



# *Sunday Bulletin*

## **Cairns Lutheran Parish**

### Trinity Lutheran Church

472 Severin Street, Manunda

Parish Website: [www.cairnslutheran.org.au](http://www.cairnslutheran.org.au)

[admin@cairnslutheran.org.au](mailto:admin@cairnslutheran.org.au)

Pastor: 0447 782 969

### Our Saviour Lutheran Church

Golflinks Road, Atherton

Email: [oslc01@outlook.com](mailto:oslc01@outlook.com)

## **Christmas services December 24 & 25<sup>th</sup> 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

- ✚ For the people of Wujal Wujal who suffered major damage when floods post Cyclone Jasper inundated the community.
- ✚ For all those in Far North Queensland who have suffered loss of homes, property, belongings and livestock in the recent floods.
- ✚ For the generosity of the community shown to those in need over the past fortnight. We thank the Lord for their giving hearts.



### Ways of Giving:

1. Offering plate during service
2. Regular Electronic Giving (REG) with LLL - visit the [LCA website](#) or complete the forms available on the front table at Church
3. [Home | LCA Donations & Payments](#) To donate, click on Parishes & congregations;
4. Deposits into the Trinity's NAB Account -
  - National Australia Bank  
BSB 084472 A/C 508664430



- ❖ Urgently needed is someone to assist John Fenske with the mowing in January. Please let Richard or Elaine know if you can assist.

- ❖ Each week ushers volunteer to open and close the church buildings, greet attendees, light the altar candles, assist with offering collection and count attendees. A very necessary role! Currently we only have five couples/pairs who perform this role. That means that they have to commit to being at church early to perform this service to the Lord at least 11 services a year.
- ❖ Power point operation. Presently we have only five people willing to operate the power point each Sunday. It really only involves a little concentration to move to the next slide or to change the volume of the lectern or the Pastor/lay leader's mike when necessary.
- ❖ The cleaning roster for 2024 is currently being put together. In 2023, cleaners were rostered on once a fortnight, which meant volunteers only needed to perform this service twice a year. We have less volunteers in 2024 so are looking at fortnightly cleaning in school holidays, and cleaning every three weeks during term time.
- ❖ Mowing the church lawn. Each pair is rostered to keep the lawn tidy and the fallen leaves under control for a month. Unfortunately, we only have four pairs which means they are responsible for three months of the year.

That doesn't sound like it is a burden for any of these people until you realise that the same people seem to be doing all these roles, as well as possibly being a Pastoral Assistant or on the Church Council. What can you do to lighten the burden?

## Christmas Message from Bishop Mark Vainikka



See accompanying email for link.

## Support in the Wake of Cyclone Jasper

<https://lutheranchurchofaustralia.cmail19.com/t/t-l-vhthykd-pujhkhjii-t/>

As many in Far North Queensland face an uncertain Christmas in the aftermath of ex-tropical cyclone Jasper, LCAQD Bishop Mark Vainikka has shared a video message of information and hope. We pray especially for the community of Wujal Wujal, where much of the town - including the Lutheran church - has been flooded and residents are being evacuated.

The following link contains the information we have to date, including instructions for those who would like to donate towards Queensland Disaster Relief. This page will be updated as further details emerge: <https://qld.lca.org.au/support/qld-disasters/>.



### **LCA International Mission**

12 Days of Christmas Around the World Booklet - to **download and view the booklet online**, please [click here](#)

Christmas greetings from the LCA International Mission office!

We love Christmas time- spending time with our families and friends, eating delicious food, opening presents, and watching Christmas pageants. It is also a special time to remember how God the Father sent His precious Son to be born as a gift for the whole world.

The Twelve Days of Christmas (named Twelvetide) mark the period between the birth of Jesus and the visit from the wise men. Will you join us as we prepare for this time of Christmas by spending 12 days reading and reflecting on the story of Jesus' birth?

In Australia and New Zealand, Christmas is a popular holiday, but did you know that not every country celebrates the way we do? If you went to a country that does not celebrate Christmas, what would you tell them about this special day? LCA International Mission have friends who live in different countries, and we thought it would be interesting to share with you how they celebrate Christmas. What might you see, hear, cook, or make in one of those countries at Christmas?

We hope you enjoy travelling with us around the world this Christmas and while doing so, remember that Christmas is not just about carols, decorations, beautiful lights, or gifts that we give and receive. It is about Jesus Christ. Jesus' birth fulfilled God's promise that He wants to bring us into His loving arms forever.

Merry Christmas!

Matt and Erin

### Visits from LCAQD in 2024

February will be a busy month for Trinity with visits from Elizabeth Kloeden and Pastor David Schmidt from LCA Queensland District.

Elizabeth Kloeden, the Professional Standards Officer, will be in Cairns on the weekend of February 10/11 to do face-to-face training on Child Safety. This is a requirement for anyone in the congregation who works with children and vulnerable people in the congregation, makes decisions which may affect them, or plans activities in the congregation that they may participate in. This includes all Church Council members, Pastoral Assistants, lay readers and those planning social or other church activities. Most will only require the 6-hour Level 1 training on the Saturday. Others, including those who do Children's addresses or those who organise any activities undertaken under the Trinity name, must do the 3-hour Level 2 training on Sunday as well.

Pastor David Schmidt, Director, LCAQD Commission for Mission, will be visiting us (in the week leading up to and including February 18), to journey with us in prayerfully seeking where God is leading us in mission and ministry. It is not so much the case that God has a mission for his church in the world, as that God has a church for his mission in the world. To that end, we need to listen and notice where God is already working - and join God on God's mission. It is as we are united in God's mission, that we move into the process of calling a pastor.

## 10 MONTHS TO GO!

In October 2024 General Synod delegates will be voting on a proposal to allow for the LCA NZ to function as 'one church with two different practices of ordination'.

Ask your pastor, congregation chair or General Synod delegate for updates and ways to...



**JOIN THE CONVERSATION**

[www.lca.org.au/wayforward](http://www.lca.org.au/wayforward)

Sign up to Way Forward eNews [www.lca.org.au/wf-signmeup](http://www.lca.org.au/wf-signmeup)

## **From LCAQD Newsletter (Dec 6) - When Mission Fails**

*Part Three of a series on the mission of the Church, by Pastor Rob Edwards, Peace Church Gatton.*

It can be exciting to start a new mission or to support a new mission. It is very gratifying to be able to support something that ALWS is doing overseas, or example, and seeing the report afterwards, that a village now has a dunny, or a school, or a dam. It's nice to know too that these things are associated with the Gospel, and often lead to those essential gospel discussions.

We like to hear too that a new church plant has started somewhere. We have a new congregation in the district, or we have a new mission initiative somewhere.

But what about failure? We don't like to fail. It is with great sadness that we hear news of another congregation closing, or see our own church struggle to meet the budget and to see none of the new confirmation class coming to church. We try to start a youth group, and no one turns up. We try to start a small Bible study, or home group, and it fizzles out after one or two meetings. We read in Acts 3:47, "And the Lord added daily to their number, those who were being saved." We long to see those kinds of activities and numbers. Many however, have given up even dreaming, because to try is to fail.

And that's just it, isn't it? When we try and fail, we are less likely to try again, and less likely to invest as much time, energy and resources.

Tennis player, Stan Vavrenka, has a tattoo on his forearm, which I noticed during his epic battles in the Australian open a few years back. For some reason it caught my eye and I tried to read it. It says, "Ever tried, ever failed, no matter, try again, fail again, fail better."

It occurred to me that in this world of "failure is not an option," and "success is all that matters", this tenacious sports star was using his failures as a valuable foundation, not for success, but better failures, and success was just an inevitable result of enough failures.

The church operates in this world, but with a different economy, we function in this world with God's economy, and sometimes it is difficult to learn the processes and language of this economy. God can turn failure into success. It is when we are weak that we are strong, defeats can be victory, and death is life. So we should not be afraid of failure. Failure can be success.

The church can sometimes be so risk averse that we don't try anything for fear of failure. Maybe if we see no success, it is because we do not have enough failures which that success needs to rest upon. One way to guarantee failure is not to try anything. Therefore, to try something, even something half-baked, something not very spectacular, is far better. At least if it fails, you have something to learn from and something to build on.

When it comes to mission, it is not the failed attempts, the fizzled programmes, the hairbrained ideas or the poorly executed plan that will kill you. It is the never trying, the fear of failure, the untested theory, and the question not asked. Mission does need good ideas, well executed plans and working towards better ways, but it also needs people who are just prepared to give it a go.

The harvest is plentiful, the workers are few, God sends out the workers, it might just be you.

## Rosters

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

	December 24 <sup>th</sup>	December 25 <sup>th</sup>	December 31 <sup>st</sup>	January 7 <sup>th</sup>
<b>Lesson Reader</b>		Rod Krenske	TBC	Elaine Krenske
<b>Ushers</b>	R & E Krenske	B & M Weidner	R & E Krenske	B & M Weidner
<b>Powerpoint</b>	Rod Krenske	Elaine Krenske	Bernie Weidner	Richard Lehmann
<b>Church Cleaning</b>	Pam Spanagel/ Suzi Isa-Aho		Shared areas Raelene Ricketts	B & M Weidner
<b>Mowing</b>	B Weidner/Rod Krenske	B Weidner/Rod Krenske	B Weidner/Rod Krenske	John Fenske

## Calendar

<b>Sun 24<sup>th</sup></b>	11:00am	Christmas Eve carols service - led by David Spanagel	Our Saviour
	6:00pm	Christmas Eve carols service	Trinity
<b>Mon 25<sup>th</sup></b>	8:00am	Christmas Day service with Communion - led by David Spanagel	Trinity
	11:00am	No service at Our Saviour	
<b>Sun 31<sup>st</sup></b>	8:00am	Service of the Word - led by Martin Klink	Trinity
	5:00pm	TBC	Our Saviour
<b>Sun 7<sup>th</sup></b>	8:00am	Service with Holy Communion - led by Pastor Adam Eime	Trinity
	11:00am	Service of the Word - lay led	Our Saviour
<b>Mon 8<sup>th</sup></b>	5:00pm	Church Council meeting	Trinity
<b>Sun 14<sup>th</sup></b>	8:00am	Service of the Word - led by Rod Krenske	Trinity
	11:00am	Service with Holy Communion - led by Pastor Adam Eime	Our Saviour
<b>Sun 21<sup>st</sup></b>	8:00am	Service with Holy Communion - led by Martin Klink and Pastor Aldal Wagim	Trinity
	11:00am	Service of the Word - lay led	Our Saviour
<b>Sun 28<sup>th</sup></b>	8:00am	Service of the Word - led by Rod Krenske	Trinity
	11:00am	Service with Holy Communion - Lay led/ Pastor Aldal (HC)	Our Saviour