



Trinity Grapevine

Cairns Lutheran Parish

Pastor: 0447 782 969 (Phone held by Pastor David Spanagel)

Trinity Lutheran Church

472 Severin Street, Manunda

Email: TrinityLutheran4870@outlook.com

Our Saviour Lutheran Church

Golflinks Road, Atherton

Email: oslc01@outlook.com

Parish Website: www.cairnslutheran.org.au

April 2025

Note: Trinity Service Time – 09:00am

MISSION: Let your light shine for the Gospel.

TASK: Keep spreading the Good News!

Prayers

- ✚ Trinity, Our Saviour, Hope Vale and Wujal Wujal congregations as they faithfully continue services to hear God's word and equip members to share the Lord's mission in Far North Queensland.
- ✚ To those who are unable to attend services and share in Christian fellowship with their congregations.
- ✚ For all those impacted by flooding and other severe weather over the past weeks.
- ✚ For Lauri, Eddie, Pastor Aldal, Don Ruthenburg and all those caring and supporting them.

UPCOMING EVENTS (APRIL 2025)

Easter Services Trinity

Pastor David Spanagel will lead Easter services in Hope Vale, and Pastor Aldal Wagim will conduct one Easter service in Atherton.

April 18th – Maundy Thursday Service – Trinity Lutheran Church at **7 pm** – Pastor Adam

April 20th – Easter Sunday Service – Trinity Lutheran Church at **9 am** – Pastor Adam

April 22nd – Church Council Meeting.

The Lenten Season

Pastor David conducted a wonderful Ash Wednesday service on the 5th March at Trinity Lutheran Church. The service was enjoyed by all who attended, including a surprise guest for the service, Bishop Paul Smith, who was in town visiting family and very thankful that the Ash Wednesday service was offered.

There are many materials that can support your Lenten worship. A suggested place to start is with the Lutheran Tract Mission. Access their 2025 Lenten devotional [here](#).

Parish AGM, held on 3rd March 2025

The Parish AGM was held on 3rd March at Our Saviour Church in Atherton. We had a quorum thanks to the loyal attendance of Our Saviour Congregation members with quite a few Trinity Congregation members making the trip to ensure the numbers were as needed. Thanks to all who attended.

In addition to the Book of Reports, several items were discussed during the meeting:

- Approval for a Parish bank account to be opened.
- The requirement for the property management of the Manse to be further considered including some issues with the boundary fence. This matter was left in the hands of the Parish Executive Committee.
- A request from the LCAQD for the Parish to be the sponsoring organisation on a Visa application for a minister coming to Australia from Finland. There was good support for this.
- Elections for Office Bearers were held with the following result: Chairperson Roger Strickland, Secretary Rod Krenske, and Treasurer Jo-Anne Scarini.

Following the meeting, everyone got together for a wonderful lunch.

The next AGM will be held in 2026 and will be advertised closer to the date once details are finalised.

Parish Members Directory 2025

Copies of the Directory are now available at Church. Many thanks to Julie for co-ordinating and compiling this Directory. If you missed out on getting your details into this version, we will call for new entries later in the year.

Devotion Books

Devotion books for 2025 remain available for purchase at the back of the Church. The cost of these remains \$25.

Also a prompt for anyone who picked up a Devotion Book and hasn't yet paid.

Please save the date - Working Bee

We are planning a Working Bee at Trinity on the 17th May, commencing at 8am. If you are willing and able to assist, we would love to see you on the day.

Request for Volunteers

Please prayerfully consider providing support to the congregation as our Property Manager.

We remain very low on Ushers. If you can support even for a limited period, please see Andrew Schelberg or a member of the Church Council.

There are a range of roles needed to support the upcoming Synod (Ushers, Tea and Coffee servers). If you can help out on the 30th or 31st May at Peace College or are willing to help for the Service planned for 1st June, please see Michael Fraser or Pastor David.

We are hoping to increase the feed on Facebook. If you are interested in supporting this effort, speak with Elaine K or Jo-Anne Scarini.

LCAQD Synod

LCAQD Synod is programmed to take place at Peace Lutheran College from 30th May to 01 June 2025. Pastor David is our main point of contact for the District Office. **At present we still require a delegate for Trinity.**

By reason of Synod's governance role, all delegates to Synod are required to have and maintain at least Level 1 Safe Church Training, and a valid Blue Card (Working with Children Check). These should be current at the time of election/appointment as a delegate, and when attending Synod. Safe Church Training is provided by the Professional Standards Department and can be accessed at: www.lca.org.au/safe-church-training. To apply for, or renew a Blue Card, go to: Blue Card application.

Live Streaming at Trinity



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

Containers for Change



You can support the Church when recycling your containers. The following code allows funds to be allocated to Trinity Lutheran Church. Alternatively containers have been placed at the door of the Church.

Containers for Change Code: **C10162743**

A Future of Flourishing: Strengthening Mission Through Collaboration

By Rev. David Schmidt BTh|MCouns, Assistant Bishop for Mission, Commission for Mission
at Lutheran Church of Australia, Queensland District

Imagine a future where our churches are thriving—where congregations support one another, where pastors and leaders are well-equipped and sustained, and where local communities experience the love of Christ in tangible ways. **Mission Regions** offer a vision of possibility: a way for congregations to join together in shared ministry, strengthen their missional reach, and create sustainable pathways for the future.

This is about thriving, more than it is about thriving. Mission Regions open the door to greater collaboration, deeper discipleship, and fresh expressions of faith. Instead of struggling alone, congregations can share resources, develop leaders, and engage more meaningfully in mission. As part of the body of Christ, congregations have the opportunity to step forward together, not with fear, but with faith in God's provision and the gifts He has already given us.

Yet, the fact that this vision arises from real challenges that cannot be ignored.

The Current Reality: A Church at a Crossroads

Across the Lutheran Church of Australia Queensland District (LCAQD), congregations are facing significant obstacles:

Declining Membership – Many congregations now have fewer than 50 baptized members.

Pastoral Shortages – With an aging pastoral workforce and anticipated retirements, the availability of pastors is shrinking.

Financial Struggles – A growing number of congregations cannot afford a full-time pastor or sustain their current ministry model. And many of those that can spend a vast majority of their finances on wages and maintenance, rather than mission.

Mission Hesitation – Many churches struggle to engage with those outside their walls, and a lack of confidence in faith-sharing is evident in survey responses.

These challenges are not signs of failure, but they do signal the need for a new approach—one that embraces shared mission, cooperative leadership, and sustainable ministry. *Mission Regions* provide one pathway to do just that.

Mission Regions: A Way Forward in Faith

Rather than thinking of Mission Regions as a structural change, we can see them as an invitation to deeper engagement with God's mission. They provide a way for congregations to:

Support One Another in Ministry – Sharing pastoral leadership, lay ministry, and resources to strengthen congregations rather than focus on survival.

Sustain Financial Viability – Pooling resources and exploring innovative ministry models to ensure long-term sustainability.

Expand Mission and Evangelism – Creating regional outreach initiatives that have a greater impact than any one congregation acting alone.

Equip and Develop Leaders – Encouraging the next generation of pastors, lay leaders, and volunteers to step into ministry roles with confidence.

Build Trust and Unity – Moving beyond isolation to form deeper relationships between congregations, fostering a greater sense of community and shared purpose.

Engaging in the Conversation: Five Key Questions

As we explore what Mission Regions could look like in our context, here are five generative questions to guide our conversations:

1. What gifts and strengths can we share with neighbouring congregations to strengthen our collective mission?
2. How can we make mission and ministry decisions based on calling rather than financial limitations?
3. What would it take to build trust and collaboration among congregations that have historically operated independently?
4. How can we develop and support leaders—both pastors and laypeople—for sustainable ministry in the future?
5. What shared mission initiative could we launch that would have a greater impact together than we could achieve alone?

Moving Forward Together

The path ahead is not without challenges, but it is also filled with opportunity. The Spirit is already at work among us, calling us into a future not of decline, but of transformation. The question is not whether we will face change, but how we will embrace it in faith, hope, and love.

FAQ resources developed by Bishop Paul Smith

LCANZ Bishop Pastor Paul Smith has developed a number of video resources on questions that relate to the October Synod decision around ordination. These resources have stemmed from short papers Bishop Smith prepared for delegates in the lead up to last year's Regular Convention of General Synod, and answer many questions that people are asking. To find out more, go to:

[Frequently Asked Questions about October Synod decision](#)

ROSTERS:

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

	April 6th Trinity 9 am	April 13th Palm Sunday Trinity 9 am	April 17th Maundy Thursday Trinity 7 pm	April 18th Good Friday Trinity 9 am	April 20th. Easter Sunday Trinity 9 am	April 27th Peace College 9 am
Lay Reader	Martin Klink	Martin Klink	HC Pastor Adam	Pastor Adam	HC Pastor Adam	
Lesson Reader	Carlos Lewong	Richard Lehmann	Jo-Anne Scarini	Michael Fraser	Rod Krenske	
Ushers	P&P Schmidt			A Schelberg		
Powerpoint	Kissi Klink	Bernie Weidner		Peter Ricketts	Michael Fraser	
Church Cleaning	Jo-Anne Scarini		Jenny Henselheit & Cathy O'Dea			
Mowing	R. Lehmann/ A. Schelberg	R. Lehmann/ A. Schelberg	R. Lehmann/ A. Schelberg	R. Lehmann/ A. Schelberg	R. Lehmann/ A. Schelberg	R. Lehmann/ A. Schelberg

Alternative ways to attend Sunday Services

Listen to a service

- **Radio - 89.1 FM** Sundays at 9:00am a service recorded by Pastor Greg is broadcast. Access this at the same time on *Cairns FM 89.1* or *92.3FM* on your devices.

There are a range of view at home options. You can utilise the [Lutheran Church of Australia online worship](#) option that meets your needs.

Alternatively you can navigate directly to the following online options, which can be utilised live or during the week:

- [St Michael's Lutheran Church, Hahndorf, South Australia](#) Streamed live at 9:30am (Aust CST) each week.
- [Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Toowoomba Queensland](#) Streamed live at 9am Queensland time every Sunday.
- [Nazareth Lutheran Church](#), South Brisbane Streamed live at 8.30am Queensland time every Sunday.

Pastoral Assistants

David Spanagel (Locum Pastor), Raelene Ricketts, Aldal Wagim, Martin Klink, Michael Fraser, Phoebe Weier

Key Holders

Please be advised that the following people hold keys to Trinity Lutheran Church, should access to the building be required for example to carry out cleaning: Michael Fraser, Rod Krenske, Grace Pullar, Jo-Anne Scarini, Andrew Schelberg, Bernie Weidner.

Your Council Members

	Trinity	Our Saviour
Chairperson	Michael Fraser	Lynalee Strickland
Vice Chairperson	<i>Vacant</i>	Roger Strickland
Secretary	Jo-Anne Scarini	Kathy Tidmarsh
Treasurer	Andrew Schelberg	April Strickland
Member	Rod Krenske	
Member	Mark Henseleit	
Property Manager	<i>Vacant</i>	

Parish Executive

Chairperson: Roger Strickland, Secretary: Rod Krenske, Treasurer: Jo-Anne Scarini