



**LUTHERAN  
CHURCH**

OF AUSTRALIA

*where love  
comes to life*

# OUR DIRECTION 2018–2024

## SUMMARY

*We work together in bringing to life  
the Objects of the Church*



## OUR MISSION

*God grows us as his people to a mature faith in Christ – a faith that comes to life through effective witness and ministry, so that people everywhere may know Christ and his love.*

## OUR VISION

*Our vision is to see God's love in Christ coming to life in people everywhere through a Lutheran Church that joyfully receives, lives and shares the gospel (cf 1 John 4:9-12)*

## OUR VALUES

Through faith in Christ, by the work of the Holy Spirit we are:

### **Shaped by the gospel of grace**

- as an undeserved gift from God
- as a life-changing and life-giving word
- in equipping us for action

### **Blessed by relationships**

- in service to each other
- in respect for each others' gifts
- in witness to our communities and the world

### **United by Christ**

- in our confession of faith
- in working together and sharing resources
- Inspired by compassion
- in actions and words
- favouring people who are poor and those who are marginalised

### **Marked by integrity**

- for effective witness
- for excellence in service
- for stewardship of God's gifts

# OUR PRIORITIES

## 1. Grow as God's People

- 1.1 Support a passionate faith in individuals, families and communities shaped by a growing understanding of God's word, nurtured and sustained in prayer and worship
- 1.2 Encourage worship that recognises people receive and respond to God's grace in different ways
- 1.3 Equip people for mission and ministry in the church, local communities and the wider world
- 1.4 Raise the awareness in our communities of issues facing Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and grow their meaningful participation in the life and mission of the church
- 1.5 Protect and uphold the dignity of people, especially children and the vulnerable, to lead lives in peace and safety

## 2. Go as God's People

- 2.1 Strengthen a missional culture where individuals, families and communities are inspired, passionate and active in sharing the gospel
- 2.2 Encourage strong missional-oriented leadership by supporting pastors, lay workers and other leaders to be effective ministers of Christ in a changing world
- 2.3 Support collaborative, missional-oriented approaches in changed and changing mission fields
- 2.4 Seek and grow new mission fields, working in partnership across the church and others that share our values
- 2.5 Support existing communities to be active in mission
- 2.6 Encourage continued support for overseas ministries carried out through effective church-to-church partnerships

## 3. Enable us to Grow and Go

### 3.1 Governance

- 3.1.1 Strengthen governance at all levels, clarify accountabilities and ensure appropriate support
- 3.1.2 Improve governance structures and the relationships between all parts of the church, including districts, schools, aged care and community service organisations

### 3.2 Engagement and Communications

- 3.2.1 Support greater engagement with local communities to assist churchwide services to be responsive to their needs
- 3.2.2 Support church ministries to effectively use diverse media to inspire and equip individuals, families and communities to grow and go
- 3.2.3 Encourage local communities so that they feel valued, united and hopeful within their wider church family
- 3.2.4 Deepen collaboration between the ministries of the church to achieve integrated and effective communications and engagement across the church

### 3.3 Assets and Resources

- 3.3.1 Enhance care of our people, especially church workers and their families
- 3.3.2 Improve the use of our assets and resources that releases support to mission and ministry
- 3.3.3 Enhance stewardship of our assets and resources
- 3.3.4 Encourage greater support for the work of the church using innovative approaches

This is how God showed  
his love among us:  
He sent his one and only  
Son into the world that we  
might live through him . . .  
No-one has ever seen God;  
but if we love one another,  
God lives in us and his love  
is made complete in us  
(1 John 4: 9,12).



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