



minutes



Nineteenth

General Convention of Synod

» Rosehill, New South Wales

» 2-7 October

2018



**19TH GENERAL
CONVENTION OF SYNOD**

LUTHERAN CHURCH OF AUSTRALIA

Rosehill Gardens NSW
2-7 October 2018

Our General Synod logo was inspired by the journey of the Israelites, recorded in the book of Exodus. With every step of faith they took towards freedom and future – through good times and bad, in obedience or rebellion – they were held safely in the hands of God. As are we.

CONTENTS

A. SPIRITUAL LIFE AT CONVENTION	1
1. Daily worship services	1
2. Convention theme – faith freedom future	2
3. Chaplain program	2
4. Convention dinner	2
5. Synod offering	2
B. ROLL CALL OF GENERAL SYNOD DELEGATES	3
C. BUSINESS OF CONVENTION	13
1. PRELIMINARIES	13
1.1 Formal constitution of Convention	13
1.2 Endorsements	13
1.2.1 Minute Secretaries	13
1.2.2 Head Teller	13
1.2.3 Communications Officers	13
1.2.4 Committee for Verification of Minutes	13
1.2.5 Electoral Committee	13
1.2.6 Welcome to Convention	13
1.2.7 Civic Welcome	13
1.2.8 Roll Call and Apologies	15
1.2.9 Greetings	16
1.2.10 Receive reports	16
1.2.11 Late Proposals for acceptance	16
1.2.12 Introductions	16
1.2.13 Acclamations	17
2. ADMINISTRATION AND PASTORAL	17
2.1 Office of the Bishop	17
2.1.1 Report: LCA Bishop	17
2.1.2 Report: General Church Council	17
2.1.2 Report: General Pastors Conference Advice to Synod	17
2.2 Proposals from LCA Boards and Commissions	17
2.2.1 Governing Bodies	17
2.2.2 National Functions	22
2.2.3 Ordination of Women and Men	33
2.2.4 The practice of holy communion and infants	34
2.2.5 Membership of the International Lutheran Council and the Lutheran World Federation	35
2.2.6 Review of Professional Standards Department	35
2.2.7 Lutheran Education Australia review	36
2.2.8 Reconciliation Action Plan	39
2.2.9 'Our Direction 2018–2024'	39
2.2.10 Establishment of Lutheran Earth Care Australia and New Zealand	40
2.2.11 LCA committees and commissions to have one member under 30 by 2022	40
2.2.12 Appointment of auditor	40

2.2.13	Introduction of Christian Care Sunday	40
2.2.14	Recognising and continuing the 'Hidden Hurts Healing Hearts' campaign	40
2.2.15	Expansion of 'New Home New Community New Hope' training project.....	40
2.2.16	Australian Lutheran College constitution	40
2.3	Proposals from LCA Districts and Congregations.....	56
2.3.1	Ordination of both women and men.....	56
2.3.2	The theological basis for the ordination of women and men.....	56
2.3.3	The theological basis for why the ordination of women and men need not be divisive.....	56
2.3.4	The theological basis for the ordination of men only	57
2.3.5	No further amendments to Theses of Agreement on ordination of women regarding the office of the ministry.....	57
2.3.6	The practice of holy communion and infants	57
2.3.7	Membership of the International Lutheran Council.....	57
2.3.8	Membership of the Lutheran World Federation	57
2.3.9	Changes to the LCA voting system.....	58
2.3.10	Request for a review of the Professional Standards Department	58
2.3.11	Change of interpretation of complaint procedures	58
2.3.12	Ensure every effort is made to bring reconciliation and resolution before referral to the Tribunal.....	58
2.3.13	Adoption of a congregation risk assessment program.....	58
2.3.14	Examination of avenues to provide a pastoral support body	59
2.3.15	Provide support to pastors and church workers who appear before the Tribunal.....	59
2.3.16	Make available the use of child protection training from other denominations.....	59
2.3.17	Recognition of Aboriginal members	59
2.3.18	Change the name of the church to Lutheran Church of Australia and New Zealand	59
2.3.19	College of Bishops to address the serious shortage of pastors.....	59
2.3.20	Dispensing with the title of 'Bishop'	59
2.3.21	Mark the 500 th anniversary of the Reformation.....	60
2.3.22	Changes to the LCA national structure to be halted	60
2.4	Constitution Matters	60
2.4.1	Report: Standing Committee on Constitutions	60
2.4.2	Constitutional changes: ACNC Requirements	60
2.4.3	Constitutional changes: Alternate lay delegates	65
2.4.4	Constitutional changes: Change council to board.....	65
2.4.5	Constitutional changes: Care for children and the vulnerable	66
2.4.6	Constitutional changes: Care for children and the vulnerable - Congregation	67
2.4.7	Constitutional changes: Consultant right to speak	68
2.4.8	Constitutional changes: Funds removal from by-laws.....	68
2.4.9	Constitutional changes: General Synod composition.....	68
2.4.10	Constitutional changes: Interpretation	69

2.4.11	Constitutional changes: Judicial system.....	70
2.4.12	Constitutional changes: Lay worker section	71
2.4.13	Constitutional changes: Determinations of majority	72
2.4.14	Constitutional changes: Membership	74
2.4.15	Constitutional changes: Model for a parish	75
2.4.16	Constitutional changes: Pastors Conference.....	76
2.4.17	Constitutional changes: Pastors' Transfer and Support Fund	76
2.4.18	Constitutional changes: Student Fund	76
2.4.19	Constitutional changes: Vicarage Trust Fund.....	77
2.5	Pastoral Ministry	77
2.5.1	Report: Board for Support of Pastoral Ministry	77
2.6	Nominations Committee	77
2.6.1	Report: Standing Committee on Nominations	77
2.7	Suomi Conference.....	77
2.7.1	Report: Suomi Conference.....	77
3.	CHILD, YOUTH AND FAMILY MINISTRY.....	77
3.1	Report: Committee for Children, Youth and Family Ministry	77
3.2	Financial Report: Committee for Children, Youth and Family Ministry.....	77
4.	INTERNATIONAL MISSION.....	77
4.1	Report: Board for Mission	77
4.2	Financial Report: Board for Mission	77
4.3	Financial Report: Lutheran Bible Translators Australia.....	77
5.	LOCAL MISSION.....	77
5.1	Report: Board for Local Mission	77
5.2	Financial Report: Board for Local Mission.....	77
6.	THEOLOGY.....	78
6.1	Report: Commission on Theology and Inter-Church Relations (CTICR).....	78
6.2	CTICR: A theological basis for the ordination of women and men – Draft Doctrinal Statement.....	78
6.3	CTICR: A theological basis for why the ordination of women and men need not be church divisive.....	78
6.4	CTICR: Domestic Violence Taskforce report.....	78
7.	SOCIAL QUESTIONS.....	78
7.1	Report: Commission on Social and Bioethical Questions.....	78
7.2	Report: Lutherans for Life	78
8.	WORSHIP.....	78
8.1	Report: Commission on Worship	78
9.	MEDIA MINISTRY.....	78
9.1	Report: Board for Media Ministry	78
9.2	Financial Report: Board for Media Ministry.....	78
10.	AUSTRALIAN LUTHERAN COLLEGE.....	78
10.1	Report: Board of Australian Lutheran College	78
10.2	Financial Report: Australian Lutheran College Ltd.....	78
10.3	Financial Report: LCA Student Assistance Fund	78
11.	LUTHERAN EDUCATION	79
11.1	Report: Lutheran Education Australia Ltd.....	79

11.2	Lutheran Education Australia: Key data and statistics	79
11.3	Financial Report: Lutheran Education Australia Ltd	79
11.4	Review: Lutheran Education in Australia (BLEA/GCC)	79
12.	ABORIGINAL MINISTRY	79
12.1	Report: Finke River Mission Board	79
12.2	Financial Report: Finke River Mission Board	79
13.	WORLD SERVICE	79
13.1	Report: Australian Lutheran World Service	79
13.2	Financial Report: Australian Lutheran World Service	79
14.	GENERAL FINANCE	79
14.1	Report: Finance, Audit and Risk Committee	79
14.2	Financial Report: Lutheran Church of Australia Inc.....	79
14.3	Financial Report: LCA Subscriptions	79
14.4	Report: Loan Management Committee.....	79
14.5	Report: Commission on Salaries.....	79
14.6	Report: Lutheran Laypeople's League Financial Report: Lutheran Laypeople's League	79
14.7	Financial Report: LCA Provident Fund	79
14.8	Financial Report: LCA Pension Fund	79
14.9	Financial Report: LCA Pastors Transfer and Support Fund	79
14.10	Financial Report: LCA Levy Fund	79
14.11	Financial Report: LCA Car Grant Fund.....	79
14.12	Financial Report: LCA Insurance Fund.....	79
14.13	Report: LCA Nominees Pty Ltd ATF Lutheran Super	79
15.	AUXILIARIES.....	79
15.1	Report: Lutheran Men of Australia.....	79
15.2	Report: Lutheran Nurses Association of Australia.....	79
15.3	Report: Lutheran Women of Australia	79
16.	ELECTIONS OF OFFICIALS AND GENERAL CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBERS	80
16.1	Election of Bishop	80
16.2	Election of Assistant Bishop	80
16.3	Election of General Church Board.....	80
17.	BOARDS PARTIALLY ELECTED BY SYNOD.....	80
18.	CLOSING FORMALITIES.....	80
18.1	Next Convention	80
18.2	Vote of thanks	80
18.3	Unfinished Business	81
18.4	Close of Convention.....	81

A. SPIRITUAL LIFE AT CONVENTION

1. DAILY WORSHIP SERVICES

Tuesday 2 October 2018 – Opening Service

Presider: Rev John Henderson, Bishop

Text: Exodus 3:1-10

Liturgist: Rev Dr Andrew Pfeiffer, Assistant Bishop

Wednesday 3 October 2018

Presider: Rev Paul Smith, LCA Queensland District Bishop

Text: Exodus 12:1-13

Liturgist: Rev David Schmidt, LCA QD District Mission and Ministry Director

Installation of chaplains

In Memoriam Service

Church servants who have died during the last synodical term were:

PASTORS: Fred Kummerow (2015), Ern Heyne (2015), Konrad Hartmann (2015), Roger Munchenberg (2016), David Siegle (2016), Rufus Pech (2016), Martin Schulz (2016), Rick Zweck (2016), Tommy David (2016), Edmund Bilney (2016), Jimmy Haines (2016), Horst Gesswein (2017), Alan Dahms (2017), Russell Weier (2017), John Renner (2017), Ian Zweck (2017), Clem Schmidt (2017), Eric Liebelt (2017), Les Grope (2018), David Larsen (2018), Keith Scholz (2018), Bill Fry (2018), Djala Kurkara Andrews (2018), Gunther Bayha (2018), Kevin Schmidt (2018), Carl Dohler (2018), Reg Kotzur (2018), David Stolz (2018), Erich Riedel (2018), Charlie Chirrup (2018), Hezekiel Jingoona (2018), Max Stollznow (2018), Terry Natt (2018)

PASTORS WIVES: Dorothy Tschärke (2015), Thelma Mayer (2016), Maria Hebart-Herrmann (2016), Betty Adler (2016), Margaret Zanker (2016), Doris Bryant (2016), Nancy Wenke (2016), Christa Gerhardy (2016), Vida Liebelt (2016,), Viola Harms (2016), Estelle Hempel (2017), Helen Pietsch (2017), Rita Fischer (2017), June Stolz (2017), Ora Pohlner (2017), Theophilia Philippi (2017), Wendy Szabo (2018), Hilda Leske (2018), Joyce Gierus (2018), Margarete Auricht (2018)

LAY PEOPLE: Jim (O. J.) Janetzki (2015), Neil Reichelt (2015), Alison Cox (2016), Jeff Harman (2017), Ivan Vonhoff (2017), Lilian Stephan (2017), Melva Hall (2017), Robert Eckermann (2017), Harold Altus (2017), Mark Grieshaber (2017), Roy McIvor (2018)

Thursday 4 October 2018

Presider: Rev David Altus, LCA South Australia and Northern Territory District Bishop

Text: Exodus 13:17-22

Liturgist: Rev Stephen Schulz, LCA SA/NT District Assistant Bishop and Mission Director

Friday 5 October 2018

Presider: Rev Mark Whitfield, Lutheran Church of New Zealand District Bishop

Text: Exodus 14:21-31

Liturgist: Rev Mike Fulwood, LCA Western Australia District Bishop; and

Saturday 6 October 2018

Presider: Rev Lester Priebbenow, LCA Victoria District Bishop

Text: Exodus 19:1-6

Liturgist: Rev Brett Kennett, LCA Vic Mission Director

Sunday 7 October 2018 - Closing Service

Presider: Rev John Henderson, Bishop

Text: Exodus 29:38-46

Liturgist: Rev James Haak, LCA New South Wales District Bishop

Installation of the General Church Board

Installation of Bishop

Installation of Assistant Bishop

2. CONVENTION THEME – FAITH FREEDOM FUTURE

The General Convention of Synod logo and theme – *faith freedom future* – was inspired by the journey of the Israelites, recorded in the book of Exodus. With every step of faith they took towards freedom and future – through good times and bad, in obedience or in rebellion – they were held safely in the hands of God. As are we.

3. CHAPLAIN PROGRAM

This year's General Convention of Synod continued a programme with floor and prayer chaplains both ordained and lay were available to provide pastoral care and spiritual support for delegates and visitors.

4. CONVENTION DINNER

The Convention Dinner was hosted by LCA New South Wales District.

The guest speaker was Dr Tania Nelson who is the LCA Executive Officer – Local Mission. Tania interviewed a number of people representing congregations and parishes in the New South Wales District who are participating in the LCA New and Renewing Churches program for sending and planting churches.

5. SYNOD OFFERING

The Synod offering \$35,985.65 was received and will be directed to the LCA Disaster and Welfare Fund for the 2018 drought appeal.

B. ROLL CALL OF GENERAL SYNOD DELEGATES

^ Alternate for general Synod delegate who is unable to attend

* Apology given or absent

GENERAL CHURCH COUNCIL

Bishop	John	Henderson
Assistant Bishop	Andrew	Pfeiffer
Secretary of the Church	Neville	Otto
New South Wales Bishop	James	Haak
Queensland Bishop	Paul	Smith
South Australia/Northern Territory Bishop	David	Altus
Victoria Bishop	Lester	Priebbenow
New South Wales Lay Representative	Peter	Zweck
Queensland Lay Representative	Michael	Stolz
South Australia/Northern Territory Lay Representative	Mel	Zerner
Western Australia Lay Representative	Volker	Hopfmueeller
New Zealand Lay Representative	Jill	Hobden
Victoria Lay Representative	Tim	Wiebusch*
Lay Member at Large	Faye	Schmidt
Pastor Member at Large	Greg	Priebbenow

CHAIRPERSONS OF LCA BOARDS

Chair – Local Mission	Monika	Tropiano
Chair – Lutheran Education Australia	Neville	Highett
Chair – Lutheran Media	Ben	Hentschke
Chair – International Mission	Anita	Synnott
Chair – Support to Pastoral Ministry	David	Eckermann
Chair – Australian Lutheran College	David	Gogoll
Chair – Commission on Social and Bioethical Questions	Tanya	Wittwer
Chair – Commission on Theology and Inter-Church Relations	Jeff	Silcock
Chair – Finke River Mission	Tim	Stollznnow
Chair – Lutheran Aged Care	Gordon	Wegener
Chair – Commission on Worship	Adrian	Kitson
Chair – Standing Committee on Constitutions	David	Dreckow
Chair – Standing Committee on Nominations	Jill	Hobden
Chair – Commission on Salaries	Ray	Pietsch*
Chair – Lutheran Archives	Everard	Leske
Chair – Lutheran Laypeople's League	Graeme	Huf
Chair – Grow Ministries	Paula	Nitschke*
Chair – Loan Management Committee	Colin	Schultz*

EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

EO - Lutheran Archives
EO - Lutheran Education Australia
EO - Grow Ministries
EO - International Mission
EO - Local Mission
EO - Lutheran Media
EO – Suomi conference
Executive Officer of the Church
Principal Australian Lutheran College

Rachel	Kuchel
Stephen	Rudolph
Jodi	Brook
Glenice	Hartwich
Tania	Nelson
Richard	Fox
Ian	Vainikka
Peter	Schirmer
James	Winderlich

LUTHERAN EDUCATION PRINCIPALS

Principal - LEQ
Principal - LEQ
Principal - LESNW
Principal - LESNW
Principal - LEVNT
Principal - LEVNT

Tanya	Crooks
Jodie	Hoff
Rachel	Boyce
Mark	Rathjen
Simon	Hughes
Greg	Schneider

BISHOPS NOT ON GENERAL CHURCH COUNCIL

New Zealand Bishop
Western Australian Bishop

Mark	Whitfield
Michael	Fulwood

PARISH LAY DELEGATES

New Zealand

Auckland Mountainside
Auckland Botany Chinese
Christchurch St Pauls
Hamilton St Matthew

Ray	Meharg
David	Pang*
Andrew	Mattiske
Cheryl	Hull*
Royce	Green^
Johanna	Wood^
Pauline	Simonsen

Hawkes Bay Parish
Manawatu Parish
Marton St Martins
Upper Moutere Parish
Wairarapa Parish
Wanganui St John
Wellington St Pauls

Tessa	Werner
Bruce	Farley*
Paul	Argyle^
Robert	Nippert

New South Wales

Albury St Lukes
Bankstown-Liverpool
Belconnen Holy Cross
Burrumbuttock
Campbelltown Good Shepherd
Canberra Holy Trinity Finnish

John	McClelland
Gillian	Brooks
Tony	Brandenstein
Alison	Viedt
Barbara	Weber
Sirpa	Sarimaa-Knight*

Canberra-Queanbeyan
 Central Coast St Matthews
 Central West
 Coffs Harbour Peace
 Cooma
 Epping LifeWay
 Gilgandra-Dubbo

Gunnedah Tamworth
 Henty Parish
 Illawarra and South Coast
 Lavington Parish
 Leeton-Griffith
 Narraweena Redeemer
 Port Macquarie St Peters
 Springwood Our Saviour
 St Marys St Pauls
 Sutherland Good Shepherd
 Sydney Finnish
 Sydney Indonesian
 Sydney St Pauls
 Temora

Tuggeranong Good Shepherd
 Wagga Wagga
 Walla Walla

Woden Valley Immanuel
 West Wyalong

Queensland

Alberton
 Ashmore Trinity
 Beau-Logan Parish

Beenleigh Bethesda
 Bethania Congregation
 Biloela Parish
 Brassall St Marks
 Brisbane City St Andrews
 Buderim
 Bundaberg Parish
 Caboolture St Pauls
 Cairns
 Caloundra St Marks
 Corinda St Johns

Barney
 Alan
 Cindy
 Bruce
 Bahnert
 Waterson
 Harrison
 Hohnberg^{^*}

Sabina
 Bruce
 Rehab
 Peter
 Leticia
 Martin
 Jean
 Charmain
 René
 David
 Robert
 Martin
 Alison
 Tuula
 Trina
 Bruce
 Dale
 Roslyn
 Thea
 Max
 Andrew
 Don
 David
 Jan
 Pichler
 Altmann*
 Adam[^]
 Madirazza*
 O'Brien
 Rowney*
 Klier
 Lieschke
 Tol
 Pfeiffer
 Brown
 Vanags
 Short
 Kuusela
 Supit
 Arnold
 Wincke*
 Hartwig[^]
 Weber
 Lieschke
 Kotzur*
 Walkley[^]
 Menzel
 Doecke*

Indy
 Rob
 Shirley
 Helen
 Symon
 Ian
 Jenni
 Newell
 Braunack
 Hardke*
 Burger[^]
 Scheiwe
 Marks
 Krenske

Owen
 Stephen
 John
 Felicia
 Martin
 Darryl
 Angela
 Dixon
 Muller
 Dwyer
 Neldner
 Klink
 Hill*
 Mayer

Crows Nest
 Eight Mile Plains
 Emerald
 Everton Hills Prince of Peace
 Fassifern
 Gladstone St Martins
 Glasshouse Country Calvary
 Gold Coast (Tallebudgera) St Andrews
 Goombungee-Maclagan
 Gympie Zion
 Hervey Bay St James
 Highfields Christ Church
 Hope Vale
 Indooroopilly St Peters
 Ingham-Mission Beach
 Ipswich
 Lockyer Valley

Lowood
 Mackay District
 Maryborough-Childers
 Middle Park Good News
 Moree
 Mount Gravatt St Marks
 Mount Isa
 Murrumba Downs Living Faith
 Nambour Parish
 Noosa Good Shepherd
 Northern Rivers
 Nundah St Pauls
 Oakey
 Pittsworth Parish

Redcliffe Grace
 Redlands
 Rochedale Our Saviour
 Rockhampton
 Rosewood District Parish

South Burnett Parish
 South West Queensland
 Southport Trinity

South Burnett Parish
 Tingalpa-Mt Cotton

Dale	Pukallus^
Barry	Noller
Colin	Pukallus*
Sharryn	Cook
Greg	Harmer*
Neville	Gersch
Marilyn	Jonas
Judy	Hembrow
Judy	Hartwig
Liz	Winderlich^
Cecilie	Koch
Mal	Maroske
Bruce	Gibson*
Bruce	Lockwood
Tuula	Contarino
Phil	Mibus
David	Klinge
Shirley	Klinge
Erich	Hammer
Kathy	Matuschka
Andrew	Spyropoulos
Laurie	Iso-Aho*
Jane	Mueller
Corinna	Schimak
Stephen	Wenke
Michael	Klatt
Mark	Carter
Richard	Pietsch*
Tracy	Pukallus^
Keith	Schultz
Garry	Hauser
David	Simpfendorfer
Bruce	Krenske*
Janey	Krause*
Andrew	Schulz^
John	Petersen
Wayne	Horrigan
Genthur	Nembach*
John	Niebling^
Scott	Campbell*
Ross	Warbrooke

Toowoomba Cornerstone
 Toowoomba Emmanuel Fellowship
 Toowoomba Good Shepherd
 Toowoomba Redeemer
 Toowoomba St Pauls
 Townsville
 Wilsonton-Glencoe Parish
 Woolloongabba Nazareth Finnish
 Woolloongabba Nazareth

South Australia and Northern Territory

Aberfoyle Park Our Saviour
 Adelaide Bethlehem

Adelaide Deaf Community

Adelaide St Stephens
 Alice Springs
 Angaston
 Balaklava
 Barmera-New Residence
 Barossa North

Berri
 Bethany-Tabor

Birdwood Holy Cross
 Blackwood St Peters
 Blair Athol St Paul
 Bordertown
 Bridgewater Grace
 Broken Hill
 Carlsruhe-Saddleworth
 Ceduna
 Central-Eyre
 Cleve
 Coonalpyn

Cummins
 Darwin Top End
 Dernancourt St Johns
 Elizabeth St Peters
 Eudunda-Robertstown

Shirl Ciesiolka
 Anita Short
 Natalie Blackwell
 Chaseley Lamerton
 Trevor Winderlich^
 Matt Wuerschling
 Bruce Kucks
 Leena Vuorinen
 Eric Parups

Andrew Venning
 Matthew Buck
 David Quast
 Gertraude Prenzler*
 Michael Prenzler^
 Colleen Fitzpatrick
 Kym Ritchie
 Gil Reimann
 Jarrad Thiele
 Bill Haby
 Robert Leigh
 Joan Schiller
 Trevor Ziersch
 Lynette Nitschke
 Graham Semmler
 Kelly Mathews
 Margaret Modra
 Isaac Falkenberg
 Bruce Hunt
 Mark Christian

Judy Hollamby
 Judy Gregory*
 Kingsley Scholz*
 Trudy McNicol
 Jonathan Pietzsch*
 Tara Modra^
 Katy Agnew
 Lynne Pokela
 Merv Wagner
 Brenton Chomel
 Philip Roocke*
 Dagmar Roocke*
 Andrew Ruediger^
 Renae Ruediger^

Ferryden Park St Paul's
 Finke River Mission
 Freeling
 Fullarton St Peters
 Gawler Multi-Site
 Glandore-Underdale Parish
 Glenelg St Paul
 Glynde St Andrews
 Glynde Zion
 Golden Grove
 Goolwa Redeemer
 Greenock
 Hahndorf St Michaels
 Hahndorf St Pauls
 Hallett Cove Good Shepherd
 Hampstead Holy Trinity
 Hope Valley Trinity
 Kangaroo Island
 Kapunda
 Kingston SE
 Lameroo
 Lobethal
 Loxton
 Loxton St Peters
 Lyndoch
 Magill Pilgrim
 Maitland
 Mawson Lakes
 McLaren Vale St Pauls
 Mid Murray
 Mid North

Morphett Vale

Mount Barker St Mark
 Mount Compass St John
 Mount Gambier St Martins
 Murray Bridge Christ Church
 Murray Bridge Holy Cross
 Naracoorte
 North Adelaide Immanuel
 Novar Gardens Immanuel
 Nuriootpa St Petri

Onkaparinga

Marilyn	Wall
Marion	Swift
Janine	Panagiotou
Craig	Hall
Valerie	Mew
Phil	Minge
Claire	Kleinig
Irwin	Traeger
Helene	Schulz
Rosalie	Hoklas
Tony	Carbone
Margaret	Koch
Neville	Fishlock
Betty	Kent
Martin	Schumacher
Mark	Kleinig
Keith	Kroehn
Lynlee	Heinrich
Gary	Schmidt*
Greg	Vangsness
Tracey	Woldt
Craig	Lieschke
Lyndon	Hampel
Kelvin	Burgemeister
Graeme	Heinrich
Mark	Schubert
John	Meier
Sian	Zimmer
Rosalie	Eckert
Geoff	Gellert
Kym	Dreckow

Matthew	Wingrave*
Mary	Freund^
Christine	Lockwood

Anna	Kerber
Delton	Schiller
Meredith	Page
Bernie	Pfitzner
Wendy	Mayer
Trevor	Hartmann
Greg	Edwards
Rosie	Edwards
Iris	Gladigau

Para Vista Good Shepherd
 Paringa Holy Cross
 Pasadena Trinity
 Penrice Salem
 Pinnaroo
 Port Adelaide-Woodville

Port Lincoln
 Port Pirie
 Roxby Downs
 Renmark St Johns Trinity
 Salisbury
 Seaford
 Southern Yorke Peninsula
 Southern Flinders Parish
 Strathalbyn
 Swan Reach
 Tailem Bend Parish
 Tanunda Langmeil
 Tanunda Lutheran Homes
 Tanunda St Johns
 Tanunda St Pauls
 Tea Tree Gully St Johns
 Unley St Johns

Victor Harbor
 Waikerie
 Warradale Faith
 Whyalla
 Yalata

Victoria (including Tasmania)

Ballarat St Johns
 Bendigo
 Box Hill St Pauls
 Doncaster-Ivanhoe
 Footscray St Matthew
 Geelong
 Gippsland
 Goulburn Murray
 Grampians
 Greensborough
 Grovedale
 Hamilton
 Hobart St Peters
 Horsham

Robyn Oatey
 Barry Schier
 Colin Hayter
 Malcolm Fechner*
 Darren Heintze
 Joan Grosse*
 Avito da Costa^
 Geraldine Avent
 David Burger

Dennis Hentschke
 John Zeppel
 Geoff Lienert

Yvonne Woidt
 Malcolm Twartz
 Alan Reynolds
 Russell Norman
 Everard Leske
 Ray Giersch*
 Sue Fuller
 Jana Baikova
 Leanne Latz
 Neil Lutz
 Karen Tromans
 Vic Walter
 Jeff Kalisch
 David Filsell
 Keith Sichler
 Lindsay Thomas*

Gerald Jenzen
 John Leach
 Anthony Schulz
 Alan Senior
 Helen Semmler
 Amos Hedt
 David Mirtschin
 Kathleen Mills
 Annie Gellert
 Devon Dutschke
 Mike Dillon
 Steve Liebelt
 Sonia Weidenbach
 Noel Janetzk

Laverton Christ the Lords Slovak Congregation	Betty	Janetzki
Melbourne Finnish	Risto	Soder
Melbourne Hungarian		
Melbourne North West	Sandra	Wakeling
Melbourne Outer Eastern	Sabine	Haeusler
Melbourne South Eastern		
Melbourne Trinity Chinese	Benjamin	Chan*
Melbourne St Johns Southgate	Eleanor	Long
Mildura	Helen	Zibell
Minyip-Warracknabeal	Gillian	Heintze
Moorabbin-Dandenong	Jenny	Pietsch
Murtoa St Johns	Dennis	Schorback
Natimuk	Peter	Tischler
Nhill	Jo	Werner
North Geelong Our Redeemer	Libby	Jewson
North Tasmania	JoAnn	Ebdon
Nunawading-Waverley	Merrilyn	Beaumont
Portland-Heywood	Carrissa	Williams*
	Sue	Mibus^
Rainbow	Karen	Koning
Ringwood-Knox	Judy	Bowman
Rosebud Bethany	John	Kuchel*
Swan Hill St Pauls	Lyn	Scott*
	Kim	Baumeler^
Tabor	Barry	Linke
Tarrington Parish	Gavin	Bensch
Wangaratta	Brian	Grosser*
Warrnambool	Geoff	Nuske
Wodonga	Carolyn	Kiss
Wyndham-Hobsons Bay	Yoki	Riedel
Western Australia		
Albany St Pauls	Judith	Pech*
	Roslyn	Zadow^
Canna		
Dalyellup Ocean Forest	Murray	Pfitzner*
	Narelle	Fulwood^
Duncraig Concordia	Lester	Dreckow*
Duncraig Concordia	Graeme	Lienert^
Esperance-Kalgoorlie-Boulder	Peter	Hoffrichter*
	Bernadette	Pokela^
Geraldton Hope	Joanne	Klein
Katanning-Narrogin	Ray	Kowald
Morley Bethlehem	Chris	Kuchel
Parkwood St Lukes	Manuela	Scharlach

Perth Grace Chinese
Perth St Johns

Richard Yeo
Monica Bodenstaff

PASTOR DELEGATES

Australian Lutheran College

Dr Stephen Haar
Andrew Jaensch

Dr Adam Hensley
Thomas Pietsch

Dr Stephen Hultgren
Dr Stephen Pietsch

Past Presidents

Dr Michael Semmler

Dr Lance Steicke*

Emeriti

Dr John Kleinig

Dr Greg Lockwood

Dr Peter Lockwood

New Zealand

William Chang

Jim Pietsch

New South Wales

Robert Bartholomaeus
Joseph Graham
Stuart Kleinig
Dan Mueller
Mark Schultz
Allan Taruste

Mat Eckermann
Paul Hannola
Kim Kuchel
Janne Pekkarinen
Richard Schwedes
David Grulke*

Christian Fandrich
Darren Jaensch
Darren Kupke
Michael Rudolph
Kees Sturm

Queensland

Michael Alfson
Mark Brinkmann
Adam Eime
Mark Gierus
Ben Hentschke
Michael Lockwood
Mark Nitschke
Lionel Rohrlach
Matthew Schultz
Robin Stelzer
Tommi Vuorinen

Brenton Altmann
Noel Burton
Peter Faggotter
Mark Hampel
Tim Jarick
Michael Mayer
Ray Pace
Greg Schiller
David Schuppan
Matt Thiele
Matthew Wilksch

Mark Blackwell
Stephen Cronau
Wayne George*
Mark Hansen
Michael Jarick
Mike Neldner
Matthias Prenzler
David Schmidt
Kevin Spilsbury
Mark Vainikka
Dirk Willner

South Australia and Northern Territory

Valdis Andersons
Rob Borgas
Joel Cramer
Dale Gosden
Geoff Havelberg
Adrian Kitson
Peter Klemm
Andy Kowald

Andrew Bettison
Andrew Brook
Noel Due
Greg Graham
Graham Jenke*
Fin Klein
Timothy Koch
Lee Kroehn

Wayne Boehm
Gunters Baikovs
Tim Ebbs
Paul Hage
Mark Kaesler
Tim Klein
Darrin Kohrt
Geoffrey Kuchel

David Kuss
 Reid Matthias
 Dean Mills
 Ben Pfeiffer
 Dan Rooney
 Jason Sander
 Ken Schultz
 Luke Spilsbury
 Andrew Vanderwal
 Peter Ziersch

Ian Lutze
 Keith McNicol
 Greg Page
 Joshua Pfeiffer
 Nigel Rosenzweig
 Wally Schiller
 Stephen Schultz
 John Strelan
 Kevin Wood

Chris Mann
 Peter Miller
 Fraser Pearce
 Mike Pietsch
 Andrew Ruddell
 Rob Schubert
 Murray Smith
 Peter Traeger
 Robin Zadow

Victoria (including Tasmania)

Matt Anker
 Peter Ghalayini
 Tom Hoffmann
 Joel Klein
 Greg Pietsch
 David Spike*
 Matt Thomas
 Mark Winter

Tony Castle
 Levi Graham
 Brett Kennett
 Greg Koch*
 Geoff Schefe
 Tim Stringer
 David Wear

Sam Davis
 Nathan Hedt
 Mathew Ker
 Sam Modra
 Colin Simpkin
 Richard Taylor
 John Weier

Western Australia

Matt Bishop
 Andre Meyer
 Tony Traeger

Peter Hage
 Jason Pokela

Steve Liersch
 Richard Schulze*

STAFF AND CONSULTANTS PRESENT

LCA Business Manager
 LCA Administration Assistant
 LCA Communications Manager
 LCA Executive Assistant to the Bishop
 Editor, *The Lutheran*
 Legal Consultant/Parliamentarian
 EO – Lutheran Laypeople's' League
 EO – Australian Lutheran World Service
 Youth consultant – Grow Ministries
 Youth consultant – Grow Ministries
 Youth consultant – Grow Ministries
 Youth consultant – Grow Ministries

Deborah Venz
 Jayne Welke
 Linda Macqueen
 Larissa Helbig
 Lisa McIntosh
 Fred Kleinschmidt
 Allen Kupke
 Jamie Davies
 Joel Grieger
 Matt Schubert
 Eric Marschall
 Noah Hahn

C. BUSINESS OF CONVENTION

1. PRELIMINARIES

1.1 Formal constitution of Convention

Bishop John Henderson declared open the Nineteenth Regular Convention of Synod 2018 at the Opening Service held Rosehill Gardens, Rosehill, NSW on Tuesday 2 October 2018 at 7pm.

1.2 Endorsements

1.2.1 Minute Secretaries

2018:0101 RESOLVED that Convention endorses the appointment of Colin Burnett, Dianne Bergman, Neil Kube, Angela Rogers, Kate Burke and Jayne Welke as Minute Secretaries to Convention of Synod.

1.2.2 Head Teller

2018:0102 RESOLVED that Convention endorse Michael Turner as Head Teller to Convention of Synod.

1.2.3 Communications Officers

2018:0103 RESOLVED that Convention endorses Linda Macqueen, Lisa McIntosh, Rosie Scheffe, David Mau, Anthony Bothe, Andrea Winter and Rev Ben Hentschke as communications officers for Convention of Synod

1.2.4 Committee for Verification of Minutes

2018:0104 RESOLVED that Convention endorses Bruce Lockwood, Helen Burger and Rev Peter Lockwood as the Committee for Verification of Minutes for Convention of Synod

1.2.5 Electoral Committee

2018:0105 RESOLVED that Convention endorses Rev Ray Pace (chairperson), Rev John Weier as pastor members and Angela Rogers, Michelle Shepherd and Michael Turner as lay members of the Electoral Committee.

1.2.6 Welcome to Convention

Bishop John Henderson extended a warm welcome to pastor and lay delegates attending Synod. He further welcomed visitors gathered in the chapel.

1.2.7 Civic Welcome

- Uncle Brice Gale, Dharug elder gave a Welcome to Country.
- Bishop James Haak welcomed delegates to the LCA New South Wales District
- Dr Tania Nelson, LCA Executive Officer for Local Mission welcomed invited guests

- Bishop Jack Urame of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Papua New Guinea greeted the Convention on behalf of partner churches
- The Convention received written greetings from the Prime Minister of Australia, the Right Honourable Scott Morrison
- The Right Honourable Lord Mayor of Parramatta Andrew Wilson welcomed delegates to the City of Parramatta

The following invited guests were present at the Opening Service:

- Bishop Ben Chun Wa Chang of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Hong Kong, representing the Lutheran World Federation
- Rev Dr Albert Collver of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod representing the International Lutheran Council
- Bishop Jessica Crist, Bishop of the Montana Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, representing Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton
- Rev Dr Franklin Ishida, Director for Asia and the Pacific, of the Global Mission Unit of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
- Bishop Daniel Orn, Bishop of the Lutheran Church in Cambodia
- Rev Dr Paul Munthe, General Secretary of the Gereja Kristen Protestan Simalungun in Indonesia
- Elizabeth Stone, Interim General Secretary of the National Council of Churches Australia
- Rev Dr Ray Williamson, President of the NSW Ecumenical Council
- The Most Rev Dr Glenn Davies, Archbishop of the Sydney Diocese of the Anglican Church of Australia
- The Right Rev Dr Tim Harris, Assistant Bishop of the Adelaide Diocese of the Anglican Church of Australia; and
- Dr Geoff Lee, Member of the NSW Legislative Assembly for Parramatta

Apologies were received from the following invited guests:

- His Excellency the Honourable Peter Cosgrove, Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia
- The Hon. Bill Shorten, Leader of the Federal Opposition
- The Hon. Gladys Berejiklian, NSW State Premier
- Mr Luke Foley, NSW Opposition leader
- Ms Julie Owens, Federal member for Parramatta
- Bishop Philip Huggins, President of the National Council of Churches Australia
- Archbishop Denis Hart, President of the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference
- Most Reverend Anthony Fisher, Archbishop of the Catholic Diocese of Sydney;

- Dr Deidre Palmer, Moderator of the Uniting Church in Australia
- Right Reverend Ivan Lee, assistant Bishop of the Anglican Diocese of Sydney for the Western Region; and
- Ms Wies Schuiringa, Vice President of NSW Ecumenical Council

1.2.8 Roll Call and Apologies

LCA Secretary Rev Neville Otto announced that there were 396 delegates registered for convention on Wednesday at the opening business session.

LCA Secretary Rev Neville Otto raised the matter of the appointment of six (6) alternate delegates where a delegate had not previously been appointed. This is not in accordance with the constitution (By Law 7.1.4). In the first instance the six persons were advised that they were not eligible to be delegates and had been given visitor status for the Convention.

A point of order was raised (P437 of Book of Reports) and a proposal presented that the six people ~~to~~ be accepted as duly appointed. The chair disallowed the point of order and the proposal. His ruling was appealed.

Rev John Henderson handed the chair to Assistant Bishop Rev Andrew Pfeiffer to enable the Convention to debate the appeal.

A vote by delegates by show of cards to allow the appeal and include the six alternates as voting delegates to Convention was inconclusive and therefore the tellers were called in to take a count.

The appeal was CARRIED.

Bishop John Henderson returned to the chair.

2018:0106 RESOLVED that Convention of Synod having heard circumstances of appointment of alternate delegates endorse the appointment of Johanna Wood, Redeemer Hawkes Bay Parish, NZ; Paul Argyle, St John Wanganui, NZ; Dale Pukallus, St Lukes Crows Nest Parish, Qld; Elizabeth Winderlich, Zion Gympie, Qld; Trevor Winderlich, St Pauls Toowoomba, Qld; Pr Greg Vangsness, St Johns Kingston SE, SA/NT as Synod delegates.

The motion was CARRIED.

LCA Secretary Rev Neville Otto announced that with the amended roll call was that there were 402 delegates registered. A quorum is 202 (50% plus 1).

Please see list of delegates on pages 3 – 12 of this publication

Secretary of Church Rev Neville Otto listed the following apologies:

- Past President Lance Steicke who is under the care of his doctor and has been advised to rest.
- Tim Wiebusch (GCC) who is overseas.
- President of Lutheran Church of Canada, Timothy Teuscher, who is unable to attend due to all three Districts of Canada holding their Synod this month.

Apologies were also received from:

Darryl Hill, John Kuchel, Rev David Grulke, Rev Wayne George, Judy Gregory, Kingsley Scholz, Malcolm Fechner, Peter Madirazza, Brian Grosser, Greg Koch, Rev Richard Schulze, Greg Harmer, Sirpa Sarimaa-Knight, Lindsay Thomas, Colin Pukallus, Bruce Gibson, Benjamin Chan, Bruce Krenske, Martin Rowney, Ray Giersch, Paula Nitschke, Jan Doecke, Rev David Spike, Lauri Iso-Aho, Lester Dreckow, Gary Schmidt, Bruce Hohnberg, Bruce Altmann, David Pang, Bruce Farley

1.2.9 Greetings

- Bishop Ben Chun Wa Chang (Lutheran Church of Hong Kong) gave a greeting on behalf of Lutheran World Federation
- Rev Dr Albert Collver, Executive Secretary of International Lutheran Council, gave a greeting on behalf of the International Lutheran Council

1.2.10 Receive reports

2018:0107 RESOLVED that Convention receives all reports printed in the Book of Reports as the Boards, Committees and Commissions reports to Convention

1.2.11 Late Proposals for acceptance

No additional late proposals were forthcoming from the floor of Synod.

1.2.12 Introductions

Fred Kleinschmidt (legal consultant appointed by GCC to provide advice on procedural matters) was introduced as a consultant to Synod.

Delegates sought clarification on the relationship between the parliamentarian and the Standing Committee on Constitutions, and the advice was that the parliamentarian was to give advice on procedural matters at Convention.

Executive Director of ALWS	Jamie Davies
Youth consultants	Eric Marschall, Joel Grieger, Noah Hahn (SA) and Matt Schubert (WA)
CEO of LLL	Allen Kupke
Chair of LLL	Graeme Huf
Team leader for Chaplains	Rev Andrew Brook

ADF Chaplains

Pastors Darren Jaensch, Kim Kuchel and
Wally Schiller

Chairperson of the Standing
Committee on Nominations
Chairperson of the Electoral
Committee

Jill Hobden

Rev Ray Pace

1.2.13 Acclamations

- Bishop John Henderson following the presentation of his report.
- Bishop John Henderson on his re-election as Bishop
- Dr Andrew Pfeiffer on his re-election as Assistant Bishop.
- Rev David Eckermann on his last presentation of the Board for Support to Pastoral Ministry
- Peter Zweck on the presentation of the General Church Council report
- Bishop David Altus and Shona Reid on the adoption of the resolution for the LCA to develop and implement a Reconciliation Action Plan
- Bishop John Henderson's thanks to the members of General Church Council who were retiring at the end of the 18th Synod.

2. ADMINISTRATION AND PASTORAL

2.1 Office of the Bishop

2.1.1 Report: LCA Bishop

(See Page 15 of the Book of Reports)

2.1.2 Report: General Church Council

(See Page 25 of the Book of Reports)

2018:0201 RESOLVED that Convention of Synod recognise the work of the Board for Support of Pastoral Ministry.

2.1.2 Report: General Pastors Conference Advice to Synod

(See Page 90 of the Book of Reports)

2.2 Proposals from LCA Boards and Commissions

2.2.1 Governing Bodies

(See Page 95 of the Book of Reports)

A point of order was raised about the sequence of presenting these proposals. The Bishop ruled that the agenda as laid out by General Church Council would continue as planned. The ruling was appealed.

Rev John Henderson handed the chair to Assistant Bishop Rev Andrew Pfeiffer to enable the Convention to discuss the appeal. Delegates voted

to uphold the Chair's ruling. Rev John Henderson resumed chairing the meeting.

The Convention then discussed item 2.3.22 - Changes to the LCA national structure to be halted, but did not proceed with this motion. See Page 60 below. The Convention returned to the agenda.

2018:0201 RESOLVED that **Article 8 Officers and Administration** of the Constitution of the Church be amended to allow for the implementation of the revised governance structure as follows (words to be deleted – ~~strike through~~; words to be added – **bold**):

ARTICLE 8. OFFICERS AND ADMINISTRATION

- 8.1 The Officials of the Church shall be a Bishop and an Assistant Bishop. They shall be elected for a term of office determined by the Church. The Bishop and the Assistant Bishop shall be pastors of the Church.
- 8.2 The Church shall have a Secretary who shall be an executive officer of the Church and shall undertake administrative duties including those normally undertaken by a secretary and treasurer.
- 8.3 8.3.1 The Church shall have a General Church ~~Council~~**Board** which shall consist of
- 8.3.1.1 the Bishop and the Assistant Bishop; **and**
- ~~8.3.1.2 the Bishops of the New South Wales, Queensland, South Australia and Northern Territory, and Victorian Districts of the Church;~~
- ~~8.3.1.3 one [1] lay member from the New South Wales, Queensland, be it resolved Districts of the Church, elected by the Synod of the respective District;~~
- ~~8.3.1.4 one [1] member each from the Western Australia District and the Lutheran Church of New Zealand, who shall be either their Bishop or a lay member; and~~
- ~~8.3.1.5 two [2] members at large elected by the General Synod: one [1] ordained and one [1] lay, unless both the Western Australia District and the Lutheran Church of New Zealand are represented by their Bishop, in which case it shall be two [2] lay members.~~
- 8.3.1.2 **one [1] pastor and six [6] lay members who are voting members of congregations on the Roll of Congregations of the Church and who shall be elected by the General Synod from eligible candidates submitted as nominations from the Standing Committee on Nominations.**
- 8.3.2 The General Church ~~Council~~**Board** shall have authority between the conventions of the General Synod to make decisions within the limits prescribed by the By-laws.
- 8.3.3 The duties of the General Church ~~Council~~**Board** shall be as prescribed by the By-laws.

AND FURTHER RESOLVED that **Section 7.4 Nominations and Elections, Section 7.7 Appointments, Section 8.1 Eligibility and Terms of Office and Section 8.4 The General Church Council** of the By-laws of the Church be amended in consequence of the above amendment to Article 8 to allow for the implementation of the revised governance structure as follows (words to be deleted – ~~strike through~~; words to be added – **bold**):

SECTION 7.4 NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS

Nominations in General to the General Church Board

- 7.4.5 7.4.5.1 ~~Unless otherwise provided for, a~~ Nominations to the convention **for elected positions** shall be made by ~~a standing committee called the LCA Standing Committee on Nominations which shall act in accordance with the rules~~ **procedures** resolved by the Synod and amended from time to time by the Synod ~~or the General Church Council.~~
- 7.4.6 The following provisions shall apply to nominations ~~for any elected office or any position on a board, except in those cases where the right of nomination has been delegated to a particular body:~~
- 7.4.6.1 ~~Persons retiring and eligible for re-election shall indicate their willingness to continue in service as members.~~
- 7.4.6.2 ~~Nominations, indicating the consent of the nominee, may be forwarded by any congregation to the LCA Standing Committee on Nominations.~~
- 7.4.6.3 ~~Suggested nominations may be made by the Bishop of the Church, the Bishop of any District, and by any board of the Church in reference to that board, for consideration by the LCA Standing Committee on Nominations.~~
- 7.4.6.1 **Persons who wish to nominate themselves shall submit a completed nominations form to the Standing Committee on Nominations.**
- 7.4.6.2 **Any congregation or Bishop may submit a nomination, with the consent of the nominee, to the Standing Committee on Nominations.**
- 7.4.6.4.3 ~~The LCA Standing Committee on Nominations at its discretion may list a nominee or nominees for a position on ~~at the~~ ~~the~~ Board in place of or in addition to that position for which the candidate was originally nominated, subject to the nominee's consent and in consultation with the relevant board.~~
- 7.4.7 7.4.7.1 The reading of nominations shall take place after the completion of the elections provided for in the preceding Section 7.4.4.
- 7.4.7.2 At least one session shall elapse before the elections are conducted.
- 7.4.7.3 ~~Where a new office or board is created, or where changes are made to the composition of an existing board, the time of closure for such nominations shall be determined by the Bishop and the elections be held later accordingly.~~

SECTION 7.7 APPOINTMENTS

- 7.7.1 ~~Appointments to boards shall be made by the General Church Council unless otherwise prescribed.~~ **Appointments to boards, councils, commissions and committees shall be made in accordance with the relevant Terms of Reference.**
- 7.7.2 ~~Any nominations which may be required for a position to be filled by appointment shall be submitted to the General Church Council at least four [4] weeks prior to convention.~~ **Eligible nominations for appointment to boards, councils, commissions and committees shall be submitted by the Standing Committee on Nominations to the General Church Board at least three [3] months prior to convention and shall be included in the Book of Nominations for the information of delegates.**
- 7.7.3 ~~The regular appointments to boards shall be made by the General Church Council as soon as feasible after the completion of elections by the General Synod.~~ **The regular appointments to boards, councils, commissions and committees shall be made within two [2] months after the General Synod.**
- 7.7.4 ~~When the rules of a board provide for the appointment of a representative of a corresponding or relevant District Committee the following procedure shall apply:~~
- 7.7.4.1 ~~The respective District Committee, if any, may suggest candidates for consideration by the respective District Church Council.~~
- 7.7.4.2 ~~The District Church Council shall make a nomination and forward this nomination to the Secretary of the Church.~~

~~7.7.4.3 The Secretary of the Church shall notify the next meeting of the General Church Council or its Executive, and upon such notification the position shall be deemed to be filled.~~

SECTION 8.1 ELIGIBILITY AND TERMS OF OFFICE

- 8.1.1 The Officials of the Church holding a full-time office shall not be eligible to hold any other administrative office of the Church or a District.
- 8.1.2 The Secretary shall be called by the General Church ~~Council~~**Board**.
- 8.1.3 The members of the General Church ~~Council~~**Board** shall not be eligible to be members of more than one ~~other Bboard or Standing Committee~~**council** of the Church.
- 8.1.4 A full-time executive officer serving under a board ~~or council~~ of the Church shall not be eligible to be a member of more than one ~~Bboard, council or commission or Standing Committee~~ of the Church or a District.
- 8.1.5 Any person who receives a salary from or is in the employ of a ~~Bboard~~ shall not be a member of the ~~Bboard~~ under which such person serves.
- 8.1.6 An executive officer of a committee of a District which is directly associated with the activities of a board of the Church shall not be eligible for membership on that board.
- 8.1.7 The spouse of an executive officer or salaried person serving the Church shall not be a member of a board under which such an executive officer or salaried person serves.
- 8.1.8 No person shall be eligible for ~~election by the General Synod or for~~ appointment by the General Church ~~Council~~**Board** to more than two [2] ~~Bboards or Standing Committees~~**councils** of the Church unless otherwise determined by the ~~General Synod or the General Church Council respectively~~**Board**. This restriction shall not include membership on a ~~Bboard or Standing Committee~~**council** which according to the ~~rules and regulations~~**Terms of Reference** is ex officio or representative of another ~~Bboard or Standing Committee~~**council**.
- 8.1.9 8.1.9.1 The term of office for the Bishop of the Church shall be
- 8.1.9.1.1 two [2] synodical terms for an incoming Bishop; and
- 8.1.9.1.2 one [1] synodical term for an incumbent Bishop seeking re-election.
- 8.1.9.2 The term of office for the Assistant Bishop and the Secretary shall be one [1] synodical term.**
- 8.1.9.23 The term of office for all other Officials ~~and officers of the Church, members of the General Church Council, members of boards and any other representatives~~ shall be one [1] synodical term.
- 8.1.9.4 The term of office for members of boards, councils, commissions and committees shall be one [1] synodical term.**
- 8.1.9.35 Any person retiring by effluxion of time under the provisions of the preceding ~~Section 8.1.9.1-2~~ **sub-sections of 8.1.9** shall be eligible for re-election without limitation subject to the provisions of the preceding Section 8.1.6, or unless otherwise specifically determined.

SECTION 8.4 THE GENERAL CHURCH COUNCIL/BOARD

- 8.4.1 The duties of the General Church ~~Council~~**Board** shall be to
- 8.4.1.1 implement the program of the Church in accordance with the policies established by the General Synod;
- 8.4.1.2 ensure that the mission of the Church, the proclamation of the Gospel of Christ, remains central in the work of the Church;
- 8.4.1.3 ensure that all phases of the work of the Church are efficiently planned, coordinated, and controlled;

- 8.4.1.4 receive the reports submitted at least annually by the boards **and councils** of the Church, and pursuant to Article 8.3.2 of the Constitution to make any necessary decisions thereon subject to any policy or decisions laid down by the General Synod;
- 8.4.1.5 review the reports of the boards to the General Synod and submit recommendations for coordinated action to the General Synod;
- 8.4.1.6 initiate research into any sphere of activity with a view to achieving greater efficiency in the promotion of the Objects of the Church;
- 8.4.1.7 appoint executive officers as required;
- 8.4.1.8 submit the budget of the Church to the General Synod for consideration and adoption according to the policy laid down by the Church, and to adopt the budget of the Church in a year when the General Synod is not convened;
- 8.4.1.9 appoint the Auditor of the Church;
- 8.4.1.10 authorise proposals by a board regarding the number of office staff;
- 8.4.1.11 appoint such sub-committees and delegate such powers as it sees fit;
- 8.4.1.12 define from time to time the specific areas of responsibility of the Bishop and Assistant Bishop;
- 8.4.1.13 fill any vacancy in any office or on any ~~B~~board, ~~C~~council, ~~D~~epartment, ~~S~~tanding Committee or ~~C~~ommission **or committee in accordance with the delegated authority contained in the relevant Constitution or Terms of Reference**, except when such vacancy occurs within three months of the next regular convention of the General Synod;
- 8.4.1.14 remove any Official, officer or member of a ~~B~~board, ~~C~~council, ~~D~~epartment, ~~S~~tanding Committee or ~~C~~ommission **or committee** from office during the term, **subject to constitutional requirements**, if, in its considered judgment, the said person becomes incapable or unworthy of holding office, and to fill the vacancy created until the next regular convention of the General Synod;
- 8.4.1.15 determine any interim arrangements that may be necessary following the election of a full-time Official of the Church at a convention of the General Synod; and
- 8.4.1.16 approve any alteration to the By-laws of the Church or the rules governing any board or fund of the Church made necessary by any resolution of the General Synod, as prepared by the Standing Committee on Constitutions.

Proposed Amendment #1: To reintroduce the paragraphs 8.3.1.2, to 8.3.1.5, remove new 8.3.1.2; reintroduce paragraphs 7.4.6.3 and 7.4.7.3, 7.7.4, 7.7.4.1, 7.7.4.2 and 7.7.4.3

The proposed amendment was LOST.

Proposed Amendment #2: 7.4.6.2 add: ... “or two synod delegates” and 7.4.6.3 Any nomination for the General Church Board that has been received from a congregation, Bishop, or from two Synod delegates must be included, together with a list of the nominee’s competencies, on the list of nominees that the Standing Committee on Nominations submits for election to the General Convention of Synod and change proposed 7.4.6.3 to 7.4.6.4

The amendment was CARRIED. This became the motion

The amended motion was CARRIED.

2.2.2 National Functions

(See Page 103 of the Book of Reports)

2018:0202 RESOLVED that **Article 8 Officers and Administration** of the Constitution of the Church be amended to allow for the implementation of the revised national functions as follows (words to be deleted – ~~striketthrough~~; words to be added – **bold**):

ARTICLE 8. OFFICERS AND ADMINISTRATION

8.3.4 The General Church Board shall have the following Standing Committees which shall provide advice in accordance with the Terms of Reference for each as determined by the General Church Board:

8.3.4.1 The Standing Committee for Nominations;

8.3.4.2 The Standing Committee on Constitutions; and

8.3.4.3 The Standing Committee for Finance, Audit and Risk.

8.4 The Church shall have a College of Bishops which shall have oversight of the theological, confessional, pastoral and worship life of the Church.

8.4.1 The composition and duties of the College of Bishops shall be as prescribed by the By-laws.

8.4.2 The College of Bishops shall have the following Commissions which shall provide advice in accordance with the Terms of Reference for each as determined by the General Church Board:

8.4.2.1 Commission on Theology and Inter-Church Relations;

8.4.2.2 Commission on Worship; and

8.4.2.3 Commission on Social and Bioethical Questions.

8.5 The Church shall ~~appoint as many~~ establish Bboards and Standing Committees councils as it may deem necessary for the carrying out of its Objects. The rights and duties of such Bboards and Standing Committees councils shall be as prescribed by the By-laws.

AND FURTHER RESOLVED that **Section 8.4 The General Church Council, Section 8.7 The Boards of the Church and Section 11 By-laws** be amended in consequence of the above amendment to Article 8 to allow for the implementation of the revised national functions as follows (words to be deleted – ~~striketthrough~~; words to be added – **bold**):

SECTION 8.4 THE GENERAL CHURCH COUNCIL

~~8.4.4~~ ~~8.4.4.1~~ ~~There shall be an Executive of the General Church Council, consisting of the Bishop, and six [6] other members including at least two [2] pastor members and at least two [2] lay members, appointed by the General Church Council.~~

~~8.4.4.2 The duties of the Executive of the General Church Council shall be to~~

~~8.4.4.2.1 carry out such tasks as are delegated to it by the General Church Council;~~

~~8.4.4.2.2 attend to routine matters in accordance with the policy as generally defined by the General Church Council;~~

~~8.4.4.2.3 advise the Bishop on any matters the Bishop desires to place before it;~~

~~8.4.4.2.4 determine the Register of Lay Workers;~~

~~8.4.4.2.5 determine the rentals to be paid by tenants of Church owned property; and~~

~~8.4.4.2.6 report all decisions to the General Church Council.~~

- ~~8.4.4.3 The Executive of the General Church Council shall be empowered at its discretion to call conferences of executive officers and such other persons as it deems advisable, to advise in the planning and coordination of the Church's program or any portion thereof.~~

SECTION 8.7 THE BOARDS AND COUNCILS OF THE CHURCH

- 8.7.1 The By-laws in this section shall govern the administration of all boards and councils of the Church. ~~The term 'board' in the By-laws shall mean a Council, Board, Department, Standing Committee or Commission of the Church.~~
- 8.7.2 **8.7.2.1** The boards of the Church shall be
- ~~8.7.2.1 Board for Lay Ministry;~~
 - ~~8.7.2.2 Board for Lutheran Aged Care Australia;~~
 - ~~8.7.2.3 Board for Lutheran Community Care Australia;~~
 - 8.7.2.4.1.1 Board for Lutheran Education Australia;
 - ~~8.7.2.5 Board for Media Ministry;~~
 - ~~8.7.2.6 Board for Mission;~~
 - ~~8.7.2.7 Board for Support to Pastoral Ministry;~~
 - ~~8.7.2.8 Board for Youth and Family Ministry;~~
 - ~~8.7.2.9 Board of Lutheran Archives;~~
 - 8.7.2.10.1.2 Board of Directors of Australian Lutheran College;
 - 8.7.2.11.1.3 **Board for Finke River Mission-Board;**
 - ~~8.7.2.12 Commission on Salaries;~~
 - ~~8.7.2.13 Commission on Social and Bioethical Questions;~~
 - ~~8.7.2.14 Commission on Tertiary Ministry;~~
 - ~~8.7.2.15 Commission on Theology and Inter-Church Relations;~~
 - ~~8.7.2.16 Commission on Worship;~~
 - ~~8.7.2.17 LCA Safe Place Committee;~~
 - ~~8.7.2.18 Standing Committee on Constitutions~~
- and such other boards as the Church may establish.
- 8.7.2.2 The boards shall function according to Terms of Reference approved by the Church.**
- 8.7.2.3 Where the board is a legally incorporated entity, it shall have a constitution approved by the Church.**
- ~~8.7.3 Any member of a board who is absent for two [2] consecutive meetings without a valid and acceptable excuse shall forfeit membership on such board.~~
- 8.7.3 8.7.3.1 The councils of the Church shall be the**
- 8.7.3.1.1 Council for Local Mission**
- and such other councils as the Church may establish.**
- 8.7.3.2 The councils shall function according to Terms of Reference approved by the Church.**
- 8.7.4 The Bishop of the Church shall be responsible for the appointment of a convenor who shall convene the first meeting of the board **or council** after the regular convention of the General Synod.
- 8.7.5 The tenure of office of a board **or council** shall generally be from three [3] months after ~~the close of the convention of the General Synod at which it was elected or appointed to~~ three [3] months after the close of the next regular convention.
- 8.7.6 ~~At the first meeting of the newly elected Board after the regular convention of the General Synod, the board shall appoint from its members a chairperson and a secretary, and such other officers as are deemed desirable and necessary. The Chairperson and any executive positions of each board and council shall be determined in~~ accordance with the relevant Terms of Reference.

- 8.7.7 8.7.7.1 The board shall include provision in its annual budget for as many regular meetings as it deems necessary for that year.
- 8.7.7.2 A special meeting of the board
- 8.7.7.2.1 may be convened by the Chairperson; and
- 8.7.7.2.2 shall be convened by the Chairperson at the request of two [2] members of the board.
- The reason for the meeting and the business to be transacted shall be stated in the notice of meeting.
- 8.7.7.3 If any additional regular meeting or any special meeting will involve expenditure exceeding the budget of the board, the Chairperson shall notify the Executive of the General Church Council, and if in its judgment such meeting is warranted, the Executive shall authorise the Chairperson to call the meeting.
- 8.7.8 One-half of the members of the board shall constitute a quorum at any meeting.
- 8.7.9 8.7.9.1 The duties of the Chairperson shall be to
- 8.7.9.1.1 arrange the meetings together with the Secretary;
- 8.7.9.1.2 preside at the meetings;
- 8.7.9.1.3 see that all resolutions of the meetings are carried out; and
- 8.7.9.1.4 see that all necessary reports are prepared and submitted.
- 8.7.9.2 The duties of the Secretary shall be to
- 8.7.9.2.1 notify all members of the time and place of the meeting;
- 8.7.9.2.2 keep a faithful record of all minutes of the meeting;
- 8.7.9.2.3 receive and to attend to correspondence unless otherwise determined by the meeting; and
- 8.7.9.2.4 draw up an agenda for the meeting.
- 8.7.9.3 The duties of the Treasurer shall be to
- 8.7.9.3.1 keep a true record of all moneys received;
- 8.7.9.3.2 make payments authorised by the meeting;
- 8.7.9.3.3 furnish statements of receipts and expenditure at each meeting; and
- 8.7.9.3.4 prepare annually an audited statement of receipts and expenditure and, where applicable, a balance sheet.
- 8.7.10 In the absence of the Chairperson, the vice-Chairperson shall preside; or, if there be no vice-Chairperson, a chairperson shall be appointed by the meeting.
- 8.7.11 ~~The board shall~~ **The boards and councils shall abide by the policies and requirements established by the General Church Board and shall**
- 8.7.11.1 submit annually to the General Church ~~Council~~**Board** a report which shall include
- 8.7.11.1.1 a record of the past year's activities in relation to planned objectives;
- 8.7.11.1.2 audited financial statements, including a balance sheet;
- 8.7.11.1.3 a written financial report that explains significant variations between budget and actual performance and, where necessary, how surpluses will be used and deficits funded; and
- 8.7.11.1.4 identification of its major programmatic and organisational risks and the plans to mitigate them;
- ~~8.7.13 Any proposal to appoint an honorary member of a board shall be submitted to the General Church Council for decision. Any such honorary member shall have consultative status for one [1] synodical term, not being eligible to vote or hold office.~~

SECTION 11. BY-LAWS

- 11.1 The ~~rules governing~~ **Terms of Reference** for each ~~Board~~ **and council** of the Church are By-laws of the Church.

AND FURTHER RESOLVED that the new Terms of Reference for the Board for Lutheran Education Australia be adopted, as follows:

BOARD FOR LUTHERAN EDUCATION AUSTRALIA
Terms of Reference

- 1. NAME**
Board for Lutheran Education Australia, referred to as “the Board”.
- 2. RELATIONSHIP TO THE CHURCH**
The Board is a board of the Church and is accountable to the Church through the General Church Board and shall fulfil its responsibilities in keeping with the Constitution and the policies of the Church.
- 3. PURPOSE**
The Board shall set the strategic direction and establish the overall policy environment for the schools of the Church.
- 4. AUTHORITY**
The Board for Lutheran Education Australia has the authority to carry out its purpose and responsibilities set out in Articles 2, 3 and 4 of the Constitution of Lutheran Education Australia Ltd, and shall be exercised consistent with the Constitution and By-laws of the Church.
- 5. MEMBERSHIP**
 - 5.1 The Board of Directors shall consist of seven [7] members:
 - 5.1.1 one [1] pastor of the Church;
 - 5.1.2 three [3] lay members of the congregations of the Church; and
 - 5.1.3 one [1] representative from each of the regions of Lutheran Education Queensland, Lutheran Education Victoria/New South Wales/Tasmania, and Lutheran Education South Australia/Northern Territory/Western Australia, upon nomination to the Standing Committee of Nominations by the respective region.
 - 5.2 The members shall be appointed by the General Church Board on recommendations from the Standing Committee on Nominations.
 - 5.3 The Board membership shall consist of people, with a passion for mission and ministry and relevant skills, qualifications and experience in the following areas:
 - 5.2.1 finance;
 - 5.2.2 risk management;
 - 5.2.3 governance;
 - 5.2.4 Lutheran education; and
 - 5.2.5 law.
 - 5.4 The membership will include a mix of backgrounds and perspectives which, together with the relevant skills, qualifications and experience will enable the Board to fulfil its role.

- 5.5 The Board shall regularly review the relevant skills and experience required to ensure the composition of the Board is aligned with the strategic direction of Lutheran Education Australia and the Church.
- 5.4 The Directors shall elect a Director as the Chairperson, on nomination of the General Church Board.
- 5.5 Consultants of the Board shall be
 - 5.5.1 the Executive Director of Lutheran Education Australia; and
 - 5.5.2 such other persons as the Board may appoint to contribute specialised knowledge that is not available among the Board members.
 The Board may from time to time meet without the presence of any consultant.

6. MEETING ARRANGEMENTS AND REPORTING

- 6.1 Regular meetings of the Board shall be held at least once a year.
- 6.2 Meetings shall be convened by the Chairperson.
- 6.3 It is at the discretion of the Board to meet face-to-face, by electronic means, or a combination of modes.
- 6.4 The minutes of the meetings of the Board shall be submitted to the General Church Board.
- 6.5 An annual report of the activities of the Board and any subsidiary bodies shall be submitted to the General Church Board. In addition to the annual report, the General Church Board and the Board for Lutheran Education Australia may mutually agree to a more regular reporting schedule from the Board.

7. RESPONSIBILITIES

- 7.1 The Board shall set the strategic direction and establish the overall policy environment for the schools of the church and as such shall
 - 7.1.1 promote Lutheran schools as agencies of Christian education;
 - 7.1.2 uphold and safeguard the confessional teachings of the Church, especially as these relate to the nature, purpose and program of the schools;
 - 7.1.3 provide strategic leadership and support for the schools of the Church in those matters designated as national areas of responsibility as agreed from time to time;
 - 7.1.4 formulate national policy that gives direction to Lutheran schools as agencies of Christian education of the Church;
 - 7.1.5 promote, support and ensure the implementation of approved policy and associated procedures in the schools, working through regional structures;
 - 7.1.6 work in close co-operation with the Church, in particular with regional organisational arms of Lutheran education and other appropriate departments of the Church;
 - 7.1.7 represent Lutheran schools and regions nationally to the Church, its departments, committees and auxiliaries, and to Australian Lutheran College;
 - 7.1.8 research, make approaches, represent and act on behalf of regions and schools in relation to the Commonwealth government, its departments and government authorities and political parties, respond to Commonwealth government directives and initiatives relating to education and associated matters, and provide representation to national educational bodies where strategic and appropriate;
 - 7.1.9 develop co-operative working relationships with other sectors of education at national level;

- 7.1.10 approve the establishment of new schools and change in function of existing Lutheran schools in consultation with the regions;
- 7.1.11 develop, coordinate and evaluate the national curriculum in Christian Studies for Lutheran schools, develop resources for, and promote and support the implementation of the Christian Studies curriculum in schools through regional authorities and/or officers;
- 7.1.12 ensure that recruitment and staffing strategies, and leadership development programs are in place to meet the needs of Lutheran schools, that accreditation requirements in accordance with policies of the Church are implemented, and that a staff database is maintained and national conferences convened to promote the welfare of those who work in Lutheran schools;
- 7.1.13 ensure income for the operation of the Board by means of annual levies or other means from Lutheran schools;
- 7.1.14 undertake, develop and maintain key relationships with international Lutheran schools and education systems, considering compatibility with the Church's international relationships and programs, and the global focus of Lutheran schools; and
- 7.1.15 undertake other activities related to the matters designated as national areas of responsibility or as agreed with the regions.
- 7.2 The duties of the Board shall be in addition to responsibilities prescribed in Section 8.7 of the By-laws of the Church.

8. REVIEW

- 8.1 The Terms of Reference for the Board shall be reviewed during each synodical term.
- 8.2 Any changes to the Terms of Reference shall be approved by the General Church Board, upon review by the Standing Committee on Constitutions.

AND FURTHER RESOLVED that the new Terms of Reference for the Board of Directors of Australian Lutheran College be adopted, as follows:

BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF AUSTRALIAN LUTHERAN COLLEGE Terms of Reference

- 1. **NAME**
Board of Directors of Australian Lutheran College, referred to as "the Board".
- 2. **RELATIONSHIP TO THE CHURCH**
The Board is accountable to the Church through the General Church Board and shall fulfil its responsibilities in keeping with the Constitution and the policies of the Church.
- 3. **PURPOSE**
The Board is to ensure that Australian Lutheran College serves as the theological and educational training facility of the Church in accordance with the objects of the Company as contained in the Constitution of the Company, Australian Lutheran College.
- 4. **AUTHORITY**

The Board has the power to carry out its purposes which shall be exercised consistent with the Constitution and By-laws of the Church.

5. MEMBERSHIP

- 5.1 The Board of Directors shall consist of eight [8] members:
 - 5.1.1 the Bishop of the Church;
 - 5.1.2 two [2] pastors of the Church; and
 - 5.1.3 five [5] lay members of congregations of the Church.
- 5.2 The pastors and lay members shall be appointed by the General Church Board on recommendations from the Standing Committee on Nominations.
- 5.3 The Board membership shall consist of people with a passion for mission and ministry and have the relevant skills, qualifications and experience in one or more of the following areas:
 - 5.3.1 education;
 - 5.3.2 governance;
 - 5.3.3 law;
 - 5.3.4 risk management; and
 - 5.3.5 finance.
- 5.4 The Board shall elect a director as the Chairperson on the nomination of the General Church Board.
- 5.5 The membership of the Board shall aim to include a mix of background and perspectives which, together with the relevant skills, qualifications and experience, will enable it to fulfil its role effectively.
- 5.6 The Principal of the College shall be a consultant.

6. MEETING ARRANGEMENTS AND REPORTING

- 6.1 Meetings shall be convened by the Chairperson.
- 6.2 It is at the discretion of the Board to meet face-to-face, by electronic means, or by other means of communication.
- 6.3 Email correspondence may be used for the distribution of minutes, advisory information or approval of documentation.
- 6.4 The minutes of the meetings of the Board shall be submitted to the General Church Board.
- 6.5 An annual report of the activities of the Board and any subsidiary bodies shall be submitted to the General Church Board.

7. RESPONSIBILITIES

- 7.1 The Board of Directors is responsible for ensuring that the facility is equipped to
 - 7.1.1 prepare candidates to be pastors of the Church;
 - 7.1.2 prepare candidates to be teachers in the schools of the Church;
 - 7.1.3 prepare candidates to be lay workers of the Church;
 - 7.1.4 provide continuing and postgraduate studies in theology and education;
 - 7.1.5 provide education leading to degrees, awards and qualifications in theology and Christian service;
 - 7.1.6 provide training for members congregations and organisations of the Church and the community;
 - 7.1.7 undertake research to assist in the promotion of the mission of the Church;
 - 7.1.8 establish and maintain relations with any relevant Board, committee or institution of the Church and with Lutheran education bodies overseas; and

- 7.1.9 undertake such other activities which promote the mission of the Church.
- 7.2 The duties of the Board of Directors are in addition to responsibilities prescribed in Section 8.7 of the By-laws of the Church.

8. REVIEW

- 8.1 The Terms of Reference for the Board shall be reviewed during each Synodical term.
- 8.2 Any changes to the Terms of Reference shall be approved by the General Church Board, upon review by the Standing Committee on Constitutions.

AND FURTHER RESOLVED that the new Terms of Reference for the Board for Finke River Mission be adopted, as follows:

BOARD FOR FINKE RIVER MISSION Terms of Reference

1. NAME

Board for Finke River Mission, referred to as “the Board”.

2. RELATIONSHIP TO THE CHURCH

The Board is accountable to the Church through the General Church Board and shall fulfil its responsibilities in keeping with the Constitution and the policies of the Church.

3. PURPOSE

The objects of the Board shall be to organise, supervise, and extend the work of preaching the Gospel of Christ to the Aborigines in central Australia, and to promote their general welfare.

4. AUTHORITY

The Board has the authority to carry out its purpose and responsibilities which shall be exercised consistent with the Constitution and By-laws of the Church.

5. MEMBERSHIP

- 5.1 The Board shall consist of seven [7] members:
- 5.1.1 two [2] pastors; and
 - 5.1.2 five [5] lay members of the congregations of the Church.
- 5.2 The pastors and lay members shall be appointed by the General Church Board on recommendations from the Standing Committee on Nominations.
- 5.3 The Chairperson shall be appointed by the General Church Board.
- 5.4 The Board membership shall consist of people with a passion for mission and ministry and have the relevant skills, qualifications and experience in one or more of the following areas:
- 5.4.1 an understanding of the Church and its teaching;
 - 5.4.2 an understanding of bilingual and cross-cultural issues;
 - 5.4.3 experience in strategic planning;
 - 5.4.4 ability to challenge and be practical; and
 - 5.4.5 listening and decision-making skills.
- 5.5 The membership of the Board shall aim to include a mix of background and perspectives which, together with the relevant skills, qualifications and experience, will enable it to fulfil its role effectively.

- 5.6 A wide range of other persons involved in or interested in the organisation, its program and clients may be invited as consultants to bring their knowledge and experience to the meeting to assist in the deliberations of the Board.

6. MEETING ARRANGEMENTS AND REPORTING

- 6.1 Regular meetings of the Board shall be held at least once a year.
6.2 Meetings shall be convened by the Chairperson.
6.3 It is at the discretion of the Board to meet face-to-face, by electronic means, or by other means of communication.
6.4 Email correspondence may be used for the distribution of minutes, advisory information or approval of documentation.
6.5 The minutes of the meetings of the Board shall be submitted to the General Church Board.
6.6 An annual report of the activities of the Board and any subsidiary bodies shall be submitted to the General Church Board.

7. RESPONSIBILITIES

- 7.1 The Board shall
- 7.1.1 administer the affairs of Aboriginal mission in central Australia in accordance with the policies of the Church;
 - 7.1.2 call and appoint pastors in consultation with the Bishop of the Church;
 - 7.1.3 appoint church workers and other staff members as required, in consultation with any relevant board of the Church;
 - 7.1.4 engage casual or contract labour;
 - 7.1.3 ensure the provision of spiritual support to the pastors under the spiritual oversight of the Bishop of the South Australia and Northern Territory District;
 - 7.1.4 arrange for regular field visits;
 - 7.1.5 supervise and administer property entrusted to its care;
 - 7.1.6 encourage pastors and congregations within the geographical area of Central Australia to take an interest in the spiritual and general welfare of Aboriginals living in their area;
 - 7.1.7 maintain liaison with other boards engaged in Aboriginal mission in matters of common concern;
 - 7.1.8 negotiate with the Government in matters of Aboriginal welfare in consultation with the Bishop of the District and of the Church according to the policies of the Church;
 - 7.1.7 negotiate directly with and work cooperatively with Australian Lutheran College in carrying out the educational ministry program, theological translations, literacy and theological training of prospective pastors and evangelists; and
 - 7.1.8 promote the work of the Mission in, and seek the support of, the Districts as appropriate.
- 7.2 The duties of the Board are in addition to responsibilities prescribed in Section 8.7 of the By-laws of the Church.

8. REVIEW

- 8.1 The Terms of Reference for the Board shall be reviewed during each Synodical term.
8.2 Any changes to the Terms of Reference shall be approved by the General Church Board, upon review by the Standing Committee on Constitutions.

AND FURTHER RESOLVED that the new Terms of Reference for the Council for Local Mission be adopted, as follows:

COUNCIL FOR LOCAL MISSION
Terms of Reference

1. NAME

The Council for Local Mission, referred to as “the Council”.

2. RELATIONSHIP TO THE CHURCH

The Council is accountable to the General Church Board and shall fulfil its responsibilities in keeping with the Constitution and the policies of the Church.

3. PURPOSE

3.1 The Council shall

3.1.1 provide strategic leadership and support to nurture a growing missional culture in the Church;

3.1.2 develop strategic mission direction and establish the overall policy environment of the Church;

3.1.3 promote and coordinate congregational participation in local mission; and

3.1.4 oversee and monitor the resourcing of the mission of the Church to Australia and New Zealand.

3.2 The work of the Council is underpinned by the foremost Object of the Church, namely to fulfil the mission of God.

4. AUTHORITY

4.1 The General Church Board may delegate decision-making authority to the Council under a written delegations policy.

4.2 The policies of the Church shall guide the work of the Council in regard to

4.2.1 governance responsibilities, including compliance with the policies of the Church on Conflict of Interest and Review Processes;

4.2.2 functioning and decision-making; and

4.2.3 reviewing the terms of reference of committees that report to it.

5. MEMBERSHIP

5.1 The Council shall consist of seven [7] members appointed by the General Church Board on recommendations from the Standing Committee on Nominations.

5.2 The Council membership shall consist of people with a passion for mission and ministry and the following relevant skills, qualifications and experience:

5.2.1 a chairperson appointed by the General Church Board;

5.2.2 one pastor serving in a local church-related community;

5.2.3 three [3] members with current experience and competence in leading or working in mission in a local context; and

5.2.4 two [2] members with experience in strategic planning and/or organisational management.

5.3 The membership shall include a mix of backgrounds and perspectives which, together with the relevant skills, qualifications and experience, will enable the Council to fulfil its role.

5.4 The Bishop of the Church is an ex-officio member of the Council.

- 5.5 The Executive Officer – Local Mission (EO-LM) shall attend meetings of the Council.
- 5.6 The Council may from time to time meet in the absence of the EO-LM.
- 5.7 The Council, in consultation with the EO-LM, may invite other guests to attend meetings.
- 5.8 Up to two [2] consultants may be appointed by the General Church Board on the recommendation of the Council to advise on specific issues.

6. MEETING ARRANGMENTS AND REPORTING

- 6.1 Meetings shall be convened by the Chairperson.
- 6.2 It is at the discretion of the Council to meet face-to-face, by electronic means, or by other means of communication.
- 6.3 Email correspondence may be used for the distribution of minutes, advisory information or approval of documentation.
- 6.4 The minutes of the Council meetings shall be submitted to the General Church Board.
- 6.5 An annual report is submitted to the General Church Board.

7. RESPONSIBILITIES

- 7.1 The Council develops mission policy and practice which
 - 7.1.1 is based on the study of missiology and society and culture;
 - 7.1.2 identifies, assesses and shares lessons from practical experience of mission in the Church;
 - 7.1.3 monitors the development and provision of missional resources to congregations and other ministries of the Church; and
 - 7.1.4 partners with Australian Lutheran College in establishing training programs that build mission capacity within the Church.
- 7.2 In addition to responsibilities prescribed in Section 8.7 of the By-laws, the Council shall
 - 7.2.1 facilitate an integrated and consistent approach to local mission activity within the Church;
 - 7.2.2 develop strategic plans and ministry priorities, including the financial and resources support required, for approval by the General Church Board;
 - 7.2.3 oversee the finances of the Local Mission Department;
 - 7.2.4 provide strategic leadership in collaboration with the Districts to support and encourage mission in local communities;
 - 7.2.5 identify risks associated with local mission and develop and monitor a risk management plan;
 - 7.2.6 review and monitor the work and well-being of the EO-LM;
 - 7.2.7 oversee the work of committees of the Council by
 - 7.2.7.1 appointing the membership;
 - 7.2.7.2 reviewing and confirming their terms of reference;
 - 7.2.7.3 receiving the minutes of committee meetings;
 - 7.2.7.4 undertake regular performance review of the Directors and Managers of the departments; and
 - 7.2.7.5 providing regular feedback to these committees;
 - 7.2.8 work with the Communications Department of the Church to convey accounts of local mission activities to the wider Church; and
 - 7.2.9 support the recruitment and performance management of the EO-LM.

8. REVIEW

- 8.1 The Terms of Reference for the Council shall be reviewed during each Synodical term.
- 8.2 Any changes to the Terms of Reference shall be approved by the General Church Board, upon review by the Standing Committee on Constitutions.

The motion was CARRIED.

2.2.3 Ordination of Women and Men

(See Page 116 of the Book of Reports)

2018:0203 RESOLVED that

- 1. that the Lutheran Church of Australia amend its public teaching to accept the ordination of both women and men;
- 2. that Synod affirms the church's teaching on the ministry contained in paragraphs one to ten of Theses of Agreement VI: Theses on the office of the ministry;
- 3. that Synod adopts '*A theological basis for the ordination of women and men*' as the teaching of the church, replacing the teaching contained in TA VI.11;
- 4. that Synod directs the General Church Council to attend to the necessary administrative arrangements required to facilitate the entry of women into the office of the public ministry.

The convention of Synod debated this issue over three sessions. There were two proposed amendments as follows:

Proposed amendment #1: RESOLVED that

- 1. that the Lutheran Church of Australia amend its public teaching to accept the ordination of both women and men;
- 2. that Synod affirms the church's teaching on the ministry contained in paragraphs one to ten of Theses of Agreement VI: Theses on the office of the ministry;
- 3. that Synod adopts '*A theological basis for the ordination of women and men*' as the teaching of the church, replacing the teaching contained in TA VI.11;
- 4. the LCA/NZ invite properly gifted, trained, prepared and called women to serve as ordained pastors alongside the male pastors of this church, exercising the office of the keys by proclaiming the gospel, pronouncing the absolution, and administering the sacraments, to the glory of God and for the extension of his Kingdom.
- 5. that Synod directs the General Church Council to attend to the necessary administrative arrangements required to facilitate the entry of women into the office of the public ministry.

The amendment was CARRIED. This became the motion.

Proposed amendment #2: RESOLVED that Synod adopts THE CONCLUSION TO ‘A theological basis for the ordination of women and men’ as the teaching of the church, replacing the teaching contained in TA V1.11;

The amendment was LOST.

2018:0204 RESOLVED that the Motion be put to the vote.

The motion was CARRIED by a show of cards.

The tellers were asked to prepare the ballots for motion 2018:0203 as amended by the Convention with the addition of a paragraph in inviting women to serve in the ministry (paragraph 4).

A foreshadowed motion was advised that acknowledges the deep hurt in the course of the debate on ordination and seeks reconciliation.

Bishop Henderson declared to the Synod that the motion had been LOST with 240 votes in favour and 159 against, with 2 informal votes and 5 abstentions.

The motion was LOST as the required two thirds majority of 271 was not reached.

The chair thanked everyone for the good order with which they conducted themselves during the debate.

After the result was announced on the Saturday morning a session of Convention was dedicated to allowing time for the delegates to discuss how they were feeling and to give voice to their hopes and fears. The District Bishops circulated around the tables to listen to the conversations and reported back on what they heard.

2018:0205 RESOLVED that Synod acknowledges the deep hurt in the course of the debate on ordination and seeks reconciliation.

The motion was CARRIED.

2.2.4 The practice of holy communion and infants

(See Page 117 of the Book of Reports)

2018:0206 RESOLVED that Synod affirms the conclusions contained in ‘*Infant Communion: a reappraisal*’ (CTICR 2012), see also DSTO Vol 1 E ‘*Infant Communion*’, 1986), namely, “that the Church not introduce the practice of admitting infants to holy communion, but that the Church offer to families the preparation and admission of children to communion at the earliest appropriate age, paying due attention to the connection between communion and life-long formation”.

The presentations referred to item 2.1.3 report from general pastors conference

The motion was CARRIED.

2.2.5 Membership of the International Lutheran Council and the Lutheran World Federation

(See Page 118 of the Book of Reports)

2018:0207 RESOLVED that that the General Church Council conduct a thorough investigation of the theological and church fellowship implications of full membership in the Lutheran World Federation (LWF) and the International Lutheran Council (ILC), and report on that investigation to the 20th General Convention in 2021.

AND FURTHER RESOLVED that the General Church Council, on the basis of the report, submit a proposal to the 2021 General Convention on the possibility and advisability of the LCA applying for full membership in the LWF and the ILC.

The motion was CARRIED.

2.2.6 Review of Professional Standards Department

(See Page 119 of the Book of Reports)

2018:0208 RESOLVED that the General Synod requests the General Church Council to undertake a review the Professional Standards Department (PSD) in response to concerns raised about PSD matters in proposals submitted to this Synod.

Proposed Amendment #1 RESOLVED that the General Synod requests the General Church Board to undertake a review of the LCA's overall Ecclesiastical Discipline Adjudication and Appeal's provisions, policies and processes including a review of the PSD and related policies, procedures and practices, in response to concerns raised in congregational and district pastors conference proposals submitted to this Synod on matters related to the discipline and judicial system of the Church.

That the review be conducted by people with no involvement in allegations against the PSD nor with any responsibility for PSD. Those undertaking the review to be members of the LCA and include high level theological expertise and knowledge of police and judicial matters as well as the Royal Commission into the Institutional Abuse of Children. That submissions to the review be sought from interested parties.

The proposed amendment was CARRIED. This becomes the motion.

The motion was CARRIED.

2.2.7 Lutheran Education Australia review

(See Page 119 of the Book of Reports)

2018:0209 RESOLVED that the General Synod:

1. celebrates Lutheran education in its many forms across Australia, welcomes the mission and ministry opportunities that the LCA's schools and early childhood centres provide, and commits the church to supporting on-going improvements in collaborative ministry, governance and relevant administration.
2. acknowledges and affirms:
 - the strong commitment of the Lutheran education sector as a whole to mission and ministry through the LCA's schools, teachers, staff and leaders;
 - the strong commitment of the Lutheran education sector as a whole to upholding and growing Lutheran identity and culture through a Gospel-centred focus on the education and development of young people;
 - the commitment of the Lutheran education sector as a whole to a vibrant, sustainable Lutheran education sector into the future, underpinned by strong relationships and a desire to work together for shared goals and outcomes.
3. directs GCC and BLEA to develop and resource action plans to support the collaborative engagement of schools, congregations, districts and the LCA in mission and ministry.
4. affirms that Lutheran Education Australia (LEA) becomes the system authority for Commonwealth government funding, as the authorised body for the distribution of Commonwealth funds in collaboration with the three regions, within the synodical period ending 2021.
5. affirms the governance authority of the BLEA in the following five key areas of responsibility, and commits to enabling the BLEA to enact its authority and develop strategic direction for the whole Lutheran education body by working collaboratively with each of the education regions:
 - setting strategic direction and policy for Lutheran education;
 - strengthening Lutheran identity;
 - risk oversight (legal, financial and reputational, including engaging with the Commonwealth government and, in collaboration with the districts, approval of school opening and closure);
 - formation, leadership succession and development;

- culture (including facilitating and driving greater collaboration across the Lutheran education body)
6. affirms the role of education regions as part of the national Lutheran education body and requests GCC and BLEA to work with the districts and the education regions to define the scope of the entities within the Lutheran education body and set the relevant boundaries by clarifying governance and management accountabilities and responsibilities at regional and local levels. This includes developing relevant reporting arrangements and enabling a greater governance focus on mission and ministry through schools and ECC's
 7. requires regional and national governing boards to be aligned to comply with LCA policy about being skills-based and to ensure appropriate separation between governance and management (eg employees of the system are not board members but may be consultants).
 8. affirms that flexibility be provided for local school governing bodies to allow for increased participation by non-Lutheran members, whilst maintaining a majority of Lutheran members, and allowing for a model where a governing body may have oversight over more than one school.
 9. directs GCC and other relevant bodies to determine a streamlined loans approval and guarantee process.
 10. directs the GCC to ensure all relevant LCA Constitutions are re-written to enable the agreed changes in structure to be addressed.
 11. requires that regular reports on progress of the above recommended actions be submitted to GCC by all relevant stakeholders/parties.

Proposed Amendment #1 RESOLVED the General Synod:

1. celebrates Lutheran education in its many forms across Australia, welcomes the mission and ministry opportunities that the LCA's schools and early childhood centres provide, and commits the church to supporting on-going improvements in collaborative ministry, governance and relevant administration.
2. acknowledges and affirms:
 - the strong commitment of the Lutheran education sector as a whole to mission and ministry through the LCA's schools, teachers, staff and leaders;
 - the strong commitment of the Lutheran education sector as a whole to upholding and growing Lutheran identity and culture through a Gospel-centred focus on the education and development of young people;

- the commitment of the Lutheran education sector as a whole to a vibrant, sustainable Lutheran education sector into the future, underpinned by strong relationships and a desire to work together for shared goals and outcomes.
3. directs GCC and BLEA to develop and resource action plans to support the collaborative engagement of schools, congregations, districts and the LCA in mission and ministry.
 4. ~~affirms that Lutheran Education Australia (LEA) becomes the system authority for Commonwealth government funding, as the authorised body for the distribution of Commonwealth funds in collaboration with the three regions, within the synodical period ending 2021.~~
 4. directs GCB and BLEA to develop in collaboration with the three regions and the districts a coordinated approach to Commonwealth funding
 5. affirms the governance authority of the BLEA in the following five key areas of responsibility, and commits to enabling the BLEA to enact its authority and develop strategic direction for the whole Lutheran education body by working collaboratively with each of the education regions:
 - setting strategic direction and policy for Lutheran education;
 - strengthening Lutheran identity;
 - establishing risk policies ~~oversight (legal, financial and reputational, including engaging with the Commonwealth government and, in collaboration with the districts, approval of school opening and closure);~~
 - establishing policies for formation, leadership succession and development;
 - enhancing culture (including facilitating and driving greater collaboration across the Lutheran education body)
 6. affirms the role of education regions as part of the national Lutheran education body and requests GCC and BLEA to work with the districts and the education regions to **collaboratively** define the scope of the entities within the Lutheran education body and set the relevant boundaries by clarifying governance and management accountabilities and responsibilities at regional and local levels. This includes developing relevant reporting arrangements and enabling a greater governance focus on mission and ministry through schools and ECC's.
 7. requires regional and national governing boards to be aligned to comply with LCA policy about being skills-based and to ensure appropriate separation between governance and management (eg

employees of the system are not board members but may be consultants).

8. affirms that flexibility be provided for local school governing bodies to allow for increased participation by non-Lutheran members, whilst maintaining a majority of Lutheran members, and allowing for a model where a governing body may have oversight over more than one school.
9. directs GCC and other relevant bodies to determine a streamlined loans approval and guarantee process.
10. directs the GCC to ensure all relevant LCA Constitutions **and by-laws** are **revised** rewritten to enable the agreed changes in structure to be addressed.
11. requires that regular reports on progress of the above recommended actions be submitted to GCC by all relevant stakeholders/parties.

The amendment was CARRIED. This became the motion.

The motion was CARRIED with the required two thirds majority.

2.2.8 Reconciliation Action Plan

(See Page 122 of the Book of Reports)

2018:0210 RESOLVED that the General Convention of Synod requests General Church Council (GCC) to develop and implement a Reconciliation Action Plan that will:

- assist ongoing relationship building through listening to Aboriginal people in the LCA
- support non-Aboriginal people in the LCA to gain insight into what is important to Aboriginal people
- provide a culturally appropriate mechanism by which our church together with (inclusive of) Aboriginal people and communities within the LCA can address questions of recognition and representation, and
- develop appropriate ways to encourage and enable Aboriginal people to serve and lead in all aspects of church life in the LCA.

The General Convention of Synod authorises GCC to commit resources to facilitate the work required to prepare and deliver the plan.

The General Convention of Synod requests GCC to provide a report on the implementation of the plan to the 2021 Convention of Synod.

The motion was CARRIED.

2.2.9 'Our Direction 2018–2024'

(See Page 127 of the Book of Reports)

This item was referred to the General Church Board in the 19th Synodical period – please see resolution 2018:1802 on PAGE 81.

2.2.10 Establishment of Lutheran Earth Care Australia and New Zealand
(See Page 129 of the Book of Reports)

This item was referred to the General Church Board in the 19th Synodical period – please see resolution 2018:1802 on PAGE 81.

2.2.11 LCA committees and commissions to have one member under 30 by 2022
(See Page 130 of the Book of Reports)

This item was referred to the General Church Board in the 19th Synodical period – please see resolution 2018:1802 on PAGE 81.

2.2.12 Appointment of auditor
(See Page 131 of the Book of Reports)

2018:0211 RESOLVED that MRL Group be appointed as auditor of Australian Lutheran World Service (ALWS) until 30 April 2022 (i.e. for the 2019, 2020 and 2021 year audits

The motion was CARRIED.

2.2.13 Introduction of Christian Care Sunday
(See Page 132 of the Book of Reports)

This item was referred to the General Church Board in the 19th Synodical period – please see resolution 2018:1802 on PAGE 81.

2.2.14 Recognising and continuing the ‘Hidden Hurts Healing Hearts’ campaign
(See Page 131 of the Book of Reports)

This item was referred to the General Church Board in the 19th Synodical period – please see resolution 2018:1802 on PAGE 81.

2.2.15 Expansion of ‘New Home New Community New Hope’ training project
(See Page 134 of the Book of Reports)

This item was referred to the General Church Board in the 19th Synodical period – please see resolution 2018:1802 on PAGE 81.

2.2.16 Australian Lutheran College constitution
(See Page 135 of the Book of Reports)

2018:0212 RESOLVED that General Convention approves the new ALC Constitution:

CONSTITUTION
of
Australian Lutheran College
Australian Company Number (ACN) 108602151
Australian Business Number (ABN) 19108602151

A company limited by guarantee

Table of contents

Article 1	The Company	14.1	Directors' Meetings
1.1	Name of the Company	14.2	Calling Directors' Meetings
1.2	Type of Company	14.3	Chair for Directors Meetings
1.3	Limited Liability of Members	14.4	Quorum at Directors' Meetings
1.4	The Guarantee	14.5	Using technology to hold Directors' Meetings
1.5	Definitions	14.6	Directors' Resolutions
Article 2	Confessional Basis	14.7	Circular Resolutions of Directors
Article 3	Amending the Constitution	14.8	Directors' Access to Documents
Article 4	Relationships	Article 15	Appointment and Role of Secretary
Article 5	Object	Article 16	Minutes and Records
Article 6	Powers and Authority	Article 17	Financial and Related Records
Article 7	Not-for-profit	Article 18	Governance Policies
Article 8	Members and Membership	Article 19	Notice
Article 9	Dispute Resolution and Discipline	19.1	Notice to the College
Article 10	Meetings	19.2	Notice to Members
10.1	General Meetings	19.3	Notice given
10.2	Annual General Meeting	Article 20	College's Financial Year
10.3	Notice of General Meetings	Article 21	Indemnity
10.4	Quorum at General Meetings	Article 22	Insurance
10.5	Auditor's right to attend Meetings	Article 23	Gift Fund and Foundation
10.6	Using Technology to hold Meetings	Article 24	Winding Up and Surplus Assets
10.7	Chair for General Meetings		
10.8	Role of Chair		
10.9	Adjournment of Meetings		
Article 11	Voting at Meetings		
Article 12	Directors		
12.1	Appointment of Directors		
12.2	Advice to the Directors		
12.3	Election of Officers		
12.4	Term of Office		
12.5	Removal of a Director		
Article 13	Powers and Duties of Directors		
13.1	Powers of Directors		
13.2	Delegation of Directors' Powers		
13.3	Payments to Directors		
13.4	Execution of Documents		
13.5	Conflict of Interest and Duty		
Article 14	Directors' Meetings		

Article 1 **The Company**

1.1 The Name

1.1.1 Name of the company is AUSTRALIAN LUTHERAN COLLEGE.

1.2 Type of company

1.2.1 The company is a not-for-profit public company limited by guarantee which has been established as the educational and research institution of the Church.

1.3 Limited liability of Members

1.3.1 The liability of Members is limited to the amount of the guarantee in Clause 1.4.

1.4 The guarantee

1.4.1 Each Member must contribute an amount not more than \$50 to the property of the company if the company is wound up while the Member is a Member, or within 12 months after they stop being a Member, and this contribution is required to pay for the

1.4.1.1 debts and liabilities of the company incurred before the Member stopped being a Member; or

1.4.1.2 costs of winding up.

1.5 Definitions and Interpretation

In this Constitution of this company, unless the contrary intention appears:

1.5.1 **'the Act'** means the

1.5.1.1 **'Corporations Act 2001'**; and the

1.5.1.2 **'ACNC Act'** means the Australian Charities and Not-for-Profits Commission Act 2012;

1.5.1.3 reference to an Act includes every amendment, re-enactment, or replacement of that Act and any subordinate legislation and regulations made under that Act;

1.5.2 **'Auditor'** means the auditor of the Company;

1.5.3 **'Board'** means the Board of Directors of the Company;

1.5.4 **'Church'** means the Lutheran Church of Australia Inc or its successor provided that if the Lutheran Church of Australia Inc or its successor becomes an externally administered body corporate within the meaning of the *Corporations Act 2001* pursuant to the provisions of part 5 of the *Associations and Corporations Act 1985* **'Church'** shall mean the association (whether incorporated or otherwise) established in substitution for the Lutheran Church of Australia Inc with a Confession and Objects and a constitution substantially the same as the Lutheran Church of Australia Inc;

1.5.5 **'circular resolution'** means a resolution and voting managed electronically or by a manner other than at a face to face meeting;

1.5.6 **'College'** means the company called Australian Lutheran College, the educational and research facility of the Church;

1.5.7 **'conflict of duty'** means those who have other duties or responsibilities that may be in conflict with their duties and responsibilities to the College;

1.5.8 **'constitution'** means the constitution of the College as amended from time to time;

1.5.9 **'Director'** includes any person occupying the position of Director of the College;

1.5.10 **'elected Chair'** means a person elected by the Directors to be the College's Chair under Article 10;

1.5.11 **'General Church Council'** means the General Church Council established under the constitution of the Church;

1.5.12 **'general meeting'** means a meeting of Members and includes the annual general meeting, under Article 10;

- 1.5.13 **General Synod** means the Convention of General Synod in accordance with the constitution of the Church;
- 1.5.14 **'governance policies'** means documents adopted by Directors to the good governance of the College;
- 1.5.15 **'Member'** means a Member under Article 8;
- 1.5.16 **'office'** means the registered office of the College;
- 1.5.17 **'officer'** means College Director;
- 1.5.18 **'register'** means the register of Members of the College;
- 1.5.19 **'registered address'** means the last known address of a Member as noted in the Register;
- 1.5.20 **'seal'** means the College's common seal;
- 1.5.21 **'secretary'** means any person appointed by the Directors to perform any of the duties of the secretary of the College;
- 1.5.22 **'Member present'** means, in connection with a general meeting, a Member present in person, at the venue or venues for the meeting;
- 1.5.23 **'registered charity'** means a charity that is registered under the ACNC Act;
- 1.5.24 **'special resolution'** means a resolution
 - 1.5.24.1 of which notice has been given under Article 20; and
 - 1.5.24.2 that has been passed by at least 75% of the votes cast by Members present and entitled to vote on the resolution;
- 1.5.25 **'surplus assets'** means any assets of the College that remain after paying all debts and other liabilities of the College, including the costs of winding up;
- 1.5.26 In reading this constitution with the Corporations Act
 - 1.5.26.1 the replaceable rules set out in the Corporations Act do not apply to the College;
 - 1.5.26.2 while the College is a registered charity, the ACNC Act and the Corporations Act override any Clauses in this constitution which are inconsistent with those Acts;
 - 1.5.26.3 if the College is not a registered charity, even if it remains a charity, the Corporations Act overrides any Article or in this constitution which is inconsistent with that Act;
 - 1.5.26.4 words and expressions defined in the Act have the same meaning in this Constitution;
 - 1.5.26.5 a reference to the Corporations Law is a reference to the Act as modified or amended from time to time;
 - 1.5.26.6 an expression in a Clause of this Constitution has the same meaning as in a provision of the Act; and
 - 1.5.26.7 a word or expression that is defined in the Corporations Act, or used in that Act and covering the same subject, has the same meaning as in this constitution.

Article 2 Confessional Basis

- 2.1 The College holds to the Confession of the Church and declare that it
 - 2.1.1 accepts without reservation the Holy Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments, as a whole and in all their parts, as the divinely inspired, written, and inerrant Word of God, and as the only infallible source and norm for all matters of faith, doctrine and life; and
 - 2.1.2 acknowledges and accepts as true expositions of the Word of God and as its own confession all the Symbolical Books of the Evangelical Lutheran Church contained in the Book of Concord of 1580, namely, the three Ecumenical Creeds: the Apostles' Creed, the Nicene Creed, and the Athanasian Creed; the Unaltered Augsburg Confession; the Apology of the Augsburg Confession; the Smalcald

Articles; the Small Catechism of Luther; the Large Catechism of Luther; and the Formula of Concord.

- 2.2 All who teach in and administer the affairs of the College shall be bound to carry out their duties in accordance with this confession.

Article 3 Amending this Constitution

- 3.1 Notwithstanding any provision of the Act, this constitution can only be amended in accordance with the provisions of this clause.

~~3.2 No amendments shall be made to all of Clause 3.2, which shall be considered fundamental and unalterable in intent and meaning.~~

~~3.2.1 Article 2. The Confessional Basis; and~~

~~3.2.2 Article 7. Not for profit, to cause the College to no longer be 'not for profit'.~~

- 3.2 No amendments shall be made to this Clause 3.2 and Articles 2 and 7 which shall be considered fundamental and unalterable in intent and meaning.**

- 3.3 The General Church Council may by ordinary resolution amend, alter, add to, or repeal any of the other clauses. Any amendment, alteration, addition, or repeal must be ratified by an ordinary resolution of the next Convention of General Synod.

- 3.4 Notwithstanding Clause 3.3 any amendment of this Constitution by the General Church Council should be of full force and effect until the time of the next Convention of General Synod.

- 3.5 The subsequent resolution of the Convention of General Synod not to approve an amendment to the Constitution will not affect the validity of any acts by the College in the meantime.

Article 4 Relationships

- 4.1 The College declares that all its activities and programs shall always be consistent with and in conformity to the Constitution of the Church.

- 4.2 The College is the tertiary education and research institution of the Church.

- 4.3 The College has relationships with other institutions for the purposes of granting degrees and awards. Relationships shall always be consistent with and in conformity to the Constitution of this College and the Church.

Article 5 Objects

- 5.1 The College shall pursue the following objects for charitable purposes:

- 5.1.1 prepare candidates to be pastors of the Church;
- 5.1.2 prepare candidates to be teachers in the schools of the Church;
- 5.1.3 prepare candidates to be lay workers of the Church;
- 5.1.4 provide continuing and postgraduate studies in theology and education;
- 5.1.5 provide education leading to degrees, awards and qualifications in theology and Christian service;
- 5.1.6 provide training for members, congregations and organisations of the Church and the community;
- 5.1.7 undertake research to assist in the promotion of the mission of the Church;
- 5.1.8 establish and maintain relations with any relevant Board, committee or institution of the Church and with Lutheran education bodies overseas; and
- 5.1.9 undertake such other activities which promote the mission of the Church.

Article 6 Powers and Authority

- 6.1 Subject to Article 7, the College has the following powers, which may only be used to carry out its purposes set out in Article 5 and shall be exercised consistently with the constitution and by-laws of the Church:

- 6.1.1 the powers of an individual; and
- 6.1.2 all the powers of a College limited by guarantee under the Corporations Act.

Article 7 Not-for-profit

- 7.1 The income and property of the College shall only be used for the objects of the College set out in Article 5.
- 7.1.1 The College must not distribute any income or assets directly or indirectly to its Directors and Members, except as provided in Clauses 7.1.2.
- 7.1.2 Clause 7.1.1 does not stop the College from doing the following things, provided they are done in good faith:
 - 7.1.2.1 paying a Member for goods or services they have provided or expenses they have properly incurred at fair and reasonable rates or rates more favourable to the College; or
 - 7.1.2.3 making a payment to a Member in carrying out the College's charitable purposes.

Article 8 The Members and Membership

- 8.1 The Members of the College are the Directors.
- 8.2 Membership of the College will cease
 - 8.2.1 on the date that the Secretary receives written notice of resignation;
 - 8.2.2 when the appointment of the Member as a Director ends or is terminated;
 - 8.2.3 where the Member
 - 8.2.3.1 dies; or
 - 8.2.3.2 becomes mentally incapacitated or whose person or estate is liable to be dealt with in any way under the laws relating to mental health; or
 - 8.2.3.3 is convicted of a serious criminal offence; or
 - 8.2.3.4 is declared bankrupt.

Article 9 Dispute resolution and discipline

- 9.1 Dispute resolution and discipline shall be in accordance with Scriptural principles.
- 9.1.1 The dispute resolution procedure in this clause applies to disputes and disagreements under this constitution between a Member or Director and
 - 9.1.1.1 one or more Members; or
 - 9.1.1.2 one or more Directors; or
 - 9.1.1.3 the College.
- 9.1.2 A Member must not start a dispute resolution procedure in relation to a matter which is the subject of a disciplinary procedure under Article 9 until the disciplinary procedure is completed.
- 9.1.3 Those involved in the dispute must try to resolve it between themselves within 14 days of knowing about it.
- 9.1.4 If those involved in the dispute do not resolve it under Clause 9.1.3 they must within 10 days
 - 9.1.5.1 tell the Directors about the dispute in writing;
 - 9.1.5.2 agree or request that a mediator be appointed; and
 - 9.1.5.3 attempt in good faith to settle the dispute by mediation.
- 9.1.5 The mediator must
 - 9.1.5.1 be chosen by agreement of those involved; or
 - 9.1.5.2 where those involved do not agree
 - 9.1.5.2.1 for disputes between Members, the Directors shall choose a person; or
 - 9.1.5.2.2 for other disputes, the Commissioner of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission or the president of the law institute or society in the state or territory in which the College has its registered office shall choose a person.
- 9.1.6 A mediator chosen by the Directors under Clause 9.1.5.2.1
 - 9.1.6.1 may be a Member or former Member of the College;
 - 9.1.6.2 must not have a personal interest in the dispute; and
 - 9.1.6.3 must not be biased towards or against anyone involved in the dispute.

- 9.1.7 When conducting the mediation, the mediator must
 - 9.1.7.1 allow those involved a reasonable chance to be heard;
 - 9.1.7.2 allow those involved a reasonable chance to review any written statements;
 - 9.1.7.3 ensure that those involved are given natural justice; and
 - 9.1.7.4 not make a decision on the dispute.
- 9.1.8 Disciplining Members
 - 9.1.8.1 In accordance with this clause, the Directors may resolve to warn, suspend or recommend General Church Council expel a Member from the College if the Directors consider that
 - 9.1.8.1.1 the Member has breached this constitution; or
 - 9.1.8.1.2 the Member's behaviour is causing, has caused, or is likely to cause harm to the College.
- 9.1.9 At least 14 days before the Directors' meeting at which a resolution under Clause 9.1.8.1 will be considered, the secretary must notify the Member in writing
 - 9.1.9.1 that the Directors are considering a resolution to warn, suspend or expel the Member;
 - 9.1.9.2 that this resolution will be considered at a Directors' meeting and the date of that meeting;
 - 9.1.9.3 what the Member is said to have done or not done;
 - 9.1.9.4 the nature of the resolution that has been proposed; and
 - 9.1.9.5 that the Member may provide an explanation to the Directors, and details of how to do so.
- 9.1.10 Before the Directors pass any resolution under Clause 9.1.9.1, the Member must be given a chance to explain or defend themselves by
 - 9.1.10.1 sending the Directors a written explanation before that Directors' meeting; and/or
 - 9.1.10.2 speaking at the meeting.
- 9.1.11 After considering any explanation under Clause 9.1.10, the Directors may
 - 9.1.11.1 take no further action;
 - 9.1.11.2 warn the Member;
 - 9.1.11.3 suspend the Member's rights as a Member for a period of no more than 12 months;
 - 9.1.11.4 recommend that the General Church Council expel the Member;
 - 9.1.11.5 refer the decision to an unbiased, independent person on conditions that the Directors consider appropriate, however, the person can only make a decision that the Directors could have made under this clause; or
 - 9.1.11.6 require the matter to be determined at a general meeting.
- 9.1.12 The Directors cannot fine a Member.
- 9.1.13 The Secretary must give written notice to the Member of the decision under Clause 9.1.11 as soon as possible.
- 9.1.14 Disciplinary procedures must be completed as soon as reasonably practical.
- 9.1.15 There will be no liability for any loss or injury suffered by the Member as a result of any decision made in good faith under this clause.

Article 10 Meetings

- 10.1 General meetings of the College
 - 10.1.1 General meetings may be called by
 - 10.1.1.1 the Chair; or
 - 10.1.1.2 two [2] Directors.
 - 10.1.2 For a general meeting to be held,
 - 10.1.2.1 a written request must be submitted to the College;

- 10.1.2.2 within 21 days of the request, give all Directors notice of the request for a general meeting; and
 - 10.1.2.3 hold the general meeting within 2 months of the request.
 - 10.1.3 The Directors who make the request for a general meeting must
 - 10.1.3.1 state in the request any motion to be proposed at the meeting;
 - 10.1.3.2 sign the request; and
 - 10.1.3.3 give the request to the Secretary.
- 10.2 Annual general meeting
 - 10.2.1 Even if these items are not set out in the notice of meeting, the business of an annual general meeting may include the
 - 10.2.1.1 review of the College's activities;
 - 10.2.1.2 review of the College's finances;
 - 10.2.1.3 auditor's report;
 - 10.2.1.4 election of officers:
 - 10.2.1.4.1 Chair;
 - 10.2.1.4.2 Vice-Chair;
 - 10.2.1.4.3 Secretary; and
 - 10.2.1.5 appointment and remuneration of the auditor.
 - 10.2.3 Before or at the annual general meeting, the Members must be given information on the College's activities and finances during the period since the last annual general meeting.
 - 10.2.4 The Chair of the annual general meeting must give Members as a whole a reasonable opportunity at the meeting to ask questions or make comments about the management of the College.
- 10.3 Notice of general meetings
 - 10.3.1 Notice of a general meeting must be given to
 - 10.3.1.1 each Member entitled to vote at the meeting;
 - 10.3.1.2 each Director; and
 - 10.3.1.3 the auditor.
 - 10.3.2 Notice of a general meeting must be provided in writing at least 21 days before the meeting.
 - 10.3.3 Notice of a meeting may be provided less than 21 days before the meeting if
 - 10.3.3.1 for an annual general meeting, all the Members entitled to attend and vote at the annual general meeting agree beforehand; or
 - 10.3.3.2 for any other general meeting, Members with at least 95% agree beforehand.
 - 10.3.4 Notice of a general meeting must include
 - 10.3.4.1 the place, date and time for the meeting, and if the meeting is to be held in two or more places, the technology that will be used to facilitate this;
 - 10.3.4.2 the general nature of the meeting's business; and
 - 10.3.4.3 if applicable, that a special resolution is to be proposed and the words of the proposed resolution.
 - 10.3.5 If a general meeting is adjourned for one month or more, the Members must be given new notice of the resumed meeting.
- 10.4 Quorum at general meetings
 - 10.4.1 For a general meeting to be held, a quorum must be present for the whole meeting. A quorum is a majority of the Members at the time appointed for the meeting.
 - 10.4.2 No business may be conducted at a general meeting if a quorum is not present.
 - 10.4.3 If there is no quorum present within 30 minutes after the starting time stated in the notice of general meeting, the general meeting is adjourned to the date, time

and place that the Chair specifies. If the Chair does not specify one or more of those things, the meeting is adjourned to

10.4.3.1 if the date is not specified – the same day in the next week;

10.4.3.2 if the time is not specified – the same time; and

10.4.3.3 if the place is not specified – the same place.

10.4.4 If no quorum is present at the resumed meeting within 30 minutes after the starting time set for that meeting, the meeting is cancelled.

10.5 Auditor's right to attend meetings

10.5.1 The auditor is entitled to attend any general meeting and to be heard by the Members on any part of the business of the meeting that concerns the auditor in the capacity of auditor.

10.5.2 The College must give the auditor any communications relating to the general meeting that a Member of the College is entitled to receive.

10.6 Using technology to hold meetings

10.6.1 The College may hold a general meeting at two or more venues using any technology that gives the Members as a whole a reasonable opportunity to participate, including access to documentation, to hear and be heard.

10.6.2 Anyone using this technology is taken to be present in person at the meeting.

10.7 Chair for general meetings

10.7.1 The elected Chair shall chair general meetings.

10.7.2 The Members present and entitled to vote at a general meeting may choose a Director or Member to be the Chair for that meeting if

10.7.2.1 there is no elected Chair; or

10.7.2.2 the elected chair is not present within 30 minutes after the starting time set for the meeting; or

10.7.2.3 the elected Chair is present but says they do not wish to act as chair of the meeting.

10.7.3 The Chair is responsible for the conduct of the general meeting, and for this purpose must give Members, or the auditor, a reasonable opportunity to make comments and ask questions.

10.8 Role of the Chair

10.8.1 The Chair is responsible for the conduct of the general meeting, and for this purpose must give Members and the auditor a reasonable opportunity to make comments and ask questions.

10.8.2 The Chair does not have a casting vote.

10.9 Adjournment of meetings

10.9.1 If a quorum is present, a general meeting must be adjourned if a majority of Members present direct the Chair to adjourn it.

10.9.2 Only unfinished business may be dealt with at a meeting resumed after an adjournment.

10.9.3 An adjourned general meeting may resume at a different venue to the initial general meeting.

Article 11 Voting at meetings

11.1 Each Member has one vote.

11.2 There shall be no proxy voting.

11.3 The Chair does not have a casting vote in addition to the normal vote as a Director.

11.4 Voting must be conducted and decided by

11.4.1 a show of hands; or

11.4.2 a vote in writing; or

11.4.3 another method chosen by the Chair that is fair and reasonable in the circumstances.

- 11.5 On a show of hands the
 - 11.5.1 Chair's decision is conclusive evidence of the result of the vote; and
 - 11.5.2 Chair and the meeting minutes do not need to state the number or proportion of the votes recorded in favour or against on a show of hands.
- 11.6 A vote in writing may be demanded on any motion instead of or after a vote by a show of hands by
 - 11.6.1 at least five Members present; or
 - 11.6.2 the Chair.
- 11.7 A vote in writing must be taken when and how the chair directs, unless Clause 11.8 applies.
- 11.8 A vote in writing must be held immediately if it is demanded
 - 11.8.1 for the election of a chair under Clause 12.3; or
 - 11.8.2 to decide whether to adjourn the meeting.
- 11.9 A demand for a vote in writing may be withdrawn.

Article 12 Directors

12.1 Appointment of Directors

- 12.1.1 The College shall have a Board which shall consist of eight [8] Directors:
 - 12.1.1.1 the Bishop of the Church;
 - 12.1.1.2 two [2] pastors of the Church appointed by the General Church Council;
 - and
 - 12.1.1.3 five [5] lay people who are voting members of congregations of the Church appointed by the General Church Council.
- 12.1.2 The Board may continue to operate with up to two casual vacancies.

12.2 Advice to the Directors

- 12.2.1 By invitation of the Directors, consultants and others shall attend board meetings to provide advice which the Directors shall use as they see fit. These include but are not limited to
 - 12.2.2.1 Principal of the College;
 - 12.2.2.2 Dean;
 - 12.2.2.3 Business Manager;
 - 12.2.2.4 Auditor; and
 - 12.2.2.5 others that the Directors decide provide specific expertise.
- 12.2.2 These shall have no voting rights.

12.3 Election of Officers

- 12.3.1 At the annual general meeting the Directors shall elect a Director as the College's
 - 12.3.3.1 Chair, on nomination of the General Church Council;
 - 12.3.3.2 Vice-Chair; and
 - 12.3.3.3 Secretary.

12.4 Term of office

- 12.4.1 A Director appointed by the General Church Council will commence the term of appointment three [3] months after the Convention of General Synod and will hold office until three [3] months after the next Convention of General Synod.
- 12.4.2 At the end of the term of appointment a Director may be reappointed.
- 12.4.3 All Directors shall be eligible to stand subject to the requirements of the Corporations Act and the ACNC Act.
- 12.4.4 Casual vacancies may be filled by the General Church Council at the next meeting of the General Church Council provided that a casual vacancy of
 - 12.4.4.1 a lay Director will be filled by a lay person; and
 - 12.4.4.2 a pastor Director will be filled by a pastor.
- 12.4.5 The term of a Director filling a casual vacancy will expire three [3] months after the next Convention of General Synod.

- 12.4.6 A Director who has held office for a continuous period of nine years or more may only be re-appointed by a special resolution of General Church Council.
- 12.4.7 The term of Office Bearers is one year.
- 12.4.8 If the Director is unable to hold the position for the full term the General Church Council must elect another of the Directors to the office.

12.5 Removal of a Director

- 12.5.1 A Director stops being a Director for any of the following reasons:
 - 12.5.1.1 gives written notice of resignation as a Director to the College;
 - 12.5.1.2 dies;
 - 12.5.1.3 is removed by General Church Council by special resolution if appointed by the General Church Council;
 - 12.5.1.4 is absent for three [3] consecutive Directors' meetings without approval from the Directors;
 - 12.5.1.5 is directly or indirectly interested in any contract or proposed contract with the College and fail to declare the nature of the interest as required by the Act;
 - 12.5.1.6 is liable to have a person appointed, under a law relating to the administration of estates of persons who through mental or physical incapacity are incapable of managing their affairs, to administer it, or becomes in the opinion of the Board incapable of performing his or her duties; or
 - 12.5.1.7 becomes ineligible to be a Director of the College under the Corporations Act or the ACNC Act.

Article 13 Powers and Duties of Directors

13.1 Powers of Directors

- 13.1.1 The Directors are responsible for managing and directing the activities of the College to achieve the Objects as set out in Article 5.
- 13.1.2 The Directors may use all the powers of the College except for powers that may be used under the Corporations Act or this constitution.
- 13.1.3 The Board of Directors shall provide to General Church Council
 - 13.1.3.1 an annual report to the General Church Council which includes
 - 13.1.3.1.1 a record of the past year's activities in relation to planned objectives;
 - 13.1.3.1.2 audited financial statements and balance sheet;
 - 13.1.3.1.3 details for the ensuing two [2] years of its
 - 13.1.3.1.3.1 proposed work program;
 - 13.1.3.1.3.2 estimates of capital;
 - 13.1.3.1.3.3 operating costs; and
 - 13.1.3.1.3.4 income.
- 13.1.4 The Board of Directors provide to the Convention of General Synod a report covering the synodical term which includes
 - 13.1.4.1 general activity; and
 - 13.1.4.2 a financial statement.
- 13.1.5 The Board of Directors shall recommend to the General Church Council ordained candidates to be called as Principal and teaching staff.
- 13.1.6 Calls shall be for a specific period of time.
- 13.1.7 The Board of Directors shall adopt policies for
 - 13.1.7.1 the Principal to employ staff.
- 13.1.8 The Board of Directors shall
 - 13.1.8.1 appoint sub-committees, which may include personnel who are not Directors, and define the terms of reference;

- 13.1.8.2 endorse programs of study leading to graduation as pastors, teachers, and lay workers in accordance with the graduate attributes required by key stakeholders;
- 13.1.8.3 endorse courses of study leading to degrees and awards;
- 13.1.8.4 administer the financial affairs of the College and manage the real and personal estate under its care;
- 13.1.8.5 review tuition fees;
- 13.1.8.6 adopt a budget;
- 13.1.8.7 receive regular reports from the Principal; and
- 13.1.8.8 decide on the responsible financial management of the College.
- 13.1.9 The Directors must comply with their duties as Directors under legislation and common law, and with the duties described in governance standard 5 of the regulations made under the ACNC Act which are
 - 13.1.9.1 to exercise their powers and discharge their duties with the degree of care and diligence that a reasonable individual would exercise if they were a Director of the College;
 - 13.1.9.2 to act in good faith in the best interests of the College and to further the not for profit purposes of the College set out in Article 7;
 - 13.1.9.3 to disclose any perceived or actual material conflicts of interest in the manner set out in Clause 13.5;
 - 13.1.9.4 to ensure that the financial affairs of the College are managed responsibly;
 - 13.1.9.5 not to misuse their position as a Director;
 - 13.1.9.6 not to misuse information they gain in their role as a Director; and
 - 13.1.9.7 not to allow the College to operate while it is insolvent.
- 13.2 Delegation of Directors' Powers
 - 13.2.1 The Directors may delegate any of their powers and functions to a committee, a Director, an employee of the College or any other person, as they consider appropriate and define the terms of reference.
 - 13.2.2 The delegation must be recorded in the minutes.
- 13.3 Payments to Directors
 - 13.3.1 The College must not pay fees to a Director for acting as a Director.
 - 13.3.2 The College may
 - 13.3.2.1 pay a Director for work they do for the College, other than as a Director, if the amount is no more than a reasonable fee for the work done; or
 - 13.3.2.2 reimburse a Director for expenses properly incurred by the Director in connection with the affairs of the College.
 - 13.3.3 The College may pay premiums for insurance indemnifying Directors, as allowed for by law and this constitution.
- 13.4 Execution of documents
 - 13.4.1 If authorisation is not required by General Church Council, the College may execute a document without using a common seal if the document is signed by two Directors of the College.
- 13.5 Conflicts of interest and Duty
 - 13.5.1 A Director must disclose the nature and extent of any actual or perceived conflict of interest and duty in a matter that is being considered at a meeting of Directors or that is proposed in a circular resolution
 - 13.5.1.1 to the other Directors; or
 - 13.5.1.2 to the General Church Council, if all of the Directors have the same conflict of interest.

- 13.5.2 The disclosure of a conflict of interest by a Director must be recorded in the minutes of the meeting.
- 13.5.3 Each Director who has a material personal interest in a matter that is being considered at a meeting of Directors or that is proposed in a circular resolution, must not, except as provided under Clauses 15.4
 - 13.5.3.1 be present at the meeting while the matter is being discussed; or
 - 13.5.3.2 vote on the matter.
- 13.5.4 A Director may still be present and vote if
 - 13.5.4.1 their interest arises because they are a Member of the College, and the other Members have the same interest;
 - 13.5.4.2 their interest relates to an insurance contract that insures, or would insure, the Director against liabilities that the Director incurs as a Director of the College as referred to in Article 22. Insurance;
 - 13.5.4.3 their interest relates to a payment by the College under Article 21. Indemnity, or any contract relating to an indemnity that is allowed under the Corporations Act;
 - 13.5.4.4 the Australian Securities and Investments Commission (ASIC) makes an order allowing the Director to vote on the matter; or
 - 13.5.4.5 the Directors who do not have a material personal interest in the matter pass a resolution that
 - 13.5.4.5.1 identifies the Director, the nature and extent of the Director's interest in the matter and how it relates to the affairs of the College; and
 - 13.5.4.5.2 says that those Directors are satisfied that the interest should not stop the Director from voting or being present.

Article 14 Directors' meetings

- 14.1 Directors' meetings
 - 14.1.1 The Directors may decide how often, where and when they meet.
- 14.2 Calling Directors' meetings
 - 14.2.1 A Director may call a Directors' meeting by giving reasonable notice to all of the other Directors in writing or by any other means of communication that has previously been agreed to by all of the Directors.
- 14.3 Chair for Directors' meetings
 - 14.3.1 The elected Chair is entitled to chair Directors' meetings.
 - 14.3.2 The Directors at a Directors' meeting may choose a Director to be the Chair for that meeting if the elected Chair is
 - 14.3.2.1 not present within 30 minutes after the starting time set for the meeting; or
 - 14.3.2.2 present but does not want to act as Chair of the meeting.
- 14.4 Quorum at Directors' meetings
 - 14.4.1 The quorum for a Directors' meeting is a majority of the Directors.
 - 14.4.2 A quorum must be present for the whole Directors' meeting.
 - 14.4.3 In case of an emergency resulting in several casual vacancies and a quorum not possible, the remaining Directors are able to pass critical resolutions until vacancies have been filled.
- 14.5 Using technology to hold Directors' meetings
 - 14.5.1 The Directors may hold their meetings by using any technology such as video or teleconferencing or that is agreed to by all of the Directors.
 - 14.5.2 A Director may only withdraw their consent to hold meeting using technology within a reasonable period before the meeting.
- 14.6 Directors' Resolutions

- 14.6.1 A Directors' resolution must be passed by a majority of the votes cast by Directors present and entitled to vote on the motion.
- 14.7 Circular resolutions of Directors
 - 14.7.1 The Directors may pass a circular resolution without a Directors' meeting being held.
 - 14.7.2 A circular resolution is passed if all the Directors entitled to vote on the resolution sign or otherwise agree to the resolution in the manner set out in Clause 14.7.
 - 14.7.3 Each Director may sign
 - 14.7.3.1 a single document setting out the motion and containing a statement that they agree to the motion be resolved resolution; or
 - 14.7.3.2 separate copies of that document, as long as the wording of the resolution is the same in each copy.
 - 14.7.4 The College may send a circular resolution by email to the Directors and the Directors may agree to the resolution by sending a reply email to that effect, including the text of the resolution in their reply.
 - 14.7.5 A circular resolution is passed when the last Director signs; or otherwise agrees to the resolution in the manner set out in Clause 14.7.2.
- 14.8 Directors' access to documents
 - 14.8.1 A Director has a right of access to the financial records of the College at all reasonable times.
 - 14.8.2 If the Directors agree, the College must give a Director or former Director access to
 - 14.8.2.1 documents, including documents provided for or available to the Directors; and
 - 14.8.2.2 any other documents referred to in those documents.

Article 15 Appointment and role of secretary

- 15.1 The College must have at least one secretary, who shall be a Director.
- 15.2 A secretary must be appointed by the Directors and may be removed by the Directors.
- 15.3 The role of the secretary includes dealing with correspondence as directed by the board, maintaining the minutes and other records of general meetings, notices of meetings, Directors' meetings and circular resolutions. Some duties of the secretary may be delegated to others under the direction of the board.

Article 16 Minutes and records

- 16.1 The College must, within one month, make and keep the following records of general meetings
 - 16.1.1 minutes of proceedings and resolutions;
 - 16.1.2 minutes of circular resolutions of Members; and
 - 16.1.3 a copy of a notice of each general meeting.
- 16.2 The College must, within one month, make and keep the following records Directors meetings
 - 16.2.1 minutes of proceedings and resolutions;
 - 16.2.2 minutes of meetings of any committees; and
 - 16.2.3 minutes of circular resolutions of Directors.
- 16.3 To allow Members to inspect the College's records the
 - 16.3.1 College must give a Member access to the records set out in Clause 16.2; and
 - 16.3.2 Directors may authorise a Member to inspect other records of the College, including records referred to in Clause 16.1 and Clause 16.3.1.
- 16.4 The Directors must ensure that minutes of a general meeting or a Directors' meeting are signed within a reasonable time after the meeting by the
 - 16.4.1 Chair of the meeting; or

16.4.2 Chair of the next meeting.

- 16.5 The Directors must ensure that minutes of the passing of a circular resolution, of Members or Directors, are signed by a Director within a reasonable time after the resolution is passed.

Article 17 Financial and related records

- 17.1 The College must make and keep written financial records that
- 17.1.1 correctly record and explain its transactions and financial position and performance; and
 - 17.1.2 enable true and fair financial statements to be prepared and to be audited.
- 17.2 The College must also keep written records that correctly record its operations.
- 17.3 The College must retain its records for at least seven [7] years.
- 17.4 The Directors must take reasonable steps to ensure that the College's records are kept safe.

Article 18 Governance Policies

- 18.1 The Directors may pass a resolution to adopt Governance Policies to give effect to this constitution.

Article 19 Notices

19.1 Notice to the College

- 19.1.1 Written notice or any communication under this constitution may be given to the College, the Directors or the secretary by
- 19.1.1.1 delivering it to the College's registered office;
 - 19.1.1.2 posting it to the College's registered office or to another address chosen by the College for notice to be provided;
 - 19.1.1.3 sending it to an email address or other electronic address notified by the College to the Members as the College's email address or other electronic address; or
 - 19.1.1.4 sending it to the fax number notified by the College to the Members as the College's fax number.

19.2 Notice to Members

- 19.2.1 Written notice or any communication under this constitution may be given to a Member
- 19.2.1.1 in person;
 - 19.2.1.2 by posting it to, or leaving it at the address of the Member in the register of Members or an alternative address (if any) nominated by the Member for service of notices;
 - 19.2.1.3 sending it to the email or other electronic address nominated by the Member as an alternative address for service of notices (if any);
 - 19.2.1.4 sending it to the fax number nominated by the Member as an alternative address for service of notices (if any); or
 - 19.2.1.5 if agreed to by the Member, by notifying the Member at an email or other electronic address nominated by the Member, that the notice is available at a specified place or address (including an electronic address).
- 19.2.2 If the College does not have an address for the Member, the College is not required to give notice in person.

19.3 When notice is taken to be given

- 19.3.1 A notice
- 19.3.1.1 delivered in person, or left at a the recipient's address, is taken to be given on the day it is delivered;
 - 19.3.1.2 sent by post, is taken to be given on the fifth day after it is posted with the correct payment of postage costs;

- 19.3.1.3 sent by email, fax or other electronic method, is taken to be given on the business day after it is sent; and
- 19.3.1.4 under Clause 19.1 'given' is taken to be on the business day after the notice that was sent is available to the recipient.

Article 20 College's financial year

- 20.1 The College's financial year is from 1 Jan to 31 Dec, unless the Directors pass a resolution to change the financial year.

Article 21 Indemnity

- 21.1 To the extent permitted by the Act, the Company
 - 21.1.1 must indemnify each person who is or has been an Officer of the Company against any liability incurred by the person as an Officer of the Company; and
 - 21.1.2 may pay a premium for a contract insuring an Officer of the Company against that liability.
- 21.2 Subject to the Act, the Company may enter into an agreement or deed with an Officer of the Company under which the Company must do all or any of the following:
 - 21.2.1 keep a set of the Company's books (including minute books) and allow the Officer and the Officer's advisers access to the books for any period agreed;
 - 21.2.2 indemnify the Officer against any liability incurred by the Officer as an Officer; and
 - 21.2.3 keep the Officer insured for any period agreed in respect of any act or omission by the Officer while an Officer.
- 21.3 In this Clause, Officer has the meaning given to it in respect of a corporation in the Act.

Article 22 Insurance

- 22.1 To the extent permitted by law, and if the Directors consider it appropriate, the College may pay or agree to pay a premium for a contract insuring a person who is or has been an officer of the College against any liability incurred by the person as an officer of the College.

Article 23 Gift Fund and Foundation

- 23.1 Gift Fund
 - 23.1.1 The Company may maintain for the objects of the Company a Gift Fund as prescribed in TR 2000/12 and Section 30.125 of the ITAA97 in which it may deposit any
 - 23.1.1.1 money, investments and assets paid or transferred to and accepted by the Company as additions to the Gift Fund;
 - 23.1.1.2 accretions to the Gift Fund;
 - 23.1.1.3 accumulations of income; and
 - 23.1.1.3 money, investments and property from time to time representing the above or into which they are converted, and includes any part of the Gift Fund.
 - 23.1.2 The Company must use the property described in Clause 23.1.1.1 above only for the objects of the Company as described in Article 5 of this Constitution.
- 23.2 Foundation
 - 23.2.1 The Company may maintain for the objects of the Company a Foundation.
- 23.3 The College shall upon receiving a gift, issue a receipt to the donor. Receipts issued for gifts must state the
 - 23.3.1 name of the Gift Fund or Foundation;
 - 23.3.2 Australian Business Number of the College;
 - 23.3.3 date of the gift;
 - 23.3.4 description of the contributed property; and
 - 23.3.5 the fact that the receipt is for a gift.

Article 24 Winding up and Surplus assets

- 24.1 If the College is wound up, any surplus remains following the winding up of the College, shall not be paid to or distributed amongst Members.

- 24.2 Subject to the Corporations Act and any other applicable Act, and any court order, any surplus assets that remain after the College is wound up must be distributed or transferred to another corporation or organisation of the Church which, by its constitution, is
 - 24.2.1 required by its Objects to use its assets for the support of the Church or its successor or any body whether incorporated or otherwise under the umbrella of the Church or the Members of the Church;
 - 24.2.2 required to apply its surplus (if any) or other income in promoting its objects; and
 - 24.2.3 prohibited from making any distribution to its Members.
- 24.3 Such corporation or organisation shall be determined by the General Church Council at or before the winding up and in default, by application to the Supreme Court for determination.

We, the undersigned, being each person specified in the application for the College’s registration as a person who consents to become a Member, hereby agree to the terms of this Constitution:

Dated: _____

Name of Director	Address	Signature
Bishop of the Church	
Chair	
Secretary	

The motion was CARRIED.

2.3 Proposals from LCA Districts and Congregations

2.3.1 Ordination of both women and men

(See Page 151 of the Book of Reports)

This proposal was not put under the rules of transacting business (Section VII.C19 of the By-Laws of the Church) as the matter was the same in substance as 2.2.3.

2.3.2 The theological basis for the ordination of women and men

(See Page 152 of the Book of Reports)

This proposal was not put under the rules of transacting business (Section VII.C19 of the By-Laws of the Church) as the matter was the same in substance as 2.2.3.

2.3.3 The theological basis for why the ordination of women and men need not be divisive

(See Page 155 of the Book of Reports)

This proposal was not put as the Redeemer Congregation withdrew it after consultation with the Secretary of the Church.

2.3.4 The theological basis for the ordination of men only

(See Page 157 of the Book of Reports)

2018:0231 RESOLVED that before any vote is conducted regarding the ordination of both men and women, no less than thirty minutes be set aside to allow the clear presentation of the scriptural case for the ordination of men only.

Proposed amendment #1: RESOLVED that before any vote is conducted regarding the ordination of both men and women, no less than thirty minutes be set aside to allow the clear presentation of the scriptural case **for the teaching of the LCA** for the ordination of men only.

The proposed amendment was CARRIED. This became the motion.

The motion was CARRIED.

At this point Rev Josh Pfeiffer - SA/NT, Annie Gellert - Grampians Parish – Vic/Tas and Rev Dr Adam Hensley – ALC gave a presentation on the scriptural case for the ordination of men only.

2.3.5 No further amendments to Theses of Agreement on ordination of women regarding the office of the ministry

(See Page 158 of the Book of Reports)

This proposal was not put under the rules of transacting business (Section VII.C19 of the By-Laws of the Church) as the matter was the same in substance as 2.2.3.

2.3.6 The practice of holy communion and infants

(See Page 159 of the Book of Reports)

This proposal was not put under the rules of transacting business (Section VII.C19 of the By-Laws of the Church) as the matter was the same in substance as 2.2.4.

2.3.7 Membership of the International Lutheran Council

(See Page 159 of the Book of Reports)

This proposal was not put under the rules of transacting business (Section VII.C19 of the By-Laws of the Church) as the matter was the same in substance as 2.2.5.

2.3.8 Membership of the Lutheran World Federation

(See Page 160 of the Book of Reports)

This proposal was not put under the rules of transacting business (Section VII.C19 of the By-Laws of the Church) as the matter was the same in substance as 2.2.5.

2.3.9 Changes to the LCA voting system

(See Page 162 of the Book of Reports)

A point of order was raised about the timing of this item on the agenda and that it should be placed before item 2.2.3. The chair ruled that any immediate change to the voting system would be detrimental to the unity of the Church and should be taken after the major items on the agenda have been dealt with, thus making the changes relevant to future conventions should it pass. In addition it was noted that some matters had already been discussed and voted on using the current rules.

The ruling was appealed. Rev John Henderson handed the chair to Assistant Bishop Rev Andrew Pfeiffer to enable the Convention to debate the appeal.

The appeal was **LOST**.

Rev John Henderson then resumed the Chairing the meeting.

This proposal was not put under the rules of transacting business (Section VII.C19 of the By-Laws of the Church) as the matter was the same in substance as 2.4.13

2.3.10 Request for a review of the Professional Standards Department

(See Page 168 of the Book of Reports)

This proposal was not put under the rules of transacting business (Section VII.C19 of the By-Laws of the Church) as the matter was the same in substance as 2.2.6.

2.3.11 Change of interpretation of complaint procedures

(See Page 170 of the Book of Reports)

This proposal was not put under the rules of transacting business (Section VII.C19 of the By-Laws of the Church) as the matter was the same in substance as 2.2.6.

2.3.12 Ensure every effort is made to bring reconciliation and resolution before referral to the Tribunal

(See Page 171 of the Book of Reports)

This proposal was not put under the rules of transacting business (Section VII.C19 of the By-Laws of the Church) as the matter was the same in substance as 2.2.6.

2.3.13 Adoption of a congregation risk assessment program

(See Page 171 of the Book of Reports)

This item was referred to the General Church Board in the 19th Synodical period – please see resolution 2018:1802 on PAGE 81.

2.3.14 Examination of avenues to provide a pastoral support body

(See Page 172 of the Book of Reports)

This proposal was not put under the rules of transacting business (Section VII.C19 of the By-Laws of the Church) as the matter was the same in substance as 2.2.6.

2.3.15 Provide support to pastors and church workers who appear before the Tribunal

(See Page 172 of the Book of Reports)

This proposal was not put under the rules of transacting business (Section VII.C19 of the By-Laws of the Church) as the matter was the same in substance as 2.2.6.

2.3.16 Make available the use of child protection training from other denominations

(See Page 173 of the Book of Reports)

This item was referred to the General Church Board in the 19th Synodical period – please see resolution 2018:1802 on PAGE 81.

2.3.17 Recognition of Aboriginal members

(See Page 173 of the Book of Reports)

Part of this proposal was referred to the General Church Board in the 19th Synodical period – please see resolution 2018:1802 PAGE 81.

The balance of the proposal was not put under the rules of transacting business (Section VII.C19 of the By-Laws of the Church) as the matter was the same in substance as 2.4.14.

2.3.18 Change the name of the church to Lutheran Church of Australia and New Zealand

(See Page 175 of the Book of Reports)

This item was referred to the General Church Board in the 19th Synodical period – please see resolution 2018:1802 on PAGE 81.

2.3.19 College of Bishops to address the serious shortage of pastors

(See Page 175 of the Book of Reports)

This item was referred to the General Church Board in the 19th Synodical period – please see resolution 2018:1802 on PAGE 81.

2.3.20 Dispensing with the title of 'Bishop'

(See Page 176 of the Book of Reports)

This item was referred to the General Church Board in the 19th Synodical period – please see resolution 2018:1802 on PAGE 81.

2.3.21 Mark the 500th anniversary of the Reformation

(See Page 176 of the Book of Reports)

This item was recognised in the Opening Service of Convention held on Tuesday 2 October 2018.

2.3.22 Changes to the LCA national structure to be halted

(See Page 177 of the Book of Reports)

This proposal was not put under the rules of transacting business (Section VII.C19 of the By-Laws of the Church) as the matter was the same in substance as 2.2.1 and 2.2.2.

2.4 Constitution Matters

2.4.1 Report: Standing Committee on Constitutions

(See Page 180 of the Book of Reports)

2.4.2 Constitutional changes: ACNC Requirements

(See Page 183 of the Book of Reports)

2018:0232 RESOLVED that **Article 4 Objects** of the Model Constitution for a Congregation be amended with the addition of new sub-clauses 4.1.5 and 4.2 as follows (words to be deleted – ~~striketrough~~; words to be added – **bold**):

ARTICLE 4. OBJECTS

4.1 The Objects of the Congregation are to

- 4.1.1 glorify the Triune God in its worship and in its work;
- 4.1.2 bear witness to the Lord Jesus Christ through the proclamation of the Gospel in accordance with the Confession and practice of the Church;
- 4.1.3 gather into the Congregation such persons as are, or desire to become, members of the Church for their edification through the Word and the Sacraments;
- 4.1.4 help the members to dedicate their God-given spiritual, material and physical gifts to the service of their Lord;
- 4.1.5 **enable the members to reach out into the community in their daily lives and in their congregational activities as bearers of the Gospel;**
- 4.1.56 minister to human need in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord in the spirit of Christian charity and service;
- 4.1.67 exercise discipline over its members in conformity with the Scriptures and the Confession of the Congregation;
- 4.1.78 join with the Church and the District in building and extending the Kingdom of God; and
- 4.1.89 acquire, dispose of or otherwise deal with real and personal property in the interest of the work of the Church and the Congregation.

4.2 Not-for-Profit

- 4.2.1 **The property and income of the Congregation shall be applied solely towards the promotion of the objects or purposes of the Church and no part of that property or income may be paid or otherwise distributed, directly or indirectly, to members of the Congregation, except in good faith in the promotion of those objects or purposes.**

- 4.2.2 A payment may be made to a member out of the funds of the Congregation only if it is authorised under the following clause 4.2.3.
- 4.2.3 A payment to a member out of the funds of the Congregation is authorised if it is
 - 4.2.3.1 the payment in good faith to the member as reasonable remuneration for any services provided to the Congregation, or for goods supplied to the Congregation, in the ordinary course of business; or
 - 4.2.3.2 the payment of interest, on money borrowed by the Congregation from the member, at a rate not greater than the cash rate published from time to time by the Reserve Bank of Australia; or
 - 4.2.3.3 the payment of reasonable rent to the member for premises leased by the member to the Congregation; or
 - 4.2.3.4 the reimbursement of reasonable expenses properly incurred by the member on behalf of the Congregation; or
 - 4.2.3.5 making a payment or providing a benefit to a member in carrying out the objects of the Congregation for charitable purposes.

AND FURTHER RESOLVED that **Article 4 Objects** of the Model Constitution for a Parish be amended with the addition of a new sub-clause 4.2 as follows (words to be deleted – ~~striketrough~~; words to be added – **bold**):

ARTICLE 4. OBJECTS

- 4.1 The Parish, consisting of Congregations which are members of the Church, has as its objects to
 - 4.1.1 assist its member-congregations in promoting their objects and to this end to
 - 4.1.1.1 call a pastor or pastors or church workers for the benefit of the Parish and the Church, and to determine the terms under which they shall serve with the Parish;
 - 4.1.1.2 hold, purchase or take on lease real and personal property, and to sell, exchange, mortgage, borrow, lease or build, and otherwise deal with all property as may from time to time be determined upon by the members of the Parish in accordance with the rules of the Parish;
 - 4.1.1.3 appoint such office-bearers and representatives as the Parish may desire from time to time; and
 - 4.1.2 promote the objects of the Church within its sphere.
- 4.2 **Not-for-Profit**
 - 4.2.1 **The property and income of the Parish shall be applied solely towards the promotion of the objects or purposes of the Church and no part of that property or income may be paid or otherwise distributed, directly or indirectly, to members of the member-congregations of the Parish, except in good faith in the promotion of those objects or purposes.**
 - 4.2.2 **A payment may be made to a member out of the funds of the Parish only if it is authorised under the following clause 4.2.3.**
 - 4.2.3 **A payment to a member out of the funds of the Parish is authorised if it is**
 - 4.2.3.1 **the payment in good faith to the member as reasonable remuneration for any services provided to the Parish, or for goods supplied to the Parish, in the ordinary course of business; or**

- 4.2.3.2 the payment of interest, on money borrowed by the Parish from the member, at a rate not greater than the cash rate published from time to time by the Reserve Bank of Australia; or
- 4.2.3.3 the payment of reasonable rent to the member for premises leased by the member to the Parish; or
- 4.2.3.4 the reimbursement of reasonable expenses properly incurred by the member on behalf of the Parish.

AND FURTHER RESOLVED that **Article 11 Dissolution** of the Model Constitution for a Congregation be amended as follows (words to be deleted – ~~striketrough~~; words to be added – **bold**):

ARTICLE 11. DISSOLUTION

- 11.1 **A special resolution is required if it is proposed that the Congregation dissolve and** ~~Any such~~ resolution for dissolution shall be made according to the following procedure:
 - 11.1.1 ~~Written~~ Notice of a motion to dissolve the Congregation shall be given to the members of the Congregation.
 - 11.1.2 The motion shall be presented to the Congregation only after the Bishop of the District has been consulted.
 - 11.1.3 At least thirty [30] days written notice of a meeting, specifying the intention to dissolve as a special motion, shall be given to all the voting members of the Congregation.
 - 11.1.4 The motion shall require a majority of three-quarters [3/4] of all the voting members of the Congregation **for determination at a general meeting.**
 - 11.1.5 **The result, if carried by at least the required majority, shall be declared as being carried as a special resolution.**
 - 11.1.56 ~~The~~ decision shall only become operative after the sanction of the Church Council of the District has been obtained.
 - 11.1.67 ~~Once~~ the decision has been made to dissolve the Congregation according to the above procedure, a date for dissolution shall be set contingent upon all matters pertaining to dissolution and the transference of all titles and other assets of the Congregation being effected according to law.
- 11.2 In the event of such dissolution, the Congregation may give indication regarding the use of its assets by the District and/or the Church. **Any surplus assets which remain after such dissolution and the satisfaction of all debts and liabilities shall be transferred to one or more Lutheran organisations with similar purposes, that are charitable at law and which are not carried on for the profit or gain of individual members.** Where no such indication is given, if any surplus remains following the winding up of the Congregation, the surplus shall not be paid to or distributed amongst members, but be transferred to the District absolutely.

AND FURTHER RESOLVED that **Article 11 Dissolution** of the Model Constitution for a Parish be amended with the additions as follows (words to be deleted – ~~striketrough~~; words to be added – **bold**):

ARTICLE 11. DISSOLUTION

- 11.1 **A special resolution is required if it is proposed that the Parish dissolve and** ~~Any such~~ resolution for dissolution shall be made according to the following procedure:

- 11.1.1 ~~Written~~ notice of a motion to dissolve the Parish shall be given to the member-congregations of the Parish.
- 11.1.2 The motion shall be presented to the member-congregations only after the Bishop of the District has been consulted.
- 11.1.3 At least thirty [30] days written notice of a meeting, specifying the intention to dissolve as a special motion, shall be given to all the voting members of the Parish.
- 11.1.4 The motion shall require a majority of three-quarters [3/4] of all the voting members of the Parish **for determination at a general meeting.**
- 11.1.5 **The result, if carried by at least the required majority, shall be declared as being carried as a special resolution.**
- 11.1.5~~6~~ The decision shall only become operative after the sanction of the Church Council of the District has been obtained.
- 11.1.6~~7~~ Once the decision has been made to dissolve the Parish according to the above procedure, a date for dissolution shall be set contingent upon all matters pertaining to dissolution and the transference of all titles and other assets of the Parish being effected according to law.
- 11.2 In the event of such dissolution, the Parish may give indication regarding the use of any Parish-owned assets by the District and/or the Church. **Any surplus assets which remain after such dissolution and the satisfaction of all debts and liabilities shall be transferred to one or more Lutheran organisations with similar purposes, that are charitable at law and which are not carried on for the profit or gain of individual members.** Where no such indication is given, if any surplus remains following the winding up of the Parish, the surplus shall not be paid to or distributed amongst members, but be transferred to the District absolutely. Any assets of the member-congregations are not subject to this clause.

AND FURTHER RESOLVED that Article 13 Alterations to the Constitution and Matters requiring a Special Resolution in the Model Constitution for a Congregation be amended as follows (words to be deleted – ~~striketrough~~; words to be added – **bold**):

ARTICLE 13. ALTERATIONS TO THE CONSTITUTION AND MATTERS REQUIRING A SPECIAL RESOLUTION

- 13.1 ~~A special resolution is required if it is proposed that the Congregation do any of the following:~~
 - ~~13.1.1 to amend, alter, add to or repeal its Constitution, including changing the name of the Congregation, except as hereinafter provided in the following clause 13.5 and subject to the preceding clause 3.1.4; or~~
The Congregation may resolve to amend, alter, add to or repeal its Constitution, including changing the name of the Congregation, except as hereinafter provided in the following clause 13.5~~4~~ and subject to the preceding clause 3.1.4; ~~or~~
 - ~~13.1.2 to approve the terms of an amalgamation with one or more other incorporated associations; or~~
 - ~~13.1.3 to be wound up voluntarily; or~~
 - ~~13.1.4 to cancel its incorporation.~~
- 13.2 ~~A special resolution is only passed if it is passed~~
 - ~~13.2.1 after having been given as a written notice to all voting members;~~
 - ~~13.2.2 at a general meeting of the Congregation;~~

- ~~13.2.3 by the votes of not less than three quarters [3/4] of the voting members of the Congregation who cast a vote at the meeting; and~~
 - ~~13.2.4 by being declared as being carried as a special resolution.~~
- 13.32 Notice of the proposed amendment, alteration, addition or repeal shall be presented in writing and shall be read to the Congregation at a duly called meeting of the Congregation held at least twenty one [21] days earlier or be published to the Congregation at least twenty one [21] days prior to the meeting.
- 13.43 In addition to any other requirement of this Constitution and of the Act, the quorum for **such** a meeting ~~held to consider a special resolution~~ shall be one-quarter [1/4] of the members entitled to vote and the result of such a ballot shall be recorded in the minutes.
- 13.54 Notwithstanding anything else in this Constitution, Article 2. and clause 13.54 of this Constitution shall be considered fundamental and shall not be amended, altered, added to or repealed so as to alter their intent and meaning.

AND FURTHER RESOLVED that Article 13 Alterations to the Constitution and Matters requiring a Special Resolution of the Model Constitution for a Parish be amended as follows (words to be deleted – ~~striketthrough~~; words to be added – **bold):**

ARTICLE 13. ALTERATIONS TO THE CONSTITUTION AND MATTERS REQUIRING A SPECIAL RESOLUTION

- 13.1 A special resolution is required if it is proposed that the Parish do any of the following:
- ~~13.1.1 to amend, alter, add to or repeal its Constitution, including changing the name of the Parish, except as hereinafter provided in the following clause 13.5 and subject to the preceding clause 3.1.4; or~~
- The Parish may resolve to amend, alter, add to or repeal its Constitution, including changing the name of the Parish, except as hereinafter provided in the following clause 13.54 and subject to the preceding clause 3.1.4;~~or~~
- ~~13.1.2 to approve the terms of an amalgamation with one or more other incorporated associations; or~~
 - ~~13.1.3 to be wound up voluntarily; or~~
 - ~~13.1.4 to cancel its incorporation.~~
- 13.2 A special resolution is only passed if it is passed
- ~~13.2.1 after having been given as a written notice to all voting members;~~
 - ~~13.2.2 at a general meeting of the Parish;~~
 - ~~13.2.3 by the votes of not less than three quarters [3/4] of the voting members of the Parish who cast a vote at the meeting; and~~
 - ~~13.2.4 by being declared as being carried as a special resolution.~~
- 13.32 Notice of the proposed amendment, alteration, addition or repeal shall be presented in writing and shall be read to the Parish at a duly called meeting of the Parish held at least twenty one [21] days earlier or be published to the member-congregations at least twenty one [21] days prior to the meeting.
- 13.43 In addition to any other requirement of this Constitution and of the Act, the quorum for **such** a meeting ~~held to consider a special resolution~~ shall be one-quarter [1/4] of the members entitled to vote and the result of such a ballot shall be recorded in the minutes.
- 13.54 Notwithstanding anything else in this Constitution, Article 2. and clause 13.54 of this Constitution shall be considered fundamental and shall not be amended, altered, added to or repealed so as to alter their intent and meaning.

The motion was CARRIED with the required two thirds majority.

2.4.3 Constitutional changes: Alternate lay delegates

(See Page 187 of the Book of Reports)

2018:0233 RESOLVED that **Article 7 The General Synod** of the Constitution of the Church be amended to remove the second sentence of clause 7.6 as follows (words to be deleted – ~~striketrough~~):

- 7.6 In the absence of a delegate at a convention of the General Synod the right to vote may be accorded to an alternate appointed in a manner laid down in the By-laws to exercise that right. ~~The By-laws may provide that the alternate for a lay delegate of a parish need not necessarily be a lay member.~~

AND FURTHER RESOLVED that **Section 7 The General Synod** of the By-laws of the Church be amended in clause 7.1.4 as follows (words to be deleted – ~~striketrough~~; words to be added – **bold**):

Alternates

- 7.1.4 When an elected lay delegate cannot attend a convention of the General Synod and the parish cannot find a substitute from its midst, the parish may request ~~permission from the Bishop of the District to appoint its pastor, should the pastor not be a pastor delegate, or a member from another parish, to act as the alternate for its elected lay delegate at such convention.~~ **recommend to the parish an alternate lay delegate for consideration as its appointed delegate.**

Proposed amendment #1 : in Section 7.1.4 add: “... or if the parish is practically unable to send a lay delegate ...”

RESOLVED that the Amendment now be put.

The motion was CARRIED.

The proposed amendment was LOST.

The motion was LOST as it failed to gain the required two-thirds majority in favour.

2.4.4 Constitutional changes: Change council to board

(See Page 188 of the Book of Reports)

2018:0234 RESOLVED that the **Constitution of the Church** and the **By-laws of the Church** be amended to replace the title “General Church Council” with the title “General Church Board” in the following instances, including those which may be included in other motions:

Article 5.2; Article 7.2.3; Article 7.2.9; Article 7.4.2; Article 7.9; Article 7.10.1; Article 7.10.2; Article 7.11; Article 8.3.1; Article 8.3.2; Article 8.3.3; Article 8.8; Article 8.9; Article 8.10; Article 8.11; Article 9.2; Article 13.3; Section 5.1.2.3; Section 5.2.1.5; Section 5.6.2.1; Section 5.6.3.3; Section 7.1.2.3; Section 7.1.7.2; Section 7.2.1; Section 7.2.2.5; Section 7.2.3; Section 7.2.4; Section 7.2.9.1; Section 7.3.30; Section 7.4; Section 7.4.3; Section 7.4.4; Section 7.4.5.1; Section 7.4.8; Section 7.5.2; Section 7.5.4; Section 7.5.5; Section 7.6.1; Section 7.6.1.1; Section 7.6.1.2; Section 7.6.1.3; Section 7.6.1.5; Section 7.7.1; Section 7.7.2; Section 7.7.3; Section 7.7.4.3; Section 8.1.2; Section 8.1.3; Section 8.1.8; Section 8.1.9.2; Section 8.2.1.1.12; Section 8.2.2.2; Section 8.3.1.5;

Section 8.4.1; Section 8.4.3; Section 8.4.4.1; Section 8.4.4.2; Section 8.4.4.2.1; Section 8.4.4.2.2; Section 8.4.4.2.6; Section 8.4.4.3; Section 8.6.3.7; Section 8.6.3.8; Section 8.7.7.3; Section 8.7.11.1; Section 8.7.11.2; Section 8.7.11.3; Section 8.7.11.4; Section 8.7.11.5; Section 8.7.11.6; Section 8.7.11.7; Section 8.7.11.9; Section 8.7.11.11; Section 8.7.13; Section 8.8.1.1; Section 8.8.1.2; Section 8.8.1.3; Section 8.8.2.1; Section 8.9.3; Section 8.10.2; Section 8.10.3.2; Section 8.10.4; Section 9.3.1; Section 9.5.1; Section 9.5.2; Section 10.3.5.2; Section 10.3.8.5; Section 10.3.14; Section 10.3.16; Section 10.3.17; Section 10.3.17.1; Section 10.3.18 and Section 10.3.20.

AND FURTHER RESOLVED that the By-laws of the Church, the **Constitution of the Districts** and the **By-laws Part A of the Districts** be amended to replace the title “General Church Council” with the title “General Church Board” in the following instances, including those which may be included in other motions:

Note: at the beginning; Article 11.2.1; Article 11.2.3.4; Article 11.3.1; Article 11.3.2.4; Article 11.3.3; Article 12.1; Article 13.1; Article 13.2; Section 7.2.6 and Section 8.5.2.

The motion was CARRIED with the required two thirds majority.

2.4.5 Constitutional changes: Care for children and the vulnerable *(See Page 189 of the Book of Reports)*

2018:0235 RESOLVED that **Article 3 Objects** of the Constitution of the Church be amended in sub-clause 3.1.14 to include provisions for the care of children and the vulnerable as follows (words to be deleted – ~~strickethrough~~; words to be added – **bold**):

ARTICLE 3. OBJECTS

- 3.1 The Objects of the Church are to
 - 3.1.1 fulfil the mission of the Christian Church in the world by proclaiming the Word of God and administering the Sacraments in accordance with the Confession of the Church laid down in the preceding Article 2;
 - 3.1.2 unite in one body Evangelical Lutheran congregations in Australia and New Zealand for the more effective work of the Church;
 - 3.1.3 promote and maintain true Christian unity in the bond of peace;
 - 3.1.4 ensure that preaching, teaching and practice in the Church are in conformity with the Confession of the Church;
 - 3.1.5 provide pastors and teachers and other church workers for service in the Church and its congregations, and for this purpose to establish and maintain institutions for their training;
 - 3.1.6 encourage every congregation to carry out its mission to its local community;
 - 3.1.7 establish, develop and support new congregations where it is not possible for individual congregations to do so;
 - 3.1.8 support and cooperate with selected churches in other lands as they seek to carry out their mission;
 - 3.1.9 dialogue with other Christian church bodies;
 - 3.1.10 establish and maintain schools and other institutions and to foster all other means whereby the members of the congregations receive Christian education;
 - 3.1.11 cultivate uniformity in worship, ecclesiastical practice and customs in accord with the principles laid down in Article X. of the Formula of Concord;
 - 3.1.12 publish, procure, and distribute literature compatible with the Confession and principles of the Church;

- 3.1.13 minister to human need in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord in the spirit of Christian love and service, and to provide institutions and agencies for this purpose; and
- ~~3.1.14 take such action as is necessary for the protection of the congregations, pastors, teachers and other church workers in the performance of their duties and the maintenance of their rights.~~
- 3.1.14 maintain and promote a culture of care in all areas of the Church and its activities, so that all people, especially the vulnerable such as children and the aged, are protected against any form of spiritual, emotional, physical and sexual abuse by ensuring that**
 - 3.1.14.1 appropriate governance and leadership structures are in place;**
 - 3.1.14.2 policies and procedures are appropriately prescribed;**
 - 3.1.14.3 a culture of safety and care for children and all people is actively encouraged and practiced; and**
 - 3.1.14.4 the well-being of congregations, pastors, teachers and other church workers in the performance of their duties and the maintenance of their rights is supported and promoted.**

Proposed amendment #1 RESOLVED that the Objects be specified as simple goals to enable congregations and functions of the Church to adjust the way these goals are achieved now and into the future.

The proposed amendment was LOST.

The motion was CARRIED with the required two thirds majority.

2.4.6 Constitutional changes: Care for children and the vulnerable - Congregation

(See Page 190 of the Book of Reports)

2018:0236 RESOLVED that **Article 4 Objects** of the Model Constitution for a Congregation be amended with the addition of sub-clause 4.1.10 to include provisions for the care of children and the vulnerable as follows (words to be added – **bold**):

ARTICLE 4. OBJECTS

- 4.1 The Objects of the Congregation are to
 - 4.1.1 glorify the Triune God in its worship and in its work;
 - 4.1.2 bear witness to the Lord Jesus Christ through the proclamation of the Gospel in accordance with the Confession and practice of the Church;
 - 4.1.3 gather into the Congregation such persons as are, or desire to become, members of the Church for their edification through the Word and the Sacraments;
 - 4.1.4 help the members to dedicate their God-given spiritual, material and physical gifts to the service of their Lord;
 - 4.1.5 enable the members to reach out into the community in their daily lives and in their congregational activities as bearers of the Gospel;
 - 4.1.6 minister to human need in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord in the spirit of Christian charity and service;
 - 4.1.7 exercise discipline over its members in conformity with the Scriptures and the Confession of the Congregation;
 - 4.1.8 join with the Church and the District in building and extending the Kingdom of God; and

- 4.1.9 acquire, dispose of or otherwise deal with real and personal property in the interest of the work of the Church and the Congregation.
- 4.1.10 **maintain and promote a culture of care in all areas of the Congregation and its activities, so that all people, especially the vulnerable such as children and the aged, are protected against any form of spiritual, emotional, physical and sexual abuse by ensuring that**
 - 4.1.10.1 **appropriate governance and leadership structures are in place;**
 - 4.1.10.2 **policies and procedures are appropriately prescribed;**
 - 4.1.10.3 **a culture of safety and care for children and all people is actively encouraged and practiced; and**
 - 4.1.10.4 **the well-being of pastors, teachers and other church workers in the performance of their duties and the maintenance of their rights is supported and promoted.**

The motion was CARRIED with the required two thirds majority.

2.4.7 Constitutional changes: Consultant right to speak

(See Page 191 of the Book of Reports)

2018:0237 RESOLVED that **Section 7 The General Synod** of the By-laws of the Church be amended in clause 7.1.7.1 as follows (words to be added – **bold**):

- 7.1.7.1 Any executive officer of a board of the Church not elected as a delegate shall have the right to attend a convention of the General Synod as a consultant **with the right to speak**.

The motion was CARRIED with the required two thirds majority.

2.4.8 Constitutional changes: Funds removal from by-laws

(See Page 191 of the Book of Reports)

2018:0238 RESOLVED that **Section 11 By-laws** be amended as follows (words to be deleted – ~~striketrough~~; words to be added – **bold**):

SECTION 11. BY-LAWS

~~11.2 The rules governing each Fund of the Church are By-laws of the Church.~~

- ~~11.32~~ The Constitution and By-laws Part A of Districts laid down by the Church in pursuance of Article 9.2 of the Constitution of the Church are By-laws of the Church.

The motion was CARRIED with the required two thirds majority.

2.4.9 Constitutional changes: General Synod composition

(See Page 192 of the Book of Reports)

2018:0239 RESOLVED that **Article 7 The General Synod** of the Constitution of the Church be amended as follows (words to be deleted – ~~striketrough~~; words to be added – **bold**):

ARTICLE 7. THE GENERAL SYNOD

- 7.1 The power of the Church shall be exercised through the General Synod, which shall be the highest constitutional authority of the Church, with power to direct and control those to whom it has entrusted tasks or has delegated authority.
- 7.2 The General Synod shall consist of
 - 7.2.1 lay delegates of the congregations;
 - 7.2.2 pastor delegates;
 - 7.2.3 the members of the General Church Council;
 - ~~7.2.4 all executive officers who are serving the Church, unless already eligible under 7.2.1, 7.2.2, or 7.2.3;~~
 - 7.2.54 chairpersons of Boards unless already eligible under 7.2.1, 7.2.2, **or** 7.2.3, ~~or 7.2.4;~~
 - 7.2.65 all Bishops unless already eligible under 7.2.2, **or** 7.2.3, ~~or 7.2.4;~~
 - 7.2.76 one [1] secondary and one [1] primary school principal elected from each region of Lutheran Education Australia by the principals of that region;
 - 7.2.87 past Bishops of the Church; and
 - 7.2.98 three [3] pastors emeriti nominated by the General Church Council who shall comprise the voting members.

The motion was CARRIED with the required two thirds majority.

2.4.10 Constitutional changes: Interpretation

(See Page 193 of the Book of Reports)

2018:2040 RESOLVED that **Article 1 Name and Interpretation** of the Constitution of the Church be amended to include a new sub-clause 1.2.3 and that the subsequent clauses be renumbered accordingly as follows (words to be deleted – ~~striketrough~~; words to be added – **bold**):

ARTICLE 1. NAME AND INTERPRETATION

- 1.1 The name of this Church is LUTHERAN CHURCH OF AUSTRALIA INC., hereinafter called 'the Church'.
- 1.2 In this Constitution and the By-laws made there under, unless the context or subject matter otherwise requires:
 - 1.2.1 'church worker' means any person whose name is listed on the Register of Church Workers provided for in the By-laws of the Church;
 - 1.2.2 'congregation' means a group of persons adhering to the Lutheran Faith who regularly meet for the administration of the Means of Grace and who have constituted themselves as an organised body by the adoption of a constitution;
 - 1.2.3 **'Evangelical Lutheran Church' means a generic reference to churches throughout the world which proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ as understood and confessed in the Book of Concord of 1580;**
 - 1.2.34 'lay member' means any member of a congregation of the Church other than a pastor;
 - 1.2.45 'parish' means a congregation or a group of congregations forming an entity which is served by one or more pastors;
 - 1.2.56 'pastor' or 'member of the Ministry' means any person ordained to the Holy Ministry according to the rites and practice of the Evangelical Lutheran Church who has been received into the Ministry of the Church according to Article 5.1;
 - 1.2.67 'teacher' means any pastor or lay member called or appointed by the Church or by any of its Districts or congregations to serve on the teaching staff of a school or

educational institution established and maintained by the Church or District or congregation;

- 1.2.78 'the Act' means the Associations Incorporation Act 1985 (SA) as amended from time to time and includes any replacement of that Act or any provisions substituted for, and all regulations and statutory instruments issued under, that Act; and
- 1.2.89 words importing the singular number shall be deemed to include the plural number.

AND FURTHER RESOLVED that the same item of interpretation be included in the Model Constitution for a Congregation and the Model Constitution for a Parish.

The motion was CARRIED with the required two thirds majority.

2.4.11 Constitutional changes: Judicial system

(See Page 194 of the Book of Reports)

2018:0241 RESOLVED that a new Section 10.3 be included in the By-Laws of the Church to provide for procedures as a consequence of any actions in pursuit of Article **10.1.2** of the Constitution of the Church and that the existing Section 10.3 be renumbered Section 10.4 as follows (words to be deleted – ~~striketrough~~; words to be added – **bold**.)

SECTION 10.3 ECCLESIASTICAL DISCIPLINE BY THE CHURCH AGAINST A PASTOR

- 10.3.1 Subject to the nature of the complaint and any legal requirements, before a matter is dealt with by the Church in pursuance of Article 10.1.2 of the Constitution, the person or persons alleging a fault against a pastor**
- 10.3.1.1 shall first, in personal admonition consistent with the Scriptures, endeavour to convince the pastor of such fault; and**
- 10.3.1.2 shall, if unsuccessful, make the same endeavour in the presence of witnesses.**
- 10.3.2 A matter pursuant to Article 10.1.2 of the Constitution shall, subject to the provisions of the preceding Section 10.3.1, be dealt with as follows:**
- 10.3.2.1 A written allegation against the pastor, signed by not less than two [2] voting members of the Church, shall be lodged with the Bishop of the respective District and the College of Bishops.**
- 10.3.2.2 Notice of the allegation shall be given to the pastor, who shall be invited to attend a meeting with the Bishop of the respective District and respond to the allegation made.**
- 10.3.2.3 If the matter is not settled, the Bishop of the respective District and the College of Bishops**
- 10.3.2.3.1 shall satisfy themselves that the intent of the procedure stated in the preceding Section 10.3.1 has been followed, where appropriate; and**
- 10.3.2.3.2 shall cause the allegation to be investigated, a report prepared and provided to all parties together with appropriate pastoral care; and**
- 10.3.2.3.3 if, after responses from the parties involved, the investigation determines the allegation be sustained, shall**

- endeavour to convince the pastor of such fault and the necessary subsequent action that may follow; or
 10.3.2.3.4 if they are unsuccessful in this endeavour, shall submit the allegation to the Tribunal.
- 10.3.2.4 If the preceding stages of Section 10.3 cannot be carried out because the erring pastor does not submit to the discipline of the Bishop of the respective District, the College of Bishops at a duly called meeting may declare such a person to no longer be on the Roll of Pastors.
- 10.3.3 Any two of the voting members who made the written allegation or any pastor against whom it was made may within thirty [30] days lodge an Appeal in writing with the Bishop of the respective District against a decision relating to ecclesiastical discipline. Thereupon the Bishop shall act in the manner laid down in the following Section 10.3.5.
- 10.3.4 Upon the receipt of an appeal pursuant to the preceding Section 10.3.3, the Bishop of the respective District shall endeavour to meet the intent stated in the preceding Section 10.1. If successful, the Bishop of the respective District shall record that the case is closed. If unsuccessful, the Bishop of the respective District may, in his discretion
- 10.3.4.1 submit the appeal to the Tribunal Administrator for referral to a Tribunal for determination; or
- 10.3.4.2 submit a complaint against the person or persons lodging the allegation pursuant to Article 10.1.3 of the Constitution; or
- 10.3.4.3 take no further action; or
- 10.3.4.4 take such other steps as he considers pastorally appropriate.
- 10.3.5 The provisions of this Section 10.3 are in addition to any provision of the constitution and By-laws of the Church in relation to ecclesiastical discipline. If there is any inconsistency between the two which cannot be resolved by the application of the preceding sentence, the provisions of this Section 10.3 shall have precedence to the extent of the conflict.

SECTION 10.34 THE JUDICIAL SYSTEM OF THE CHURCH

The motion was CARRIED with the required two thirds majority.

2.4.12 Constitutional changes: Lay worker section

(See Page 195 of the Book of Reports)

2018:0242 RESOLVED that the **By-laws of the Church, Section 8.9 Lay Workers** be amended as follows (words to be deleted – ~~striketrough~~; words to be added – **bold**):

SECTION 8.9 LAY WORKERS

- 8.9.1 There shall be a Roll of Lay Workers kept by the ~~Board for Lay Ministry~~ **Church Worker Support Department**. The Roll shall list the qualifications of Lay Workers.
- 8.9.2 The prerequisites for listing on the Roll of Lay Workers are:
- 8.9.2.1 The Lay Worker shall
- 8.9.2.1.1 be a practising member of the Church;
- 8.9.2.1.2 have met the minimum requirements as determined by the ~~Board for Lay Ministry~~ **Church Worker Support Department** and approved by the Church; and

8.9.2.1.3 have been accepted for intended full-time or part-time service in the Church.

8.9.2.2 The position of a Lay Worker shall be

8.9.2.2.1 one involving a level of responsibility determined by the Church;

8.9.2.2.2 established by the Church, a department or board of the Church, by a District of the Church or a committee of a District, by an Auxiliary of the Church, or by a congregation of the Church; and

8.9.2.2.3 one to which no industrial award applies.

8.9.3 The Executive of the General Church Council shall, in consultation with the Board for Lay Ministry, **Church Worker Support Department** shall determine that the person filling any such position is eligible for inclusion on such Roll in accordance with the preceding Section 8.9.2.1.

This item was referred to the General Church Board in the 19th Synodical period – please see resolution 2018:1802 on PAGE 81.

2.4.13 Constitutional changes: Determinations of majority

(See Page 196 of the Book of Reports)

2018:0243 RESOLVED that **Article 13 Alterations to Constitution** of the Constitution of the Church be amended as follows (words to be deleted – ~~striketrough~~; words to be added – **bold**):

ARTICLE 13. ALTERATIONS TO CONSTITUTION

- 13.1 The Church at a convention of the General Synod may amend, alter, add to or repeal any of the rules, except Article 2. and Article 13.1, which shall be considered fundamental and unalterable in their intent and meaning.
- 13.2 Notice of any such motion to amend, alter, add to or repeal any of the rules shall be given on the agenda of the convention, and any motion to amend, alter, add or repeal shall require a two-thirds majority of ~~all~~ the delegates **registered voting** at the convention.
- 13.3 In the case of Australian Lutheran College, special permission is granted to the General Church Council to amend, alter, add to or repeal any of the rules of the College where Government legislation and/or requirements demand an urgent response. Such changes shall be submitted to the next convention of the General Synod for ratification.

AND FURTHER RESOLVED that **Section 7.3 Procedure in Transacting Business** of the By-laws of the Church be amended as follows (words to be omitted – ~~strike through~~; words to be added – **bold**):

- 7.3.28 7.3.28.1 Matters of conscience and of doctrine shall have precedence over other matters and any rules relating to time limits and number of times a person may speak may be suspended by the ruling of the Chairperson or by a majority of those delegates voting.
- 7.3.28.2 A matter deemed to be of a theological and confessional nature which has been referred to the General Pastors Conference for consideration shall be considered by the convention only after a recommendation has been received from the General Pastors Conference.

- 7.3.28.3 For a resolution on a matter of doctrine to be deemed to be the official position of the Church it shall require a two-thirds majority of ~~all the registered delegates~~ **voting** at the convention.
- 7.3.29 Any of the By-laws in Section 7.3 may, if the need arises, be suspended in respect to any business of the convention, by a two-thirds majority of those delegates ~~present~~ **voting**.
- 7.4.2 The method of electing the Bishop and thereafter the Assistant Bishop of the Church shall be as follows:
- 7.4.2.1 The names of the nominees chosen in accordance with the preceding Section 7.4.1 shall be submitted in the manner laid down in the following Section 7.4.4 to the convention of the General Synod at which such elections are to take place, and shall stand as the list of nominees unless the convention determines by resolution after the reading of the relevant nominations that additional nomination or nominations may be made. For inclusion on the list each proposed additional nomination shall separately require a majority of those delegates ~~present~~ **voting**, the vote being taken y show of hands.

AND FURTHER RESOLVED that Article 13 Alterations to the Constitution of the Constitution of the Districts be amended as follows (words to be omitted – ~~strike through~~; words to be added – **bold**):

Article 13. ALTERATIONS TO THE CONSTITUTION

- 13.1 The District, through its Synod, in accordance with the procedure laid down in the By-laws of the Church may petition the Church or its General Church Council, to amend, alter, add to or repeal any of the rules, except Article 2. and Article 13.1 of the Constitution, which shall be considered fundamental and unalterable in their intent and meaning.
- 13.2 Notice of any motion to amend, alter, add to or repeal any of the rules shall be given on the agenda of the convention, and any such motion shall require a two-thirds majority of ~~all the registered delegates~~ **voting** at the convention, unless the motion relates to an amendment, alteration, addition or repeal already approved or recommended by General Synod or General Church Council of the Church, in which case the motion shall require a majority of those voting.

AND FURTHER RESOLVED that Section 7 Procedure in Transacting Business of the By-laws of the Constitution of the Districts be amended as follows (words to be omitted – ~~strike through~~; words to be added – **bold**):

- 7.3.29 Any of the By-laws in Section 7.3 may, if the need arises, be suspended in respect to any business of the convention by a two-thirds majority of those delegates ~~present~~ **voting**.

Elections

- 7.5 The method of electing the Bishop and thereafter in their order the Assistant Bishops of the District shall be as follows:
- 7.5.1 The names of the nominees of the Pastors' Conference shall be submitted to the convention of the Synod at which such elections are to take place, and shall stand as the list of nominees unless the convention determines by resolution after the reading of the relevant nominations that additional nomination or nominations may be made. For inclusion on the list each proposed additional nomination shall

separately require a majority of those delegates ~~present~~**voting**, the vote being taken by show of hands.

A point of order was raised about the order of presenting these proposals. The Bishop ruled that the agenda as laid out by General Church Council would continue as planned. The ruling was appealed.

Rev John Henderson handed the chair to Assistant Bishop Rev Andrew Pfeiffer to enable the Convention to discuss the appeal. Delegates voted to uphold the Chair's ruling. Rev John Henderson then resumed chairing the meeting.

The Convention then returned to item 2.4.13 and debated the contents of the proposal.

The motion was LOST.

2.4.14 Constitutional changes: Membership

(See Page 198 of the Book of Reports)

2018:0244 RESOLVED that **Article 4 Membership** of the Constitution of the Church be amended to include a new clause 4.2 and that the existing clauses 4.2 and 4.3 be renumbered 4.3 and 4.4 as follows:

ARTICLE 4. MEMBERSHIP

- 4.1 The membership of the Church shall consist of congregations of baptised members. Such congregations shall

- 4.1.1 accept and hold the Confession of the Church;
- 4.1.2 accept the Constitution and By-laws of the Church;
- 4.1.3 submit a Constitution and By-laws acceptable to the Church; and
- 4.1.4 undertake to participate in the work of the Church and to promote its Objects.

Such member-congregations shall be recorded in the official Roll of Congregations and shall exercise their membership rights in accordance with the representation requirements outlined in the following Article 7.3.1.

- 4.2 **In cases where baptised Christians have been accepted by the Church as members of the Church and where they gather together as a body that is not formally constituted, such a body shall be enabled to participate in a similar way as a congregation of the Church provided that it**

- 4.2.1 **engages with and gains the approval of the College of Bishops and the General Church Board by providing to them**

- 4.2.1.1 **an indication in writing that it accepts and holds to the Confession of the Church;**
- 4.2.1.2 **an indication in writing that it accepts the Constitution and By-laws of the Church;**
- 4.2.1.3 **evidence of its situation to indicate the extent to which it functions in a similar way to that of a congregation of the Church while not yet constituted as such; and**
- 4.2.1.4 **such other evidence as may be requested; and then**

4.2.2 be acknowledged by the General Church Board as a member of the Church in a similar way to that of a constituted congregation by entering into a documented agreement.

Upon the satisfaction of the requirements in clauses 4.2.1 and 4.2.2, the Church shall accept such a body into membership and the body shall then be recorded in the official Roll of Congregations in a specified category and accorded the membership rights of a congregation of the Church and the relevant District.

- 4.23 Membership in the Church may be terminated by action of the congregation or by action of the Church as prescribed in the By-laws.
- 4.34 A congregation which terminates its membership, or whose membership is terminated by action of the Church, shall have no claim upon the Church or the property or funds of the Church; but nothing herein contained prevents the Church from giving effect to any decision, award, or recommendation made by any Church tribunal in accordance with the By-laws in consequence of any such termination of membership.

AND FURTHER RESOLVED that Article 4 Membership of the Constitutions of the Districts be amended as follows (words to be deleted – ~~striketrough~~; words to be added – **bold):**

Article 4. MEMBERSHIP

- 4.1 The membership of the District shall ~~consist of~~ **include** congregations of baptised members. Such congregations shall
- 4.1.1 accept and hold the Confession of the Church;
 - 4.1.2 accept the Constitution and By-Laws of the Church and the District;
 - 4.1.3 submit a Constitution and By-Laws acceptable to the Church and the District; and
 - 4.1.4 undertake to participate in the work of the Church and the District and to promote their Objects.
- Such member congregations shall be recorded in the official Roll of Congregations of the District and shall exercise their membership rights in accordance with the representation requirements outlined in the following Article 7.2.1.
- 4.2 The District shall consist of
- 4.2.1 the congregations which are members of the Church in the area of the District; and**
 - 4.2.2 other bodies in the area of the District which are accepted as members of the Church pursuant to Article 4.2 of the Constitution of the Church.**
- 4.3 Membership in the Church may be terminated by action of the congregation or by action of the Church, as prescribed by the By-laws of the Church.
- 4.4 A congregation which terminates its membership, or whose membership is terminated by action of the Church, shall have no claim upon the Church or District or the property or funds of the Church and of the District; but nothing herein contained prevents the Church from giving effect to any decision, award or recommendation made by any Church tribunal in accordance with the By-laws in consequence of any such termination of membership.

The motion was CARRIED with the required two thirds majority.

2.4.15 Constitutional changes: Model for a parish

(See Page 200 of the Book of Reports)

2018:0245 RESOLVED that Article 3 Objects of the Model Constitution for a Parish be amended in the first line of clause 3.1 to read as follows (words to be added – **bold):**

- 3.1 The Parish, ~~as a member~~ **consisting of congregations which are members** of the Church and of the District,

The motion was CARRIED with the required two thirds majority.

2.4.16 Constitutional changes: Pastors Conference

(See Page 201 of the Book of Reports)

2018:0246 RESOLVED that **Section 5.6 General Pastors Conference** of the By-laws of the Church be amended to clarify the role of the Pastors' Conference in respect of Synod as follows (words to be deleted – ~~striketrough~~; words to be added – **bold**):

SECTION 5.6 GENERAL PASTORS CONFERENCE

- 5.6.1 The duties of the General Pastors Conference shall be to
- 5.6.1.1 give guidance in matters of doctrine and confession;
 - 5.6.1.2 foster theological studies by all members of the Ministry;
 - 5.6.1.3 stimulate and give guidance to the members of the Ministry in the work of their calling;
 - 5.6.1.4 foster fellowship between the members of the Ministry; and
 - 5.6.1.5 consider matters relating to the well-being of the Church.
- 5.6.2 The General Pastors Conference shall serve as a theological adviser to the General Synod and in fulfilment of such function
- 5.6.2.1 shall consider those questions, issues and statements of a theological and confessional nature which appear on the agenda of the convention of the General Synod and are referred to it by the General Church Council;
 - 5.6.2.2 **shall recommend one or more of the following actions with respect to a question, issue or statement referred to in 5.6.2.1, namely:**
 - 5.6.2.2.1 **agreement or rejection;**
 - 5.6.2.2.2 **amendments;**
 - 5.6.2.2.3 **corrections;**
 - 5.6.2.2.4 **additions; or**
 - 5.6.2.2.5 **advice or explanations; and**
 - 5.6.2.23 may voice its opinion with regard to the advisability or non-advisability of dealing with any such question or issue or of adopting a particular statement; **or motion. and**
 - ~~5.6.2.3 may recommend amendments, corrections, additions or explanations concerning proposed statements.~~

The motion was CARRIED with the required two thirds majority.

2.4.17 Constitutional changes: Pastors' Transfer and Support Fund

(See Page 202 of the Book of Reports)

This item was referred to the General Church Board in the 19th Synodical period – please see resolution 2018:1802 on PAGE 81.

2.4.18 Constitutional changes: Student Fund

(See Page 203 of the Book of Reports)

This item was referred to the General Church Board in the 19th Synodical period – please see resolution 2018:1802 on PAGE 81.

2.4.19 Constitutional changes: Vicarage Trust Fund

(See Page 205 of the Book of Reports)

This item was referred to the General Church Board in the 19th Synodical period – please see resolution 2018:1802 on PAGE 81.

2.5 Pastoral Ministry

2.5.1 Report: Board for Support of Pastoral Ministry

(See Page 206 of the Book of Reports)

This was presented as part of the College of Bishops Report

2.6 Nominations Committee

2.6.1 Report: Standing Committee on Nominations

(See Page 207 of the Book of Reports)

This was presented as part of the General Church Council Report

2.7 Suomi Conference

2.7.1 Report: Suomi Conference

(See Page 210 of the Book of Reports)

2.8 Late Proposals

Convention received no late proposals.

REPORTS FROM LCA BOARDS, COMMITTEES AND COMMISSIONS

The departments of the Churchwide office presented on the activities and strategies of the Boards, Committees, Commissions and others on the afternoon of Wednesday 3 October. This replaced the need for individual reports of the Boards for items 3 to 15 (except where otherwise indicated). The reports were all received at 1.2.10.

3. CHILD, YOUTH AND FAMILY MINISTRY

3.1 Report: Committee for Children, Youth and Family Ministry

3.2 Financial Report: Committee for Children, Youth and Family Ministry

(See Page 212 of the Book of Reports)

4. INTERNATIONAL MISSION

4.1 Report: Board for Mission

4.2 Financial Report: Board for Mission

4.3 Financial Report: Lutheran Bible Translators Australia

(See Page 220 of the Book of Reports)

5. LOCAL MISSION

5.1 Report: Board for Local Mission

5.2 Financial Report: Board for Local Mission

(See Page 231 of the Book of Reports)

6. THEOLOGY

6.1 Report: Commission on Theology and Inter-Church Relations (CTICR)

(See Page 237 of the Book of Reports)

6.2 CTICR: A theological basis for the ordination of women and men – Draft Doctrinal Statement

(See Page 240 of the Book of Reports)

Rev Dr Jeff Silcock reported on the Draft Doctrinal Statement.

In conclusion, the DDS holds that 1st Corinthians 14 and 1st Timothy 2 do not prohibit the ordination of women in the Church. Inclusion of women in public ministry is not at odds with the teaching of the Confessions.

6.3 CTICR: A theological basis for why the ordination of women and men need not be church divisive

(See Page 253 of the Book of Reports)

Rev Dr Jeff Silcock reported on the Church Divisive Statement.

6.4 CTICR: Domestic Violence Taskforce report

(See Page 255 of the Book of Reports)

7. SOCIAL QUESTIONS

7.1 Report: Commission on Social and Bioethical Questions

(See Page 259 of the Book of Reports)

7.2 Report: Lutherans for Life

(See Page 261 of the Book of Reports)

8. WORSHIP

8.1 Report: Commission on Worship

(See Page 263 of the Book of Reports)

9. MEDIA MINISTRY

9.1 Report: Board for Media Ministry

9.2 Financial Report: Board for Media Ministry

(See Page 266 of the Book of Reports)

10. AUSTRALIAN LUTHERAN COLLEGE

10.1 Report: Board of Australian Lutheran College

10.2 Financial Report: Australian Lutheran College Ltd

10.3 Financial Report: LCA Student Assistance Fund

(See Page 273 of the Book of Reports)

11. LUTHERAN EDUCATION

11.1 Report: Lutheran Education Australia Ltd

11.2 Lutheran Education Australia: Key data and statistics

11.3 Financial Report: Lutheran Education Australia Ltd

11.4 Review: Lutheran Education in Australia (BLEA/GCC)

(See Page 283 of the Book of Reports)

12. ABORIGINAL MINISTRY

12.1 Report: Finke River Mission Board

12.2 Financial Report: Finke River Mission Board

(See Page 314 of the Book of Reports)

13. WORLD SERVICE

13.1 Report: Australian Lutheran World Service

13.2 Financial Report: Australian Lutheran World Service

(See Page 320 of the Book of Reports)

14. GENERAL FINANCE

14.1 Report: Finance, Audit and Risk Committee

14.2 Financial Report: Lutheran Church of Australia Inc

14.3 Financial Report: LCA Subscriptions

14.4 Report: Loan Management Committee

14.5 Report: Commission on Salaries

14.6 Report: Lutheran Laypeople's League

Financial Report: Lutheran Laypeople's League

14.7 Financial Report: LCA Provident Fund

14.8 Financial Report: LCA Pension Fund

14.9 Financial Report: LCA Pastors Transfer and Support Fund

14.10 Financial Report: LCA Levy Fund

14.11 Financial Report: LCA Car Grant Fund

14.12 Financial Report: LCA Insurance Fund

14.13 Report: LCA Nominees Pty Ltd ATF Lutheran Super

(See Page 329 of the Book of Reports)

15. AUXILIARIES

15.1 Report: Lutheran Men of Australia

(See Page 363 of the Book of Reports)

15.2 Report: Lutheran Nurses Association of Australia

(See Page 365 of the Book of Reports)

15.3 Report: Lutheran Women of Australia

(See Page 371 of the Book of Reports)

16. ELECTIONS OF OFFICIALS AND GENERAL CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBERS

16.1 Election of Bishop

Rev John Henderson was re-elected as the Bishop for the next synodical period.

16.2 Election of Assistant Bishop

Rev Dr Pfeiffer was re-elected as the LCA Assistant Bishop for the next synodical period.

16.3 Election of General Church Board

Rev James Haak, Ms Charmaine Harch, Ms Faye Schmidt, Mr Tim Wiebusch, Mr Mel Zerner, Mr Paul Argyle and Mr Peter Zweck were elected as the members of the General Church Board for the next synodical period. The installation of General Church Board members took place at the Closing Service on Sunday 7 October 2018.

17. BOARDS PARTIALLY ELECTED BY SYNOD

As a result of the passing of the proposal at 2.2.1 and 2.2.2 no elections were required for the Councils, Committees and Commissions. Membership of these bodies will be appointed by the appropriate Governing Boards or Councils.

18. CLOSING FORMALITIES

18.1. Next Convention

Bishop Lester Priebbenow extended an invitation from the LCA Victoria (including Tasmania) District to Synod to gather in Victoria in 2021.

2018:1801 RESOLVED that the next convention of Synod be held in the LCA Victoria (including –Tasmania) District
The motion was CARRIED.

18.2. Vote of thanks

On behalf of GCC, Volker Hopfmueller and Rev Greg Priebbenow conveyed thanks to the hosts and the many organisers, volunteers and staff involved in the running of the 2018 Synod.

Retiring members of Boards were farewelled.

Bishop John Henderson thanked and acknowledged the work of retiring GCC members, Rev Greg Priebbenow, Volker Hopfmueller, Jill Hobden and Michael Stolz and presented them each with a gift.

Special thanks were also conveyed to the Bishops Paul Smith, Lester Priebbenow, David Altus and James Haak, who were no longer eligible to be on General Church Board following the rule changes.

In closing the meeting, Bishop John Henderson thanked delegates for their attendance and participation in proceedings. He further thanked the many visitors in the chapel for their attendance and engagement throughout the week.

18.3. Unfinished Business

2018:1802 RESOLVED that the following items be referred to the General Church Board for action and to be reported back to delegates over the synodical period:

- 2.2.9 Our Direction: 2018 – 2024;
- 2.2.10 Establishment of Lutheran Earth Care Australia and New Zealand;
- 2.2.11 LCA Commissions and Committees to have at least one member under 30 by 2022
- 2.2.13 Introduction of Christian Care Sunday
- 2.2.14 Recognising and continuing the ‘Hidden Hurts Healing Hearts’ Campaign
- 2.2.15 Expansion of ‘New Home New Community New Hope’ training project
- 2.3.11 Change of interpretation of complaint procedures
- 2.3.12 Every effort is made to bring reconciliation and resolution before referral to the Tribunal
- 2.3.13 Adoption of a congregation risk assessment program
- 2.3.14 Examination of avenues to provide a pastoral support agency
- 2.3.15 Provide support to pastors and church workers who appear before the Tribunal
- 2.3.16 Make available the use of child protection training from other denominations
- 2.3.17 Recognition of Aboriginal members
- 2.3.18 Change the name of the church to Lutheran Church of Australia and New Zealand
- 2.3.19 CoB to address the serious shortage of pastors
- 2.3.20 Dispensing with title of ‘Bishop’
- and any other matters that have not been considered.

The motion was CARRIED.

18.4 Close of Convention

Bishop Henderson declared the Nineteenth General Convention of Synod closed during the closing service on Sunday, 7 October 2018.

