



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

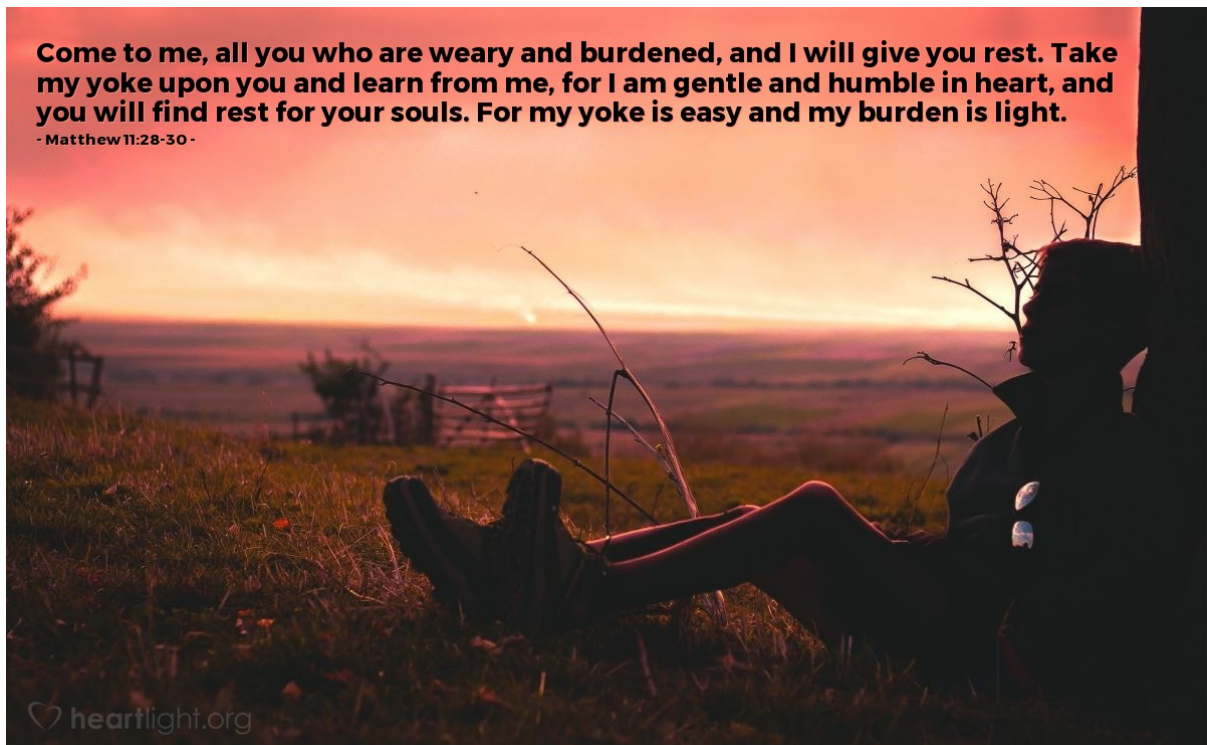
July 2026

Mission - Let your light shine for the Gospel.

Task - Keep spreading the Good News!

Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light.

- Matthew 11:28-30 -



heartlight.org

Prayers

- ✚ For any who are sick or struggling, especially Maria, Elaine H, Sergio and Eddie, and all those caring for and supporting them.
- ✚ For those grieving and for those who mourn the loss of loved ones at this time of the year.
- ✚ For those who are unable to attend services and share in Christian fellowship.
- ✚ For the congregations of Trinity, Our Saviour, Hope Vale, Wujal Wujal and Coen as they faithfully continue services to hear God's word and equip members to share the Lord's mission in Far North Queensland.

UPCOMING SERVICES

5th July – Trinity Lutheran Church, **9am**

12th July – Trinity Lutheran Church, **9am**

19th July – Trinity Lutheran Church, **9am**

26th July – Peace Lutheran College, **9am**

DATE CLAIMERS

20th June to 12th July - School Holidays,
Peace College

20th July – Combined Pastoral assistants /
Council Meeting, **5.00pm** at the Church

25th July – Trinity Lutheran ladies meeting at
9.30am at the Church.

Congregation and Parish News

2026 LCAQD Synod

This year's Synod took place at St Andrew's Lutheran College at Tallebudgera in early June. Jo-Anne Scarini attended on behalf of the Trinity congregation with Rod Krenske attending representing CLEQ and Elaine Krenske attending in her role as a Director on the District Church Board. There is a summary later in the Bulletin.

Preparing to Call for a Pastor

As previously advised, it has been communicated that we will not receive an assigned Pastor.

The Call Committee, including the Parish Chairperson, will work on our behalf on this matter.

The members of the call Committee are: Isaac Strickland, Michael Fraser, Martin Klink, Elaine Krenske, Lynalee Strickland, and April Strickland. The Trinity representatives will update us as this matter develops. There is no news to share on this.

Developing a First Aid Register

Thank you to those who have responded to the request for information to inform our First Aid Register. This is an expectation of our health & safety plan. If you are a qualified and confident First Aiders or have formal medical training, please let Jo-Anne know so she can add you to our register.

Church Life Survey

As previously advised, we will be participating in the Church Life Survey later in the year. Elaine Krenske has volunteered to co-ordinate the survey for our congregation. This is a survey that occurs every 5 years and we encourage our members to participate as the responses to the survey will assist us to plan for our congregation.

Parish Directory

The process to update the Parish Directory has commenced. This arises from a resolution at our recent AGM. The church holds email and other contact details for each member of the congregation. The Parish Directory differs from this in that it is for the purpose of sharing details across congregation members. If you haven't been contacted already, you will likely receive an email asking whether you would like to be added to the Parish Directory. In July we expect to distribute the latest Directory.

Ladies Group

The Ladies group gets together monthly on the 4th Saturday each month at 9.30am at the Church. All are encouraged to come along.

The ladies continue to focus our minds on holding a couple of social events, so stay tuned for advice on these.

Join the ladies group for a relaxed get together and fellowship on Saturday 25th July at 9.30am at the Church. All very welcome.

LCAQD Synod



The 2026 LCAQD Convention of the Synod took place in early June.

The reports provided ahead of the Synod were very comprehensive. These are available to anyone interested at the following link.

<https://qld.lca.org.au/events/synod/> You will need to navigate to the BOOK OF REPORTS AND VIDEO REPORTS.

The reports for Lutheran Services, Lutheran Education Queensland and Lutheran Youth Queensland were very interesting and highlight the significant scale of activities. The reports also highlight some of the challenges. For a summary, there are three good videos that cover the work and impact of LYQ, LS and LEQ.

- Report from **Lutheran Youth Queensland** [is available here](#).
- Report from **Lutheran Services** [is available here](#).
- Report from **Lutheran Education Queensland** [is available here](#).

Bishop Mark's report to the Synod makes for excellent reading. (It is 24 pages so a little on the long side, but worth the effort).

The following text guided the Synod:

'He saved us, not because of any works of righteousness that we had done, but according to his mercy, through the water of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit' (Titus 3:5)



The Synod launched the **Strategic Charter** which has been developed following significant syndication over many years. The Strategic Charter offers an opportunity for our congregation to be clearer about where our greatest opportunities lay as we move forward. There are

materials available to be used to assist our Council and congregation to apply the Strategic charter to our context.

The Strategic Charter includes five open doors and invites congregations and parishes to consider which door is appropriate for most effort / focus. The five doors in the Strategic Charter doors are:

- *Spiritual renewal* (the theme for this year's Synod) – Living from the grace given in baptism, nourished by Word and Sacrament, and anchored in prayer.
- *World* – Moving into the world, proclaiming Christ through Word, presence, service and hospitality.
- *Church* – Living as a grace-filled inclusive, and welcoming expression of Christ's love.
- *Collaboration* – Living in Christ-shaped collaboration, engaging generously with our partners in mission.
- *Future* – Shaping sustainable and mission focussed structures that equip us to engage in mission.

Those interested in more information on this can access it at

<https://qld.lca.org.au/who-we-are/#2026-2030-Strategic-Charter>

The Trinity Council and the Pastoral Assistants will consider the framework when they meet in July. Stay tuned for how Trinity may make best use of this.

Other reports presented included: LCANZ Bishop and Departments; Lutheran Women of Qld; LLL; LCAQD and DCB.

Other matters of note to share:

- The Governance Change program - has pulled significant resources (time and money) and is now scheduled to take at least an additional 12 months. One of the key reasons is the emerging case law in this area (arising from how the courts are viewing the corporate structures of the Presbyterian Church of Queensland (PCQ) following the collapse of their aged care arm).
- Received a new Gold Coast Cantonese (Lutheran) Community Church
- Agreed Synod 2027 will be held in Brisbane (4-6 June)
- Agreed Synod 2028 will be held in Ipswich (2-4 June)

Extract from Bishop Mark Vainikka's report to the 2026 LCAQD Convention of Synod

As we reflect on our life together as Church, we do so in a time marked by uncertainty. We are aware of the tensions we experience within our own communities and also of the turmoil we see in the world around us. These realities are not insignificant, and they can weigh heavily on us. Yet as Christians, we are not left without hope.

It is important to say clearly that hope is not the same as optimism. Optimism is a disposition. Some people are naturally optimistic, others more realistic, and others again more pessimistic. These are ways of seeing the world. Hope, however, is something far more profound. It does not arise from temperament or outlook. It is given to us in Christ. Therefore, regardless of personality or circumstance, all Christians are people of hope.

For Martin Luther, hope is grounded not in what we see, but in the promise of God. Faith trusts what God has said and done in Jesus Christ. Hope looks forward to the fulfilment of that promise. In his lectures on Romans, Luther writes, 'Hope is nothing else than the expectation of those things which faith has believed to have been promised by God' (*Luther's Works, Vol. 25, p. 377*).

This means that Christian hope does not deny the reality of suffering, conflict, or uncertainty. Luther himself lived through times of upheaval, plague, and deep personal struggle. Yet in the midst of this, he spoke of hope as a sure and certain confidence in God's faithfulness. **Hope rests not on changing circumstances, but on the God who cannot lie.**

*Dr Mark Vainikka, District Bishop,
Report to 2026 LCAQD Convention of Synod*

FROM AROUND THE REGION

Baptisms

Baptisms are planned in Hope Vale on the 6th and 7th July.

On the 9th August Manaia Scarlett Rose Pearson will be Baptised in Cairns.

Confirmation classes are planned for September (11th and 12th) with a Confirmation Service to occur during the Muni Day Service on 13th September.

NOTICE regarding an upcoming celebration - Muni Day (Coming of the Gospel) at Alligator Beach – Sunday 13th September at 10.00am – Light lunch provided



Guess What!

Sunday 7th June included in the congregation at Hope Vale was a group of 7 children completely unexpected. I quickly adapted the service to involve them in a range of different ways during the service. We all rejoiced to have this group with us today. Here's the photo.

An Excerpt from my diary on 9th June

In the afternoon I decided to take a walk down the street armed with the 25 left over copies of the Sunday bulletin. Within 20 minutes I didn't have any left, I could have given out another 25! I ended up at the community store for a conversation with the store staff and the many people

who came to do their shopping. I had planned to deliver a wheel barrow load of Bibles and Devotion books to the store the next morning. The store manager immediately agreed to this and offered to do up the notice 'Free Books'. What a measure of Divine Intervention.

Sad but True

Please add the following to your prayers:

It is always difficult to understand any suicide which makes the following even more unfathomable. In the space of 20 days during May there has been 8 attempted suicides in or related to Hope Vale with 4 of these being 'successful'.

A 16 year old male, a 35 year old male, a 15 year old female and a 13 year old female. Sadly, drugs or alcohol were involved in 2 of these. Please continue to pray to God that through His power and presence we can overcome these sad events.

Funeral

The double funeral for Samuel Michael and Ciara McKinley (aged 13) will at Hope Vale on 14th July 2026.

Mrs Aire Ovaska (Cairns) passed into God's care on 22nd June. The funeral date is to be advised.

With God's Blessings to all
Pastor David

CALL TO ACTION - HOPE VALE, WUJAL WUJAL, COEN

Recently, the following was sent to all Pastors and Emiritus Pastors of the LCA.

Is God calling you to serve "Way Up North"?

The Lutheran communities of **Hope Vale, Wujal Wujal and Coen** are seeking expressions of interest from pastors, emeriti pastors, or others with a deep pastoral heart who may be open to serving in Far North Queensland.

This is a unique and deeply meaningful opportunity to walk alongside Indigenous Lutheran communities with humility, patience, and love. The people of Hope Vale are looking for someone who is passionate about sharing the Gospel in a relatable way, attentive to culture and language, and willing to listen before leading.

This is not a ministry for someone who wants to arrive with all the answers. It is a ministry for someone who can come gently, build trust, encourage local leadership, and work with people in a non-dominant way. It calls for someone who can be present in everyday community life: meeting people in the street, visiting homes, listening carefully, praying faithfully, and discerning wisely.

The community has recently carried deep pain and anxiety, and there is a real need for a steady, compassionate spiritual presence. The right person will bring pastoral care, Gospel hope, and calm encouragement while respecting local relationships, family connections, cultural wisdom, and community leadership.

There are already important ministry initiatives underway, including children's ministry in connection with the school, the Pre-Loved goods shop, the coffee shop, and efforts to encourage fuller inclusion in worship. The hope is for someone who can offer pastoral oversight, encouragement, and support as these ministries continue to grow.

A four-bedroom manse with basic furnishings is available in Hope Vale and can be occupied immediately. Extensive cultural awareness and hands-on support will be provided for as long as needed.

This may suit someone able to offer a short-term placement of **three to six months**, or someone willing to explore a longer commitment. It may be especially suitable for a pastor, emeritus pastor, or another person with pastoral experience who senses a call to listen, serve, encourage, and share Christ's love in a community where faithful presence matters deeply.

If you have a heart for Indigenous ministry, a willingness to learn, and a desire to serve with humility and hope, we invite you to prayerfully consider whether God may be calling you to Hope Vale.

To register your interest or to learn more, please contact David Schmidt,

david.schmidt@qld.lca.org.au, Assistant Bishop – Mission, LCAQD.

We thank Pastor David Spanagel for his significant effort to date to support our northern neighbours and we pray that God sends a shepherd to support this essential ministry.

Home visits

We are very thankful for the efforts of our Locum Pastor, David Spanagel, including his efforts to visit those experiencing challenges across the congregation.

Michael Fraser will take on a role of scheduling visits that are requested, so please contact Michael on TrinityLutheran4870@outlook.com should you wish to be included in the list of those to receive a visit.

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.

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**



ROSTER - July

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

| | July 5th Trinity 9.00am | July 12th Trinity 09:00am | July 19th Trinity 09:00am | July 26th Peace 09:00am HC |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Pastor / Lay Reader | Martin Klink | Michaëlle Brayshaw | Peter Schmidt | Pastor Adam |
| Lesson Reader | Elaine Hausler | Bernie Weidner | Jenny Henseleit | |
| Ushers | Peter & Patricia Schmidt | Peter & Patricia Schmidt | Michael Fraser | |
| Powerpoint | Bernie Weidner | Peter Ricketts | Rod Krenske | |
| Lead Musician | Sharon Beck | Sharon Beck | Sharon Beck | |
| Church Cleaning | Bernie & Marianne Weidner | | Jenny Cook | |
| 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

Live Streaming at Trinity

We continue to work to bring a live stream to those across the region. We have not yet been able to do this reliably. Once we get this working, you can find live streams at the following address:

<https://www.youtube.com/@cairnsutheranlive/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 - Isaac Strickland, Secretary - Kathy Tidmarsh, Treasurer - April Strickland.

Parish Council: Chairperson - Isaac 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.