

## AGENDA 2.4.10

# Constitutional changes: Interpretation

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## PROPOSED MOTION

**BE IT 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.

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

## REASONS FOR THE MOTION

There is a need to define this generic term to ensure that it is not confused with the name of any specific individual Lutheran church body.