



# **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](mailto:TrinityLutheran4870@outlook.com)

**Our Saviour Lutheran Church**

Golflinks Road, Atherton

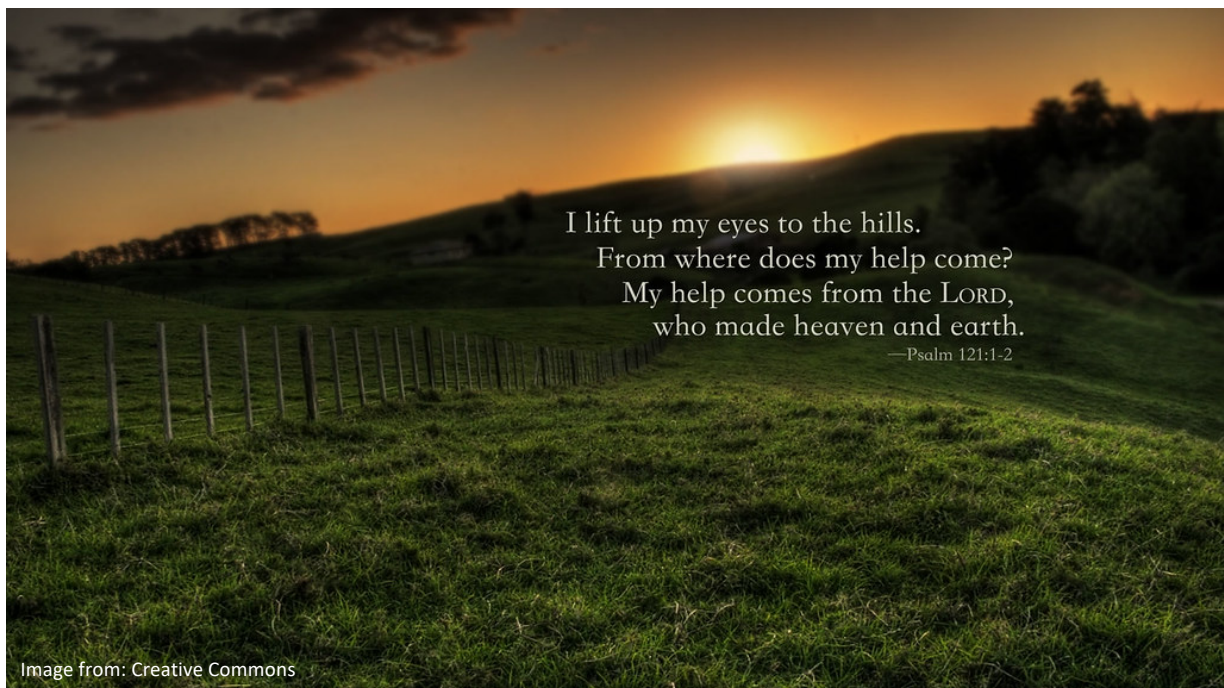
Email: [oslc01@outlook.com](mailto:oslc01@outlook.com)

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




## **October 2025**

***MISSION: Let your light shine for the Gospel.***

***TASK: Keep spreading the Good News!***



### **Prayers**

-  For the congregations of Trinity, Our Saviour, Hope Vale and Wujal Wujal 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 any who are sick, and especially Eddie, and all those caring and supporting them.

## UPCOMING SERVICES

**5<sup>th</sup> October** – Trinity Lutheran Church at 9am

**12<sup>th</sup> October** – Peace College at 9am

**19<sup>th</sup> October** – Trinity Lutheran Church at 9am

**26<sup>th</sup> October** – Peace College at 9am

## DATE CLAIMERS

**19<sup>th</sup> October** – Retiring Offering, Australian Lutheran World Service (ALWS).

**20<sup>th</sup> October** - Council Meeting, 5.30pm

## RETIRING OFFERING

### **October – Australian Lutheran World Service (ALWS)**

Many thanks for your generosity in August and September.

In August Trinity Lutheran Church collected a retiring offering for Mission Aviation Fellowship (MAF) and through your generosity we were able to donate \$870.

In September Trinity Lutheran Church collected a retiring offering for Mick Hauser and the work he does with Martin Luther Seminary in Lae and through your generosity we were able to donate \$395.

The congregation voted to support three charitable causes during 2025 and on the 19<sup>th</sup> October we will collect our final retiring offering for 2025 in support of Australian Lutheran World Service (ALWS).

### *Mission of ALWS*



ALWS reaches out in love, for justice. We bring together people willing to work in service to help end suffering. As partners, we work openly and accountably, supporting programs which welcome, respect and bring hope through care to those fleeing from, or hurt by, disaster, conflict, poverty or oppression. We add our voice to the voices of those unheard and excluded, together crying out for justice so that we can all live in just and sustainable communities.

For more information on the activities of the ALWS see <https://www.alws.org.au>

## Trinity Congregation News

Earlier in the year we have advised we had submitted a grant application to progress some refurbishment work (reupholstery and carpeting) in the church. We were unsuccessful with our application (only 10% of applicants are successful) but we will be resubmitting in the next grant round, this time for the reupholstery work alone. Grant applications must be submitted by 31<sup>st</sup> October and we would expect to hear how we went with this application by the end of 2025. We will keep you posted on how this goes.

We would like to acknowledge and thank the following organisations for their support in the lead up to our application through measuring and quoting various components of our application: Newart Commercial Furniture, Carpet Bob and Allwood Upholstery.



### News from Pastor David

Dear Friends in the Cairns Lutheran Parish,

In stating the obvious, September has been a 'busy' month and as always we have seen the benefit of recognising God's free gift of grace when it's needed most.

In between 4 funerals in 7 days we have had 'Muni Day' (coming of the Gospel day) celebrated at Hope Vale on 14<sup>th</sup> September.

While we were not sure about the weather, nor how many people may attend, we were able to welcome approximately 120 people to a truly positive event. This was the result of a large number of community people pulling together to prepare the site at Alligator Beach for the occasion. God is always good!

At 5 pm the same day 70 people gathered at the church in town for 3 Baptisms. We praise God for another inspiring occasion.

It has been a truly warm and humbling experience for us to be welcomed back to Hope Vale and Wujal Wujal by people who cannot do enough for us as their way of welcome.

The most recent funeral was held in Hope Vale on 20<sup>th</sup> September.

Looking ahead; we are planning a 'Carols by Candlelight' evening at Wujal Wujal on Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> December which will be supported by the Hope Vale community. Everyone is welcome to be there!

Wujal Wujal – after months of uncertainty about the future of the church and church building, a meeting on 10<sup>th</sup> September with Wujal Wujal people appears to have resolved the issues. Once again we praise God for His goodness and grace.

Cairns Parish – I am so pleased to belong to a congregation of people who care – and show it! Thanks again for the acceptance and flexibility we have needed at relatively short notice as our worship programme unfolds. Your understanding is sincerely appreciated.





This photo shows a group of 25 Hope Vale people gathered for a sing-a-long and Holy Communion on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> September. This generation of people always enjoy our monthly gatherings.

During recent months many of us have experienced the feeling of loss as a number of our members have entered eternal life and are now living in the presence of God.

Our prayers continue to be with all families and members.

At the time of writing the following is our service plan for Sept/ Oct/ Nov:

	<b>Cairns</b>	<b>Our Saviour, Atherton</b>	<b>St John's Hope Vale</b>
Sun, 28 <sup>th</sup> September	9.00am Trinity (Martin)	9.00am (Local)	9am (Local)
Sat, 4 <sup>th</sup> October			Tombstone unveiling (David)
Sun, 5 <sup>th</sup> October	9.00am Trinity (Volkher)	9.00am (Local)	9.00am Baptism & <b>HC</b> (David)
Sun, 12 <sup>th</sup> October	9.00am Peace	9.00am (Michael)	9.00am (Local)
Sun 19 <sup>th</sup> October	9.00am Trinity <b>HC</b> (David)	4.00pm <b>HC</b> (David)	9.00am (Local)
Sun 26 <sup>th</sup> October	9.00am Peace	9.00am (Local)	9.00am (Local)
Sun 2 <sup>nd</sup> November	9.00am Trinity (Michelle)	9.00am (Local)	9.00am (Local)
Sat 8 <sup>th</sup> November			Wedding (David)
Sun 9 <sup>th</sup> November	9.00am Peace	9.00am (Local)	9.00am <b>HC</b> (David)
Sun 16 <sup>th</sup> November	9.00am Trinity HC (Martin / David)	4.00pm <b>HC</b> (David)	9.00am (Local)
Sun 23 <sup>rd</sup> November	9.00am Peace	9.00am (Local)	9.00am (Local)
Sun 30 <sup>th</sup> November, 1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday in ADVENT			

God's Blessings and Peace be with us all

In His Service, *David*

### **Are you missing emails from Trinity Lutheran?**

If you would like to receive our regular emails, we have some forms you can use to sign up as you enter the church.

### **Do you have some time you could give to Church activities?**

Please prayerfully consider providing support to the congregation as our Property Manager. We remain low on Ushers. If you can support even for a limited period, please see Andrew Schelberg or a member of the Church Council.

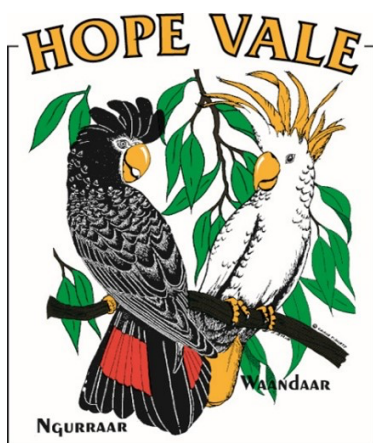
## Cairns Parish News

Michael Fraser briefed the congregation on the outcomes from the 2025 Qld Synod during August. He advised that a decision had been taken to raise \$60,000 per year for the next three years to support mission in Far North Queensland.

This work is now underway with the formulation of a plan to support this important initiative. Members of the Parish Executive are working with the LCAQD team. A communication plan is under development to reach out to congregations across Queensland who will be encouraged to consider how they can contribute through fund raising efforts and donations.

At the Parish level we are considering how to administer the process and will be sure to share the details once these have been finalised.

LLL has generously agreed to match the first \$10,000 of donations each year.



## Bibles for Hope Vale

Pastor David is looking for your support. If you have any spare Bibles, Bible story books or Devotionals he would be delighted to receive them for ministry in Hope Vale, North Queensland.

Your support is sincerely appreciated!

## Becoming a welcoming church

by Rev David Schmidt, Assistant Bishop for Mission,  
*An article published in the LCAQD News - Issue 18 [24 September 2025]*

A number of years ago, I met a family who had been faithfully attending a congregation for nearly eight years. They were present almost every Sunday, their children participated in Sunday School, and both parents served in different aspects of ministry—from helping with rosters to assisting in events. By every outward measure, they were deeply connected. Yet, in a quiet conversation one day, they shared something that startled me: they had never once been invited into someone's home. They had never been asked out for coffee, never included in a meal, never experienced hospitality from the very people with whom they worshipped week after week. Their entire experience of belonging was confined to the hour or two on Sunday morning. For eight years, church had been a place where they 'attended' but never truly 'belonged'.



Stories like this remind us that welcoming is more than a smile at the door or a handshake during the passing of the peace. It is possible for people to be fully engaged in the life of a congregation and still feel unseen, uninvited, and disconnected. When this happens, churches unintentionally become *transactional communities*. Sunday worship becomes an event to consume, Holy Communion becomes something to 'receive', and the church itself becomes a place where people come for spiritual services rather than a community of meaningful relationships. Such a pattern is not unique to one family or one congregation—it is an ever-present danger for all churches in our time.

The challenge is clear: people today are *longing for authentic connection*, not simply spiritual content. They want to know they matter and to experience the church as family, not just as an event. Yet

becoming a truly welcoming church requires more than good intentions; it requires a *shift in culture*. It calls us to move from being friendly to forming friendships, from offering hospitality to cultivating belonging, from dispensing religious goods to nurturing a Christ-shaped community.

With Christmas now less than 100 days away, congregations have a remarkable opportunity. Christmas services and pre-Christmas events are often the most attended gatherings of the year, drawing both long-time members and newcomers. What better time to reflect on how we extend welcome—not just in a moment, but in ways that lead to lasting connection? What would it look like if this year's Christmas season wasn't only about a beautiful service, but also about planting seeds of belonging?

### **Generative Questions for Reflection**

To start the journey toward becoming a more welcoming church, here are some questions for prayer, conversation, and discernment:

- When someone new walks through our doors, what do they see, feel, and experience in the first five minutes?
- Do our words and practices make sense to those who are unfamiliar with church life, or do they create barriers?
- Is worship meaningful and helpful to people connecting with the God of Love?
- How do we move from being friendly to building genuine friendships?
- Who is not present among us, and why might that be?
- How do we embody Christ's welcome not only in our services, but in our everyday lives beyond Sunday?
- What would it look like if hospitality was one of our congregation's defining marks?

### **Key Areas to Focus On**

#### **Hospitality That Extends Beyond the Door**

A welcome team at the entrance is important, but true hospitality goes deeper. Consider how newcomers are received during worship, at morning tea, in small groups, and in follow-up contact during the week.

#### **Language and Accessibility**

Church words and traditions can feel overwhelming to those who are unfamiliar. Explaining rituals in simple terms, offering clear signage, and making services accessible for people of all ages and abilities communicates thoughtfulness and care.

#### **Cultivating a Culture of Belonging**

Welcome is not just up to a ministry team—it's the responsibility of the whole congregation. Encourage members to look out for new faces, invite others into conversation, and practice inclusion in seating, conversation, and participation.

#### **Intergenerational Engagement**

A truly welcoming church values every generation. Children, youth, adults, and elders each have gifts to share. Ensuring that all voices are included in worship, leadership and fellowship reflects the diversity of the body of Christ.

#### **Community Connection**

Being welcoming extends beyond Sunday. How is the congregation seen in the local community? Are there bridges of service, listening, and partnership that communicate the love of God?

#### **Follow-Up and Relationship Building**

The first visit should never be the last touchpoint. A simple message, phone call, or invitation to a meal communicates care and moves people from feeling like guests to becoming part of the family.

#### **Moving Forward**

Becoming a welcoming church is not about programs—it's about posture. It's about hearts and lives shaped by Christ's welcome, and a willingness to listen, learn, and grow. Small intentional steps can transform a congregation into a place where people say: 'I came as a stranger, and I left knowing I belong.'

*Article ends*

## 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 National Australia Bank account - BSB 084472 A/C 508664430

## ROSTERS

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

	October 5th Trinity 09:00am	October 12th Peace College 09:00am HC	October 19th Trinity 09:00am HC	October 26th Peace College 09:00am HC
<b>Pastor / Lay Reader</b>	Volkher		Pastor David	
<b>Lesson Reader</b>	Emma Pullar		Di Remilton	
<b>Ushers</b>	Elaine Hausler		R & E Krenske	
<b>Powerpoint</b>	Rod Krenske		Peter Ricketts	
<b>Lead Musician</b>	Julie Smith		Sharon Beck	
<b>Church Cleaning</b>	Jenny Henseleit & Cathy O'Dea		Sheryle & Anna Rosendale	
<b>Mowing</b>	M. Henselheit / M. Fraser			

## Alternative ways to attend Sunday Services

### ***Live Streaming at Trinity***

You can find live streams at the following address:

<https://www.youtube.com/@cairnslutheranlive/streams>

### ***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.

## Your Church contacts

**Pastoral Assistants** - David Spanagel (Locum Pastor), Raelene Ricketts, 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, and Bernie Weidner.

**Trinity Council:** Chairperson - Michael Fraser, Secretary - Jo-Anne Scarini, Treasurer - Andrew Schelberg, Member - Rod Krenske, Member - Mark Henseleit, Property Manager - Vacant.

**Our Saviour Council:** Chairperson - Lynalee Strickland, Vice Chairperson - Roger Strickland, Secretary - Kathy Tidmarsh, Treasurer - April Strickland.

**Parish Executive:** Chairperson - Roger Strickland, Secretary – Rod Krenske, Treasurer – Jo-Anne Scarini