

## Local Mission Strategic Plan 2021-2024

Since being sent in mission to share the gospel is part of the LCA's identity rather than just one of its many activities, the work of the Council for Local Mission is to see God's love in Christ coming to life so that people everywhere may know Christ and his love.

We do this by:

- Providing strategic leadership and support to nurture a growing missional culture in the Church;
- Developing strategic mission direction and establishing the overall policy environment of the Church;
- Promoting and coordinating congregational participation in local mission; and
- Overseeing and monitoring the resourcing of the mission of the Church to Australia and New Zealand. [Council for Local Mission Terms of Reference]

The Council for Local Mission (CLMission) therefore has the same strategic priorities as the Lutheran Church of Australia, namely:

1. Grow as God's People	
1.1. Support a passionate faith in individuals, families and communities shaped by a growing understanding of God's word, nurtured and sustained in prayer and worship	
Council for Local Mission strategic priorities	Local Mission department strategic statements
<b>1. Collaborative resourcing</b>  Establish and maintain collaborative resourcing to facilitate forming and deepening of faith	<b>Care Ministries</b> Assist those who lead and work in congregations and in Lutheran aged care and community services to facilitate forming and deepening of faith and to grow understanding of the ministry of care, and what it means to be part of a Lutheran caring community  <b>Cross-Cultural Ministry</b> Develop resources that equip congregations to become multi-cultural communities  <b>Grow Ministries</b> Establish, maintain and promote resources that holistically facilitate forming and deepening of faith for all generations and in collaboration with both Lutheran and ecumenical partners  <b>Lutheran Media</b> Acquire and nurture outreach contacts in their faith with media resources  <b>New and Renewing Churches</b> Partner and collaborate with other agencies (internal and external to the LCA), in order to effectively support the mission ecosystem
1.2. Encourage worship that recognises people receive and respond to God's grace in different ways	
<b>2. Multiethnic intergenerational worship</b>  Resource and encourage diverse communities for multiethnic and intergenerational worship that inspires and empowers mission and discipleship	<b>Care Ministries</b> Encourage worship opportunities that are inclusive of people of all ages and abilities  <b>Cross-Cultural Ministry</b> Encourage the celebration of cultural expressions of the one faith. Highlight the benefits of including worship expressions suitable for other cultures to connect with enquirers, new believers and members of other ethnicities

	<p><b>Grow Ministries</b> Develop and promote worship and discipleship resources that engage all generations for use of congregations and families that are adaptable to the local context</p> <p><b>Lutheran Media</b> Nurture outreach contacts with worship opportunities through media</p> <p><b>New and Renewing Churches</b> Work together with Cross-Cultural Ministry to plant new multi-ethnic churches and to renew congregations in multicultural mission. This is an important part of the mission ecosystem</p>
1.3. Equip people for mission and ministry in the church, local communities and the wider world	
<p><b>3. Gospel-focused service</b> Promote and generate intentional gospel service and conversation in and with local communities</p>	<p><b>Care Ministries</b> Support congregations to develop and celebrate a local ministry of care with the aged and vulnerable in their community</p> <p><b>Cross-Cultural Ministry</b> Encourage a culture of service within multicultural communities, that generates trust and opens up respectful relationships</p> <p><b>Grow Ministries</b> Provide resources and workshops that promote and generate intentional intergenerational Christian service and support the discovery of gifts and talents to be used in service in local communities</p> <p><b>Lutheran Media</b> Promote and support relationships with Media Missionaries and their faith communities to be equipped for mission</p> <p><b>New and Renewing Churches</b> Coach missional communities and church plants to engage in intentional gospel service and conversation</p>
1.4. Raise the awareness in our communities of issues facing Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and grow their meaningful participation in the life and mission of the church	
<p><b>4. Indigenous participation</b> Engage and grow meaningful participation with indigenous ministries in mission</p>	<p><b>Care Ministries</b> Facilitate awareness raising within Lutheran aged care and community services of issues facing First Nations peoples and encourage meaningful participation by First Nations peoples in the life and mission of the church</p> <p><b>Cross-Cultural Ministry</b> Liaise with LCANZ indigenous members (Aboriginal or Maori) to learn from their cultural understandings and foster a missional relationship between indigenous members and recent migrants / refugees</p> <p><b>Grow Ministries</b> Promote engagement and participation with indigenous ministries and communities through its consultation, coaching, resourcing and leadership training</p> <p><b>Lutheran Media</b> Partner with indigenous ministries in their media outreach</p>

	<p><b>New and Renewing Churches</b> Encourage church plants to include acknowledgment of country and actions related to reconciliation</p>
1.5. Protect and uphold the dignity of people, especially children and the vulnerable, to lead lives in peace and safety	
<p><b>5. Valuing people</b></p> <p>Model and nurture grace-filled lives that ensures the dignity, value and protection of all people</p>	<p><b>Care Ministries</b> Support and encourage congregations and organisations to value and advocate for the vulnerable and those who care for them</p> <p>Raise awareness of relevant and emerging ethical issues in order to protect and uphold the dignity of people</p> <p><b>Cross-Cultural Ministry</b> Encourage the expression of God's love towards vulnerable new arrivals. Foster a new level of respect for these co-heirs of the grace of God and our mutual need of each other</p> <p><b>Grow Ministries</b> Support and engage those in ministry to model and nurture grace-filled lives that ensures the dignity, value and protection of all people, especially children and young people</p> <p><b>Lutheran Media</b> Model and nurture respectful relationships with all people, especially with vulnerable people</p> <p><b>New and Renewing Churches</b> Encourage church plant leaders and volunteers to undertake Safe Church training</p>

<b>2. Go as God's People</b>	
<b>2.1. Strengthen a missional culture where individuals, families and communities are inspired, passionate and active in sharing the gospel</b>	
<p><b>6. Missional culture</b></p> <p>Cultivate a life-enabling grace-filled gospel-centred culture that inspires all to go as God's people</p>	<p><b>Care Ministries</b> Inspire people of all abilities and ages to be missionaries where God has placed them</p> <p><b>Cross-Cultural Ministry</b> Nurture an inclusive missional culture across the LCA , explaining ways that members can impact unbelievers in their day to day activities. Highlight the increased opportunity for local mission among recent arrivals and that 'mission' is no longer something that mainly happens overseas</p> <p><b>Lutheran Media</b> Inspire and encourage people and faith communities to reach and engage others with the gospel through media</p> <p><b>New and Renewing Churches</b> Press for a culture of missional renewal, evangelism and church planting to be embedded and prioritised at every level in the LCA, specifically with Districts, Bishops, GCB, and ALC</p>
<b>2.2. Encourage strong missional-oriented leadership by supporting pastors, lay workers and other leaders to be effective ministers of Christ in a changing world</b>	
<p><b>7. Leadership training</b></p> <p>Collaboratively resource and equip mission- and discipleship-oriented leadership training for all</p>	<p><b>Care Ministries</b> Collaborate with ALC to train and equip chaplains, pastors and lay workers to minister with and to the ageing and the vulnerable</p> <p><b>Cross-Cultural Ministry</b> Develop culturally intelligent mission-oriented leadership (both Pastors and Lay leaders) through resourcing and practical coaching. Collaborate with ALC to develop culturally intelligent leaders</p> <p><b>Grow Ministries</b> Provides resources and training that equip and train existing and emerging leaders, congregations and families to be mission- and discipleship-orientated in a changing world</p> <p><b>Lutheran Media</b> Encourage church leaders to reach out and engage with people in their faith communities with the gospel through media</p> <p><b>New and Renewing Churches</b> Train, support and mentor pastors, lay workers and other leaders in relational evangelism and church planting practice</p>
<b>2.3. Support collaborative, missional-oriented approaches in changed and changing mission fields</b>	
<p><b>8. Gospel communication</b></p> <p>Empower communities to intentionally live, share and communicate the gospel in a post-Christian Australia and New Zealand</p>	<p><b>Care Ministries</b> Assist and resource pastors, chaplains and all who minister with and to the ageing and the vulnerable to meet the needs of a changing society</p> <p>Encourage all to share their faith with family, friends, colleagues and each other</p> <p><b>Cross-Cultural Ministry</b> Educate individuals and communities regarding the magnificent diversity of the people of Australia and New Zealand highlighting ways to win the trust of ethnically diverse unbelievers and communicate the gospel</p>

	<p><b>Grow Ministries</b> Produce, provide and promote relevant resources that enable congregations and families to communicate, live and share the gospel in a post-Christian community across generations</p> <p><b>Lutheran Media</b> Reach, engage and acquire people through media and encourage them on their faith journey with Jesus Christ through real stories of hope, celebration and love</p> <p><b>New and Renewing Churches</b> Use effective and inspirational communication to share stories, connect people, and nurture the work of the Holy Spirit to strengthen individuals and communities in mission</p>
2.4. Seek and grow new mission fields, working in partnership across the church and others that share our values	
<p><b>9. Missional growth</b></p> <p>Actively seek and resource innovative strategies that support and encourage missional growth and development</p>	<p><b>Care Ministries</b> Facilitate collaboration between Lutheran aged care and community services, congregations, and community organisations to establish opportunities to minister to and care for the ageing and the vulnerable</p> <p><b>Cross-Cultural Ministry</b> Support the development and growth of new cross-cultural ministries. Engage the Districts in strategising for cross-cultural mission opportunities</p> <p><b>Lutheran Media</b> Reach, engage and acquire people through innovative and creative media strategies</p> <p><b>New and Renewing Churches</b> Cultivate an ecosystem which supports multiplication, missional renewal of local churches, and church planting</p>
2.5. Support existing communities to be active in mission	
<p><b>10. Renew communities</b></p> <p>Resource, encourage and support the strengthening and renewal of communities</p>	<p><b>Care Ministries</b> Resource and support people of all abilities and ages to renew local mission</p> <p><b>Cross-Cultural Ministry</b> Build and strengthen existing cross-cultural ministries</p> <p><b>Grow Ministries</b> Provide coaching and resources and support the development of effective intergenerational ministry within the congregations of the LCANZ that encourage renewal to faith and congregational life starting in homes</p> <p><b>Lutheran Media</b> Resource, encourage and support faith communities to be renewed in online mission</p> <p><b>New and Renewing Churches</b> Resource, support, and coach congregational leaders to develop capacity and strategy to activate evangelism and congregational multiplication through the provision of human and physical resources and training</p>

<b>3. Enable us to Grow and Go</b>	
3.3.1. Enhance care of our people, especially church workers and their families	
<p><b>11. Staff wellbeing</b></p> <p>Act pastorally and support the wellbeing of people within the Local Mission office and departments</p>	<p><b>Care Ministries</b> Encourage, support and affirm those who work with the ageing and the vulnerable</p> <p><b>Cross-Cultural Ministry</b> Provide pastoral care and mentoring of cross-cultural church workers. Honour the work of these multicultural workers and advocate for their voice to be heard throughout the LCANZ</p> <p><b>Grow Ministries</b> Provide care and support for pastors, lay workers and volunteers in their engagement with Grow Ministries through training, networking and mentoring</p> <p><b>Lutheran Media</b> Provide pastorally appropriate support for staff, volunteers, supporters and outreach contacts</p> <p><b>New and Renewing Churches</b> Provide care and support for church planters, missional community leaders and sending church pastors</p>
3.3.2. Improve the use of our assets and resources that releases support to mission and ministry	
<p><b>12. Sustainable stewardship</b></p> <p>Provide effective and responsible governance and financial oversight of Local Mission assets and resources</p>	<p><b>Care Ministries</b> Ensure appropriate accountability of resources</p> <p><b>Cross-Cultural Ministry</b> Ensure appropriate accountability of resources, including accountability of cross-cultural grants, for the growth and development of cross-cultural mission and ministry</p> <p><b>Grow Ministries</b> Continually review its staffing, finances and resources that they remain effective and relevant for the mission and ministry of the LCANZ</p> <p><b>Lutheran Media</b> Acquire, nurture and support relationships and partnerships with supporters to provide sustainable resources to fulfil mission goals</p> <p><b>New and Renewing Churches</b> Ensure appropriate accountability of resources, including accountability and availability of church plant launch grants, for the growth of Christ's mission in Australia and New Zealand</p>

Document Controls	
Document Version	1.0 Final
Ownership	CLM
Reviewed by	CLM
Approved by	CLM
Date Approved	19/11/2021
Next Review Date	01/11/2023
Confidentiality Level	Public