



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

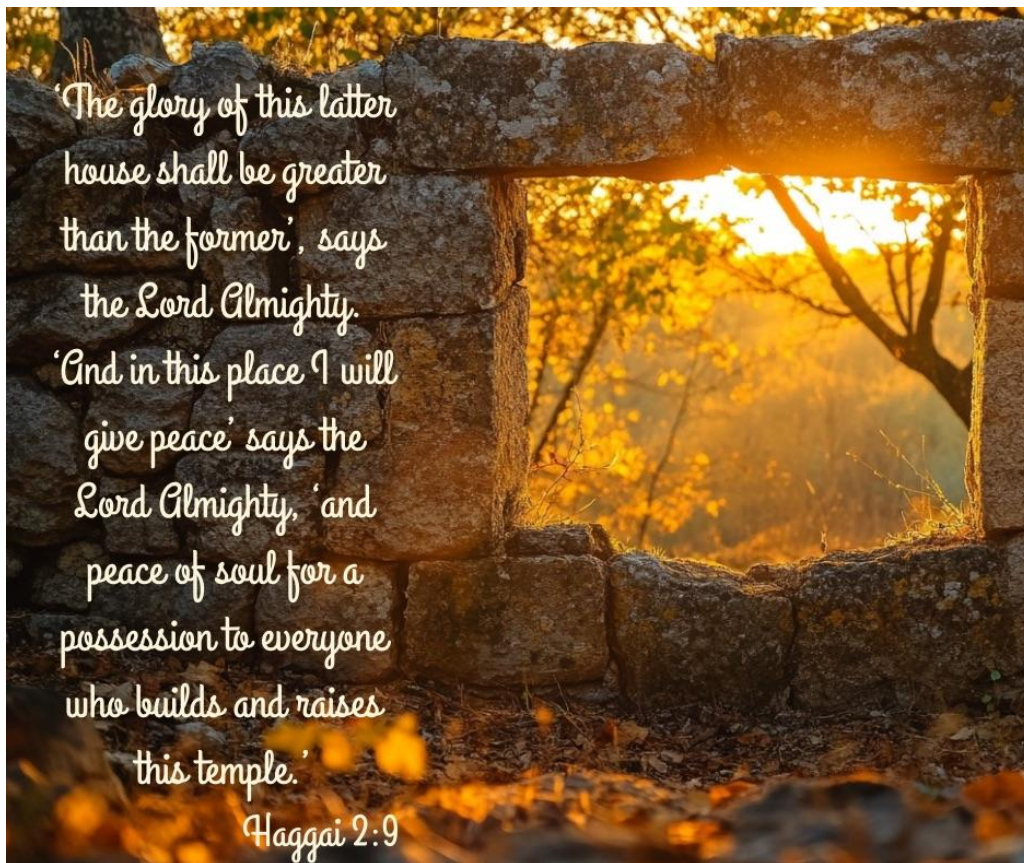
Email: oslc01@outlook.com

Parish Website: www.cairnslutheran.org.au

November 2025

MISSION: Let your light shine for the Gospel.

TASK: Keep spreading the Good News!



'The glory of this latter house shall be greater than the former', says the Lord Almighty, 'And in this place I will give peace' says the Lord Almighty, 'and peace of soul for a possession to everyone who builds and raises this temple.'

Haggai 2:9

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

2nd November – Trinity Lutheran Church **at 9am**

9th November – Peace College **at 9am**

16th November – Trinity Lutheran Church **at 9am**

23rd November – Peace College **at 9am**

30th November - Trinity Lutheran Church **at 9am**

DATE CLAIMERS

30th November – First Sunday in Advent

1st December – Combined Council & Pastoral Assistants Meeting, **5.00pm**

Thankyou

This month we say thank you to all of those who volunteer to help our church continue to function. The work you do is very much appreciated.

Firstly we must say thanks and acknowledge the significant load that Pastor David takes on as our locum Pastor. No mean feat when the Parish has (unofficially to date) expanded to take in Hope Vale and Wujal Wujal.

Our Lay readers have been doing a magnificent job, ensuring that regular services are able to be held. We also acknowledge and thank the Peace Lutheran College team, with special thanks to Pastor Adam Eime and Shane Jurecky who have supported the Trinity congregation significantly.

What would our regular services be without our Musicians? They do a wonderful job of bringing something special to each worship service.

Of course the Ushers, Cleaners, Gardeners and those that support the maintenance efforts are essential to the proper functioning of our church and your efforts are very much appreciated.

There is never any shortage of volunteers whenever the need arises. It is wonderful to see our community come together to support each other. We are truly blessed to enjoy all of your support.

Around the region

As usual, Pastor David has been very busy in service of many across the far North.



A joyous occasion on Sunday 5 October when St John's Lutheran Church in Hope Vale celebrated 3 baptisms.

As we start to turn our attention to the planning of services through to Christmas Pastor David will remain busy with upcoming plans for a funeral in Wujal Wujal, a wedding in Hope Vale in November and he will be providing support across the unofficial extended Parish for the Christmas services.

On Saturday October 4 a tombstone unveiling at Hope Vale was well attended by many across the community.



Pastor David's services for the rest of 2025

1/11/25 Funeral in WW (Doreen Ball (Doughboy))
2/11/25 Service in HV - Pastor David with Holy Communion
8/11/25 Wedding in HV
9/11/25 Service in WW @ 9.00am Pastor David & Holy Communion
16/11/25 Trinity Cairns/Baptism (Pastor David Schmidt)

Christmas

6/12/25 Wedding in Cairns
7/12/25 9.00am Hope Vale
14/12/25 Christmas Service in Atherton – Holy Communion
21/12/25 9.00am Christmas Service in WW – Holy Communion
21/12/25 7.00pm Christmas Service in Hope Vale – Holy Communion
24/12/25 7.00pm Christmas Eve - Cairns
25/12/25 9.00am Christmas Day – Cairns – Holy Communion

Proactive visiting practices

The Pastoral Assistants have initiated some proactive visiting across the congregation. If you would like a visit, do not hesitate to reach out and if you receive a call from someone wanting to schedule a visit, know that it is the result of our efforts to reach out to members of the congregation, especially those experiencing some challenges.

Ladies Group

We are calling all ladies interested in getting together on a regular basis. In addition to getting some social time together we will be looking at building the social, financial and spiritual strength of the congregation. We are planning on having an initial get together on the church on Saturday 8th November at 9am. We recognise that we may need to refine 'the when' and 'the where' as we test who is interested in getting involved. For more information talk to Jo-Anne.

Congregation news

Notice of Special Meeting – Trinity Lutheran Congregation

When – 16th November following the service

Location – Trinity Lutheran Church

Following our service on 16th November we will hold a Special Meeting to consider whether the congregation is in support of requesting that the Parish progress to a call for a Pastor.

The proposed motion to be considered is:

Trinity congregation supports progressing the call for a Pastor and requests that the Parish Council form the Call Committee and work through the processes required to activate the call process.

Background to the Special Meeting

As many people know:

- The Cairns Parish has been without a full time Pastor for more than 2 years.
- We thank God for guiding the Lay readers, the Locum Pastor (retired Pastor Spangel) and Pastor Eime and the Peace College Team to sustain the faithful members of the Parish.
- Since losing a full time Pastor, attendance numbers and funds raised through offerings have been declining, despite the significant effort by many.
- During this period, Hope Vale lost their full time Pastor and Pastor David Spanagel, has also taken on the role of servicing Hope Vale and Wujal Wujal with plans progressing for Hope Vale and Wujal Wujal to join the Cairns Parish.
- The Parish Council have embarked on some due diligence over these two congregations to assist decision making.
- In support of the mission in Far North Queensland, the LCAQD 2025 Synod, passed a resolution to run an appeal to support the regional ministry in Far North Queensland for \$60,000 per annum for a 3 year period (2026 – 2028) (resolution included at Appendix 4).
- Based on a range of assumptions on 'capacity to contribute' (Trinity, Our Saviour, Hope Vale/ Wujal Wujal) to the costs of running the Parish, an amount of \$60,000 per annum had been identified as the annual financial shortfall of the expanded Parish.
- At the March 2025 AGM of the Cairns Parish, the Parish agreed to become the sponsoring organisation for the immigration visa application of a candidate for the Pastor of the Parish – Joona Toivanen. At the time of this support, LCAQD made clear that if the Parish made a decision to go in another direction through a formal call process, Pastor Joona could be directed to another congregation. Pastor Joona's application has been progressing.

A discussion paper has been developed and within it two key matters are explored:

1. The timing of a call for a Pastor
2. Consideration of the expansion of the Parish

The discussion paper recommends that the Parish proceed with a call for a Pastor this year and work towards positioning ourselves to consider the expansion of the Parish at the upcoming AGM, as:

- A call process should progress in parallel with the immigration processes underway.
- The Parish is only in a position to invest in the significant strategy and development work to secure a sustainable future with a clear decision to fill the Pastor's vacancy.
- Cairns Parish needs to complete all due diligence work to assure members that an amalgamated Parish can be effective. In the interim, Hope Vale and Wujal Wujal will likely continue to rely on the generous support of Pastor David Spanagel or other relieving locums from time to time.

Financial modelling has been completed to assess the ability of the Parish to proceed with the call process. The modelling has been conducted with the assumption the Parish will expand and utilise

conservative revenue assumptions including that the Parish would receive 2/3 of the target fund raising signalled at 2025 Synod.

To provide people with additional information relevant to the proposed motion the discussion paper used to advise the Council of the status of review and the recommendations is available should anyone wish to have a copy. This paper includes the detailed financial assessment. Please email TrinityLutheran4870@outlook.com or Treasurer@cairnschurch.org.au if you would like a copy or additional information.

In the lead up to the Special meeting, there will be **an informal Question and Answer session** at the conclusion of the service on **2nd November**.

Contact any members of the Parish Council or the Congregation Council for further information.



The Lutheran Church of Australia has extensive support in place to ensure every congregation aspires to only the best standards of child safety.

Child safety is a consideration at the heart of all decision making.

If you have any concerns about how Trinity Lutheran Church is handling this important area of governance, or concerns regarding any behaviour, please talk to one of the Council members so that we understand and can ensure we respond to your concern.

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?

We are currently planning to hold the 2026 AGM on February 15 2026. We encourage members of the congregation to consider whether you would be interested in standing for a position on the Council. Michael Fraser has indicated that while he is happy to continue on the Council, he would appreciate if someone stepped up to take on the role of Chairperson or Vice Chairperson.

We have a vacancy for the role of Property Manager and all other interest in serving is welcome.

Please prayerfully consider providing support to the congregation. Anyone with interest in getting involved should have an informal discussion with Michael Fraser or one of the members of the Church Council.

We remain low on Ushers. If you can support even for a limited period, please see Andrew Schelberg.

ROSTERS

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

	November 2nd Trinity 09:00am	November 9th Peace College 09:00am	November 16th Trinity 09:00am HC	November 23rd Peace College 09:00am	November 30th Trinity 09:00am
Pastor / Lay Reader	Michelle		Pastor David		Martin Klink
Lesson Reader	Bernie Weidner		Angela Bayarcal		Bernie Weidner
Ushers	R & E Krenske		B&M Weidner		B&M Weidner
Powerpoint	Michael Fraser				Kissi Klink
Lead Musician	Julie Smith		Julie Smith		Julie Smith
Church Cleaning	Pam Spanagel Suzi Isa-Aho		Peter & Patricia Schmidt		
Mowing	B. Weidner / R. Krenske				

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 –
 - o 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, you can drop off your containers in the bins held in the Vestry.

Containers for Change Code: **C10162743**

Live Streaming at Trinity

You can find live streams at the following address:

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

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:

- [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, Martin Klink, Michael Fraser, Phoebe Weier.

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

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.

To be Lutheran is to preach Christ and him crucified!

lca.org.au/to-be-lutheran-is-to-preach-christ-and-him-crucified

October 23, 2025

Romans 1:16,17 says, ‘For I am not ashamed of the gospel; it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who has faith, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. For in it the righteousness of God is revealed through faith for faith; as it is written, “The one who is righteous will live by faith.”’

‘What is a Lutheran?’ and ‘How should we commemorate the Reformation?’

They say that ‘a picture is worth a thousand words’, and there is a famous picture from the history of the Reformation period that gives a simple but profound answer to these two good questions.

In the German town of Wittenberg, where Dr Martin Luther preached, taught and made his family home with his beloved Katie, there is a painting in St Mary’s Church by the artist Lucas Cranach the Elder. I have included a photograph that I took of this painting for you. It is a very large painting above the altar at the front of the church, and the painting was finished in the year 1547.

In this painting, we see Luther in the pulpit, looking towards the congregation. His right hand is raised, pointing towards the image at the centre of the painting between Luther and the congregation, showing our Lord Jesus Christ suffering and dying on the cross for the sins of the world.

If you look carefully at the way the artist has painted the figure of Luther, you can see that his other hand is placed firmly on an open Bible, with him in the pulpit.

In this painting, the artist has given a good explanation of what it means to be ‘Lutheran’. If you look at Luther, he will be pointing away from himself, saying, ‘Don’t simply look to me; look to Christ, your Lord and Saviour!’

A Lutheran studies the Scriptures and listens to the preaching and teaching of the Scriptures, to learn Christ and him crucified for the salvation of the world.

In recent times, some folk have added the word ‘Confessional’ to the word ‘Lutheran’ to distinguish between Lutherans. Many are uncertain whether or not they are ‘Confessional’. This Wittenberg painting gives a simple explanation of what is ‘confessed’. Confessional Lutherans are those who confess the good news of Christ and his cross, pointing away from ourselves to what the Lord has done for us. This good news is at the heart of all our Lutheran Confessional writings.

Finally, how does this painting from Wittenberg help us to discern how best to commemorate the Reformation? Reformation is the time of the church year when we recommit ourselves to be people of the gospel. We recommit ourselves to the mission that God gives us, to find good ways to share the good news of Jesus Christ with friends, neighbours, family members and work colleagues, with the heart that the Apostle Paul describes in his letter to the Corinthians:

To the Jews I became as a Jew, in order to win Jews. To those under the law I became as one under the law (though I myself am not under the law) so that I might win those under the law. To those outside the law I became as one outside the law (though I am not free from

God's law but am under Christ's law) so that I might win those outside the law. To the weak I became weak, so that I might win the weak. I have become all things to all people, so that I might by any means save some (1 Corinthians 9:20–22 NRSV).

God bless your Reformation reflections and your community's commemorations, that the light of the gospel would shine to the ends of the earth as we confess with one voice, 'Jesus Christ is Lord.'

I have included two prayers for your reflection. The first is from our church's liturgical resources for the Commemoration of the Reformation. The second is a prayer for the unity of the church by William Laud.

Almighty and eternal God,
in mercy you give the light of your gospel
to your church.
Keep us in sound teaching,
so that we may firmly believe
and faithfully follow
your saving word,
and finally, with its holy comfort,
die in peace and joy.
We ask this through your Son,
Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns
with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever.
Amen.

Gracious Father,
we humbly pray for your holy universal church,
fill it with all truth; in all truth with all peace.
Where it is corrupt, purge it;
where it is in error, direct it;
where it is superstitious, rectify it;
where in anything it is amiss, reform it;
where it is right, strengthen and confirm it,
where it is in want, provide for it;
where it is divided and torn apart, reunite it,
O Holy One of Israel. Amen.
– William Laud 1573–1645

Pastor Paul Smith
Bishop of the Lutheran Church of Australia and New Zealand