if a personal relationship will impinge on our ability to provide pastoral caring; and
- considering the needs of vulnerable people.

In caring for children we demonstrate God's love by:

- ensuring children feel safe, are respected and listened to
- considering the needs of children in all decisions regarding church activities
- not abusing children physically, emotionally sexually or spiritually
- ensuring that no form of physical punishment is administered to any child while engaged in church activities
- ensuring that systems for the prevention of harm to children are maintained⁵; and
- ensuring compliance with all legislative requirements for the health, safety and wellbeing of children.

In our communications we demonstrate God's love by:

- using polite and respectful language when engaging with each other and with people in contact with the church
- respecting the opinions of others
- exercising good judgement when sending electronic mail and in the use of social media⁶
- refraining from sending messages which are, or could be perceived as, harassing, threatening, abusive or obscene to each other or to people in contact with the church
- exercising good judgement in the material on our personal social network site; and
- refraining from viewing or circulating material which is pornographic or obscene, violent, racist or hate related, malicious, libellous or slanderous.

In financial and administrative matters, we demonstrate God's love by:

- setting an example of financial integrity both in our personal capacity and in our church activities
- ensuring that church and legislative requirements are followed when dealing with church monies
- refraining from seeking personal advantage or unfair financial gain for ourself or family and friends from our position or role
- considering if the acceptance of a gift is appropriate in all the circumstances
- considering if there is a conflict of interest or a perceived conflict of interest if we are engaged in decision making
- ensuring that volunteers are nurtured, nourished and valued
- ensuring that systems for the prevention of harm are maintained; and
- ensuring compliance with all church and legislative requirements for the health, safety and wellbeing for all people who engage with the church.

Life in the church is a preparation and empowerment for a life of love in the world. Our families and our communities, our workplaces and cultural settings might well experience through us something of God's love as it comes to life again in us.

Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity. (Colossians 3:12-14)

Rosters

Please arrange a swap if you cannot help on your allocated day.

	September 24 th	October 1 st	October 8 th Peace College	October 15 th
Lesson Reader	Elaine Krenske	Maria Bitmanis	Di Remilton	Audrey Gardiner
Ushers	G Wiencke	A Gardiner/P Wilson	A Gardiner/P Wilson	B & M Weidner
Powerpoint	Rod Krenske	Richard Lehmann		Kissi Klink
Church Cleaning	Shared areas Raelene R	Peter & Patricia Schmidt	Shared areas Raelene R	Eime Family
Mowing	P Schmidt/J Fenske	M Henselheit/M Fraser	M Henselheit/M Fraser	M Henselheit/M Fraser

	October 22 nd Peace College	October 29 th	November 5 th	November 12 th
Lesson Reader	M Fraser	Jade Lee	Bernie Weidner	M Bitmanis
Ushers	B & M Weidner	M Fraser	M Fraser	A Schelberg
Powerpoint		Richard Lehmann	Elaine Krenske	Kissi Klink
Church Cleaning	Shared areas Raelene R	Jenny Henselheit & Cathy O'Dea	Shared areas Raelene R	Sheryl & Anna Rosendale
Mowing	M Henselheit/M Fraser	M Henselheit/M Fraser	A Schelberg/ R Lehmann	A Schelberg/ R Lehmann

