**Agenda 15.1**

**Lutheran Men of Australia**

**MEMBERS**

Pastor David Kuss – Spiritual Adviser – Public Officer elect, Neil Lehmann – Retiring chairman, KeithMunchenberg – Secretary. Malcolm Pfeiffer - Retiring Vice-chairman, David Pfeiffer – Retiring Treasurer – Chairman elect, David Schiller – Treasurer-elect, John Seidel – Retiring Public Officer

**Background**

The LMA exists to foster Christian fellowship, Evangelism and Stewardship among the laymen of the church and in particular;

1. to assist in promoting a passion for the Bible and to encourage continued growth in Christian knowledge resulting in a systematic study of the Bible;
2. To identify the needs of the church’s ministry to its own members, those on the margins of the church and its own organizations, so that through our members we may respond appropriately to those in need (eg sick, aged, the disabled, the abandoned, the lonely, the poor, the biblically, and confessionally illiterate, etc.) and other such undertakings of the church.
3. To encourage lay-members to participate actively in this work of the local congregations of the church.
4. To support other bodies of the church such as the Tract Mission in its publicity of the church and its ministry;
5. To encourage and develop in the hearts and minds the highest type of Christian vocation in the home in the church, the community, and the government.

**Achievement against Plan**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Objectives | Planned Annual Activities/Outcomes | Achievement of Annual Activities/Outcomes |
| 1. To assist in promoting a passion for studying the Bible and growing Christian knowledge to assist the church and its members. | State Branches hold annual conferences to discuss business and partake in Bible study with a guest speaker | Branches in each state meet regularly and have bible study during their meetings. |
| 1. To encourage lay-members to participate actively in this work |  | Member numbers are decreasing in some branches. |
| 1. To support other bodies of the church. | Annual contributions | The LMA has supported several church bodies |
| 1. To encourage and develop in the hearts and minds the highest type of Christian vocation in the home, in the church, in the community and in the government. |  | The LMA has encouraged members to promote Christian principles in the community and government |
| 1. To solicit, receive and accept monetary contributions, loans, legacies and assistance for the purpose of aiding the church. |  | The LMA has received donations from members and has financially supported several church and Christian organisations. |
| 1. To conduct the financial affairs of the auxiliary for the sole benefit of the church. | LMA has a planned budget but with waning members is finding it difficult to maintain | The financial affairs have been handled by a diligent treasurer who has the accounts audited. |

**Successes**

The successes of our auxiliary is that we oversee the state branches and their mission support and have contributed financially to the graduating pastors each year, Lutheran Media Ministry and Trans World Radio overseas mission.

**Challenges and Lessons Learned**

Our main challenge is to maintain our leadership role and fill our own offices in an environment of ageing members.

**Risks**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Description of risk | Likelihood of risk occurring and potential impact for the ministry and LCA | Summary of action to mitigate the risk |
| The main risk of the LMA is the aging membership which is not being replaced by younger men. | The likelihood of this auxiliary remaining viable is in doubt. | Branches try to promote their aims and activities. One state auxiliary is having a camp for younger men |
| Governance these days is becoming quite a burden and does little to encourage new members. |  | This seems to be a legislated requirement and not much can be done about it. |

**Alignment to LCA Strategic Direction 2013–2018**

The Mission Statement of the LMA states that the Mission of Lutheran Men of Australia exists as an Auxiliary of the Lutheran Church of Australia as such it submits itself in all things to the spiritual oversight of the church.

**Cooperating LCA Boards and Agencies**

The only LCA agency we have dealt with is the ALC when we meet with the graduating pastors and present them with their gift vouchers. The College has been most cooperative and we hope that relationship can be maintained.

**FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Alignment to LCA Strategic Priorities** | **2017** | **2016** | **2015** |
| **Expenditure** |  |  |  |
| 1 Growing as God’s People | 3,507 | 2,433 | 2,342 |
| 2 Going as God’s People | 3,507 | 2,433 | 2,342 |
| 3 Enable us to Go & Grow | 3,507 | 2,433 | 2,342 |
| **Total** | 10,552 | 7,300 | 7,028 |

**STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS**

**MARCH 2015 – MARCH 2018**

Opening Balance - 8,168

Add Receipts

Membership Donations SA 680

Vic 785 1,465

Projects SA 13,741

Vic 5,487

QLD 92 19,321

LLL Interest 631

TWR 100

**Total Receipts 29,685**

Less Payments

Men for Ministry 12,750

Lutheran Media Ministry 9,000

Trans World Radio 3,100

**Total Payments 24,850**

**Credit Balance $4,835**

**LUTHERAN MEN OF AUSTRALIA – MEN FOR MINISTRY TRUST FUND**

**Opening Balance 21,771**

Add Receipts:

Donations 40

LLL Interest 1,988

Total receipts 2,028

**Credit Balance** - **$23,799**

**Lutheran Men of Australia - R E G Account**

**Credit Balance 128**

Donations 961

LLL Interest 28

Total Receipts 989

**Credit Balance $1117**