

# BOOK OF REPORTS

50TH DISTRICT CONVENTION OF SYNOD



LUTHERAN  
CHURCH  
OF AUSTRALIA

SOUTH AUSTRALIA  
NORTHERN TERRITORY

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# WELCOME & HOUSEKEEPING



**LUTHERAN  
CHURCH**  
OF AUSTRALIA

**SOUTH AUSTRALIA  
NORTHERN TERRITORY**

## Welcome to the Book of Reports

Thank you for being a delegate to this Convention of Synod for the SA-NT District of the Lutheran Church of Australia.

This is our 50<sup>th</sup> synodical convention, an opportunity to reflect with thanksgiving to God on the blessings of life together as his church in our District. Hence our theme **“Blessed to be Church”**.

The life of the LCA in our District has changed considerably in that time in all sorts of ways and will continue to do so. Looking back, there is so much we can learn from those who have gone before us. There are also new frontiers and challenges for us to face in our day. We face them with the same faith, and the same confident hope in the same Lord of what is his church.

We pray that as you read this Book of Reports you will be encouraged by what God is doing among and through us, his people today, and also encouraged to own and work at the challenges we face together in ministry ahead.

We are **“Blessed to be Church”**.

What does that mean? How are we blessed by God to be his church in the world today? Good questions for us to keep in mind as we digest this “Book of Reports”, and as we make decisions and have conversation regarding future ministry for the sake of God's mission in this part of his world.

We are always **“Blessed to be Church”**.

May we be conscious of that as we come together in May for our 50<sup>th</sup> Convention.

## Program

### Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> May

7:45 am	Check-in open
8:30 am	Opening service
9:00 am	Business session 1
10:35 am	Morning tea
11:05 am	Business session 2
12:10 pm	Lunch
1:00 pm	Business session 3
3:05 pm	Afternoon tea
3:30 pm	Business session 4
4:50 pm	Closing devotion
5:00 pm	Finish
5:30 pm	Golden hour

### Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> May

7:45 am	Check-in open
8:30 am	Opening devotion
8:45 am	Business session 5
11:05 am	Morning tea
11:30 am	Business session 6
12:40 pm	Lunch
1:30 pm	Business session 7
2:50 pm	Closing worship
4:00 pm	Finish

## Rules for Transacting Business at Synodical Conventions

These rules are an extract of the District Constitution, By-Laws Part B, which deal with *Entitlement to Speak and Vote and Procedure in Transacting Business*.

### Who can submit matters for discussion at convention?

- Congregations or parishes
- Standing committees or councils of the District, provided the matter is within the terms of reference of the group
- The Pastors' Conference
- The Church Council or its Executive
- The General Church Board or its Executive

### Roles, Responsibilities and Opportunities for Delegates During Synod

- Delegates present to synod any proposal their congregation/parish has placed on the agenda
- While delegates will be aware of their congregation's attitudes, they will be responsible for voting according to their assessment of the debate at synod
- Delegates may use the opportunity at synod to network with other delegates in areas of mission and ministry, which could assist their congregation

### How is the quorum determined?

One-half plus one of those entitled to vote make up the quorum.

For the purposes of establishing the quorum, the following are not included:

- Pastors who are called to the LCA Churchwide Office
- Pastors at Australian Lutheran College
- Pastors called to our education communities
- Pastors emeriti

### Who can speak at convention?

- All delegates
- Consultants
- The Bishop of the LCANZ
- Chairpersons of Committees/Councils
- Visitors, with the permission of the chairperson

### Who can vote at convention?

- Elected lay and school principal delegates,
- Pastors of the District
- SA-NT District Church Council members
- SA-NT District Administrator
- Team Leader of the Children and Families, Youth and Young Adults Department
- Director of Lutheran Education SA, NT and WA
- Chief Executive Officer of Lutheran Community Care
- Chaplaincy Ministry Coordinator

## What rules are followed in transacting business?

### Chairperson's role and responsibilities

- The business of Convention is chaired by the District Bishop, unless he asks the First Assistant Bishop, the Second Assistant Bishop or a lay person to take the chair.
- If the Chairperson wishes to not chair the business at any stage, the First Assistant Bishop, the Second Assistant Bishop or an appointed lay person can take the chair.
- If a lay person is appointed as Chairperson, they will not have voting rights, unless they have been appointed as a delegate by their congregation.
- The Chairperson ensures that a quorum is present for the transaction of business.
- Deference shall be paid to the Chairperson's authority. All present must be seated whenever the Chairperson speaks, and the Chairperson must be heard without interruption, except when a point of order is raised.
- The Chairperson can call attention to continued irrelevance or tedious repetition on the part of a speaker, and may direct the speaker to stop speaking.
- The Chairperson can speak briefly for the purpose of providing information.
- The Chairperson will provide instructions for presenters and those wishing to speak to proposals.
- The Chairperson shall give ample opportunity for speakers for and against a motion or an amendment to be heard.
- If disorder arises, the Chairperson can announce an adjournment of the convention, and by that action the convention is immediately adjourned for a period of not more than 30 minutes.
- The Convention may be adjourned by the Chairperson if a proposal is received from the floor and is approved accordingly by delegates.

### Proposals and Reports to Convention

- All proposals on the agenda must be placed before the convention for discussion and decision, unless the proposer withdraws the proposal (with the consent of the convention)
- All reports published in the Book of Reports (and supplements) are regarded by the convention as having been received.
- The mover of any motion is permitted to speak for a maximum of five (5) minutes. The limit for other speakers is a maximum of three (3) minutes, unless there is a resolution from convention granting extra time.
- Any rules relating to time limits and the number of times a person can speak can be suspended by the ruling of the Chairperson or by a majority decision of the synod.
- No motion or amendment can be discussed or voted on until it has been moved and seconded by a delegate. Proposals coming from reports of Councils/Committees are considered to have been moved and seconded.
- A motion shall be decided by a show of ballot cards unless a ballot is required by the chairperson or requested by a delegate and granted by resolution of the synod. If there is a disagreement about the result of a vote, a recount or a second vote can be requested.
- Unless otherwise stipulated, a simple majority will decide a motion. However, if the votes are equal, the Chairperson, in addition to having a deliberative vote, will have a casting vote, or may refer the question for further consideration.
- People wishing to speak, after being called upon by the Chairperson, should stand and address themselves to the chair, providing their name and congregation represented.
- The speaker is not to be interrupted, unless a point of order is raised.
- Those taking part in the debate will be limited to one speech on a proposal, except to clear up a misunderstanding or to exercise a right of reply, unless the meeting grants permission.



- If, in the opinion of any delegate, an irregularity in procedure occurs the delegate may immediately, without asking permission from the chair, rise to a "point of order", and shall be heard straight away. The delegate must explain the point of order clearly and briefly, without introducing new topics. The Chairperson shall decide either to uphold or disallow the point raised, and the decision shall not be debated, unless there is an appeal against the ruling of the Chairperson.
- Debate on a motion or an amendment may be closed if a delegate requests that voting take place immediately. However, the Chairperson, believing that the proposal has not been sufficiently discussed, may refuse to accept the motion.
- Those who have signified their intention to speak before moving the closure of debate can be given the right to speak at the discretion of the Chairperson.

A motion may be superseded for that particular convention by the acceptance of any of the following motions:

- That the debate be adjourned
- That the synod proceeds to the next business

Any proposals before the convention may be referred to a special committee for study and report to the convention by:

- the Church Council prior to the sessions
- the convention during sessions
- Matters of conscience and doctrine will have precedence over other proposals. If the mover and seconder of a motion requests, the motion or amendment can be withdrawn with the approval of the convention.

### **Amendments to Proposals and Motions**

- Only one amendment to a motion can be before the chair at any one time. After that amendment has been accepted or rejected, another can be moved. Notice of a further amendment can be given at any time
- Proposers of amendments shall present the amendment to the Chairperson in writing, if asked to do so
- Every amendment must be relevant to the motion to which it refers
- A right of reply is allowed only to the mover of the original motion. It concludes the debate unless there are one or more amendments, in which case it may be exercised at the conclusion of the debate on the first amendment
- Seconded amendments are new motions, and those who have spoken to the motion are permitted to speak again.
- As a general rule, motions and amendments will be read before a vote is taken and the Chairperson shall, if necessary, briefly explain their meaning.
- No motion may be brought forward which is the same in substance as a proposal which has already been resolved by the convention, except if a motion calling for reconsideration is received by the chairperson. If the motion to reconsider the proposal is carried by the synod, the previous vote is cancelled, and the original proposal is again before the convention. A proposal may be reconsidered only once at the same convention.
- No formal motion can be moved or seconded by anyone who has moved, seconded or spoken to the motion or any amendment.

Any of these standing orders can be suspended if two-thirds of the delegates present consent.

The District shall not be bound by any statements or plans contained in a report, but only by specific resolutions on matters arising from reports and carried by the convention.

## After Synod

- Delegates will receive a summary report to Convention.
- Delegates have the responsibility to report back to their congregation and leadership team any major decisions and significant information from reports given and statements made at Convention.
- During the following years, delegates share information about District mission and ministry initiatives. Delegates may also be required to provide advice to the Church Council and participate in out of convention voting processes.

## Instructions for asking questions or making comments during business sessions

1. Any delegate wishing to speak will their way to the microphone in the centre of the room and wait to be directed by the chair.
  - a. If multiple people wish to speak, speakers are asked to line up behind the microphone in an orderly fashion.
2. The speaker will clearly announce their name and congregation, parish, or other entity they are representing prior to making their comment or asking their question.
3. As indicated in the rules for transacting business, the speaker will then have three minutes to ask their question.
  - a. As there will be limited opportunities for delegates to ask questions or comment on a proposal, please be considerate and try to be concise to ensure as many people have the opportunity to speak as possible.
4. Once the speaker has concluded speaking, they may return to their seat.
  - a. If they asked a question which requires a response, they may wait to receive an answer before returning to their seat.

# PROPOSALS



**LUTHERAN  
CHURCH**  
OF AUSTRALIA

**SOUTH AUSTRALIA  
NORTHERN TERRITORY**

## Proposal 1 – Grace Lutheran Chinese Church Inc

### **PROPOSED MOTION**

*Submitted by District Church Council*

**PROPOSED THAT** the Lutheran Church of Australia, SA-NT District Inc admit the Grace Lutheran Chinese Church Inc into membership as a congregation of the Church.

### **REASON FOR PROPOSAL**

Grace Lutheran Chinese Church are a new congregation of the LCA who are worshipping in the Glynde Zion Lutheran Church building and have made the decision to become a congregation in their own right. They have accepted a constitution which was approved by District Church Council in March 2023. At the same time, DCC approved the request from Grace Lutheran Chinese Church to become a congregation of the LCANZ.

The constitution of the LCA requires that a new congregation is admitted into membership by synod.

## Proposal 2 – Assistant Bishop for the Northern Territory

### PROPOSED MOTION

*Submitted by District Church Council*

**PROPOSED THAT** District Convention endorses the establishment of a new full-time executive officer role – Assistant Bishop for the Northern Territory.

**FURTHER PROPOSED THAT** District Convention accepts by special resolution the following addition to the By-Laws of the SA-NT District Constitution under 'TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR FULL-TIME EXECUTIVE OFFICERS OF THE DISTRICT':

### ASSISTANT BISHOP FOR THE NORTHERN TERRITORY

1. Appointment and call:
  - a. The call committee shall comprise a representative from the District Church Council and representatives from various stakeholders from the Northern Territory entities as determined by the District Church Council.
  - b. District pastors shall be invited to submit names of any pastor on the Roll of Pastors for consideration by the Call Committee. Expressions of interest may also be sought from pastors across all LCA Districts.
  - c. The Call Committee will shortlist suitable candidates and invite them to undertake an interview.
  - d. The Call Committee shall submit the names of recommended candidates to the District Church Council for endorsement and submission to District pastors for an e-vote.
  - e. The candidate endorsed by District pastors shall be forwarded to Synod for election by e-vote, whereupon a Call will be extended to the pastor.
  - f. The Called pastor shall have the usual period of 4 weeks to consider the Call.
  - g. The Assistant Bishop for the Northern Territory shall be elected by synod for an initial term of four (4) years and be eligible for further Calls for additional terms of four (4) years.
2. Relationship to the District Bishop: The Assistant Bishop for the Northern Territory shall work in close consultation and co-operation with an under the oversight of the District Bishop.
3. Relationship to Finke River Mission: The Assistant Bishop for the Northern Territory shall work collaboratively with the Finke River Mission.
4. Relationship to Northern Territory congregations: The Assistant Bishop for the Northern Territory shall work collaboratively with the congregations in the Northern Territory zone.
5. Duties: The duties of the Assistant Bishop for the Northern Territory are listed in the Job Description as determined by the District Church Council.

### REASON FOR PROPOSAL

Over 5,000 Indigenous and non-Indigenous Northern Territory residents identify as Lutheran, the majority (4,000+) residing on Indigenous Communities in central Australia stretched across a region larger than Victoria. Northern Territory Lutheran organisations minister to communities wrestling with enormous social challenges, poverty and isolation. On-the-ground LCA-NZ leadership presence in the region will strengthen pastoral care and ministry and support the connection of these ministries and worshipping communities to the wider LCA-NZ vision.

The desire for this position has come from the communities in the Northern Territory in consultation with the District and LCA leaders.

The SA-NT District Church Council and the Finke River Mission Board have agreed to jointly fund this position for an initial period of four years.

## Proposal 3 – Update to the Constitution of the LCA SA-NT District Inc

### PROPOSED MOTION

*Submitted by General Church Board*

### PROPOSED THAT

**ARTICLE 11. DISSOLUTION** of the By-laws of the Church, Constitution of the Districts, be amended to add the following words (words to be deleted - ~~strike through~~; words to be added - **bold**):

#### Article 11. DISSOLUTION

- 11.1 Changes to the prescribed geographical area of the District, dissolution of the District, or an amalgamation of the District with one or more other Districts or with the Church or changes to the legislative or governance structure of the Church affecting the District shall be determined according to the procedure set out in this article.
- 11.2 Action initiated by the Church
  - 11.2.1 For any action referred to in the preceding clause 11.1 initiated by the Church, the General Church Board, in consultation with the District Church Council and its Synod, shall outline the reasons, purposes and procedure for such a proposal and make a recommendation to the District Synod. Upon an in principle agreement, the matter shall proceed to a General Synod for approval.
  - 11.2.2 Any decision for any action referred to in the preceding clause 11.1 shall be made by the Church according to the following procedure:
    - 11.2.2.1 **Written** ~~Notice~~ of a motion specifying such action shall be given to the delegates of the General Synod.
    - 11.2.2.2 At least thirty [30] days written notice of a General Synod, specifying such action as a special motion, shall be given to the delegates of the General Synod.
    - 11.2.2.3 The motion must be presented at a duly constituted General Synod and shall require a majority of **not less than** three-quarters **[3/4]** of all the registered delegates of the General Synod.
  - 11.2.3 Once a decision has been determined by the Church according to the preceding clause 11.2.2 it shall be communicated to the District which shall then take the following action:
    - 11.2.3.1 **Written** ~~Notice~~ of a motion specifying the action shall be given to the delegates of the District Synod.
    - 11.2.3.2 At least thirty [30] days written notice of a District Synod, specifying the action to be taken as a special motion, shall be given to the delegates of the District Synod.
    - 11.2.3.3 The motion must be presented at a duly constituted District Synod and shall require a majority of **not less than** three-

quarters **[3/4]** of all the registered delegates of the District Synod.

11.2.3.4 The special resolution shall be submitted to the General Church Board.

### 11.3 Action initiated by the District

11.3.1 For any action referred to in the preceding clause 11.1 initiated by the District, the District shall outline the reasons, purposes and procedure for such a proposal to the General Church Board for consultation prior to presentation to the District Synod.

11.3.2 Following such consultation as described in the preceding clause 11.3.1, any outline of the reasons and purposes for dissolution shall be made by the District according to the following procedure:

11.3.2.1 **Written Notice** of a motion specifying the action shall be given to the delegates of the District Synod.

11.3.2.2 At least thirty [30] days written notice of a District Synod, specifying such action as a special motion, shall be given to the delegates of the District Synod.

11.3.2.3 The motion must be presented at a duly constituted District Synod and shall require a majority of **not less than** three-quarters **[3/4]** of all the registered delegates of the District Synod.

11.3.2.4 The special resolution shall be submitted to the General Church Board.

11.3.3 Upon agreement, the General Church Board, subject to the provisions in the Constitution of the Church, Article 9.2, shall submit the proposal to a General Synod for approval according to the procedure in the preceding clause 11.2.2.

11.4 Any recommendation or motion for dissolution of the District must address the transferring of the surplus assets of the District to either the Church or another district of the Church.

11.5 The District Synod shall take all steps required to implement the special resolution for action under this clause, including the making of changes required in respect of incorporation under the Act and/or other relevant legislation.

### REASON FOR PROPOSAL

The changes here presented bring this section into line with legal requirements under the Incorporations Act 1985 (SA) and for better clarity. Specifically, in clauses 11.2.2.1 and 11.3.2.1 the emphasis is on the requirement for a special resolution in writing on this matter. The inclusion of the words “not less than” ensures that any margin of three-quarters or more is sufficient majority.



## Proposal 4 – Update to the Constitution of the LCA SA-NT District Inc

### PROPOSED MOTION

*Submitted by General Church Board*

**PROPOSED THAT** in the Constitution and By-laws of the Church, Constitutions of the Districts, the following changes be made (words to be deleted - ~~strike through~~; words to be added - **bold**):

#### Article 13.2

- 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 not less than two-thirds [2/3]** of all the registered delegates at the convention, unless the motion relates to an amendment, alteration, addition or repeal already approved or recommended by General Synod or General Church Board of the Church, in which case the motion shall require a majority of those voting.

#### Section 4.3

##### **Withdrawal from Membership**

- 4.3 A congregation may withdraw from membership in the Church by adopting the following procedure:
- 4.3.1 The resolution of a congregation indicating the desire to withdraw must be adopted at a legally constituted meeting of the congregation by a ~~two-thirds~~ majority **of not less than two-thirds [2/3]** of all the voting members of the Congregation, and shall be submitted to the Bishop of the District within fourteen [14] days of adoption.
  - 4.3.2 The Bishop of the District or the Bishop's appointed representative shall negotiate with the congregation for at least ninety [90] days after receipt of the resolution.
  - 4.3.3 After such negotiation the formal and final vote shall be taken at a legally constituted meeting of the congregation, the purpose of which has been published and at which the Bishop of the District or the Bishop's representative shall be present.
  - 4.3.4 The final motion to withdraw shall require a majority of **not less than two-thirds [2/3]** of all the voting members of the Congregation. If it is resolved in the affirmative, a copy of the resolution shall be forwarded to the Bishop of the District, and upon its receipt the membership of the congregation in the Church shall terminate. The Bishop shall forward notice of withdrawal to the Secretary of the Church, who shall publish it in the official publication of the Church.

### Section 7.3.29

- 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 not less than two-thirds [2/3]** of those delegates present.

#### **REASON FOR PROPOSAL**

These changes are to ensure the correct interpretation of, and consistency in, the wording for the specified required majority. The inclusion of the words 'not less than' ensures that any margin of two thirds of the required amount, or more, is sufficient majority.

## Proposal 5 – Update to the Delegations of Powers by the Convention of Synod to District Church Council Policy

### PROPOSED MOTION

*Submitted by District Church Council*

**PROPOSED THAT** the Delegation of Powers by the Convention of Synod to District Church Council Policy be amended to add the following words (words to be deleted – ~~strike through~~; words to be added – **bold**):

### POLICY

**Lutheran Church of Australia, South Australia and Northern Territory District Inc.**

### **DELEGATION OF POWERS BY THE CONVENTION OF SYNOD TO DISTRICT CHURCH COUNCIL**

- 1) This policy applies between Conventions of Synod (Convention), to matters on which Convention has not passed a resolution and provides instructions to District Church Council or any officer (such as the District Bishop) of the District.
- 2) Synod delegates all of its powers, including its power to acquire, hold, dispose, lease, mortgage or otherwise deal with real and personal property and any estate or interest in real and personal property and to give guarantees as it may deem necessary for the effective promotion of any or all of its ordinary activities, between Conventions, subject to the following:
  - a) This delegation does not apply to the District Church Council for the disposing, leasing, mortgaging or otherwise dealing with the following real property:
    - i) The District Office at 137 Archer Street, North Adelaide
    - ii) Mansfield Park Units at Units 1 – 9/21 Sturt Street, Mansfield Park
    - ~~iii) Lutheran Community Care at 309 – 311 Prospect Road, Blair Athol~~
    - ~~iv) Lutheran Community Care at 219 Main North Road, Sefton Park.~~
  - b) In the case of funds or bequests administered by or on behalf of the District (such as the Zinnbauer and Tatachilla funds) this delegation does not enable District Church Council to override existing Convention resolutions or rules that apply to such funds or bequests.
  - c) Subject to 3) hereof, this delegation does not enable District Church Council to undertake a large financial commitment.

A large financial commitment is defined as any dealing that is not included in the budget (such commitments include but are not limited to acquisition or disposal of assets, leases, mortgages, loans, or the provision of guarantees), regardless of when such commitment is to take effect, of an amount that exceeds 20% of the total receipts of the District in the previous calendar/financial year.

An extension of a large financial commitment (by any amount) in any subsequent year will be regarded as a large financial commitment.
  - d) The amount of a large financial commitment will not have a limitation where the commitment is made on behalf of a congregation or District organisation where the District holds the property in trust. If District Church Council receives a resolution from the congregation, or District organisation including Concordia College, Immanuel College, **Lutheran Care**, Tanunda Lutheran Home or Riverview Lutheran Homes to

purchase, lease, dispose of or mortgage a property, District Church Council may act on behalf of the congregation or organisation to facilitate the property transaction.

- e) This delegation does not enable District Church Council to create or abolish Departments referred to in the Constitution or By-Laws of the District.
- f) This delegation does not enable District Church Council to abolish positions referred to in the Constitution or By-Laws of the District.

3) Delegations that can be completed by District Church Council include:

- a) Preparing, and administering the District budget as approved by Convention and between Conventions of Synod
- b) Approving the financial statements between Conventions of Synod
- c) The purchase of manses
- d) Appointing replacement Executive Officers as prescribed in the District By-laws Part B B (1) – Terms of Reference for full-time Executive Officers of the District
- e) Calling pastors to the District
- f) Appointing District staff
- g) Terminating the employment of Executive Officers or staff
- ~~h) Entering into operational agreements on behalf of Lutheran Community Care.~~

#### **REASONS FOR PROPOSAL**

At the 2016 SA-NT District Convention of Synod when the policy was approved Lutheran Community Care were not an incorporated association and therefore were not able to own property or sign government contracts in their own right. Since that time Lutheran Care have changed their status to be an incorporated association so therefore it is recommended that the policy be updated to recognise this.

# REPORTS FROM DISTRICT MINISTRIES



**LUTHERAN  
CHURCH**  
OF AUSTRALIA

**SOUTH AUSTRALIA  
NORTHERN TERRITORY**

## LCA SA-NT District Bishop

This is my 14<sup>th</sup> and final report to our District convention of synod.

It has been a privilege to serve, and to serve for so long in a role that I never would have envisaged was for me – a reminder that God calls as he wills, and he provides what we need to fulfil what he calls us to do. To oversee and support the church in many, varied places, has been an inspiration to my own faith and confidence in the Lord of the Church. Thank you, and I thank God for your faithful witness wherever he has placed you. I pray that you will continue to serve together and give witness together in creative ways in the future, whatever the shape of the church might look like. Ultimately wherever the word and sacraments are faithfully proclaimed and administered God promises there will be people of faith. And wherever there are people of faith we are his church in mission. We need to be his church in our context today, learning from the past but not looking back, rather looking forward to how we can best live as witnesses to Jesus today.



Above: Bishop David Altus

### Some highlights from the past year

- Working with the College of Bishops on the “Ministry Futures Project” – designed to arrive at recommendations by the end of 2023 regarding the future shape of ministry in the LCA, given the number of pastoral vacancies we are facing and local capacity to support full time pastors. I do pray the outcomes will give us the flexible ministry needed for today and tomorrow.
- Working towards an “Assistant Bishop for the Northern Territory” is something I could see being helpful from my very first trip to the Territory. While I love going there to encourage and support, the reality is that one can’t be effective from Adelaide. Oversight and support are needed on the ground. I pray that it will come to fruition this year and meet a local need and request.
- Working towards receiving Grace Chinese Lutheran Church as a congregation of the District.
- Working towards the ordination of Julian Mazzeo, a member of, and potential pastor to the Adelaide Deaf Community Church.
- Having three younger pastors and now two retired pastors in south-east zone has strengthened ministry in that region. I also rejoice that the call to Alice Springs was accepted recently and am thankful for Noel Due’s ministry in Darwin in “retirement”. Hearing of new life at Ferryden Park with indigenous ministry has also been heartening and seeing the initiative and witness some Riverland members have undertaken regarding rural mental health was heart-warming. Seeing God’s people adapt and respond to changing circumstances in creative ways. Many, many other stories...
- I thank John Proeve for his years of service as Executive Director of LESNW that came to an end in December, and welcome Craig Fielke to the role.
- Hearing stories from all our ministry arms. I wish everyone could hear what I get to hear about them.

## **Some challenges ahead**

- The financial challenges being experienced locally affect our capacity to continue District and LCA ministries as is. This will likely be exacerbated in the coming years.
- The future shape of Districts in the LCA and their oversight, governance and administration will be a live conversation sooner rather than later.
- The sale of St Paul's Lutheran Homes Hahndorf has reminded all our aged care and other ministry entities of the need to be continually on top of our governance and other responsibilities for the sake of those entrusted to our care. I want to thank the chair and acting CEO in particular for staying the course through a very difficult period. We trust that ministry there can continue under a new owner. Once the sale goes through there will be further opportunity for reflection and learnings among our network of providers for the sake of the future. The merger of Fullarton and LHI Glynde / Hope Valley to form Lutheran Homes Group (LHG) is both opportunity and challenge. It is also a model for possible future mergers that we can learn from. Blessing their office in the city I was pleased to see so many younger staff invested in aged care with energy.
- Key leaders in Lutheran Care have suffered health concerns and we continue to pray for them and the new ventures that Lutheran Care have undertaken. Speaking at a staff day this year I was inspired by the passion of staff for their work.
- Vineyard Lutheran School in Clare closed during the year. We thank God for all who have served there and students who have heard the word of God there and been formed for life in God's world through Lutheran Education. We can't take ongoing financial and governance viability for granted. We also need to keep front and centre why we are involved in education, aged care and other human services from a Lutheran witness perspective. Gender issues and also religious freedom will no doubt continue to be live issues in the time ahead, and not only for our schools.

## **Some opportunities to explore**

- Regional ministry conversations taking place in the metro area, Tanunda, and other locations.
- A possible ministry being explored at the new Riverlea development north of Adelaide that could become a hub of our ministries collaborating and sharing resources.
- Implementing the Annual Ministry Reviews that College of Bishops have been working on with Church Worker Support and that have been "road tested" in various places. The aim is an annual ministry health check-up for pastors and parishes in ministry together for the sake of wellbeing and ministry.
- District Church Council will be exploring the best stewardship of our property, funds and personnel in collaboration with the LCANZ national office in the near future.

## **LCA Synod**

I write this immediately after returning from the LCANZ Convention of Synod in Melbourne. By the time you read this you will have spoken with others and processed the outcome in your own way. I urge you to stay the course with us as College of Bishops and GCB work with the church to enact the resolutions of the convention. Much work will be needed in a relatively short time and we ask for your prayers. While I will no longer be a bishop and am retiring mid-year I have made myself available to help the church along the way if, and as is deemed helpful, without interfering with whomever comes after me. The decision of synod regarding the ordination of women and men set the LCANZ on a different course. I urge you neither to "overstep" ahead of time, nor to write the possibility of living together with difference off

ahead of time. Pray for people of goodwill from differing starting points as they are brought together to find a way to enact the synod decision so that we can continue to live as the LCANZ with integrity and in peace, on the foundation of faith we share.

### **Encouragement**

I pray that you will not be daunted or deflated by what we face together with many other denominations of the Christian church in Australia. Rather, see our time in church history as a faith adventure for the sake of making Christ known in our day. **“Christ gives me the strength to face everything” – Philippians 4:13** has been a word from the Lord that has fulfilled the promise contained in it for me. I pray that will be your experience of this word too in the future.

### **Thank you**

I want to express my deep gratitude to everyone whom I have had the privilege of serving, and serving with, as District President / Bishop for 13 ½ years, and in full time ministry for nearly 37 years. Working day by day alongside people who share your faith and who are committed to sharing it with the world is a wonderful blessing. I seek your forgiveness where I have failed you and can assure you that I hold nothing against anyone as I leave office. In the end we all live, and leave, by God's grace. That is my greatest learning in these decades of ministry. Maybe I am a slow learner! I leave with thanks to God, confident in his care and future for his church, and with the hope of continuing to be of some blessing to you in retirement. I thank the church for your support, and I thank Carolyn and my family for their patience, prayers, and encouragement along the way.

To God be the glory.

**Pastor David Altus**  
**Bishop LCA SA-NT**



## LCA SA-NT District Church Council

The District Church Council (DCC) has the responsibility of overseeing the work of SA-NT District, and to ensure that the District "exists to resource, encourage and focus its communities to grow in Christ and make him known to all people. Called together as one church, we are empowered by the Holy Spirit to be people of God, participating in diverse ways in God's mission plan to gather all creation in Christ."

This is a joyous privilege, and the members of DCC thank God for the opportunity of serving so that God's love comes to life through their governance work. I thank God for each of them and their dedication to what is a challenging task in a rapidly changing environment, both in the church and the wider culture.

The District Church Council meets at least ten times a year, with other meetings as required. Over this last term, meeting have been a combination of face to face and online, due to the ongoing presence of COVID-19. Technology has also allowed for those members who live in remote areas or who are away from home to participate.

Serving members of DCC over this synodical term were: Rob Hoff, Judy Jaensch, Stephen Kroker, Helen Martul, Ben Schubert, Pastor Andrew Vanderwal, District Bishop David Altus, and First and Second Assistant Bishops Andrew Brook and Joel Cramer. Assistant Bishop for Mission, Stephen Schultz and District Administrator, Angela Rogers served as consultants to the council. The District is blessed to have a council who are faithful, passionate and committed to the church as the hope of the world.

I wish to acknowledge those members of DCC who are completing their service at this District Synod. Judy Jaensch has made an invaluable contribution over many terms and she will be greatly missed. We thank Pastor Andrew Vanderwal for his insight and wisdom, and we have also been blessed by the strategic contribution made by Ben Schubert. May God bless you in your continued service to the Lord.

We also express our thanks to God, and our deepest gratitude too, for the thoughtful, calm and wise leadership exercised over 13 years by our retiring District Bishop David Altus. Not just our council but the entire district has been blessed by his prayerful and dedicated service, the ability to speak the word of God into every situation, and the way that he has uncomplainingly borne the burden of leadership. We pray for you and Carolyn as you enter the next phase of your life.

On your behalf, DCC has sought to maintain a close relationship with the agencies and institutions of the district. We regularly hear from the directors and CEO's of Lutheran Education SA, NT & WA (LESNW), Lutheran Care and Lutheran Disability Services. We have brought together the CEO's and Board Chairs of the aged care facilities in the District for mutual support and encouragement. Good relationships with these ministry arms of our church is critical, so that the mission of the church continues to be carried out through them.

We acknowledge with thanks the retirement of Executive Director of Lutheran Education, John Proeve, and we thank him for his diligent and untiring service to the schools of the district. We also note the impending retirement of LDS CEO, John Van Ruth and thank him for his exemplary leadership.

There have been many pieces of 'normal' work during the past synodical period for DCC but two major pieces of work have been the Memorandum of Understanding with LESNW and the support provided to St Paul's Lutheran Homes Hahndorf.

The MOU with LESNW outlines areas of responsibility with regard to governance, lending processes and potential development of new learning communities. DCC have walked alongside the Directors of St Paul's Homes during a time of financial difficulty following a government sanction by providing financial assistance and governance support. We thank God for leading everyone through this time of transition as the facility is sold to Bene Aged Care.

Governance and leadership are inextricably linked, and DCC has been discerning how best to lead this District in dealing with a changing ministry landscape. You will hear about this at District Convention, but in summary we have been working on how best to support the District in the following areas:

- Pastoral support
- Developing lay ministry and releasing the people of God for service and witness
- Better utilisation of our financial resources
- Growing our ministry with Aboriginal brothers and sisters
- Communicating the good news of what God is doing among us.

Our vision is entitled: **Real grace. Real Life. Real Community.** The world has changed around us, and so has the church. We are not what we once were, but we are still the people of God, and we still have the good news to share in word and action. What will this look like on the ground in your congregation and community?

We are excited to bring to District Convention the proposal to establish an Assistant to the Bishop-Northern Territory position, which will ensure better oversight of our work in the NT, and our working relationship with the Finke River Mission. We are also thankful to God for the reception of the Chinese congregation worshipping at Zion Glynde.

### **District Office**

The SA-NT District is blessed with the staff who work in our District Office. They are committed to the mission of the church, and they serve in ways above and beyond what is expected of them. Bishop David Altus and Assistant Bishop for Mission Stephen Schultz have such a heart for both the gospel and for you, the people of the district, and they demonstrate this in unflagging pastoral, leadership and support.

Our District Administrator, Angela Rogers, is a fount of knowledge and a great encourager for the council and the wider district. We continue to benefit immensely from her expertise. Holly Koning is the first point of call for many of you as you make contact with us, and Holly is invariably able to assist you. We thank God for the valuable contribution Michelle Storie made in her role as Executive Assistant.

We also farewelled Pastor Peter Miller as Chaplaincy Ministries Coordinator. Peter's ministry reached far and wide across the whole district, and brought God's comfort and peace to so many people. This critical ministry continues in the appointment of Heidi Smith into this role. Heidi brings vast experience and a passion for pastoral care. We are grateful to God for her addition to our team.

Many of you will know the work of Blueprint Ministries (Child, Youth, Families, and Young Adults) through the various camps run across the year. It would be true to say that the later two years have been exceedingly challenging for Blueprint because of COVID-19, with plans having to be made and then remade at short notice. We thank God for the team's adaptability and patience: Team Leader Jeanette Mann, Camping and Event Ministries Coordinator Ian

Crambrook, and Congregational Engagement Joanne Chamberlain. Blueprint Ministries' scope is much wider than camping, though, and includes supporting faith formation in congregations, and young adult and tertiary ministry.

Behind these teams are some people you mightn't know, but without whom the District wouldn't function well financially, nor would it be able to tell the story of God at work through us. We are blessed by the work of our Bookkeeper, Vanessa Freislich, and Together Editor and Communications Officer, Jessica Smith. It's such a great encouragement to read 'Together.'

This team has been called to serve you and to enable you to be the people of God on the ground in your congregation and community. As the SA-NT District website says, "Here is just a small part of our team, shared here so that you can **CONNECT WITH US** and know more about who we are. We believe that every member is a minister, and the **REAL HEROES** are the **VOLUNTEERS** who give their time, talent, and energy to passionately."

So we thank you for your faithfulness, persistence and support. We ask you to remember us in your prayers, as we do you. We know that these are not the easiest of times, with congregations facing significant headwinds. Yet we trust that the wind of the Holy Spirit will direct the church in the direction God wants it to go, into formerly uncharted waters. We continue to believe that we are "Blessed to be Church" because we are the Lord's, and he our hope and our strength.

**Pastor Andrew Brook**  
**District Church Council Chairperson**

## LCA SA-NT District Assistant Bishop for Mission

### **The last two years**

The pandemic has had a significant impact on our communities for the last three years. For some it has accelerated the decline and challenges they had been experiencing for some time and for others it has renewed their sense of purpose and commitment to be the church in their community.

During this time 126 churches in our District and nearly 4,000 people completed the latest national church life survey (NCLS). This has given us some valuable data. I utilise this information when working with congregations/parishes in the pre-call process and am available at other times to help leaders and communities interpret this information and apply it when setting ministry-mission priorities.

### **The District landscape**

It has now been five years in the role and the landscape has changed significantly in that time. As 2018 began, there were 110 general ministry pastor positions in our SA-NT District, 101 general ministry pastors (GMPs) and 20 specific ministry pastors (SMPs) serving, and 2 laypeople licensed for sacramental ministry. As 2023 began, we had around 94-98 general ministry pastor positions in our SA-NT District, 77 GMPs and 19 SMPs serving, and 32 laypeople licensed for sacramental ministry.

This pastoral supply crisis led to a meeting with the College of Bishops in May 2022. This resulted in the following key outcomes:

1. to explore the regionalisation of ministries in local areas
2. to propose pathways for training for the ministries of the church
3. to better articulate the ordering of ministry in our church.

As this work is being done at an LCA level, we are working with communities to ensure pastoral supply and support for leaders in a time of vacancy.

### **The call process**

Early in the pandemic there was a hiatus in the call process, but it has now resumed. In the last two years 30 locations in our SA-NT District have experienced a change in their pastor position. There have been 22 outgoing pastors (2 resignations; 3 leave of absence; 5 retirements; 2 deaths; 3 accepting a call to another District; 7 accepting a call within SA-NT). There have been 14 incoming pastors (3 ALC graduates; 2 LCA positions; 2 accepting a call from another District; 7 accepting a call within SA-NT).

An increasing aspect of my role has been taking parishes through the pre-call process. This involves working through the call process, sharing the changing landscape of the church, considering the regional/local context, presenting survey data (pre-call and national church life surveys), and identifying key action points for the parish to address.

At the same time the call process is becoming more complex because a growing number of locations are indicating their inability to support a full-time pastor position. Currently 15% of the general ministry pastors serving in our District are not full-time.

Now when a congregation/parish becomes vacant, it often requires entering into conversations with neighbouring congregations/parishes to consider realignment options and/or entering into a memorandum of understanding to share resources.

### **Regional ministry**

Realignments are effectively only temporary solutions. It often appears to be simply making do with less pastoral resources spread out a little thinner.

Many places are starting to recognise the need for regional collaboration and are initiating conversations in this space. The intention of this collaboration is not to form super parishes, where the smaller congregations just get swallowed up. The intention is to enable every congregation to be supported and resourced in its local ministry and mission through that collaboration. In this model it is envisioned that:

- there would be a greater emphasis on the Zone Pastor role to help coordinate this collaboration in the region.
- pastors would work together to serve the region, utilising their different gifts beyond a single congregation/parish.
- it would enable adaptive ministry structure of SMPs and licensed individuals with appropriate authority, training, resourcing and accountability.
- any other lay worker positions could also be utilised across the region.
- there could be collaboration of administrative resources and governance capability across the region.
- it encourages greater collaboration between the entities in a region (congregations, schools, aged care, Lutheran Care, Lutheran Disability Services etc.)
- it increases the ability to capitalise on and resource ministry-mission initiatives.
- it would be easier to access LCA and District resources at a regional level.
- it would be more financially viable, sustainable and adaptable.

It is not viable to continue to work in silos. Many parishes are spending in excess of 75% of their income on the pastor resource alone (some are even drawing on their reserves). This is diminishing the capacity for financing ministry-mission initiatives at the local, District and churchwide levels. A regional model could help address this, but places need to be open and willing to engage in these conversations.

### **The future**

There is no technical fix for the adaptive challenges we face as the church. But I am convinced that the Lord of the church (Jesus) has gifted us with everything we need to be his church. As I move about the District I am encouraged and inspired by the number of gifted people in our church across all ages, genders and cultures.

In my role I will continue to encourage a partnership in the Gospel where pastors and people work together with their gifts to bring glory to God and good to our world.

Yours in Christ Jesus, our crucified, risen and ascended Lord!

**Pastor Stephen Schultz**

**Assistant Bishop for Mission, SA-NT District**

## LCA SA-NT District Administrator

The position description of the District Administrator requires me to ensure the business affairs of the District are conducted in accordance with all regulations, support the Bishop, manage and develop staff, provide leadership and advice to congregations and develop relationships with LCA agencies, as well as act as the Public Officer of the LCA SA-NT District Inc.

So, thank you to the District Office team, who make it possible to cover a broad scope of work and people. It is a privilege to serve you all and for this I thank God. Please continue to pray for our team.

My major focus areas of work include:

- Relationships with and enquiries from congregations, office holders and pastors
- Serving the Bishop and District Church Council and District Office staff
- Finance, administration, and compliance
- Property management
- Aged care

### **Relationships:**

Conversations with congregation members and pastors are so very important in my role of assisting congregations to work through issues of governance, financial management, meeting protocols, and the many other issues that people contact me about.

The role of congregational governance and management has increased significantly in recent years with ACNC reporting, Child Safety Standards, financial viability and much more. In more and more congregations and parishes there are less people willing or able to stand for positions and this is forcing congregations to consider their structure and viability. Over the past few years, I have worked with congregations to amalgamate and become one congregation worshipping in more than one location; and it is expected that this approach will become more common.

The District Office continues to connect with people inside our Church and especially those outside of our Church through our Facebook page whereby we share news of special events and general 'happenings' throughout the District. Together magazine continues to be an important tool in our communications sharing inspiring stories and updates from around the District.

The District Office team serve on various LCA NZ committees and working parties to deliver common goals. The District Administrators also work closely together to share resources.

### **Service:**

When I started in this role some eight years ago, the District Office was a frightening place for many people. But over the years, I have instituted a culture of service to all and people know that the District Office has staff who are skillful and willing to assist them. The District Office exists to support, resource and focus our congregations and the wider Church.

### **Finance, Administration and Compliance:**

The District Office relies on the generosity of our congregations for most of our income, which in turn supports the wider LCA NZ and ministry opportunities within our own District. Unfortunately, contributions from congregations have reduced which has had a negative



impact on the financial situation of the District. Fortunately, we have not had to reduce our ministry goals, but we have reduced our staffing level and support of the LCANZ. Furthermore, the District Office is always looking at how we can do things more efficiently without impacting our service to congregations.

The District Office has launched our 'By the Book' bookkeeping service during the last synodical term and currently have eight clients utilising this service, and more wanting to come onboard. It does not replace the role of the treasurer but does the day-to-day financial management for a congregation or parish. Our clients are very appreciative of this service and the release it has provided to them.

As noted in the Constitution Committee report, many congregations and parishes have updated their constitution in recent years, and these have been 'personalised' to meet the needs of each congregation. No longer is this a long and onerous task but has been streamlined to be a much shorter and easier process for all, including the lodgement with government departments.

There are many aspects to compliance which the role of District Administrator encompasses from taxation and GST law to work health and safety with everything in between including human resources. Working with congregations to ensure they keep on top of this is complex. Risk management of our camps and events is a priority to ensure the safety of all participants and this cannot be understated as the Church faces the National Redress Scheme and claims associated with historical child sex abuse cases for which no insurance is available.

### **Property Management:**

During the past synodical period there has been much work on management and maintenance of the properties that are owned by the District. Some have been major maintenance projects and the engagement of professional property managers for our external rental properties. It is pleasing to be able to rent some of our properties to our Lutheran entities to enable them to achieve their mission goals.

A sub-committee of DCC has been reviewing the property at Mansfield Park which consists of nine one- or two-bedroom units which are no longer suitable for their purpose. We are in conversation with Lutheran Disability Services about a long-term partnership for this property.

DCC are engaging in conversation with the LCA about our current and future property requirements, exploring if we are making the best use of our current premises.

Congregations are requiring support for their property management issues, particularly around insurance and maintenance with many being places of historical importance which adds complexity to all conversations.

### **Aged Care:**

Is an area of intense scrutiny and compliance from all sectors of the community and is ever changing and facing increased funding issues which together with the pandemic has caused huge stress for some of our Lutheran entities despite their best efforts. Our entities need highly skilled people to serve on boards and management positions. The District continues to walk alongside our entities supporting them where we can through difficult and complex situations.

My pastor used these words recently and I believe they apply to my role as your District Administrator 'the mystery of what we are meant to do and be is discovered as we follow and

love'. People bring me the problem and I work with them to find a solution which will enable them to continue to share the Gospel and love of Jesus in all they do. I give thanks for the privilege of serving the Church and its people.

Respectfully submitted,

**Angela Rogers**

**LCA SA-NT District Administrator**



## Finance report

### LCA SA-NT District Inc

The audited 2022 financial statements for the LCA SA-NT District Inc and the LCA SA-NT District Holdings Ltd are available via link on page 35.

These statements detail the financial activities for 2022.

The following notes will try to summarise the 48 pages of financial statements into a page.

The District net assets are made up of general funds and reserves – the reserves are funds that the District has received in prior years for a specific purpose, for example the Zinnbauer and Tatachilla reserves. The District started the year with general funds of \$8,255,418 and reserves of \$5,953,662 – a total of \$14,209,080 (refer to Net Assets of District page 10). The split up of the \$14,209,080 is 44.6% cash/46.5% property/8.9% other. Some of the property holdings form part of the reserves.

Last year the synod approved plan (budget) was to use \$333,350 of the Districts reserves to “balance the books”. The \$333,350 was to come from the AbMin SA fund (\$69,200 for salary support), Zinnbauer (\$50,000 chaplaincy support), Tatachilla fund (\$50,000 for camping ministry), Albert Geisler fund (\$20,000 deaf ministry), bequests (\$59,600 deaf ministry) and Taperoo fund (\$145,750 general support).

### How did we go in 2022?

The 2022 year ended with a small loss of \$23,091 after the allocation from reserves of \$313,430 (the plan was \$333,350 - \$19,920 less than planned). The main variations were the Taperoo fund \$145,750 was split between AbMin SA salary support and chaplaincy expenses and the use of Bequest reserve for aged care.

The big positive was that property valuations escalated significantly in 2022 – so based on the Valuer Generals valuations (considered conservative) the District property holdings increased by \$1,026,432 (split general funds \$716,432 reserve funds \$310,000).

So, the District started 2022 with total funds of \$14,209,080 and ended the year with total funds of \$14,898,991 [general funds \$8,948,759 reserves \$5,950,232] (37.7% cash/53.8% property/8.5% other) – an improvement of \$689,911.

Obviously, if the trend of property becoming a higher portion and cash a lower portion of fund there will need to be a re-balancing of the property/cash portfolio in the future.

### LCA SA-NT District Holdings Ltd

The Holdings company holds land on trust for the entity that uses it (the beneficial owner).

As at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2022 the Holding Company held a total of \$206,150,500 of land (2021 \$207,480,500).

The reduction in holding is due to the sale of a property and the transfer back to the beneficial owner.

The properties are valued at the State Valuation Office 2021 capital value.

**Stephen Kroker**

**LCA SA-NT District Finance Consultant**

## Proposed 2023 Budget for LCA SA-NT District Inc

INCOME	Budget 2023	Budget 2022	Actual 2022
Contributions from Congregations	\$1,200,000	\$1,400,000	\$1,252,964
Levy Income	\$6,000	\$10,000	\$5,980
Donations	\$70,000	\$50,000	\$76,540
Bequests	\$30,000	\$50,000	\$30,378
Grant Income	\$60,000	\$40,000	\$68,881
Events Income	\$215,000	\$215,000	\$93,711
Property Income	\$200,000	\$180,000	\$196,169
Payroll Services Income	\$739,000	\$755,000	\$786,301
Interest Income	\$50,000	\$40,000	\$33,098
Dividends	\$16,000	\$0	\$56,000
Bookkeeping services	\$12,000	\$0	\$10,520
Trading Income	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,511
Fundraising	\$10,000	\$5,000	\$14,168
Expense Recoveries	\$8,000	\$5,000	\$32,508
Sundry Income	\$0	\$7,000	\$1,848
	<b>\$2,626,000</b>	<b>\$2,767,000</b>	<b>\$2,669,577</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>			
Depreciation	\$40,000	\$40,000	\$32,661
Donations & Grants - budget	\$8,000	\$8,000	\$6,500
Donations & Grants - Reserves	\$14,000	\$30,000	\$61,168
Donations & Grants - Funds	\$15,000	\$50,800	\$5,210
Donations & Grants - Other	\$16,000	\$26,000	\$61,103
Event expenses	\$200,000	\$200,000	\$155,623
LCA National Contribution	\$600,000	\$700,000	\$626,482
Other operating expenses	\$145,000	\$138,250	\$134,842
Property expenses	\$154,500	\$134,500	\$147,152
Salaries - District Office	\$821,000	\$846,800	\$828,637
Salaries - School Pastors	\$730,000	\$746,000	\$771,826
Salaries - Other	\$275,000	\$180,000	\$174,894
	<b>\$3,018,500</b>	<b>\$3,100,350</b>	<b>\$3,006,098</b>
<b>Surplus/-Deficit for operations</b>	<b>-\$392,500</b>	<b>-\$333,350</b>	<b>-\$336,521</b>
Net Allocation from Reserves	\$392,500	\$333,350	\$313,430
<b>Surplus/-Deficit after reserves</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>-\$23,091</b>

## Notes

The 2023 budget is based on the 2022 District Office staffing structure

LCA contribution based on 50% of contributions received

Salaries - other \$275,000 include contributions to

1. Ceduna	\$34,200 same basis as 2022
2. Ferryden Park	\$32,500 same basis as 2022
3. Port Lincoln	\$37,100 same basis as 2022
4. FRM/Top End Lutheran Parish	\$50,000 first year
5. Pilgrim	\$81,200 same basis as 2022
6. Adelaide Deaf Community	\$40,000 first year

Net allocation from reserves (funds accumulated in previous years)

\$392,500 are:

AbMin SA fund	\$125,800
Albert Geisler Deaf Ministry	\$121,200
Tatachilla (for camping ministry)	\$54,280
Zinnebauer (for chaplaincy program)	\$91,220

The \$16,000 Ecumenical Endeavours dividend is allocated to Seaford

## LCA SA-NT District Financial Statements

Please click on the links below to access the financial statements for both the District and holding company.

[Lutheran Church of Australia SA-NT District Inc](#)

[Lutheran Church of Australia SA-NT District Holdings Ltd](#)

Please note, financial statements for the holding company have been included for your information. These do not require the approval of the synod.

## Child, Family, Youth & Young Adult Ministries

Praise be to God who is at work in the lives of children and young people!

It is a privilege to see what God is doing and to walk alongside those who are in ministry with them. We thank God that in this past year we have been able to hold camps and events in person once again. This allows for the building of relationships, the sharing of faith and for encouragement to take place. Our aim at Blueprint Ministries is to focus, encourage, support and resource the LCA SA-NT District for children, families, and young people.

The Blueprint Ministries team continues to work well together consisting of Joanne Chamberlain (Congregational Engagement - 2 days per week); Ian Crambrook (Camping & Events Coordinator - 4 days per week); and Jeanette Mann (Team Leader – 4 days per week). We also appreciate the guidance and support given by Pastor Stephen Schultz, Assistant Bishop for Mission. In 2022 we were joined by Pastor Mike Pietsch, (volunteer university chaplain), as tertiary ministry came under the banner of CFYYA (Blueprint Ministries). This has enabled us to work together more closely and support each in a very proactive way.



Above: Service at RENEW camp 2023

Our team has the desire to grow in our knowledge of what is happening in the district; to hear the needs and concerns of congregations; to listen to the ideas and initiatives that are taking place; to be a link between different ministries and to encourage, communicate and pray for these ministries.

It is a joy to work as a part of an inter-connected body with partnerships and strong links with various bodies within the LCA including LLL Australia, GROW ministries, Lutheran Education SA, NT & WA (LESNW), Lutheran Tract Mission (LTM), New & Renewing Churches, Cross Cultural Ministry. Much more can be achieved when we share, plan, and work together.



Above: Campers and Leaders on LMSE CLW 2022

It has also been a privilege to work ecumenically with the SA Children's Ministry Network; the SA Messy Church Team, Leaders to Go & the AMPLIFY Children's & Youth Conference SA planning team; Intergenerate and Mainly Music. The gifts and blessings of working together with other Christians from different denominations is a great reminder that we serve the same Lord Jesus Christ who is the Head of the Church.



The work of Blueprint can be divided into different areas:

**Supporting Faith in the Home and Intergenerationally.** Blueprint is building on this through Family Faith Trails (the latest production is the Prayer Family Faith Trail) and the Children's Christmas, Easter, and Grandparent packs. Congregations are encouraged to use these tools (along with the "GROW Ministries" Faith at Home resources) to support parents and grandparents in their role of key influencers in the faith journey of their children and grandchildren. In 2022 600 Easter and 600 Christmas packs were distributed along with other grandparent packs.

**Congregation and District initiatives.** The Blueprint Team visited congregations and woman's groups/rallies over the past 12 months to discuss and promote ministry to the first third and is happy to visit more congregations in the future. A congregational resource was produced with GROW Ministries called "A Congregational Checklist" (for growing effective child, youth, and family ministry) and Blessing the Backpacks was promoted and encouraged. Blueprint Grants (proceeds of the Blueprint Dinner) were made available to congregations to develop and support ministry to children, youth, and families. Six congregations received grants towards their projects. We are happy to encourage and support these local initiatives.

**Camping, Leading and Young Adult Events.** This has been a key area of Blueprint for many years which has resulted in faith growth and positive experiences for the young people attending. It has also been a key area for empowering young people to develop their spiritual gifts and leadership skills. Each year, six separate Christian Life Weeks are planned; plus, two camps for primary students in Years 4-6 called SPIN and JC Life. There is also a state-wide event for high school aged youth called NOVO. Additional to these camps, an annual Young Adults Camp called RENEW is held in February and a University Camp (held for the first time again in 2022 after a break) for students and friends in August.

We are thankful to God that our camps have been able to rebuild since COVID and have engaged with 341 campers over the past 12 months (60% were first time campers) with a total number of 241 leaders involved. (Some attended more than one camp).

At Young Adults camps in the last 12 months, 61 people have attended, with a total of 157 Young Adults engaging in events over the past 2 years. A Young Adults "Welcome Event" is held each year to build



Above: Campers on Barossa CLW 2022

connections for young adults who have moved to the city for work or study. Further events are held each term with encouragement to the young adults to connect with a local congregation/Young Adults Group. Blueprint Ministries would like to continue to develop greater connections between camps, events, and congregations.

Besides these activities Young Adults have had opportunities to engage in Leadership Development through camp leadership and through "The Next Gen" conference which helps young people look at their God-given purpose & how they could pursue this.

**Communication, Listening & Resourcing.** The Blueprint team sees one of its roles as listening and connecting with those involved in camps and events plus children's, family, and youth ministry in the congregation. One effective way of communication is through Facebook. Blueprint Ministries has a Facebook page and a Blueprint Young Adults page plus individual pages for the various camps. We encourage people to connect with these pages and invite you to share with us events you would like advertised. Blueprint also regularly produces a



*Above: Small group at Metro CLW 2022*

resource email and contributes articles to the *Together* magazine and the *Online Together* e-news.

We praise God for His goodness and for the young people whose lives have been touched by His love through the various ministries in the district.

God is at work in the lives of children and young people. Let's share the great things He is doing and encourage one another to see ways in

which we all can be involved in supporting the faith journey of the precious young people God has placed in our lives and in our congregations.

Warmly in God's Love,

**Jeanette Mann**

**Blueprint Ministries Team Leader**

## Chaplaincy Ministries

It has been a year since I was installed by Bishop David Altus at Immanuel Lutheran Church, North Adelaide, after accepting my SA-NT DCC call as the full time 'District Chaplaincy Ministries Coordinator'.

I have learnt so much in this role, with much more to discover, and I thank you for inviting me to serve our District in this ministry.

### **My position description describes my role as:**

*'...overseeing a ministry provided to vulnerable people in the context of collegial connections with other Christian denominations and respectful association with other faith groups' where I 'will not just be involved personally in delivering the pastoral care but also in equipping volunteers to participate in the ministry in three areas of service... Hospital and Rehabilitation Centres, Prison Ministry and Disaster and Recovery Ministry'.*

### **Hospital and Rehabilitation Centre Ministry**

My call felt like 'mission impossible' as 2022 continued with very strict COVID restrictions in hospitals and rehabilitation centres, so that most of our chaplains, including myself, were restricted as volunteers from entering sites to 'deliver pastoral care'. During those restricted entry times, we also had to ensure that we did not accidentally take up the 'one visitor per day' allocations granted by hospitals for visits which were relied on by family members to spend time with their loved ones. Thank the Lord for phone calls, facetime, and emails which enabled us to support some in hospital and their family members who requested chaplains.

Compliance complexities continued in 2022, including further vaccinations, mask fits, daily RATs and additional onsite training for each hospital being visited, so I am very thankful that the SA-NT District still has any chaplains prepared to offer their volunteer time!

Thank you to our volunteer chaplains who have completed all requirements and been able to return to their Adelaide hospital ministries: Julie Hahn (TWCH), Rosalie Polkinghorne (RAH), Ivan Christian (RAH, TWCH, Flinders and wherever called) and emeriti Pastors, Jack Shepherd (FMC and Flinders Private) and Peter Miller (anywhere he is called to go!)



Above: Heidi Smith



Above: Selfie with Ivan Christian, Julie Hahn, and Heidi at the Ronald McDonald House near TWCH



Above: Esther Tredrea (RAH Aboriginal Health Nurse Consultant), Ivan Christian and Nancy Hermesen (CALHN Manager - Wellness and Spiritual Care Services) at the RAH Spiritual Care offices



## Prison Ministry

Clive Wundersitz continues to serve as our Lutheran volunteer chaplain at Mobilong Prison, Murray Bridge. Clive has been a chaplain at Mobilong for over a decade and is a source of great Christian encouragement for the many prisoners and staff who know him and to those who attend his bible studies and other sessions. Clive also continues to lead Sunday holy communion services at Mobilong once a month with the support of the employed Salvation Army chaplain at Mobilong; Major Stacey Cotton and Clive will be licenced for this ministry.

In 2022, the Department of Correctional Services appointed a new state chaplaincy coordinator, Craig Bossie as the Principal Chaplain/Advisor Faith Engagement for Prison Chaplaincy and Spiritual Care. Craig has recently formed a Faith Engagement and Advisory Group, of which I and other Christian denominational chaplaincy coordinators are members.

**All major Adelaide hospitals and SA prisons continue to employ a chaplain onsite** to oversee other paid and volunteer chaplains who regularly visit at that hospital or prison. These employed chaplains are onsite to ensure that all patients and prisoners have their spiritual needs provided for and employed chaplains visit all people in an allocated area. If any patient or prisoner requests a chaplain when in hospital or prison, a chaplain will come to visit them. Please remember, however, that if you specifically want a Lutheran pastoral visit (i.e., when your own Lutheran minister is too far away to visit you or is on leave, or your congregation is in vacancy) then ask any staff member to request a Lutheran chaplain for you. We will then be notified and invited to come to see you as soon as we are able to.

## Disaster and Recovery Ministry

Disaster and Recovery Chaplaincy Ministry is supported by the SA Uniting Church, and in 2022 I completed the training to serve as a D+RM chaplain too. As per an article in our *Together* magazine, this is a chaplaincy ministry which is highly valued by SA Housing (which manages all Emergency Relief Centres) and the wider community. We currently have over 20 Lutheran pastors and Lutheran volunteers serving in this ministry (including Lutheran School's Ministry Group, Pastoral Care Workers, who are also trained for this chaplaincy ministry). Lutheran D+RM chaplains have served these past months at ERCs set up in Berri, Mannum, and Murray Bridge during the recent River Murray flooding, and many of us will continue to serve as chaplains in the recovery centres remaining in those towns.



Above: Disaster and Recovery Ministry

## Clinical Pastoral Education CPE

As part of ongoing resourcing for our volunteer chaplains, the SA-NT District fully funded five online CPE sessions through QiCPE. Some of these ZOOM seminars were participated in as a face-to-face group at the district office (including fellowship and sharing of questions, ideas, and food). Due to COVID restrictions, however, two sessions were individualised ZOOM forums only, with break-out room discussions, where many of us appreciated conversing with chaplains from interstate.



**Topics covered during CPE sessions.**

Trust and pastoral relationships, The importance of story, voluntary assisted dying, faith in a secular context, and ethical practise in spiritual care.

It was a delight to also be able to host some of our Lutheran pastors and chaplains who regularly visit in Adelaide hospitals or rehab or serve in aged care chaplaincy ministries.

**Special thanks to those who have given so much of their own time for hospital, prison, and D+RM ministries previously** but have not been able to return to those ministries after COVID restrictions, including emeriti Pastors, Robert Thiele (Flinders) and Howard Schilling (RAH).

**We also acknowledge and thank our pastors in Adelaide and surrounding areas**, who have been so ready and willing to respond when they have been called up by me or by the hospital or prison employed chaplain, to go to visit 'out-of-town' patients in hospitals and prisoners in prison who have requested Lutheran spiritual care, including holy communion.

May the living Lord Jesus continue to provide each of us with the strength and hope his resurrection brings us each day, to enable each of us to continue to use the gifts he has given us to serve others in the vocations he calls each of us to.

Your sister in Christ joyfully serving in His Name,

**Heidi Smith**

**LCA SA-NT Chaplaincy Ministries Coordinator**

## Aboriginal Ministry South Australia

Aboriginal Ministry South Australia (AbMinSA) is very blessed with a Godly charter and faithful field workers:

- Pastor Rob Schubert (now retired) was in Port Lincoln
- Pastor Andrew Vanderwal in Ceduna, Yalata, Denial Bay, and Koonibba
- Pastor Leon Rosenberg in Ferryden Park
- Ivan Christian our hospital chaplain in Adelaide to SA & NT Aboriginal Communities

Clearly, we serve a large area. Many of our older people have been directly and adversely affected by historic government policy, ie. they are of "the stolen generation", or they have been forcibly removed from their lands because of the Maralinga project. When we visit AbMinSA areas conversation inevitably angles toward 'the bomb' or 'the stolen ones'. It's into this context that conversation also reveals their love and knowledge of Jesus, and the care of the Lutheran Church.

Our charter is primarily to support and resource our field workers so that they in-turn encourage and train Aboriginal pastors, church workers, and congregations. Pastor Lindsay Thomas is our only active Aboriginal pastor on the West Coast. Lindsay loves hunting and often sends me pictures of his latest tucker. He's allowed to hunt all the good things we white fellas cannot touch, bush turkeys and wombats.

Like many places our Lutheran presence is in decline. Our struggle to maintain ministry in Yalata is partly due to a government decision to 'acquire' our field worker's house. This means that all support must come from Ceduna. The tyranny of distance, the price of fuel, the difficulty of multiple languages, all add toward a challenging ministry for Pastors Andrew Vanderwal and Lindsay Thomas.

In recent times two key people on the west coast have died, Dean Heyne, and Aboriginal Pastor Keith Peters. These men are sorely missed. Our very active and articulate Aboriginal Pastor Russell Bryant has extended periods away from football and civilization since the death of his dear wife. I pray that pastors do consider calls to the West Coast. It is a beautiful area with a varied and rewarding ministry (and fishing).

On behalf of AbMinSA I thank the congregations in Port Lincoln and Ceduna for being ministry partners with us. Thanks also to Navigator College (Port Lincoln) and Crossways Lutheran School (Ceduna) for their support. A special thanks to a special pastor, Pastor Rob Schubert, who was our AbMinSA Pastor in Port Lincoln. He made many in-roads into the culture as chaplain to the Peckers (Mallee Park Football club). Pastor Rob was often found inside the Port Lincoln prison as well. Pastor Rob enjoys retirement in the Barossa Valley.

In Adelaide we support people from the West Coast and the Northern Territory who come to Adelaide for medical and family reasons. Ivan Christian, Chaplain Heidi Smith, Pastor Leon Rosenberg, and the Ferryden Park congregation provide a network of care for families from the bush needing help.

We are a ministry of the SA-NT district. We enjoy the leadership of Pastor Stephen Schulz, the wisdom of our advisor Pastor Andrew Pfeiffer, and the friendship and cooperation of the Finke River Mission. Many thanks for partnering with us in ministry to surely the largest ministry area in the world? Please support us and pray for our communities.

**Pastor David Kuss**  
**AbMinSA Chairperson**

## LCA SA-NT District Constitutions Committee

### Introduction to the work of the committee

The main purpose of the LCA SA-NT District Constitutions Committee is to help the various entities associated with the District in updating their constitutions to meet the needs of the entity and the District in complying with Government legislation. Such entities include Congregations, Parishes, Schools, Aged Care Communities, Lutheran Care, Lutheran Disability Services.

Within the framework of the LCA NZ model constitution, each of these entities are able to incorporate the particular organisational practices which fulfil requirements of its current and future ministry endeavours. The District Constitution Committee welcomes the opportunity to facilitate, support and 'walk with' each entity as it works through the process of updating its constitution. In recent years there have been a number of situations where congregational re-alignments and amalgamation of congregations to form congregations have taken place. Similarly, with respect to District entities (eg. aged care) where ongoing changes to legal requirements necessitate changes to constitutions.

The District Constitution Committee welcomes the opportunity to facilitate, support and 'walk with' each entity as it works through the range of processes required.

Those entities which have received and benefitted from such expertise and support have gratefully appreciated the professional, generous, cheerful support and guidance from our District Administrator, Angela Rogers. Well beyond the call of duty, Angela has met with regional congregations, parishes and other entities during weeknights and weekends in order that their particular constitutional situations are successfully accommodated. Angela's 'can do' expertise is much appreciated by those who have availed themselves of her service and by the Constitutions Committee. We owe her a debt of gratitude!

### The process for updating a constitution

- a. Locate and review your current constitution.
- b. If the constitution of your entity has not reviewed in the past 5 years:
  - i. Appoint a small team to coordinate this.
  - ii. Contact the District Administrator who will provide you with a questionnaire to complete.
  - iii. Upon receipt of the completed questionnaire the District Administrator will provide you with a draft constitution, which is to be reviewed by your team.
  - iv. If there are any changes to be made, these can be done in consultation with the District Administrator.
  - v. Once you are satisfied with the draft, it is then shared with your Church Council and then to the congregation for consultation.
  - vi. If no changes are to be made, a final version is completed, and it is ready for presentation to a general meeting of your congregation. The District Administrator will provide you with the necessary wording for the minutes.
  - vii. The adopted Constitution is then returned for District Church Council for approval.
  - viii. Formalities are then complete except for incorporated associations, in which case the constitution is to be lodged with the Office of Consumer and Business Services, which the District Administrator can do for you.

- ix. It must be noted that the updated constitution must be uploaded to the ACNC portal by an authorised person.
- c. If there are any unusual or complicating matters such as amalgamations, the District Administrator or a committee member is willing to visit in order to answer questions and help prepare a constitution that will work for you.
- d. Please don't delay ~ do it now!

### **Achievements for 2021-2022**

The committee has considered and approved the following constitutions for endorsement by District Church Council:

<b>Entities</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2022</b>
Congregations	20	10
Parishes	3	2
Schools	3	4
Aged Care	1	3
Communities		
Agencies		
<b>Total</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>19</b>

As reported last year, there is still a large number of parishes and congregations that have not updated their constitutions.

There are 21 congregations or parishes which have not updated their constitution in the past 23 years. Additionally, there are further 50 congregations or parishes whose constitution is now older than 10 years and all of these require urgent updating. The District Administrator has previously contacted these 71 congregations and parishes advising of the legal requirement to update their constitution, to no avail.

### **Issues arising from out-of-date constitutions**

Updating of constitutions is required to keep pace with the changes to LCANZ requirements, Government legislation and technology. In particular, under the requirements of 'Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012'.

### **Membership of the Committee**

Committee members for the 2021-2022 were Heather Briggs, Graham Herrmann, Gilbert Materne, Peter Miller, Angela Rogers, and Peter Wittwer.

**Peter Miller**

**LCA SA-NT Constitutions Committee Chairperson**

## Lutheran Education South Australia, Northern Territory and Western Australia

*'Thriving, supportive, compassionate, collaborative, community.'*



At the time of writing this report I have entered the third week in undertaking the role that John Proeve so expertly and dutifully served in for 11 years. I wish to acknowledge and thank John for his wise and dedicated leadership, and his steadfast focus of telling God's story in and through the LESNW Regional Office.

It is an honour and privilege to lead the LESNW Regional Office to serve schools and their leaders whilst also working in collaboration with Lutheran Education Australia (LEA) and the other school regions as agencies of The Church. An understanding of and commitment to the symbiosis of organisations that

contribute to healthy learning communities is required to enable them to work effectively together. At its core, LESNW exists to support learning communities to bring learning and God's story to life.

This report will cover some key elements flowing from our commitment to excellence as God's gift to everyone for their wonder, holistic growth and inspiration, responding to the needs of the world and all people.



*Above (left to right): LESNW chairperson Paul Bert, LESNW Director Craig Fielke, and Bishop David Altus at Craig's installation*

### **Nurturing the Expression of Grace as a reflection of God's unconditional love through Jesus:**



*Above: Staff walking the prayer labyrinth at Encounter Lutheran College, Victor Harbor*

Reflecting upon and responding to the number of pastors available for learning communities and the accreditation processes for non-Pastor ministry personnel is an important area of ongoing focus.

The release of the respecting and valuing gender diverse, intersex, and sexually diverse students in Lutheran Learning Communities Policy and Guidelines occurred in the second half of 2022. This was the result of significant consultation and

engagement with a range of key stakeholders. Ongoing dialogue and implementation support will continue during 2023.

Growing community – we are better together:

There has been a growing need to tell the story of Lutheran Education more effectively. A staffing resource has been allocated for this purpose and will be filled during 2023. There will also be a particular focus upon the opportunities available in regional and remote settings, with a 4-pillar foundation:



1. Positive Culture and practice in Lutheran Schools based on mission and values.
2. Systemic employment benefits.
3. Work opportunities.
4. Regional incentives.

### **Holistic Learning that serves others and enhances the world:**



*Above: Tatachilla Lutheran College students*

Contemporary Learning Tours (CLT) are provoking learning communities to look out and beyond their own environment to question and challenge how they in fact are a learning community that is thriving, supportive and compassionate.

By being in community with each other throughout the CLT there is often reflection on our shared mission. There are times of prayerful reflection and devotion, along with times to enjoy the power of community.

Through the CLT, learning communities are connecting, networking, collaborating, and cooperating for the betterment of each. They have also allowed for significant networking beyond just Lutheran Education.

### **Strengthening the agility and sustainability of learning communities:**

After extensive investigation, collaboration and purposeful cooperation, the successful merger of Concordia College and St Peter's Lutheran School, Blackwood was completed for the beginning of the 2023 school year.

An opportunity to have a presence in the Riverlea Development (Buckland Park) is being explored. LESNW submitted an Expression of Interest to Riverlea for the establishment of a Lutheran school and other Lutheran services in the development with a proposed commencement of 2028.

The closure of Vineyard Lutheran School was a challenging and emotional experience for many staff, students, and families. It is of some solace that the site will continue as a Christian learning community with Horizon Christian School continuing operating the site as a Christian school from the beginning of 2023.

### **Equipping governance and leadership for the emerging future:**

Leadership Labs enables leaders to engage with the tools, practices and thinking which develop systems leadership, making direct connection to Growing deep Capabilities and Vocational Practices. Leaders In Lutheran Learning Communities (LiLLC) seminars have continued to grow in the number of participants, with strong engagement building leadership capacity, collaboration, and spiritual growth. In each session leaders share 'stories from the field' which have direct connection to the Growing deep vocational practices and capabilities.

*Below: Loxton Lutheran School students*





Above: Lobethal Lutheran School Christmas performance

Engagement in the Compassionate Systems Collective (of which LESNW is a founding member), Asia Pacific Community Calls, where leaders and teachers share their practice with compassionate systems, has been of great benefit to the LESNW leaders/teachers who have taken part. LESNW has had the opportunity to share our stories and to make valuable connections beyond LESNW.

### **Covid-19**

The quality of leadership and dedicated and caring service of staff in response to the Covid-19 pandemic over the last three years has been

outstanding. The engagement and compassion of our learning communities has made a significant difference in both the ability of our families to respond to and navigate the challenges they faced and the capacity for our young people to cope emotionally and learn effectively.

### **Principal and Director retirements or resignations to take on new challenges**

LESNW acknowledges the faithful service of Michael Bowmer, Tony Peters, Glyn Roberts, Andrew Kelly and Chris England, who have finished their respective time of service to Lutheran education in LESNW and we wish them God's blessings in the next phase of their lives.

### **Some Emerging Priorities:**

- Staffing of our schools, particularly rural and remote.
- Sustainable leadership and Principal growth and wellbeing
- Strengthening governance
- Women in leadership
- Synergy with other of agencies of education and The Church

The community and learning environments we find ourselves today are vastly different and continuing to evolve more dynamically than ever before. Navigating this reality and the interplay between Church and learning communities is important and imperative work and is integral to the mission, vision and services of LESNW.

Respectfully submitted.

**Craig Fielke**  
**LESNW Executive Director**



Above: Pastor Jon Goessling presenting to St Martin's Lutheran College, Mount Gambier students

## Concordia College



At the time of writing, media reports feature the devastation and loss of life caused by an earthquake in Türkiye and Syria, the ongoing war and cruelty inflicted on the residents of Ukraine, the property toll caused by the River Murray floods in South Australia and much more 'hurt and harm to humanity'. It is easy to be overcome by the burden of grief and hardship of the world. It is also easy to become overwhelmed by the task of preparing students to not only live in but to contribute to solutions for a troubled world.

However, as Christians and in particular, as Christians in a Lutheran learning community like Concordia College, we have so much to offer our students, so much to be thankful for, and so much hope to share.

This report is about sharing the plans and the hopes for our future at Concordia. And, like the rescue in Türkiye, the focus is on the people, in particular, the students in our care.

The key changes that have taken place since the last Synod report.

### The Drivers for Change

- The implementation of a new leadership structure focused on creating a design that could better align strategic implementation across the College, ELC-Year 12;
- COVID impacting just about every aspect of our operations (including profound changes to teaching and learning delivery in a relatively brief period);
- The decision to triple stream the St John's campus, which will take the College population from 1300 to 1500;
- The decision to accept the request from St Peters Lutheran School Blackwood to amalgamate with St Peters Lutheran to become the third campus of Concordia College;
- A whole of College MMG survey that gave feedback about ways to further lift levels of engagement, challenge and achievement for all students.

### The Developments

- The goals for the College's recent amalgamation, which are primarily focused on implementing a coherent and consistent ELC – 12 learning and wellbeing continuum aligning with our strategy and enabling rich and unique experiences for all students;
- A focus to engage and create learning connections across our campuses intentionally, to enhance student agency and deliberately focus on wellbeing for learning;
- A significant building program that expands and redevelops much of the St John's campus and rebuilds the Concordia campus gymnasium.

### The Direction for the Future

Based on the above key drivers, the College Board and College Executive Team collaboratively decided to re-focus our strategic plan from 2023-2025 on the following three overarching goals;

1. **Connecting Learners:** to learning experiences that are collaborative, consistent, connected to local and global communities and grounded in authenticity and relevance. Such connections must also help our students' ache' for those who are hurting, support those who struggle and love with the love of Jesus;
2. **Empowering Learners:** to be partners in shaping their learning through voice, choice, and action;



3. **Challenging Learners:** to take risks and overcome obstacles through developing and engaging their strengths, interests, and wellbeing strategies.

Clearly, these intentions are people focused and future driven.

All other areas of the former strategic plan become ongoing operational foci, including the important *Strengthening our Christian Identity*, our *Connections with Community* (especially our supporting congregations at St John's Unley and St Peters Blackwood) and *Securing our Future* (through exercising stewardship and financial sustainability).

### Deep Gratitude

In a world where so much suffering, hardship and political strife prevails, we give heartfelt thanks to God for:

- Peace in our country and in our College;
- the freedom to conduct our learning and worship program in authentic Christian ways;
- the blessings of health and safety of staff and students;
- high levels of teaching and learning engagement;
- full or near capacity student enrolment in all year levels (1415 total enrolment);
- extraordinary leadership from our Head of College, Paul Weinert and Principals Michael Paech (St John's Campus Highgate), Bronwyn Wilson (St Peters campus Blackwood) and Dennis Mulherin (Concordia Campus Highgate) and the broader Leadership and finance teams;
- focused spiritual leadership from Pastors Dale Gosden (College) and Andrew Brook (St John's Unley);
- our innovative "Unlocking Futures" learning pedagogy initiative;
- the wellbeing project research team as they address critical issues for both students and staff around wholeness and being fully well, including spiritual connectedness;
- the diligent commitment of Board members to governance matters;

Finally, the College continues to focus on ways to walk with education partners, parents and caregivers, and the Church to provide our students with rich and engaging learning experiences in the Lutheran education tradition.



Below: Concordia College Chapel at the 2023 Commencement Service.

Above: Concordia College Chapel at the 2023 Commencement Service with (from the left) Daniel Wood, Senior School Leader; Dr Loyd Fyffe, Chair, Concordia College; Paul Weinert, Head of College, Jodie Escott Director of Community Relations; Yanni Kokkoni, Year 12 student.



Respectfully submitted,

**Dr Loyd R Fyffe**  
**Concordia College Board Chairperson**

## Immanuel College

I am pleased to report that Immanuel College has continued to perform very strongly in 2022, during another challenging year with both the on-going COVID-19 impacts and wider economic impacts.



## Immanuel College



*Above: Students at Immanuel College*

The College has continued to apply consistent, positive, sensible management that has placed it in a sound position to respond to current and emergent issues.

Council is most appreciative of the ongoing, committed service of Immanuel's outstanding group of leaders, teachers and professional staff, under the excellent leadership of the Principal, Mr Kevin Richardson. Kevin's commitment, care for students and vision continue to be tremendous assets.

There were many positive outcomes achieved this year including:

- The College continues to be in a very sound financial position and the demand for future enrolments remains strong, despite the difficult economic environment. Consistency in enrolments provides the stable financial environment needed for ongoing full delivery of our extensive education, care and extra-curricular programs.
- The Council continued overseeing the implementation of its strategic intentions. The Council has adopted the vision "Aspiring to be Extraordinary" and its strategic intentions include a strong focus on individual student wellbeing, support and growth opportunities, and excellence in academics.
- The results achieved by the 2022 Year 12 cohort in the South Australian Certificate of Education (SACE) Stage 2 subjects were outstanding. Overall, we had 99.5% SACE completion with 33% of our eligible students achieving an ATAR of 90 or above. 57% of our eligible students achieved an ATAR of 80 or above, and there were 62 A+ Merits.
- Ensuring College facilities, grounds and infrastructure continue to meet the evolving needs of our students remains a high priority. Various projects were undertaken across the campus including continued refurbishments in the Middle School, the completion of the expansion of the pool facility, the creation of an Immanuel shop, a new table tennis and multi-purpose facility and climbing centre, relocating and repurposing the old uniform shop into a music practice area and additional classroom, and commencing the refurbishment of the library.



*Above: Model of future facilities at Immanuel*

- Construction of the \$13.9m senior school Discovery Centre, with a key focus on Year 10, is progressing well and will be ready for opening early in 2023. Council has ensured that the project is fully funded in the school's forward financial plan, so that there will be no extraordinary fee increases.
- The College welcomed Pastor Simon Cooper as its new chaplain and continued its strong focus on Christian community.



*Above: Main Entry Stairs*

Immanuel College was again fortunate to be governed by a competent Council consisting of David Field, Sharon Smith, Keryn Hendrik, Kerry Rowlands, Pastor Paul Fielke and Kym Wallent. It met eight times and was assisted by four Council committees.

**Kym Wallent**  
**Immanuel College Council**  
**Chairperson**



## Lutheran Care

At Lutheran Care, we continue to strive toward our mission of delivering, "God's love in action:



*Above: CEO Rohan Feegrade and Assistant Bishop for Mission Stephen Schultz*

care, compassion and social justice for all". Every day our 500-strong team of staff and volunteers follow in the footsteps of our founders – a group of compassionate and forward-thinking South Australian Lutheran women – in our work changing lives and building communities in SA and the NT. Through our many crisis relief, early intervention and education programs, we are proud to offer assistance, dignity, connection and empowerment on behalf of and with the support of the Lutheran Church of Australia, the Lutheran District of SA & NT and the leadership and members of local congregations.

I would like to sincerely thank each congregation who has supported our work, whether that be by donating to an appeal, sharing with us some emergency relief pantry items for someone less well off, shopping at or donating items to one of our Op Shops, volunteering with us, attending an event, spreading the word about our programs with your networks on or offline, or praying for our teams and the clients we support. Every bit helps. I am thankful for the respectful and supportive relationship Lutheran Care has built over the years with the church, at all levels, and I look forward to continuing to develop this into the future.

It has been a time of significant growth for Lutheran Care, as we expand our service offerings and footprint, and the awareness of who we are and what we do, in line with a surge in demand for our services. Our agility as an organisation and desire to do things differently to the benefit of vulnerable people has seen a number of our leadership staff asked to speak at sector and community events. I, myself was invited by the Victorian Treasury and Premier and Cabinet to share learnings and facilitate high level strategic discussions to provide direction and advice for Victorian State Government in the formulation of their reform strategy.

Many people and families in our communities are feeling the pinch of the rising current cost of living emergency, but it is the most vulnerable people in our communities who are being hardest hit. A rapidly increasing number of people are needing support because of the current cost of living and rental/housing crises and the lingering impacts of the pandemic. Enquiries for our emergency relief (ER) program have grown by a massive 260 per cent in two years. Numbers continue to rise; our ER teams are currently supporting an average of 153 clients per month, which has seen us assist 190 additional households this year than last year through ER alone. With the recent rises in interest rates, rent prices and a highly competitive rental market, (currently a 0.3% rental vacancy rate in Adelaide) added with the lack of affordable housing; we are seeing a significant increase in homelessness and housing insecurity which is increasing demand for our work as lead agency of the Toward Home Alliance.

Last financial year, Lutheran Care provided about 3000 ER 'items' to those in need, to the value of approximately \$213,000. The cost of service delivery far exceeds the program's funding. To meet demand, Lutheran Care relies greatly on monetary and material donations toward our Lenten, Winter and Christmas Appeals; in kind support from businesses and commitment from our many volunteers.

I remain honoured and inspired to be part of Lutheran Care, as I see the difference our programs and people – and the genuine care our team has for others – can make in people's

lives. Alongside the immediate impact we have by offering Emergency Relief food, clothing and bedding, and emergency housing through Toward Home's work, I am proud that through referrals to our other services such as financial counselling, counselling and parenting programs we can contribute in a lasting way to help people improve their own lives in the long term.

One of the highlights from the past 18 months was the launch of our Positive Behaviour Support program through our registered NDIS Service, Elcies Disability Care, in March 2022. We recruited a high performing team of clinical staff whose reputation in the sector and excellent support of clients and their families have quickly led to waiting lists for the eight-strong team of practitioners. Lutheran Care is currently servicing wider metropolitan Adelaide, Adelaide Hills and the Fleurieu Peninsula, and we have plans to begin servicing the Barossa region.

Other highlights have included:

- Launching our Gift in a Will program as a way our supporters can leave a lasting legacy and continue to change lives after they have gone.
- Strengthening our relationship with corporate Australia, including real estate industry players, to find innovative ways to support people experiencing and at risk of homelessness. An example of this is Terra Firma, a repurposed Adelaide CBD backpackers' hostel now offered as a short-term accommodation option with accompanying support to divert people from homelessness. Terra Firma is a partnership between Harcourts Packham and Lutheran Care as part of the Toward Home Alliance.
- Launching a new Elcies 'higher end' Op Shop in Semaphore, caring for the community and the environment and another fundraising initiative to support our work in the community.
- Hosting the Lutheran Care Gala Dinner in October 2021 for 700 people at Adelaide Oval, which raised in excess of \$200,000 for our Emergency Relief fund.
- As the second largest foster care service provider in South Australia, Lutheran Care continues to help vulnerable children and young people to access the support they need to thrive by recruiting and supporting foster parents and families. This year we focused on the message "Be the Village", to encourage and remind the community that it takes a village to raise a child.
- Several of our long-serving Community Visitors Scheme volunteers receiving Premier's Certificates of Recognition for their work visiting and supporting elderly people at risk of isolation in the community.
- With a growing team we were proud to open our Kent Town offices.



*Above: CEO Rohan Feegrade and his wife, Jules, Bishop David Altus, and his wife, Carolyn, and Brenton Ragless at the 2022 Lutheran Care Gala Dinner*



*Above: CEO Rohan Feegrade presents a Premier's Certificate to a volunteer*

- After two years of Covid-related disruption and twice having to be rescheduled, it was a thrill to finally have 140 of our Lutheran Care team come together again and get in the spirit of the dress up theme for the All Staff Day.
- As an organisation we have made a firm commitment to greater awareness and as an ally to First Nations clients and communities and be a safe, inclusive and desirable place for First Nations people to work. Staff took part in the NAIDOC 2022 March and Family fun day, sponsored the Reconciliation SA Breakfast, launched our second Reconciliation Action Plan and rolled out mandatory Cultural Awareness Training for all staff.

I encourage people to visit the Lutheran care website [lutherancare.org.au](https://lutherancare.org.au) or our social media pages @lutherancareSANT to keep up to date with the wonderful life changing work we do.

As an organisation, we are steadfastly welcoming to clients from all backgrounds and walks of life. It's important to note that there is not one 'type' of Lutheran Care client, particularly in the current financial climate. Economic headwinds are revealing that it could very easily be our friends, neighbours, or the family sitting opposite us in church, or us ourselves, who may need Lutheran Care's support.

On behalf and with the integral support of our Lutheran Church partners, we will continue doing everything we can to be there for all vulnerable people in our communities, responding with practical assistance and supports, delivered with love, compassion and empathy.

**Rohan Feegrade**  
**Lutheran Care Chief Executive Officer**



## Aged Care Council

The functioning of the Aged Care Council has been non-existent for several years, the activities I work through are pseudo advisory to the level of my ability, co-opting others and specialists when required. My daily working life is involved with aged care in the independent living Space of retirement villages.

Aged Care activities and actions are predominantly covered through the Church at National Level rather than District levels. Functioning of Residential Aged Care in our District is either through Individual sites such as LHG, Tanunda, Loxton, and Hahndorf, plus the National Level of correspondence and structure.



Above: Murray Bridge Lutheran Villages building program which includes 6 new 3-bedroom, double garage units

Two major factors in this space have been the amalgamation of LHI and Fullarton Lutheran Homes to make the state's largest sole entity in this area now known as Lutheran Homes Group. The second factor being the loss of St Paul's Lutheran Homes Hahndorf which will leave the Lutheran system, still to operate within the Hahndorf community but not as a Lutheran entity. The sale of St Pauls is imminent.

Many will know or have heard of the difficult governance and financial pressures in residential care and the government's attitude to sink or swim in this space, leaving the strong and most likely larger operators to deal with this complex business in aged

care. On the other hand, our retirement villages have flourished during the past, withstanding the pressures of Covid-19 to be a refuge and secure space for people to make a new home.

Occupancy rates are high, and growth and development are strong throughout the state in the Lutheran sector, as well as the wider community. The baby boomer generations are out and about in numbers and the housing crisis has added great value to their homes being sold also within a very short time frame of being on the market. This has resulted in cashed up potential new residents wishing to either downsize or in many situations move up to more modern stock in the villages.

Our Lutheran Retirement Villages Alliance has enjoyed a revamp of energy and enthusiasm to meet and build relationships and keeping in touch with trends and supports available throughout the Lutheran and wider sector. Our Governance Enhancement Specialist Mary Sofoclis has been instrumental in driving our group and inviting guest speakers to illuminate opportunities and risks to our businesses.



Above: Tanunda Lutheran Home Robots that serve residents



*Above: Murray Bridge Lutheran Villages Resident's project – a 9-hole minigolf course*

In summary, aged care has a fickle future where residential care is a super demanding space on governance, staffing, funding and Christian “Lutheran care” demands. A space where the government needs to pay special attention to. While retirement living is tracking reasonably well, it too has the pressures of cost of building, not only the increased costs of materials but also the difficulty of attracting timely labour to complete works.

A career in aged care is always open to you! Many opportunities present themselves in paid and non-paid positions, from board membership for those with governance skills to skilled and unskilled roles within our care facilities and villages. Be rewarded by the sharing of your gifts and talents, the God given abilities to serve and share God's Love.



*Above: Trinity Place Pasadena stage 6 building program*

Luke 8: 16-18

No one lights a lamp and then covers it with a washtub or shoves it under the bed. No, you set it up on a lamp stand so those who enter the room can see their way.

Maybe aged care is a way for you to shine your light!

In Christian Service,

**Delton Schiller**  
**Aged Care Council Representative**



## Riverview Lutheran Rest Home Inc Loxton



**Riverview**  
Lutheran Rest Home Inc

Riverview, located in the Riverland town of Loxton overlooking the beautiful Murray River, comprises of 60 private aged care rooms with ensuite, has a further 25 independent living options on site and employs approx. 100 staff.

Our vision is to be a vibrant, innovative leader, and the best partner to support people to live well. Our Christian values of Care, Respect, Kindness, Compassion, Quality, Love, Patience, and Integrity aim to be embedded in everything we do and reflected in everyday life at Riverview.



*Above: Residents attending the Dedication Service*

After many years of planning, and construction that coincided with the COVID-19 Pandemic, we were very pleased to welcome Bishop David Altus to Riverview to dedicate our new Chapel and Wellbeing Centre alongside Pastor Avito DaCosta in November 2021, it was a lovely service with many of our residents in attendance. We are truly blessed to have such a wonderful peaceful place to worship and look after the spiritual, mental and physical wellbeing of our residents. We sincerely

thank everyone who contributed to our Chapel and Wellbeing fund and helped to make this special place possible.

2022 saw the renewal of our accreditation for a period of 3 years after an unannounced visit by the Aged Care Quality and Safety Commission, achieving a pleasing result of meeting 42/42 of the requirements under the 8 Aged Care Quality and Safety Standards, a very pleasing result in an industry that is under intense scrutiny and a real credit to the Riverview Board and Staff team.

Our occupancy this financial year to date is 98% with all beds generally occupied, and a waiting list of people wanting to come to Riverview from across the Riverland region. This has aided in ensuring the organisation has maintained a profitable and financially sound position.

We continue to upgrade our facility having recently enclosed and installed carpet in the old Edwards passageways, gyprocking, painting and covering the old previously external bricks with a stone façade, old wooden windows and doors (circa 1965) have been replaced with new iodised aluminium windows and doors, bringing this original part of the building into the 20th Century. Although slowed and challenged by covid, the project is still progressing, nearing completion, and has been warmly welcomed by residents, staff, and visitors.

Upgrades have also been completed in both Edwards and Traeger wing Courtyards enabling residents to spend quality time outside.

We continue to strive for excellence in Christian Care and thank the Lord for the blessings he continues to provide us.

**Nicolle Jachmann**  
**Riverview Lutheran Rest Home Chief Executive Officer**



*Above: Nicolle Jachmann CEO, Robert Fielke Chairman, Bishop David Altus and Pastor Avito DaCosta at the Dedication Service*

## Tanunda Lutheran Home

Aged Care has been going through many changes over the past two years with the Federal Government establishing a Royal Commission to look at the care being provided across the country. The Federal Government have supported the care for aging people through Home Care or Residential Care however the Commission, among other care related issues, has determined not enough funding was being provided to ensure people had the care they needed. While the report of the Commission was published at the end of 2021, changes in Government and the effects of COVID, have meant the final outcome for Aged Care has not yet been determined.

At Tanunda Lutheran Home (TLH) we, like all aged care facilities, are required to meet high standards of care with both 'announced' and 'unannounced' inspections by the department. In addition, Federal Government sets the wages for all care staff within the aged care sector. As you will have read, the wages paid to care workers are not as attractive as those paid to nurses and care workers in other areas of health care and we are hopeful the Royal Commission will see that change for the better.

TLH continues to be extremely thankful to the Ladies Auxiliary and for the many volunteers who assist in all areas of our ministry.



*Above: Tanunda Lutheran Home Gramp Chapel*

Finding enough care workers continues to be an issue in our rural community, as it is in all areas of health and industry in general. We have been able to retain a core group of staff, however complying with regulations around contracting covid and being a close contact, continue to see many of our staff unable to attend work in the residential care area. If you know of anyone seeking employment in care or hospitality, please remind them of the possibilities available at TLH, where around 180 people are already engaged. Although under the pressures of being short

staffed, the nurses and carers have been absolutely wonderful and this can be borne out by the fact that that we have just been re-accredited by the department.

Spiritual care is an important part of the care provided to residents in both residential care and in the independent homes. Pastor Ian Lutze and Helen McNicol visit residents on a regular basis to talk about faith issues and provide support. As part of aged care within the Lutheran Church of Australia, Pastor Lutze also serves on the national committee.



*Above: Chaplain, Pastor Ian Lutze with Chairperson Ray Giersch and Assistant Chaplain Helen McNicol*

The call for independent living continues to grow as the 15 new homes on Langmeil Road are completed with 14 now sold. In Nuriootpa, we are completing five more homes to add to the existing seven, with a further 10 having been approved for construction to begin later this year. In Angaston we purchased the Angaston Bowling Club a couple of years ago and we will begin putting together concept drawings with a view to commencing work in a couple of years as cash flow allows.

Please continue to hold the residents and staff in your prayers as we continue to provide care for the people of our community.

**Chris Pfeiffer**  
**Tanunda Lutheran Home Board Chairperson**

## Lutheran Disability Services

### Serving Communities

The Lutheran Disability Service values are:  
Faith | Empowerment | Excellence | Fun



Through these values LDS believes that people living with disability have a right to be included in everyday life and this includes within the community. LDS staff and clients serve the community every day to help communities become inclusive and diverse.

#### **FAITH**

LDS is a faith-based organisation, delivering our service through our Christ centred focus. This means that we support our clients who want to experience and express their faith. By extension being involved in Church activities aligns to the values of our clients and the experience of giving back to the community

#### **EMPOWERMENT**

Our clients are independent people living with disability who have the right to exercise choice and control.

LDS is a support service to help guide and empower our clients to assist them in making decisions that aligns to their life goals. Empowerment can come through helping others and contributing to communities to build self-confidence and self-esteem.

#### **EXCELLENCE**

Everything we do at LDS is through the lens of excellence. Our stated aim is to provide client centric services that are valued by our clients, the people that care about them and the community. By building relationships whereby LDS can help to service the community and giving access to our clients, together we can build excellence in Disability support services for SA.

#### **FUN**

We believe that fun should be part of everything we do. Whether it's working, being out in the community, assisting clients to achieve their life goals; fun is essential to our Model of Support. For our staff work should be fun, fulfilling and exciting every day. And it results in happy clients and happy homes for everyone.

### **Achievements 2021-2023**

During 2021-2023 LDS consolidated our focus on delivering exceptional service and care to our clients. Utilising our values of faith, empowerment, excellence and fun we have continued to:

- Deliver quality, safe & caring client-focused services.
- Developed a sustainable organisational structure to enable the organisation to continue to grow into the future.
- NDIS reaccreditation
- Creating disability housing options and other services that help our clients thrive.
- Continue to build financially sustainable support and advocacy for our clients.
- Continue to attract, train & develop an awesome team to support our clients.



## Vision For 2023-2024:

- Serve more South Australians through providing safe and secure long-term tenure for our clients in supported independent living and specialised disability housing options.
- Work with the Lutheran Community to develop more housing options for people living with disability and welcoming them into our community.
- Assisting clients to achieve their life goals through relationships across the sector and with Church congregations.
- Finalise our model of supports to demonstrate to the community, our clients and our staff what makes Lutheran Disability Services different from others in the sector.
- Continue to provide our clients with pathways to be included and integrated into communities through our Serving Communities program.
- Develop additional disability type products and services to meet the need of new adult clients entering the NDIS for the first time.
- Be a thought-leader in the disability sector.
- Financial due diligence, risk, governance and management systems that are client centric and efficient for better serve delivery to our clients and community.

## Happy snaps of our awesome clients



*Above left: Genevieve cooking apple and carrot muffins*

*Above middle left: clients celebrating Christmas together*

*Above middle right: DOR House cooking up the BBQ on Australia day*

*Above right: SHIM Working Bee BBQ with St John's Unley*



*Above left: LDS Clients and Families at the Annual LDS Christmas Party*

*Above Middle: ADD House getting ready for Christmas*

*Above right: Peter volunteering Gwen Kitchen*

**John Van Ruth**  
**Lutheran Disability Services Chief Executive Officer**

## Deaf Ministry

Dear Members of the SA-NT District,

Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

God-willing, this will be the last report I make to you on the Deaf Ministry. Not because I am turning my back on the ministry or leaving the church, but because God is answering the prayers of many to provide another shepherd to the Deaf community.



Since my last report to you, God has called a young member of the Adelaide Deaf Community Church (ADCC), Julian Mazzeo, to study to become a Specific Ministry Pastor (SMP) to the Deaf. This has meant that much of my time in the past two years has been dedicated to training and mentoring Julian.

### Training

With the assistance of lecturers from Australian Lutheran College (ALC), I have developed a custom training course to prepare Julian for ministry to the Deaf, covering such areas as Biblical studies, spirituality, liturgics, systematics, Lutheran Confessions and preaching. This course has been delivered 1-on-1 in Auslan (Australian Sign Language), meeting in my office for two afternoons per week for the last two years. Additionally, Julian has had the opportunity to attend classes at ALC alongside hearing SMPs and candidates as part of ALC's regular training of Specific Ministry Pastors. All this Julian has done on a volunteer basis, while working part-time to support himself and his wife, Lidya, who is also Deaf.

### Practical experience

In parallel with the "classroom" training, Julian has steadily increased his involvement in the worship life of the ADCC. After starting with signing Bible readings or songs, Julian was licensed in mid-2022 by Bishop David Altus for Word and Sacrament ministry under supervision, and now prepares and leads whole services. He has also gained extensive experience in leading Bible studies and has taught the Small Catechism to the ADCC.

### Other activities

Throughout Julian's training period, the ADCC has continued to worship weekly at Magill. All services are live streamed in Auslan, and we have gained a small number of dedicated Deaf viewers from interstate. We continue to maintain a Facebook site to keep members and visitors informed of our activities. For links to our videos and Facebook page please visit: <https://pilgrimlutheran.com.au/adcc/>

While we have not been able, since COVID, to visit other congregations to conduct Auslan services, Julian and I have given a number of presentations on the Deaf Ministry. One of those presentations was given at ALC's "Festival of Learning" in 2022, and this is available online if you would like to learn more about Julian and the ADCC: <http://tiny.cc/adccpres>.

### Additional support

None of the above would have been possible without the support of Pilgrim Lutheran Church at Magill. We thank the members there for freeing up some of my time to train Julian, and my co-pastor Mark Welke for serving Pilgrim while I have been focussing on the Deaf Ministry.

## **Future directions**

At the time of writing this report, Julian's readiness for ministry is being assessed. Depending on the outcome of the review, Julian will either undergo further training or will be recommended for ordination. Either way, the expectation is that I will conclude my service to the Deaf Ministry at the end of 2023, and that Julian will, with God's help, shepherd the ADCC into the future.

I ask that you pray for Julian, Lidya, and all members of the ADCC that the transition will go smoothly, and ask that you continue to support them and the Deaf Ministry through your friendship, Christian encouragement and financial gifts.



*Above: Julian Mazzeo and his wife, Lidya*

## **Thankyous**

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to personally thank Bishop David, Assistant Bishop for Mission Stephen Schultz, and Dr Stephen Pietsch (formerly at ALC) for their encouragement, practical support and guidance during my time in the Deaf Ministry. I especially pray that God may bless you, Bishop David, as you transition into retirement.

Your servant in Christ,

**Pastor Michael Prenzler**  
**ADCC and Pilgrim Lutheran Church, Magill**

# REPORTS FROM CHURCHWIDE MINISTRIES



**LUTHERAN  
CHURCH**  
OF AUSTRALIA

**SOUTH AUSTRALIA  
NORTHERN TERRITORY**



### LOOKING FORWARD:

*Now thank we all our God  
With hearts and hands and voices,  
Who wondrous things hath done,  
In whom his world rejoices;  
Who from our mother's arms  
Hath blessed us on our way  
With countless gifts of love,  
And still is ours today.*

(LHS 437 Martin Rinkart 1637)

I cherish the story of Pastor Martin Rinkart and the people of his parish in the city of Eilenburg, which tells of the plague and of war, but also of hopefulness, as the people sang together for the first time, the well-loved hymn, 'Now thank we all our God'. Please go onto the internet and read about the extraordinary Christian origins of this hymn.

The people of Eilenburg prayerfully went forward together into an uncertain future, but with sure hope in the grace and mercy of God. That is a profound witness for you and me as we step forward together as people of the Lutheran Church of Australia and New Zealand.

We met together for the Convention of General Synod in a mild Melbourne in February this year and purposefully worked through a two-day 'part two' convention, finalising the business that was not attended to during the online Synod sessions in October 2021.

Among those matters were the proposals regarding the ordination of both women and men. On the second and final full day of the convention, a proposal was passed, which I have begun to refer to as the '2024 Ordination Way Forward Resolution'. It was submitted by the Queensland District and then amended at Synod, to be resolved in the form that I have attached for you at the end of this report to your District.

On the first full day of convention prior to this resolution being passed, the Synod did not give the 2/3rds majority decision required to proceed with a proposal from the St Paul Box Hill congregation in Victoria. That proposal asked the church to change its teaching and to proceed with ordaining both women and men.

The '2024 Ordination Way Forward Resolution' that was adopted asks that there be a proposal about the ordination of women and men brought to the 2024 Convention of General Synod, which will be held in the SA-NT District. Although there were delegates who did not vote for this proposal, this decision of our church gathered in Synod, was well-supported. There was a common yearning expressed by many speakers for Lutherans in Australia and New Zealand to find ways to continue to work together as one church.

This yearning echoes those words made famous by British war Prime Minister Winston Churchill, 'Let us go forward together'. The key word there is 'together'. Let us go forward together ... because we bear the Lord's name as sisters and brothers baptised into Christ.

The Melbourne convention had a theme text from Isaiah 55: 'Come, listen, live'. In my preparation for the Synod, reading through the original languages of the scriptures, I learned that these words in Isaiah 55 are all plurals. I have suggested that you could add the American



slang 'Ya'all' at the end of those three words in the text, to emphasise the plural verbs: 'Come ya'all! Listen ya'all! Live ya'all!'

Let us go forward together, in Christ.

My report to the 2023 Convention of General Synod was a brief supplement to the comprehensive report which Bishop John Henderson tabled in the Book of Reports for Convention of Synod published in 2021. Rather than reprint it here for you, I direct you to the Book of Reports for Convention of General Synod or to your local delegate.

I would like to highlight some elements of that reporting here for you, and also to provide some of the content that was shared with delegates during my brief reporting session to General Synod 2023, particularly from the Ministry Futures Project and from the Australian Lutheran College.

### **MISSION RESEARCH DATA:**

In my General Convention report, I wrote about 'demography and data', but this topic should really have the title 'Mission Research Data'. As a church, we ask who we are and who are the people we are called to serve as God's people called in mission.

In my report, I noted that we are declining in the number of New Zealanders and Australians who identify themselves as people of the Lutheran Church. In the Australian Census, for example, we were listed at 1.2 per cent of the population in 2011, then 0.7 per cent in 2016 (approximately 174,000). We are also seeing an increase in the median age of the people of our church. In the recent Australian National Church Life Survey (NCLS) for the Lutheran Church, of the 7,500 Lutherans who took part, 48 per cent were over 70 years of age. Presentations from the NCLS this year have reported that, on any regular Sunday, there are likely to be approximately 26,000 people attending Lutheran Church services in Australia and New Zealand.

In my presentation to the delegates at the Convention of General Synod in February, I explained that I am not a 'glass half-full guy', neither am I a 'glass half-empty guy'. Rather, I am a 'glass overflowing guy'. God is at work in our church in extraordinary ways of abundant blessing.

The demographic change we are experiencing is guiding us to ask questions like, 'Who are the Lutherans?' and 'What is our contribution to Christian mission here in Australia and New Zealand?'. We also ask, 'Who are the people around us that we serve and how can we serve them better?'.

The data produced by the NCLS is a wonderful mission gift to us, to help us in addressing these and other vital mission questions. Our mission department leader, Dr Tania Nelson, and the district mission directors, pastors Brett Kennett, David Schmidt and Stephen Schultz here in SA-NT, are vital resources for this work as they continue to give sound and clear guidance. Please draw on their wisdom and experience and their expertise in analysing the NCLS data.

When you study the NCLS data, you learn that the two 'big ticket' items for Lutherans are 'cherishing Holy Communion' and receiving 'good teaching from the Scriptures'. Those priorities ought not be surprising to us.

But we can learn so many helpful guides for mission, such as how many of us Lutherans are born overseas. It is 13 per cent but our national average in Australia tells us that 48 per cent of

people have been born overseas. Only 7 per cent of us Lutherans speak a language other than English at home. A hundred years ago that was a very different statistic. But today, across Australia, 20 per cent of people speak a language other than English at home.

Addressing the NCLS data helps us reflect on those questions, 'Who is our neighbour and how can we best reach them with the gospel of Jesus Christ?'.

## **2024 ORDINATION WAY FORWARD:**

In the opening section of this report to you, I have reflected on the recent Synod resolution. In this part of my report, I want to thank those who contributed to the debate and the resolution on ordination. The work is not over as the General Church Board (GCB) and College of Bishops (CoB) have been directed to undertake the preparation needed to guide Synod with a proposal on this matter at the Convention of General Synod in 2024.

The first joint meeting of the CoB and GCB in response to this direction from Synod was during the lunchtime session immediately following the Sunday service at the Melbourne Convention. This first joint meeting set in train some of the planning work that will be established at a joint meeting of GCB and CoB on 17 March.

The work ahead will be churchwide and will also include District Pastors Conferences and General Pastors Conference. The staff of the Churchwide office will be actively involved in the delivery of what has been asked for by the 2023 Convention, as the proposal anticipates the engagement of a variety of stakeholders.

## **MINISTRY FUTURES PROJECT:**

I thank God for the diligence of Bishop Emeritus Greg Pietsch as he guides this vital project for our church. During my report to the Convention of General Synod, Greg was able to present on the project and the brief notes of his presentation are printed below for you:

*1. Lord of the harvest, let this project multiply and equip workers for your harvest so that your lifegiving word flourishes among us in the very changed church and world we live in today.*

### *2. Context*

- Demographic and faith change; decreasing size and financial resources of many congregations, ageing*
- Shortage of pastors, increased number and length of vacancies in congregations, schools, other agencies -> 'the call system is broken'*
- Emergency responses, e.g. licensing of lay people, more lay people taking ministry positions especially in schools -> i.e. using 'auxiliary offices'*
- Diverse initiatives, e.g. New and Renewing Churches / new models of ministry*

### *3. Project purpose*

- In service of CoB's oversight of the church*
- To give focused attention, move from ad hoc to planned response, ordered and productive for the Lord's mission today*

### *4. Activity to date*

- Consultation with church leaders, especially district bishops*
- Data gathering on a uniform basis – reveals type and extent of challenges*
- Progressive reporting to CoB, with confirmation of next steps*

## *Unfolding themes*

### *5. Different situations in different locations and ministries, e.g. ...*

- ... district by district (e.g. many retired pastors or few to none)*
- ... rural and city (e.g. accessible to neighbouring help or not)*
- ... congregation vs schools, other agencies (e.g. Lutheran pastor vs other Christian lay)*
  - > can't assume own experience is everyone else's*

### *6. Increasing role of lay people*

- including through licensing...*
  - ... in the districts: 105 lay licensed vs 210 GMPs, 40 SMPs, 10 SMPs-in-training*
  - ... in service of, but not taking over, the ordained ministry*
- more lay school and other chaplains, not always with Lutheran background*

### *7. Therefore urgent need to lift up, authorise and equip lay roles*

#### *Direction from here*

### *8. Develop a comprehensive and transparent LCA NZ Ministry Framework*

- Identifying roles, education and formation ('pathways'), accreditation and support, oversight and accountability*
- For lay and ordained -> proper 'ordering' of roles in the church (vs uncertain)*
- Will give clarity for ALC in shaping its training*

### *9. Overlay this with a range of Models of Ministry responsive to today's situation, needs*

- e.g. sole parish pastor ministry, but also 'Regional' ministry (vs feast or famine)*
- e.g., lay chaplaincy, with structured pastoral oversight*
- identifying specialist skills and the education for these (again for ALC)*

### *10. Do this by progressive drafts and consultations*

### *11. Complete in time for General Convention 2024*

## **INDIGENOUS FIRST NATION MATTERS: Vale Tim Stollznaw**

Because of the brevity of time for my General Convention reporting session, I was unable to give appropriate acknowledgement of the outstanding witness and service of outgoing Finke River Mission (FRM) Chairperson Tim Stollznaw.

Tim, known affectionately as 'Stolly', grew up in Papunya in Central Australia, the son of missionary pastor Max and nurse Rosemary. Twelve years ago, he offered his gifts to his Lord to serve as FRM chairperson. Tim has shown faithfulness and courage as he guided the FRM Board through these extraordinary times of the past decade. Tim summarises this work in his own words, 'FRM is all about people and Christian service'.

At the end of 2022, Tim resolved to pass on the work to another, but he maintains his love of and commitment to the work of our church with our sisters and brothers in Christ of the Central Australian Lutheran communities.

The GCB has appointed Chris Guntner to serve as acting chairperson of the FRM Board.

## **AUSTRALIAN LUTHERAN COLLEGE:**

During my report to the Convention of General Synod in 2023 in Melbourne, I highlighted the current changes at our Australian Lutheran College. In the very brief time allowed for me to

present on my report, I asked ALC Principal Pastor James Winderlich and ALC Board Chairperson Cheryl Bartel to briefly speak to delegates and to receive questions. Due to the very strict time limitations of the two-day 'part two' convention, only a few folk could ask questions. Delegates were asked to bring any questions or concerns to the ALC Board, to the GCB or to me as bishop of the church and some folks have taken up this opportunity already.

In their presentation, Cheryl and James highlighted the vision and purpose of Australian Lutheran College as expressed in the 2022 'Towards 2028' ALC strategic direction document. This document declares, 'Australian Lutheran College is constituted as the theological and research institution of the Lutheran Church of Australia and New Zealand. The vision of Australian Lutheran College is a Christ-centred, transformative, intercultural learning community for the sake of the gospel of Jesus Christ, serving and leading with confidence, integrity, courage, and compassion in a constantly changing world. To meet that vision, the mission of Australian Lutheran College is to provide contemporary research and a robust and engaging pre-vocational and post-secondary theological education that equips God's people to serve with competence and humility.'

Behind this statement, is the Constitution and Terms of Reference of ALC and its Board, which ensures that ALC remains committed to its Lutheran confession and its charter to partner and serve the LCANZ.

ALC's Strategic Direction is focused on connecting with people and supporting their learning in their local settings as places where good learning, serving, and witnessing happens. This means blended approaches to learning. Principal James Winderlich gave a good account of this during the LLL Synod dinner on the Saturday evening of the Convention.

ALC's reorganisation has been precipitated by the LCANZ's changing needs, the changing needs of learners, and the church's changed capacity to financially support ALC's programs. Through 2022, there was a significant change to both ordained and lay staff members at ALC, with new calls issued to faculty. Two of the faculty with revised calls, Dr Adam Hensley and Dr Stephen Pietsch, did not accept their calls and we commend them to the guiding hand of the Lord, as they take up other service in the cause of the gospel.

It is helpful to go online to read through the ALC constitution and the ALC strategic direction document from the ALC website: <https://alc.edu.au>

During the past synodical term, the ALC community lost its Board Chairperson when Prof Kristine Gebbie was called to her heavenly home by our gracious Good Shepherd. Prof Gebbie's mantle of Christian leadership has been passed onto Cheryl Bartel and we pray God's guiding hand on Cheryl and the members of ALC Board.

Please pray for the Christian education work of ALC and ask the Lord of the harvest to raise up faithful labourers.

### **INTERNATIONAL MISSION COLLABORATION:**

In August 2022, I travelled with Pastor Matt Anker, Assistant to the Bishop – International Mission, to visit with the Lutheran Church in the Philippines (LCP). We are warmly welcomed, and Pastor Matt has brought back to the Committee for International Mission matters for potential mission collaboration with our sisters and brothers in the LCP.

In September 2022, Pastor Matt and I travelled to Kisumu in Kenya to join with more than 50 church leaders attending the 27th Annual Conference of the International Lutheran Council.

In September 2023, representatives of our church will be attending the Lutheran World Federation's Thirteenth General Assembly in Poland, under the theme, 'One Body, One Spirit, One Hope'.

At the Melbourne Convention of General Synod, we regrettably did not have time to address the proposal submitted from the Holy Cross Belconnen congregation from the NSW–ACT District, which had already been brought to Convention 2018. This proposal, that the LCANZ to seek full membership of both LWF and ILC, has been referred to the GCB. It is expected that this proposal will be properly presented and debated at Synod 2024.

## **SCHOOLS**

In my report to the Convention of General Synod, I wrote that our Lutheran church impacts on the lives of thousands of Australian families through our Lutheran schools and early childhood services. We are blessed with faithful principals and school leaders, who are passionate educators influencing teaching and learning both at home and abroad. We have a challenge before us, to continually ask what the Lord is doing in and through our Lutheran schools and early childhood services. Please pray for these communities of our church as they serve young people and their families.

While we are struggling with a decrease in attendances in our Lutheran congregations, we are seeing the ongoing increase in Lutheran school enrolments, as Australian families continue to cherish Lutheran schooling. To address this ongoing uptake, our Board for Lutheran Education Australia continues to develop programs for the theological equipping of Lutheran school leaders and for the development of Lutheran school ministry workers.

## **YOUR CHURCHWIDE OFFICE**

Last year we welcomed Brett Hausler to his role as Executive Officer of the Church (EoC). Brett has relocated to Adelaide from his hometown of Melbourne in Victoria where he was well-known to the people of the St Paul's Lutheran Church, Box Hill, community. His experience of the church and of the corporate world has enabled Brett to give robust guidance for our Churchwide Office and the GCB in the operations of being church. He has worked hard to be present in the field, attending as many district conventions as he has been able to. Please pray for Brett in this new role. It is certain that he understands his work as EoC to be his vocation as a Christian servant.

## **THE COLLEGE OF BISHOPS (COB)**

I thank God for the blessing we have been given with faithful witnesses in the office of bishop: Mark serving in New Zealand; Mike serving in Western Australia; David serving here in South Australia and the Northern Territory; Lester serving in Victoria and Tasmania; Robert serving in New South Wales and the Australian Capital Territory; Mark serving in Queensland; and Neville serving as Assistant Bishop for the church. These men are passionately committed to the mission of God in which we all serve. Each is deeply aware of his own frailties and 'thorns in the flesh'. Each is eager to collaborate with sisters and brothers around them. Please pray for each of them with their office of oversight in their respective places.

Here in the SA–NT District at Synod 2023, we will commend David to the Lord's guiding hand as he steps down from his role as district bishop. Bishop David has been cherished for his wisdom, patience, and pastoral heart. For these past 12 years, he has served faithfully and diligently in the largest district of the church. The Lord bless you and keep you, Bishop David. The Lord bless and keep Carolyn who has laboured beside David in the Lord's vineyard.

In your praying, please include prayers for our other bishops who are concluding their work in 2023: Bishop Mark in the LCNZ and Bishop Mike in the WA District.

I also wish to especially acknowledge the legacy of leadership given to me by our remaining past churchwide leaders: President Emeritus Mike Semmler and Bishop Emeritus John Henderson. These two men have faithfully followed where the Lord has been leading as they continue to offer their gifts in the cause of the gospel. God bless Mike and John in these well-earned years of retirement.

## **IN MISSION**

Let me conclude with a message that I shared with delegates at General Synod. It is a word of encouragement from Dr Lance Steicke, past President of the LCNZ who was called home to his Saviour's side during this synodical term.

Just prior to the 1997 Convention of General Synod, Dr Steicke was recorded for a Synod video which was distributed to the church to prepare people for the coming convention. In that recording, he said, 'If the first 30 years have been exciting, and there have been some challenges – I believe the years immediately ahead of us, will be more exciting and present even greater challenges. I envisage the church will be one that emphasises mission all the more, that emphasises the need to reach out to people with the great good news of Jesus Christ – sharing what it means to be a Christian, and what it means to be a Lutheran Christian in this country ... The challenge for our church is an exciting one and a demanding one, but one which is placed into our lap by the Lord himself. He has called us to be his people: people who he has placed ... in this our church and he wants us to be his people by sharing his good news of who he is and what he has done for us in Jesus Christ – for the people of our church, of our country, of our world.'

Now thank we all our God

**Pastor Paul Smith**

**Bishop, Lutheran Church of Australia and New Zealand**

## **APPENDIX 2024 Ordination Way Forward Proposal**

That General Synod direct the LCNZ General Church Board and the College of Bishops to:

- a) Work through the theological, constitutional, and governance requirements to operate as one church with two different practices of ordination and establish a detailed framework through which this could be accomplished, such as one or more existing LCNZ Districts becoming Districts that teach and practise the ordination of both women and men to the office of the public ministry or by establishing a non-geographical LCNZ 'District' that does so, and
- b) Submit the fruit of this work in the form of a proposal that should be discussed by the LCNZ General Pastors Conference for Convention of General Synod 2024.
- c) It is the expectation of this General Convention of Synod that both women and men will be ordained in a District of the LCNZ during the 2024-2027 synod.



# Churchwide Ministry Support

## INTRODUCTION

Congregations are facing significant challenges on a number of fronts, including aging and shrinking membership (impacting morale, volunteer capacity and financial resources), rising plant maintenance and insurance costs, pastor shortage, increasing legislative and compliance requirements, and the decades-long debate on ordination. These issues are putting congregations under pressure in ways not collectively seen before in the LCANZ's 57-year history.

The Churchwide Ministry Support team empathises with congregation leaders and members, and they are working together with the Districts to help you navigate through these challenges. In the interests of wise stewardship, the Ministry Support team takes care to devote its resources to providing services that best benefit congregations and the wider church. Some services that we are providing from the Churchwide Office are outlined below.

## CHURCH WORKER SUPPORT

### Psychosocial hazards at work

The wellbeing, health and safety of our church workers (including volunteers) are critically important factors in how the church undertakes its mission in our community. While the SA Workplace Health and Safety (WHS) legislation has not yet been amended specifically (as in many other states), the national model legislation has been updated recently to ensure that psychosocial and physical health and safety have the same emphasis. You can find a copy of the Model Code of Practice here: [Model Code of Practice: Managing psychosocial hazards at work | Safe Work Australia](#)

There are also resources in the LCANZ Learning Hub to help you in this space, including a general introduction to WHS. Note that you will need to log in to ALC iLearn to access the Learning Hub. If you don't have an LCA email login, please ask us for help: [churchworkersupport@lca.org.au](mailto:churchworkersupport@lca.org.au)

### Church Worker Wellbeing Survey

The 2023 Church Worker Wellbeing Survey was conducted in April and May this year. We thank everyone who took the time to complete the survey. While the report for 2023 is currently being finalised, the 2022 report provides valuable information to help you manage psychosocial hazards and other wellbeing issues in your local entity. You might like to view the video of key messages from the 2022 survey here [www.lca.org.au/wellbeing-survey](http://www.lca.org.au/wellbeing-survey) and/or read the full report here [Unit: Health and Wellbeing, Topic: Church Worker Wellbeing Survey Results \(alc.edu.au\)](#) again noting that you will need to log in to ALC iLearn to access the Learning Hub.

### Lay worker remuneration

The LCANZ will no longer revise the Lay Worker Remuneration Schedule that has been in use for many years. With employment and industrial regulations and legislation in a constant state of flux, this schedule will no longer be an appropriate vehicle to guide employment arrangements. The Church Worker Support team, with the endorsement of GCB, suggests that lay workers currently paid under the lay worker remuneration arrangements be transitioned to the appropriate and relevant modern award. Please contact the church worker support team at [churchworkersupport@lca.org.au](mailto:churchworkersupport@lca.org.au) for advice and support.



## **Annual ministry reviews**

The College of Bishops has just put the final touches on guidelines to support a ministry review process in congregations and parishes which is to be presented for trial in the SA-NT District at this Synod. Developed after consultation with pastors, congregation leaders and various staff in Churchwide and District offices, it is hoped that an annual ministry review, using the process to be trialled, will support healthy and sustainable ministry at the local level without being administratively burdensome. More information about this service is available at [www.lca.org.au/ministry-reviews](http://www.lca.org.au/ministry-reviews)

## **PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS**

### **Child Safety plans**

In 2022 and 2023 Professional Standards has had a strong focus on the finalisation of Child Safety plans, which were due from every congregation on 31 March this year. Each congregation's Child Safety plan details how the congregation is seeking to meet the church's Child Safety Standards for Congregations. Thank you to all those congregations who worked so hard to submit their plans by the due date. We will now concentrate on assisting congregations to implement their Child Safety plans.

### **Safe Church training**

Over the past 12 months, 36 workshops have been delivered in the South Australia – Northern Territory District. There has also been a steady flow of people through the online versions of the Safe Church training sessions. All written responses for the full Level 1 training and the Level 2 training have been reviewed. In response to feedback, the Level 1 refresher online training is now a fully automated, user-driven experience that allows participants to generate their own training certificate.

A total of 1225 church leaders participated in the training. This is very close to the corresponding figure for last year (1238). Of the leaders who provided feedback, about 89 per cent found the training to be 'Highly Valuable' or 'Mostly Valuable'. Only about 2 per cent found the training to be of 'Limited Value'. We acknowledge the important work of Safe Church trainers Dave Biar and Anastasia Ferguson, as well as Holly Koning in the District office.

Training is now free of charge.

We have listened to the impact that training can have on volunteers and the burden it creates. We acknowledge that the requirement for Safe Church training can feel onerous at times and adds to volunteers' already significant workloads. Taking this into account, we are exploring how we might be able to reduce Safe Church training obligations for volunteers, while not compromising the quality of the program. Importantly, we are also continuing to recognise the prior learning of teachers and others.

It is important to our insurers that everyone working with children and vulnerable adults, and those in decision-making positions, have completed their Safe Church training and have the relevant Working with Children background checks. Therefore, without our commitment to this training and our legal requirements when working with children and vulnerable adults, we may not be able to maintain relevant insurance cover.

In conjunction with Australian Lutheran College, we are reviewing and improving the training to ensure it is as relevant as possible for your ministries, while at the same time assisting you to meet your obligations under secular law. If you have any questions on what your requirements are, please contact Professional Standards Officer Dave Biar.

Crucially, we thank the South Australia – Northern Territory District Church Council for its strong leadership in this area. Thanks to all pastors, lay workers and volunteers in the South Australia – Northern Territory District for your partnership in the gospel and your support of the Professional Standards team over the past 12 months.

For details of the Safe Church training program, go to [www.lca.org.au/safechurchtraining](http://www.lca.org.au/safechurchtraining)

To access the LCA NZ's approved policies and procedures, go to [www.lca.org.au/policies](http://www.lca.org.au/policies)

## **FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION**

### **LAMP2**

It has been a long time coming, but LAMP2 (which has replaced the original LAMP) is now up and running. It is in effect your LCA NZ database. It is the place where you will find information about people (pastors, lay workers, employees, congregation office-bearers), congregations and parishes (locations and contact details), worship services, statistics and church entities (camps, schools, commission, boards etc). For security and privacy reasons, only authorised people are able to access LAMP2. This includes church workers and congregation/parish office-bearers. The LCA Portal (at the top right of the LCA website [www.lca.org.au](http://www.lca.org.au)) is your gateway to LAMP2. For more information visit [www.lca.org.au/lamp2](http://www.lca.org.au/lamp2)

### **LCA INSURANCE**

We are conscious of the impact insurance costs can have on your congregation, which has been exacerbated by what has been an extremely difficult insurance market. Our focus has been to better position insurance arrangements into the future to reduce insurance market increases and the impact of market downturns. We are also continuing to look for areas of improvement, innovation and ways in which we can support your risk-mitigation activities.

#### **Regular review of sums insured/declared values**

It is very important that you regularly review the sums insured and/or declared values for assets covered by your insurance policies. The policy provides for claim settlement on a 'replacement' or 'reinstatement' (new for old) basis. Therefore, your congregation needs to make sure that sums insured and/or declared values are sufficient and include the cost for removal of debris and any additional costs that may be required to replace the damaged property. It is important that you insure for the declared value, as underinsurance clauses may apply.

#### **Indemnity cover**

A small number of congregations have previously insured their building for indemnity value; however, this is no longer available due to changes made to the policy by our insurers. If you are one of these congregations, you will have found that your sum insured has been increased significantly to reflect its replacement value with a corresponding increase in premium. As part of our preparations for the next renewal, we are exploring with insurers whether the policy can be modified.

We are here to support you, so if you wish to discuss your insurance, please give us a call.

## **LUTHERAN ARCHIVES**

### **Friends of Lutheran Archives seminars on YouTube**

The stories of our church being told at Friends of Lutheran Archives seminars are now available to watch live on YouTube: @friendsoflutheranarchives9644 Recordings from previous sessions

are also available. To receive notifications, become a Friend of Lutheran Archives, or follow the Lutheran Archives Facebook page.

### **New Zealand records**

A significant historical and cultural consignment of records from the New Zealand District and congregations has been transferred to Lutheran Archives from the Alexander Turnbull Library in Wellington, where it had been on long-term loan for four decades. The Lutheran Archives team has started processing this collection and it will be available for research in coming months.

### **Congregation records**

Please continue to create records of events within your congregation or ministry and send permanent records to Lutheran Archives when you are no longer regularly accessing them. This means they can be preserved into the future and made accessible for generations to come. Please [download the guide 'Preserving our Story'](#) for assistance, or access information via the LCA Training Hub.

## **COMMUNICATIONS**

### **Communications – easier for you**

You have told us you are suffering from communication-overload from the Churchwide Office. We've heard you! This year we are dramatically scaling back the number of Churchwide websites, eNews lists and social media channels. You may have noticed the first major change – the introduction of Local Mission eNews, which combines the eNews of five mission departments into one.

More changes like this are coming, including a major overhaul of the LCA website. You will notice improvements in the next month or so, and by the end of the year it will be designed around (1) the services you are looking for, and (2) who you are, eg congregation leader, church worker, Child Safe coordinator, so that it will be much easier for you to find what you are looking for.

### **Podcasts**

We are shaping our communications to the many ways you receive information. Many of you prefer to listen rather than read. So, from June we will be trialling fortnightly podcasts, which will cover a wide range of issues relevant to congregation leaders and members. You will be able to keep up to date with church news and latest resources while you are on the daily commute, driving the header, or pounding the treadmill.

## **INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (LCA IT SERVICES)**

### **Forwarding of LCA email addresses**

We know that some of you are finding it difficult to maintain an LCA email when you are only checking for LCA emails occasionally, meaning that you may not be seeing important communications. By June we will have enabled the option for volunteers (eg congregation office-bearers and Synod delegates) to forward LCA emails to their private emails automatically. This option will not apply to pastors, church workers and employees, who will be required to continue to use their work (LCA or other) email address for work purposes.

### **Cyber security**

No doubt you have read the reports or seen in the media the rapid increase in cyber crime around the world. The LCANZ is not immune to these attacks. We have been working hard to

safeguard our digital assets and protect everyone who uses them. We have done this by providing:

- Multi-Factor Authentication (MFA) on all accounts
- secure off-site backup of all Microsoft SharePoint and Teams sites
- intrusion detection systems
- support to people using these systems.

These services are offered at a minimal cost to congregations and agencies which have elected to use the LCA Microsoft 365 Tenancy, as well as District offices (except Queensland, which has other arrangements in place).

We are always paying attention to the emerging cyber landscape and taking action to ensure that we are as protected from attacks as we possibly can be. For more information, visit [www.lca.org.au/cyber-security](http://www.lca.org.au/cyber-security)

### **Cyber-awareness training**

Cyber awareness is an important part of helping us to defend each other against hacking and potential data theft. We address this by making available videos provided by our training partner Phriendly Phishing. Very soon these videos will be sent via LCA eNews to people who use our systems and will also be available on the LCA website. They will help you to protect yourself and other users of LCA IT services against hackers, and the tips you learn can be passed on to your family and friends to keep them safe, too.

### **WHAT YOU NEED FROM US (AND NOT WHAT YOU DON'T NEED)**

Along with congregations and Districts, the Churchwide Office is also facing significant financial pressures. We are actively assessing the services we provide and are preparing to pare back some of them in order to balance our budget. As we do this, we want to ensure that we continue to provide the critical services that you need and want, and not those you don't need or want. This requires active engagement and listening on our behalf, and we are committed to doing this as we develop and enhance our core services for you.

If you need more information about any of the services we offer, or you want to let us know how we can better care for your congregation, please contact one of the people named below or email me directly.

Serving you as we serve Christ.

**Brett Hausler**

**Executive Officer of the Church**

[brett.hausler@lca.org.au](mailto:brett.hausler@lca.org.au)

**Archives:** Rachel Kuchel [rachel.kuchel@lca.org.au](mailto:rachel.kuchel@lca.org.au)

**Church Worker Support:** Chris Materne [christine.materne@lca.org.au](mailto:christine.materne@lca.org.au)

**Communications:** Linda Macqueen [linda.macqueen@lca.org.au](mailto:linda.macqueen@lca.org.au)

**Finance and Administration:** Debbie Venz [debbie.venz@lca.org.au](mailto:debbie.venz@lca.org.au)

**Information Technology:** Daniel Wiltshire [daniel.wiltshire@lca.org.au](mailto:daniel.wiltshire@lca.org.au)

**Insurance:** Lucinda Osborne [lucinda.osborne@lca.org.au](mailto:lucinda.osborne@lca.org.au)

**Professional Standards:** Tim Ross [tim.ross@lca.org.au](mailto:tim.ross@lca.org.au)

To keep up to date with Churchwide Ministry Support news, services and resources, subscribe to LCA eNews [www.lca.org.au/lcaenews-signmeup](http://www.lca.org.au/lcaenews-signmeup)

## LLL Australia

*Praise God for His continued blessing of the work of the LCA South Australia and Northern Territory (LCA SA-NT)!  
Praise God for giving depositors a heart for mission in depositing to support the LCA!*

*Praise God for the opportunity that the LLL has in partnership – Together in Mission – with both!*



LLL would like to share just some of the missional support provided to LCA SA/NT financial year July 2021 to June 2022.

### LLL Financial Statement

	Number of deposit accounts	\$ value held	Total number of loans	\$ value lent	New loans approved	New \$ value lent
National	38,518	\$1,260,950,446	224	\$247,480,213	16	\$63,536,947
SA and NT	23,887	\$729,735,567	94	\$105,868,186	8	\$27,561,000

\*FY21/22. New loans are included in the total number of loans and value.

### Missional Loans in LCA SA-NT

LLL works collaboratively to meet the organisational needs and strategic objectives of Lutheran entities. An LLL loan allows borrowers to fulfil their missional goals, enabling them to build strong Christian communities and become sound financial stewards for the future. LLL insulates borrowers from rising interest rates to support their business and strategic goals.

#### **Examples of recently completed loan projects include:**

##### **St Paul's Lutheran Church, Glenelg**

St Paul's Lutheran Church, Glenelg, SA, recently renewed their 60-plus-year-old roof with assistance from an LLL loan. The congregation has been enjoying their new roof and staying dry, especially during the recent celebration of their 90-year anniversary.

##### **Navigator College, Port Lincoln**

Meeting the demand for quality education that has increased in the Eyre Peninsula area, Navigator College, Port Lincoln, SA, expanded its senior school precinct with students stepping into the new classrooms in Term 1, 2021. LLL is thrilled to see the project completed with students from Year 10 to Year 12 now able to utilise their state-of-the-art learning spaces thanks to funding provided by an LLL Loan.

### LLL School Bursaries

LLL School Bursary grants continue to be well-received by schools and families alike. In February 2022, LLL provided \$135,000 to the three Lutheran school districts, with the LESNW district receiving \$50,000, to be awarded as bursaries in 2023. It is a pleasure for LLL to continue providing these grants to families who would otherwise be unable to afford a Lutheran education due to financial hardship.

### Non-interest-bearing Account Grants

Many SA-NT depositors are choosing to nominate their LLL accounts as non-interest-bearing, which in turn supports the mission of many SA-NT projects. Over the reporting period, LLL



distributed total grants of over \$8,746 to important SA-NT district projects, including Lutheran schools, congregations, and aged care facilities. It is a blessing to witness love for mission coming to life in this way. God be praised.

### **LLL Camping Ministry Grants**

Christian Life Week (CLW) camps, and camping ministry, have been a crucial part of youth ministry for decades. Since the LLL Camping Ministry Grants commenced in 2020, LLL has awarded \$225,000 nationally, including \$84,000 to SA-NT CLWs and similar district camping ministries to support first-time camp attendees and those facing financial hardship to attend the camps. The LLL Board approved the extension of the LLL Camping Ministry Grants for an additional three years until 2025 at the same funding level of \$24,000 per year for SA-NT so that more campers have the opportunity to attend. The Board further approved an additional \$50,000 per year to support the camping experience for all attendees, for the same three-year period, to be distributed nationally.

### **Sponsorship**

#### **Blueprint Ministries Dinner**

LLL was a proud major sponsor for the Blueprint Ministries Dinner in November 2022 with a sponsorship of \$3,000. It was our pleasure to be able to contribute to the fellowship of the youth in SA. The night raised approximately \$6,500, which contributed towards offering ministry grants to SA-NT congregations to start or grow ministries, provide resources and activity packs for children during special church seasons, and provide quarterly fellowship gatherings for young adults in Adelaide.

#### **Australian Lutheran World Services (ALWS)**

LLL continues to support the important work of ALWS by sponsoring and participating in the annual Walk My Way (WMW) fundraising event. In addition to the \$10,000 sponsorship, LLL financially assisted the purchase of WMW hats and formed a team, call the 'StroLLLers' who further raised \$1,200. The event occurred on Friday, 21 October 2022 and raised over \$61,000, so that refugee children can step into school.

### **LLL Mission Outreach Grant**

#### **Loxton Lutheran Church**

Loxton Lutheran Church received \$13,000 to support its December 2021 Christmas Illuminant Lights Display, titled 'Shine', which projected a 10-minute animation, created by local artists, onto St Peter's Church facade. The congregation shared the Christian version of Christmas with visitors from the wider community, with hundreds of people from the community supporting the congregation's mission outreach project on the opening night.

#### **Gawler Lutheran Church**

Connecting over a coffee, sharing conversations, and building relationships with families are important in any ministry. Gawler Lutheran Church, Gawler, SA, has taken that one step further with the establishment of its Pop-Up Coffee Cart, aiming to better connect with Zion Pre-School and Immanuel Lutheran School community members.

Zion is located on one of Gawler Lutheran Church's sites, while Immanuel is in the centre of town. Thanks to a \$12,000 Mission Outreach Grant, LLL is bringing them closer together.

### **Regular Electronic Giving (REG)**

LLL continues to administer the LCA REG program, enabling congregation members to maintain their financial support to their local church.

LLL Australia's mission is for the love of our Lord and Saviour to be heard and felt in the hearts and minds of all people around Australia. We are honoured by the support we receive, and we give thanks to God for each and every one of our supporters.

Yours in Christ

**Ross Smith**

**LLL Australia Chief Executive Officer**

# NOMINATIONS



**LUTHERAN  
CHURCH**  
OF AUSTRALIA

**SOUTH AUSTRALIA  
NORTHERN TERRITORY**

## Nominations and Voting Information

### NOTES

1. Nominations for the position of Bishop, First Assistant Bishop and Second Assistant Bishop are made by the Pastors' Conference. Convention may add a candidate or candidates for these positions in which case "each proposed additional nomination shall separately require the majority approval of the District delegates present; the vote being taken by a show of hands.
2. All other positions, unless otherwise indicated, are elected on the nomination of the Nominations Committee, or delegates at convention through the Nominations Committee.

#### Bishop

To be provided to delegates at convention upon recommendations from District Pastors Conference.

#### First Assistant Bishop

To be provided to delegates at convention upon recommendations from District Pastors Conference.

#### Second Assistant Bishop

To be provided to delegates at convention upon recommendations from District Pastors Conference.

### District Church Council

9 members, including the Bishop, two assistant Bishops and District Finance Consultant. The Synod needs to elect 1 pastor and 4 lay members. 1 lay member must be under the age of 30.

### NOMINEES

#### Pastor

ROSENZWEIG, Nigel

#### Lay Members

ECKERMANN, Dianne

HAHN, Noah

HOFF, Robert

MARTUL, Helen

#### Pastor Member

Name	Nigel Rosenzweig
Congregation	Victor Harbor
Occupation	Pastor
LCA National Service	LCA Board for Support to Pastoral Ministry 2015 to 2017 LCA Grow Ministries Pastor 2018 to 2020
District Service	LCA SA-NT District Synod Minute Taker 2014 LCA SA-NT District Electoral Officer 2016 to 2018
Parish & Congregation Service	Berri 1997 to 2002 Clare 2002 to 2007 Novar Gardens 2008 to 2017 Unley 2018 to 2020 Victor Harbor 2021 to present
Qualifications	BTh 1991 to 1995 Grad Dip Min 1996 Grow Ministries – Coach 2018 to 2020 Mastery Certification in Christian Coaching 2019 Mental Health First Aid Training 2022
Other Information	Pastor in the SA-NT District for 27 years: 12 years in the city, 15 years in regional and rural areas. Congregation and school ministry partnerships with 6 distinct Lutheran Schools across SA. Served on 3 Lutheran School boards: Vineyard (R-7) at Clare; Immanuel Primary (ELC-6) at Novar Gardens; Encounter College (ELC-12) at Victor Harbor



**Lay Member**

Name	Dianne Eckermann
Congregation	Adelaide Bethlehem
Occupation	Retired Director
LCA National Service	Lutheran Education Australia Director of Leadership 2017 to 2022 LCA Family and Domestic Violence task group member 2018 to present LCA Royal commission into institutional responses to child sexual abuse committee member 2018 to 2019
District Service	Mount Gambier St Martins Lutheran College Principal 2007 to 2017 Blackwood St Peters Lutheran School Chair 2022 Highgate Concordia College board member 2022 to present
Parish & Congregation Service	Mount Gambier St Martins Call committee Chair 2015 Mount Gambier St Martins 150 <sup>th</sup> anniversary committee chair 2012
Qualifications	Millennial Principals project completion 2022 Masters in Education 1999 Novar Gardens Immanuel College Head of Middle School 2002 to 2006 Mount Gambier St Martins Principal 2007 to 2017 Lutheran Education Australia Director of Leadership 2017 to 2022
Other Information	Member of Mount Gambier Migrant resource centre committee 2010 to 2017

**Lay Member**

Name	Noah Hahn
Congregation	Golden Grove
Occupation	ICT Technician
District Service	LCA SA-NT SPIN Camp Director 2017 to present LCA SA-NT Camp Leader 2017 to present LCA SA-NT District convention of synod congregation delegate 2020 to present
Parish & Congregation Service	Golden Grove Youth Leader 2016 to 2022 Golden Grove Young Adults Coordinator 2021 to present Golden Grove Salt Factory Band Leader 2020 to present
Qualifications	Bachelor of Creative Arts (Digital Media) 2019 ICT Technician 2022 to present

**Lay Member**

Name	Robert Hoff
Congregation	Unley St Johns
Occupation	Retired Principal
LCA National Service	LCA Board for International Mission member 2013 to 2017 Lutheran Principals Australia board member 2013 to 2018
District Service	LCA SA-NT District Church Council member 2021 to present Fullarton Lutheran Homes board member 2018 to 2020
Parish & Congregation Service	Unley St Johns Mission team member 2020 to present Fullarton Lutheran Homes residents committee 2023
Qualifications	Diploma of teaching 1972 Lutheran Theological Accreditation 1985 Principal of Lutheran Schools 1972 to 2018
Other Information	Served on councils and boards of LCA since 1972 Served on state and national educational boards and a life member of four associations. Broad knowledge of governance and management in both education and aged care entities

**Lay Member**

Name	Helen Martul
Congregation	Glenelg St Pauls
Occupation	Retired
District Service	LCA SA-NT District Church Council member 2016 to present
Parish & Congregation Service	Glenelg St Pauls Safe Church Coordinator 2022 to present Glenelg St Pauls community care and food care Glenelg St Pauls church family ministry committee member
Qualifications	Registered nurse 1979 Registered psychiatric nurse 1986 Bachelor of nursing 1992 Consultant and client services + project management 1994 to 2012

## Finance Consultant

Recommended by District Church Council.

Name	Stephen Kroker
Congregation	Glenelg St Pauls
Occupation	Business Manager
LCA National Service	Australian Lutheran World Service Finance and Admin Manager 2021 to present Australian Lutheran College Finance Committee member 2017 to present Lutheran Education Australia Causal Project Officer 2021 to present Lutheran Education Australia Business Manager 2012 to 2021 LCA International Mission Finance secretary 2013 to 2017
District Service	LCA SA-NT District Finance Consultant 2018 to present
Parish & Congregation Service	Glenelg treasurer 2005 to 2021
Qualifications	Chartered accountant 1990 to present
Other Information	Involvement with Lutheran Schools since 1985 as a Board Member and Business Manager Lutheran Schools Association Finance Committee member Lutheran Schools Association Council member

## AbMinSA (Aboriginal Ministry South Australia)

5 members.

The Synod needs to elect 1 pastor and 3 lay members. District Church Council to appoint 1 lay member.

### NOMINEES

#### Pastor

KUSS, David

#### Lay Members

CHRISTIAN, Ivan

SCHILLER, Meryl

WILLCOCKS, Malcolm

#### Pastor Member

Name	David Kuss
Congregation	Murray Valley Community
Occupation	Pastor
LCA National Service	Lutheran Men of Australia Spiritual Advisor 2014 to present
District Service	AbMinSA 2016 to present Lutheran Men SA Spiritual advisor 2014 to present
Parish & Congregation Service	Geraldton WA 2002 to 2007 Alice Springs NT 2008 to 2013 Finke River Mission NT 2013 to 2015 Birdwood SA 2015 to 2020 Murray Bridge Holy Cross 2020 to 2023 Murray Valley 2023 to present
Qualifications	BTh 2001 Grad Dip Summer school of Linguistics 2013

#### Lay Member

Name	Ivan Christian
Congregation	Adelaide St Stephens
Occupation	Retired
District Service	AbMinSA member 2014 to present
Qualifications	BA DipEd Grad Dip Th (Ed)
Other Information	Volunteer hospital chaplain for SA-NT District

**Lay Member**

Name	Meryl Schiller
Congregation	Gawler
Occupation	Reconciliation Project Officer
District Service	AbMinSA member 2018 to present
Parish & Congregation Service	Various volunteer roles since 2008
Qualifications	Larrakia Native Title holder and descendant (Darwin area) Active family in reconciliation in SA Working with Aboriginal communities in SA as a park ranger as well as a support of Aboriginal staff working in Department of Environment and Water Executive Officer for Dept Environment and Water Reconciliation subcommittee of Executive
Other Information	Operation mobilisation D2 course Regular attendance at BSF Involvement in various music, prayer and pastoral care ministries Aboriginal studies subjects at Flinders University Informal learning of many languages

**Lay Member**

Name	Malcolm Willcocks
Congregation	Alice Springs
Occupation	Pastoral Support Worker
LCA National Service	Finke River Mission Store Acting Manager 2016 to 2018
District Service	AbMinSA Field Worker (far west coast SA) 2010 to 2013 AbMinSA member 2014 to present
Parish & Congregation Service	Ceduna Interim Pastoral Support 2013 Glynde Zion Pastoral Support Worker 2016 to 2017 Finke River Mission Pastoral Support Worker 2018 to present
Qualifications	Accredited LCA Lay Worker 2011



## Aged Care Council

4 members.

The Synod needs to elect 1 pastor and 1 lay members.

### NOMINEES

#### Pastor

KOWALD, Tim

#### Lay Members

SCHILLER, Delton

2 Vacancies

#### Pastor Member

Name	Tim Kowald
Congregation	Fullarton St Peter's
Occupation	Pastor & Aged Care Chaplain
LCA National Service	LCA Commission on Social and Bioethical Questions 1997 to 2018 Reformed Lutheran Dialogue 1996 to 1999
District Service	LCA SA-NT Aged Care Council 2009 to present
Parish & Congregation Service	Forbes Parish 1983 to 1988 Natimuk Parish 1989 to 1993 Semaphore Parish 1996 to 2007 Fullarton 2007 to present
Qualifications	BTh MTh

#### Lay Member

Name	Delton Schiller
Congregation	Murray Valley
Occupation	Chief Executive Officer
LCA National Service	
District Service	Aged Care Council and Retirement Villages Alliance 2009 to present
Parish & Congregation Service	Murray Bridge Christ Church Chair (former) Murray Bridge Christ Church Worship team
Qualifications	32 years in Motor trade, inclusive of senior management CEO of Murray Bridge Lutheran Homes 2009 to present
Other Information	

## Constitutions Committee

4 members (in addition to the District Administrator).  
The Synod needs to elect 1 pastor and 3 lay members.

### NOMINEES

#### Pastor

MILLER, Peter

#### Lay Members

BRIGGS, Heather  
HERRMANN, Graham  
MATERNE, Gilbert  
RIDSDALE, Leanne

#### Pastor Member

Name	Peter Miller
Congregation	Adelaide Bethlehem
Occupation	Pastor Emeritus
LCA National Service	Australian Lutheran College Board member
District Service	LCA SA-NT Chaplaincy Director 2015 to 2021 LCA SA-NT Constitutions Committee member Lutheran Disability Services Board member Nominations Committee member
Parish & Congregation Service	Gawler 1985 to 1990 Para Vista 1991 to 1994 Immanuel College 1995 to 2002 Assistant Principal St Andrews Qld 2002 to 2005 Founding Principal Pakenham Lakeside College 2005 to 2015
Qualifications	BTh Grad Dip Ed Med Studies

#### Lay Member

Name	Heather Briggs
Congregation	North Adelaide Immanuel
Occupation	Retired
District Service	Lutheran Education SA, NT & WA Board member 2019 to 2022 LCA SA-NT Constitutions Committee member 2021 to present LEVNT Council member 2012 to 2018
Parish & Congregation Service	North Adelaide Church Council Chairperson 2022 to present North Adelaide Church Council Treasurer 2021 to 2022 Geelong Lutheran College Council Secretary 2011 to 2018
Qualifications	BSc 1965 MSc 1968, 1972CSIRO Journal Editor 1968 to 1969, 1973 to 1975 Project Officer 1980 to 2000

**Lay Member**

Name	Graham Herrmann
Congregation	Hope Valley Trinity
Occupation	Retired Accountant
LCA National Service	
District Service	LCA SA-NT Constitutions Committee 2021 to present
Parish & Congregation Service	Hope Valley Treasurer (former) Hope Valley Assistant Treasurer (former) Hope Valley Secretary (former) Hope Valley Audio Visual operator (former)
Qualifications	Bachelor of Business 1989 Post Graduate certificate in Public Sector Administration Certified Practicing Accountant Fellow Justice of the Peace SA
Other Information	Have audited books for some smaller congregations

**Lay Member**

Name	Gilbert Materne
Congregation	Adelaide Bethlehem
Occupation	Retired
LCA National Service	LCA General Synod Delegate 2021 to 2024 LCA Standing Committee on Constitutions 2009 to 2019
District Service	LCA SA-NT Constitutions Committee member 2008 to present
Parish & Congregation Service	Adelaide Bethlehem Archives Committee 2013 to present Adelaide Bethlehem Public Officer 2013 to present
Qualifications	Bachelor of Law 1973 Lawyer 1974 to 2001
Other Information	District Church representative on the executive of the South Australian Council of Churches and Churches Together 2023 to present

**Lay Member**

Name	Leanne Ridsdale
Congregation	Salisbury
Occupation	Residential Services Manager
District Service	LCA SA-NT District convention of synod congregation delegate 2020 to 2022
Parish & Congregation Service	Salisbury Church Council Chairperson 2020 to present Salisbury Church Council Secretary 2012 to 2020
Qualifications	Diploma of Applied Science 1990 Degree of Nursing 1994 Graduate Certificate Case Management 2001 Graduate Diploma Business Management 2012 Calvary Leadership Program 2019
Other Information	Endeavour Lutheran College Chairperson 2020 to present Endeavour Lutheran College Council 2014 to 2020Salisbury Lutheran Kindergarten Chairperson 2011 to 2014 Director of Nursing Calvary North Adelaide Hospital 2021 to 2023 Residential Services Manager at Phillip Kennedy Centre 2023 to present Registered nurse for over 30 years

## Immanuel College Council

4-8 members.

The Synod needs to elect between 4 and 8 members, with at least one but not more than two being pastors.

District Church Council will appoint 2 members.

### NOMINEES

#### Pastor(s)

FIELKE, Paul

#### Lay Members

FIELD, David

VOGT, Heather

WALLENT, Kym

#### Pastor Member

Name	Paul Fielke
Congregation	Para Vista Good Shepherd
Occupation	Pastor Emeritus
LCA National Service	Lutheran Women Australia Chaplain 2021 to present
District Service	Immanuel College Council 2022 to present SA-NT District 1 <sup>st</sup> Vice President 2022 to 2012
Parish & Congregation Service	Loxton 1981 to 1987 Port Lincoln 1987 to 1993 Mount Barker Cornerstone College 1993 to 2003 Novar Gardens Immanuel College 2003 to 2021
Qualifications	BTh 1980 Grad Dip Ed 1997

#### Lay Member

Name	David Field
Congregation	Maitland St Pauls
Occupation	Principal
LCA National Service	Lutheran Principals Australia Board member 2016 to present
Parish & Congregation Service	Maitland St Pauls Elder 2013 to present Maitland St Pauls Church Council member 2013 to present
Qualifications	Bachelor of Education 1988 Graduate Diploma of Theology 1997



**Lay Member**

Name	Heather Vogt
Congregation	Glenelg St Pauls
Occupation	Educational Consultant
LCA National Service	Lutheran Education Australia Board member 2021 to present
District Service	Mawson Lakes Endeavour College Principal 2008 to 2021 Darwin Good Shepherd College Principal 2022 Lutheran Education SA, NT & WA Board member 2019 to present Ocean Forest Board member 2016 to 2018
Parish & Congregation Service	Nuriootpa St Petri member (former)
Qualifications	Masters of Education 1998 Bachelor of Education 1979 Diploma of Teaching 1978
Other Information	Company Director's Course AICD 2019 Strategic Leadership and Change London School of Business 2018

**Lay Member**

Name	Kym Wallent
Congregation	Adelaide St Stephens
Occupation	Retired
LCA National Service	LCA Board for Lay Ministry Chairperson 2014 to 2016 Aged Care and Community Services Governance Enhancement Committee member 2018 to present
District Service	Immanuel College Council Chairperson 2013 to present Lutheran Community Care Board member 2014 to 2019 Lutheran Disability Services Board Chairperson 2017 to present
Qualifications	Bachelor of Engineering (Hons) Master of Infrastructure Management Graduate Australian Institute of Company Directors
Other Information	Long career in urban water industry across engineering design, operations, asset planning and senior management

## Loxton Riverview Rest Home Board

6 members (minimum).

The Synod needs to elect 1 pastor and at least 6 lay members.

There must be at least 6 members on the board.

### NOMINEES

#### Pastor

SANDER, Jason

#### Lay Members

FIELKE, Mark

FIELKE, Robert

GRAETZ, Gregory

HENTSCHKE, Sam

LIDDLE, Raphael

PHILLIPS, Margaret

SCHULTZ, Sue

#### Pastor Member

Name	Jason Sander
Congregation	Loxton St Peter's
Occupation	Pastor
District Service	LCA NSW-ACT District Church Council member 2008 to 2010 Camp Pastor in NSW and SA Loxton Lutheran School Board member 2019 to present
Parish & Congregation Service	Tuggeranong Cooma NSW-ACT 2007 to 2010 Sydney Narraweena NSW 2010 to 2015 Renmark Paringa SA 2015 to 2018 Loxton St Peters SA 2019 to present
Qualifications	Bachelor of Theology 2006 Bachelor of Ministry 2006 Grad Cert Management 2019

#### Lay Member

Name	Robert Fielke
Congregation	Bookpurnong
Occupation	Retired
District Service	Loxton Riverview Rest Home Board member
Parish & Congregation Service	Bookpurnong Church Council Chairperson 2003 to 2020 Bookpurnong Lay Reader for 55 years Bookpurnong Elder 2020 to present
Qualifications	Farming and Business for 55 years

**Lay Member**

Name	Gregory Graetz
Congregation	Loxton St Peter's
Occupation	Dealer Principal
Qualifications	Director of Flight Motors 1990 to present
Other Information	Mitsubishi National Dealer Council for 5 years Loxton Kindergarten Board member St Alberts Catholic School Board member 1998 to 2008 LAAS Board Member SA Country Cricket Association Board member Murray Districts Cricket Coach

**Lay Member**

Name	Sam Hentschke
Congregation	Loxton St Peter's
Occupation	Managing Director
Parish & Congregation Service	Loxton Parish Vice Chairperson 2022 to present Loxton St Peter's Church Council member 2019 to present Loxton St Peter's Church Council Vice Chairperson 2022 to present
Qualifications	Managing Director in transport industry from 2016 to present

**Lay Member**

Name	Raphael Liddle
Congregation	Not applicable
Occupation	Sales Representative
Parish & Congregation Service	Bookpurnong Parish 1990 to 1995 Loxton Concordia 1996 to 2003
Qualifications	Sales Representative (land agent) for 7 years Water technician for 10 years

**Lay Member**

Name	Margaret Phillips
Congregation	Loxton St Peter's
Occupation	Registered Nurse
District Service	Tanunda Lutheran Homes Board Chaplain
Parish & Congregation Service	Loxton St Peter's small group committee member 2022 Volunteer cleaner and bible reader 2023 to present
Qualifications	Bachelor of Health Science 1997 Graduate Diploma in Midwifery 1996 Registered Nurse Previously worked in the Solomon Islands Worked as a lecturer at Flinders University Renmark
Other Information	Life FM Community Radio Board member 2018 to present Basketball Committee member Netball Committee member

**Lay Member**

Name	Sue Schultz
Congregation	Not applicable
Occupation	Community Development Officer
District Service	Riverview Rest Home Board member 2021 to present
Other Information	Loxton Amateur Basketball Association Secretary 2023 to 2022 Loxton North Netball Secretary 2017 to 2019 Riverland Netball Association Country Carnival Coordinator 014 to 2020 Riverland Football League Secretary 2021 to present

## Tanunda Lutheran Home Board

9 members.

The Synod needs to elect 1 pastor and 8 lay members.

### NOMINEES

#### Pastor

KLEEMANN, Mark

#### Lay Members

BARTSCH, James  
HISCOCK, Emma  
McDONALD, Judy  
PFEIFFER, Chris  
PULIATTI, Anthony  
SMITH, Melissa  
2 Vacant

#### Pastor Member

Name	Mark Kleemann
Congregation	Stockwell St Thomas
Occupation	Pastor
Parish & Congregation Service	Laura Parish 1998 to 2002 Light Pass Immanuel Parish 2002 to 2010 RAAF Chaplain 2010 to 2021 SA-NT District 2021 to present Volunteer Police Chaplain 2022 to present
Qualifications	BTh 1995 Grad Dip Ministry 1997 Mental Health First Aid training Chaplaincy courses including notification training and resilience training

#### Lay Member

Name	James Bartsch
Congregation	Tanunda Tabor
Occupation	Builder and Consultant
District Service	Tanunda Lutheran Home Board Member Tanunda Lutheran Home Building Committee Chairperson
Qualifications	Director of Bartsch Builders 2022 to present Sole trader of JA Bartsch Builders 1980 to 2022

**Lay Member**

Name	Emma Hiscock
Congregation	Tanunda Langmeil
Occupation	Academic
District Service	Lutheran Care Board Member 2020
Parish & Congregation Service	Langmeil Administration Team Secretary 2019 to present
Qualifications	Graduate AICD 2021 Masters in Business Administration 2018 Grad Cert Health Service Management 2013 Bachelor of Nursing 1996 Registered Nurse 1996 to present
Other Information	Clinical Services Committee Barossa Fleurieu Hills Local Health Network 2019 to present CSIRO CHMREC Committee member 2020 to present

**Lay Member**

Name	Judy McDonald
Congregation	Angaston Zion
Occupation	Retired Medical Practitioner
Parish & Congregation Service	Angaston Home Group leader Angaston Pastoral Care visitor 2021 to present
Qualifications	BSc Neuroanatomy, physiology and endocrinology 1971 MBBS; LRCP, MRCS 1971 General Practitioner 1984 to 2015 FIFO medical practitioner to Aboriginal communities in Ceduna and Coober Pedy 1989 to 2020
Other Information	Have written booklet "Women of the Bible", currently writing further booklets "Miracles and More" and "Stories from our local community"

**Lay Member**

Name	Chris Pfeiffer
Congregation	Tanunda Tabor
Occupation	Retired
LCA National Service	Yirara College Board member 2016 to 2021 Finke River Mission Board member 2013 to 2021
District Service	Tanunda Lutheran Home Board 2008 to present
Qualifications	General Manager of Openbook Howden Publishers 2000 to 2006 Winery Owner 1994 to 2016 Australian Institute of Company Directors graduate



**Lay Member**

Name	Anthony Puliatti
Congregation	Tanunda Langemeil
Occupation	Accountant
District Service	Tanunda Lutheran Home Board Member 2020 to present
Parish & Congregation Service	Langmeil Finance Committee member 2010 to 2012 Tanunda Lutheran Primary School Council member 2011
Qualifications	Chartered Accountants Australia and New Zealand Fellow 1995 to present CPA Fellow 1996 to present Chartered Tax Advisor – the Tax Institute of Australia 2002 to present Accountant 1990 to present

**Lay Member**

Name	Melissa Smith
Congregation	Not applicable
Occupation	Physiotherapist
Qualifications	Bachelor of applied science, physiotherapy 1992 Physiotherapist 1992 to current



**Pastor Simon Cooper**



**Pastor Joel Grieger**



**Pastor Mitch Kitson**



**Pastor André Meyer**

## Welcome to the District



**Pastor Eugene Minge**



**Pastor Theo Prucha, SMP**



**Pastor Michael Steicke**



**Pastor Jeremy Smith**

## SA-NT District Chronicle

1 May 2021 – 1 May 2023

### **Pastors: Calls Accepted**

#### **2021**

Eugene Minge from Tea Tree Gully SA to Pakenham-Lakeside Vic  
Murray Smith from Bordertown SA to Flierl Seminary Seminary Logaweng PNG  
Reid Matthias from Para Vista SA to Tallebudgera Qld  
Paul Hage from Maitland SA to Toowoomba Qld  
Julian Bayha from LOA to Waikerie SA  
Simon Cooper from Noosa Qld to Novar Gardens SA  
John Gerhardy from Glynde SA to Mid Murray SA  
David Kuss from Birdwood SA to Murray Bridge and Monarto SA  
Chris Mann from Mawson Lakes SA to Mawson Lakes SA  
Guntars Baikovs from Tanunda SA to Glandore-Underdale SA  
Kevin Wood from Blackwood SA to Seaford SA  
Rolly Stahl from Para Vista SA to Tea Tree Gully SA  
Noel Due to Top End NT  
Joshua Muller from Eudunda-Robertstown SA to Wodonga Vic  
Andre Meyer from Perth WA to Morphett Vale SA  
Anthony Price to Gawler SA  
Michael Steicke from Hobart Tas to Carlsruhe, Saddleworth & Balaklava SA  
Paul Kerber to LCA SA-NT District (Tanunda SA Interim Ministry)  
Matthew Huckel from Pasadena SA to Moorabbin-Dandenong Vic  
Eugene Minge from Pakenham Lakeside Vic to Greenock SA  
Ben Pfeiffer from Mount Barker SA to Alice Springs NT  
Wayne Boehm from Glynde Zion SA to North Adelaide SA  
Stephen Pietsch to LCA SA-NT District (Adelaide Bethlehem Interim Ministry)  
Geoff Johnston from Alberton Qld to Glynde St Andrews SA  
Valdis Andersons from Lyndoch SA to Pasadena SA  
Matthew Eckermann from Sutherland NSW to Loxton Parish SA

### **Pastors: Installations**

#### **2021**

*No installations occurred during this time period.*

#### **2022**

Paul Smith – 20 February 2022  
David Kuss – 23 January 2022  
Julian Bayha – 30 January 2022  
Mitchell Kitson – 6 February 2022  
John Gerhardy – 13 March 2022  
Kevin Wood – 27 March 2022  
Guntars Baikovs – 3 April 2022  
Chris Mann – 8 April 2022  
Noel Due – 26 June 2022  
Simon Cooper – 27 June 2022  
Rolly Stahl – 10 July 2022  
Paul Kerber – 30 October 2022  
Theodor Prucha – 4 December 2022

## **2023**

Andre Meyer – 15 January 2023  
Joel Grieger – 22 January 2023  
Michael Steicke – 29 January 2023  
Jeremy Smith – 29 January 2023  
Eugene Minge – 5 February 2023  
Stephen Pietsch – 5 February 2023  
Wayne Boehm – 5 March 2023  
Ben Pfeiffer – 14 May 2023

## **Graduate Assignments**

### **2021**

David Cherry – Wagga Wagga NSW  
Benjamin Graham – Lowood QLD  
Mitchell Kitson – Mount Gambier SA

### **2022**

Joel Grieger – Bordertown Parish SA  
Edwin Shoesmith – Hervey Bay QLD  
Jeremy Smith – Maitland Parish SA

## **Ordinations**

### **2021**

David Cherry – 5 December 2021, Holy Cross Lutheran Church Birdwood SA  
Benjamin Graham – 9 January 2022, St Johns Lutheran Church Bundaberg QLD  
Mitchell Kitson – 10 December 2021, St Petri Lutheran Church Nuriootpa SA

### **2022**

Theo Prucha (SMP) – 4 December 2022, Immanuel Lutheran Church North Adelaide SA  
Joel Grieger – 4 December 2022, Pilgrims of Zion Lutheran Church Sedan SA  
Edwin Shoesmith – 11 December 2022, St Petri Lutheran Church Nuriootpa SA  
Jeremy Smith – 18 December 2022, St John's Lutheran Church Corinda QLD

## **Vicarage Placements**

*December 2021 – June 2022*

Joel Grieger – Glenelg St Paul SA  
Edwin Shoesmith – Nuriootpa St Petri SA  
Jeremy Smith – Warradale Faith SA

*December 2022 – June 2023*

Jacob Fabich – Shepparton Vic  
Tom Kitson – Blair Athol St Paul SA

## **Pastors: Retired**

Mark Kaesler – 21 March 2021  
Peter Zadow – 10 November 2021  
Peter Miller 17 December 2021  
Paul Fielke – 31 December 2021  
Rob Schubert – 2 January 2022  
Andy Kowald – 27 March 2022  
Keith McNicol – 11 September 2022

## **Deaths**

### **2021**

Pastor Theodor Prenzler – 12 May 2021  
Pastor Colin Henschke – 23 May 2021  
Pastor David Preuss – 27 May 2021  
Pastor Lance Steicke – 10 September 2021  
Pastor Lloyd John – 28 September 2021  
Pastor Wilton Quast – 9 November 2021  
Pastor John Wilksch – 11 December 2021  
Pastor Parngarta Casey Nelson – 21 December 2021  
Pastor Erich Renner – 31 December 2021

### **2022**

Pastor Lindsay Tjapaltjarri Corby – 4 February 2022  
Pastor Hans Oberscheidt – 5 March 2022  
Pastor Mark Kaesler – 15 April 2022  
Pastor Noel Schmocker – 30 May 2022  
Pastor Trevor Reu – 23 June 2022  
Heidi Price (wife of Pastor Anthony Price) – 22 July 2022  
Pastor Darrin Kohrt – 28 July 2022  
Jacqueline Nakamarra (wife of Pastor Reg Baldock) – 3 August 2022  
Pastor Peter Boesch – 17 August 2022  
Anna Hilda Schmocker (wife of Pastor Noel Schmocker) – 25 September 2022  
Claire Tscharke (wife of Pastor Len Tscharke) – 14 December 2022  
Pastor Lionel Otto – 22 December 2022  
Pastor Reggie Baldock – 24 December 2022

### **2023**

Pastor Mark Mantjantja Tjiweri Reid – 7 January 2023  
Pastor Gordon Gerhardy – 25 January 2023  
Pastor Michael Hassold – 28 January 2023  
Pastor Trevor Keller – 9 February 2023

## ***Anniversaries: Ordinations***

### **25 Years**

Reggie Baldock  
Jimmy Brown  
Mark Kleemann  
Darrin Kohrt  
Eugene Minge  
Jim Overduin  
Fraser Pearce  
Malcolm Pech  
Malcolm Pech  
Greg Pfeiffer  
Nigel Rosenzweig  
Basil Schild  
Stephen Schultz

### **40 Years**

John Henderson  
Garry Hodgson  
Andy Kowald  
Tim Kowald  
Geoff Kuchel  
Leon Rosenberg  
John Thiel  
Peter Traeger  
Detlev Vosgerau

### **50 Years**

Malcolm Bartsch  
David Christian  
Vernon Kleinig  
Robert Voigt

### **60 Years**

Martin Freund  
Gordon Gerhardy  
John Koch  
Robert Wiebusch

### **70 Years**

Hartley Hage  
Elmore Leske

We sincerely apologise if we have inadvertently omitted anyone from this Chronicle.



## Upcoming Events in the SA-NT District

Subscribe to the SA-NT District e-news, *Online Together* to keep up to date with all events in the SA-NT District! To subscribe visit <https://www.lca.org.au/departments/ministry-support/communications/enews/> and click on the 'District' banner to find *Online Together*.



# Save the date

## Church CHAT Day 2023

### Saturday 26 August

All enquiries to the District Office,  
email [administration.sa-nt@lca.org.au](mailto:administration.sa-nt@lca.org.au)  
or phone 08 8267 5211

 LUTHERAN CHURCH OF AUSTRALIA | SOUTH AUSTRALIA NORTHERN TERRITORY

### Pastors and Church Workers retreat

Save the date

**When:** 12-13 September 2023

**Where:** Adelaide West Uniting Church

**Further details:** to be confirmed

### Safe Church Training

All upcoming dates for face-to-face Safe Church training sessions are available on the LCA website at <https://www.lca.org.au/training-events/safe-church-training/>. Training is also available online and can be accessed via the link above.

### Children, Families, Youth and Young Adults



# SAVE THE DATE!

## Blueprint Dinner 2023

SATURDAY 5TH AUGUST 6PM  
THE MAWSON LAKES HOTEL & FUNCTION CENTRE



**THE GLOBAL LEADERSHIP SUMMIT**  
Next GEN

EXCLUSIVE PARTNER  
**World Vision**

*Grow in  
your faith  
& leadership  
journey*

**Blueprint ministries**

- world-class speakers • engaging group discussions
- creative problem-solving • fun leadership activities
- inspiring performances • practical life-lessons

**EVENT DETAILS:**

**Saturday 3rd June**  
9am-4.30pm

LLL Office, 175 Archer Street  
North Adelaide  
(upstairs meeting room)

**COST: \$**  
**FREE**  
Sponsored by  
LCA SA-NT District

**HOW TO REGISTER:**

Bookings essential, go to:  
[blueprintministries.org.au/nextgen/](http://blueprintministries.org.au/nextgen/)

SCAN TO  
LEARN MORE




**SET APART**

A youth camp for school years 7-12  
From the 10th-14th July 2023  
at Cornerstone College, Mount Barker

\$205 per person | Registrations close June 25th  
Sibling Discount: \$20 per sibling (\$185 each)  
First Time Camper Sponsorship: Pay only \$20!

Bus transport to and from Faith Lutheran College.

**TO REGISTER VISIT:**  
[www.blueprintministries.org.au/camps/barossa-clw/](http://www.blueprintministries.org.au/camps/barossa-clw/)

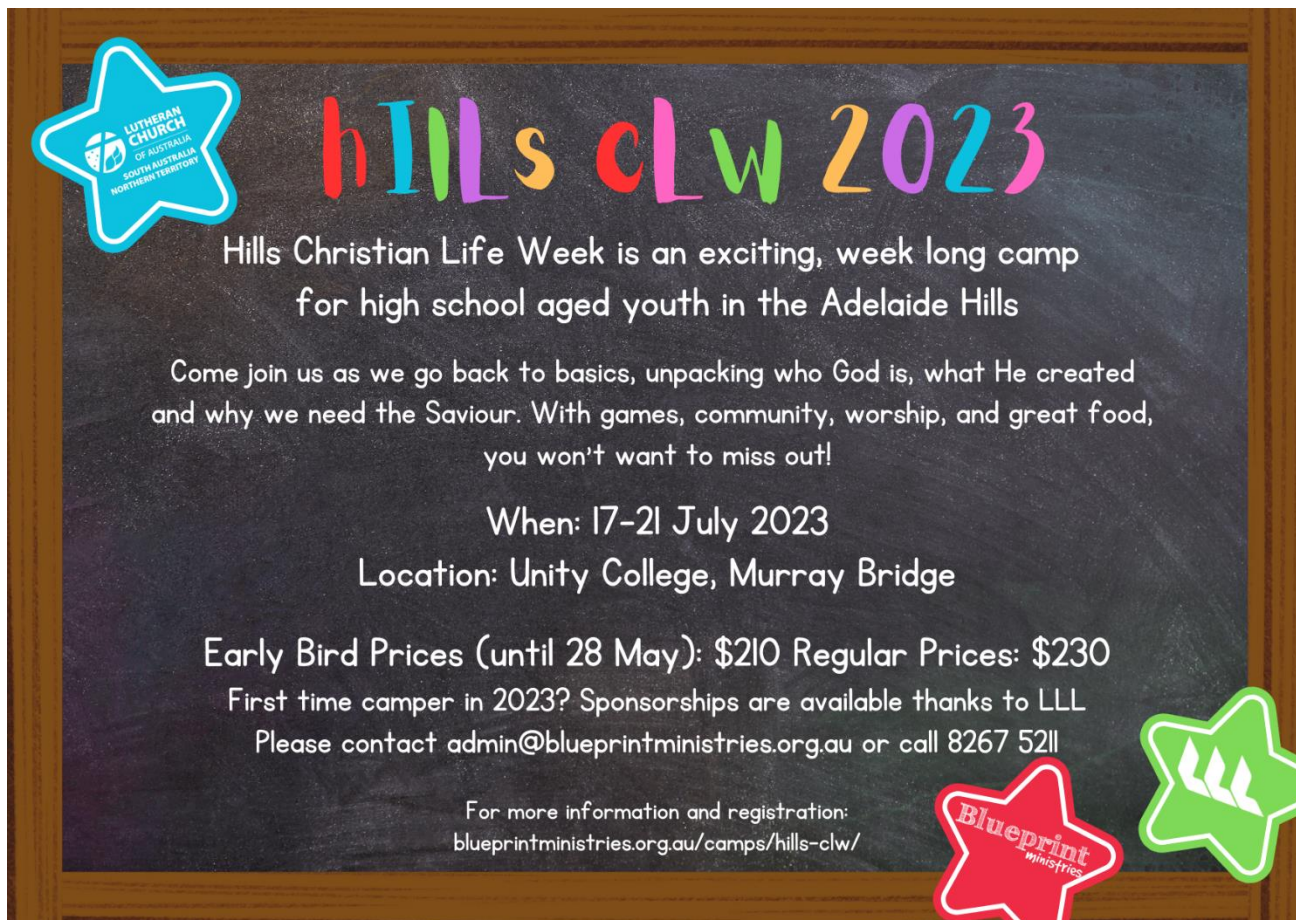
For more information please contact:  
[admin@blueprintministries.org.au](mailto:admin@blueprintministries.org.au)

**Blueprint ministries**

**LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
OF AUSTRALIA  
SOUTH AUSTRALIA  
NORTHERN TERRITORY

**LLL** Finance with a mission

Financially supported by LLL Australia



**hILLS CLW 2023**

Hills Christian Life Week is an exciting, week long camp  
for high school aged youth in the Adelaide Hills

Come join us as we go back to basics, unpacking who God is, what He created  
and why we need the Saviour. With games, community, worship, and great food,  
you won't want to miss out!

**When: 17-21 July 2023**

**Location: Unity College, Murray Bridge**

**Early Bird Prices (until 28 May): \$210 Regular Prices: \$230**

First time camper in 2023? Sponsorships are available thanks to LLL  
Please contact [admin@blueprintministries.org.au](mailto:admin@blueprintministries.org.au) or call 8267 5211

For more information and registration:  
[blueprintministries.org.au/camps/hills-clw/](http://blueprintministries.org.au/camps/hills-clw/)

**Blueprint ministries**



YEARS 4 to 7  
**JULY 10TH - 13TH 2023**

CAMP KEDRON, BARMERA

**PRICE:**

**Regular: \$160.00 (Til 25/06/23)**

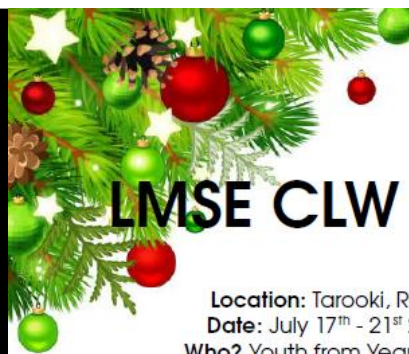
**\$5 per person sibling discount**

**\$20 for first time camper**

For more information contact: Ph. 8267 5211 or  
Email: [admin@blueprintministries.org.au](mailto:admin@blueprintministries.org.au)

**To register, visit:**

[blueprintministries.org.au/camps/jc-life/](http://blueprintministries.org.au/camps/jc-life/)  
OR scan the QR code:



## LMSE CLW 2023

**Location:** Tarooki, Robe

**Date:** July 17<sup>th</sup> - 21<sup>st</sup> 2023

**Who?** Youth from Year 7 - 12

**How much?**

First Timers \$20. Return Campers \$220  
Bus available from Murray Bridge for \$20pp

To register and for more information visit:

[blueprintministries.org.au/camps/lmse-clw/](http://blueprintministries.org.au/camps/lmse-clw/)  
Facebook - LMSE CLW  
Instagram - lmseclw

Camp is supported by:



**LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
OF AUSTRALIA  
SOUTH AUSTRALIA  
NORTHERN TERRITORY



**Blueprint ministries**  
Finance with a mission



## RIVERLAND CHRISTIAN LIFE WEEK

Years 7-12      17-21 July 2023

Location: Camp Kedron, Barmera

Price: \$215

Only \$20 for first time campers thanks to the  
generous support of the LLL\*

**TO REGISTER:**

[blueprintministries.org.au/camps/riverlandclw](http://blueprintministries.org.au/camps/riverlandclw)

**\*FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:**

[admin@blueprintministries.org.au](mailto:admin@blueprintministries.org.au)





## BY THE BOOK

The LCA SA-NT District Office is able to assist with bookkeeping services for congregations and parishes for a small fee.

Service includes payment of invoices, receipt of income, reimbursements, salary reconciliation, monthly reconciliations and reporting for Church Council, ATO BAS lodgement, preparation for annual financial review or audit.

Contact the District Administrator for more information.



**SOUTH AUSTRALIA  
NORTHERN TERRITORY**



# DIRECTORY

Lutheran Church of Australia, SA-NT District



## ABOUT US

The Lutheran Church of Australia, South Australia - Northern Territory District, exists to resource, encourage and focus its communities to grow in Christ and make him known to all people.

Here is just a small part of our team, shared here so you can connect with us and know more about what we do. We believe that every member is a minister and the real heroes are the volunteers who give their time and energy to passionately serving others.

To contact a member of our team use the email addresses provided, or call the District Office on (08) 8267 5211 and ask for the appropriate staff member.

## CONTACT THE DISTRICT OFFICE

137 Archer Street, North Adelaide SA, 5006  
(08) 8267 5211

administration.sa-nt@lca.org.au  
www.sant.lca.org.au



## OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

*The SA-NT Bishop oversees the SA-NT District, and the office exists to serve its pastors and people.*

*The office also oversees, promotes and supports the services provided by the District departments.*



### **Pastor David Altus - LCA SA-NT Bishop**

david.altus@lca.org.au

### **Pastor Andrew Brook - 2nd Assistant Bishop**

andrew.brook@lca.org.au

### **Pastor Joel Cramer - 2nd Assistant Bishop**

joel.cramer@lca.org.au

### **Pastor Stephen Schultz - Assistant Bishop for Mission**

stephen.schultz@lca.org.au

## CHAPLAINCY

*There are several aspects to chaplaincy ministry, including recruiting and supporting chaplains and congregationally-based pastoral visitors as they serve people in hospitals, prisons and the District.*



### **Heidi Smith - Chaplaincy Ministries Coordinator**

heidi.smith@lca.org.au

## ADMINISTRATION

*The administration staff at the District Office are here to serve and support you all with questions ranging from constitutions, policies, finance, work, health and safety, calling a pastor and much more.*



### **Angela Rogers - District Administrator**

angela.rogers@lca.org.au

### **Holly Koning - Administration Assistant**

holly.koning@lca.org.au

### **Vanessa Freislich - Bookkeeper**

vanessa.freislich@lca.org.au

# DIRECTORY

Lutheran Church of Australia, SA-NT District



## OTHER MINISTRIES

Lutheran Education SA, NT and WA  
[www.lensw.edu.au](http://www.lensw.edu.au)  
(08) 8267 5565

Lutheran Care  
[www.lccare.org.au](http://www.lccare.org.au)  
(08) 8269 9333

Lutheran Disability Services  
[www.ldssa.org.au](http://www.ldssa.org.au)  
(08) 8212 7766

Lutheran Aged Care  
See 'Aged Care Facilities' Flyer, or visit  
[www.sant.lca.org.au/departments/other-ministries](http://www.sant.lca.org.au/departments/other-ministries)

## CHILD, FAMILY, YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY DEPARTMENT

Also known as **Blueprint Ministries**, this department exists to provide opportunities for children, families, youth and young adults, to be supported in their communities, so they grow in and live their faith.



**Ian Crambrook - Camping and Events Ministry Coordinator**  
[ian.crambrook@lca.org.au](mailto:ian.crambrook@lca.org.au)

**Jeanette Mann - Team Leader**  
[jeanette.mann@lca.org.au](mailto:jeanette.mann@lca.org.au)

**Joanne Chamberlain - Congregational Coach**  
[joanne.chamberlain@lca.org.au](mailto:joanne.chamberlain@lca.org.au)

## PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS

*This department assists those who engage with our church to care for one another. It coordinates various levels of training and manages complaints.*



**Dave Biar - PSD Officer**  
[dave.biar@lca.org.au](mailto:dave.biar@lca.org.au)

**Holly Koning - PSD Assistant**  
[holly.koning@lca.org.au](mailto:holly.koning@lca.org.au)

## COMMUNICATIONS

*In the past few years, we have been able to expand in this area, thanks to modern technology. Many of our church members are keeping up with us on our Facebook page, through our monthly eNews, on our website and reading Together magazine.*



**Jessica Smith - Together Magazine Editor & Communications Coordinator**  
[jessica.smith@lca.org.au](mailto:jessica.smith@lca.org.au)