



LUTHERAN CHURCH
OF AUSTRALIA
where love comes to life

BOOK OF REPORTS

SAFE IN GOD'S HANDS



For I, the Lord your God, hold your right hand; it is I who say to you,
'Fear not, I am the one who helps you.'

Isaiah 41:13

49th Regular Convention of the LCA WA District Synod

St John's Lutheran Church, Esperance
26-28 February 2021

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Timetable*

Convention Guests

FRIDAY 26 FEBRUARY

6pm	Worship
7pm	Fellowship Meal

SATURDAY 27 FEBRUARY

8am	Registration
9am	Opening Worship
9:45am	Session 1
10:30am	Morning Tea
11:15am	Session 2
12:30pm	Lunch
1:30pm	Session 3
3pm	Afternoon Tea
3:30pm	Session 4
5pm	Close
6.45pm	Dinner
	Esperance Deep Sea
	Angling Club
	99 Daw Dr, Bandy Creek
	(Drinks from 6pm)

SUNDAY 28 FEBRUARY

10am	Worship with Holy Communion
11:45am	Session 4
12:45pm	Lunch
1:45pm	Session 5
3pm	Closing Service

Due to uncertainty regarding the possibility of travel as a result of COVID19, we are unable to provide a clear indication of guests to our Convention of Synod at the time of publishing these reports.

It is possible that some LCA Church Wide Office guests and presenters will join us online.

**Timetable subject to change due to COVID19 adjustment as necessary. Delegates will be advised.*

Proposals

Proposal 1 - Two Year Synodical Term

Submitted by WA District Church Council

Proposal to Amend the Constitution - LCA WA District Inc.

Whereas mandatory changes for Incorporated bodies within the State of Western Australia (The WA Inc. Act 2015) require not for profit organisations to hold their General Meeting on an Annual basis (AGM), and the LCAWA District, is a not for profit organisation as defined within this Act, and further

Whereas the LCAWA District has traditionally held its Synodical Conventions on a biennial basis (every two years), and wish to continue this tradition, it is proposed that the LCAWA District Inc. Constitution be changed to reflect past practice and tradition.

It is therefore proposed to amend Article 7, ss 7.1 of the Constitution for Convention of Synod to be held biennially with the Annual General Meeting held annually in compliance with the Act.

Article 7, rule 7.7 of the current Constitution states:

The length of the synodical term shall be one [1] year or such other period as may from time to time be prescribed.

PROPOSAL: It is therefore proposed Article 7 SYNOD, rule 7.7 be amended as follows:

The length of the synodical term shall be two [2] years or such other period as may from time to time be prescribed, with an AGM held annually in accord with State legislation.

Moved:

Seconded:

By LCA WA District Church Council

Meeting Date: 27 January 2021.

**ARTICLE 12. ALTERATIONS TO THE CONSTITUTION AND OTHER MATTERS
REQUIRING A SPECIAL RESOLUTION**

12.1 A special resolution is required if it is proposed that the Convention do any of the following:

12.1.1 to amend, alter, add to or repeal its Constitution, including changing the name of the District, except as hereinafter provided in the following clause 12.5; or

12.1.2 to approve the terms of an amalgamation with one or more other incorporated associations; or

12.1.3 to be wound up voluntarily; or

12.1.4 to cancel its incorporation.

12.2 A special resolution is only passed if it is passed

12.2.1 at a general meeting of the Convention; and

12.2.2 by the votes of not less than three-quarters [3/4] of the voting members of the Convention who cast a vote at the meeting.

12.3 Notice of the proposed amendment, alteration, addition or repeal shall be presented in writing and shall be read to the Convention at a duly called meeting of the Convention held at least fourteen [14] days earlier or be published to the Convention on the Agenda at least three [3] weeks before the date of the holding of the Convention.

12.4 In addition to any other requirement of this Constitution and of the Act, the quorum for a meeting held to consider a special resolution shall be one-quarter [1/4] of the members entitled to vote and the result of such a ballot shall be recorded in the minutes.

12.5 Notwithstanding anything else in this Constitution, Article 2. and clause 12.5 of this Constitution shall be considered fundamental and shall not be amended, altered, added to or repealed so as to alter their intent and meaning.

Proposal 2 – Special Resolution

Submitted by WA District Church Council

SPECIAL RESOLUTION:

Proposal to amend the Constitution of the LCA WA District Inc. Constitution relating to the **Nominations Committee(s)**.

Whereas, the LCA WA District is small in number, and is challenged to meet the people resources recommended by the model constitution of the LCA, and

Whereas, the current constitution of the LCA WA District requires the pastors of the District to form one Nominations Committee for the purpose of seeking nominations for the position of District Bishop and District Assistant Bishop (7.15.1), and a second Nominations Committee to seek and receive nominations for the District Council and other standing committees (8.14), therefore

It is hereby proposed that we amend our Constitution and have only one Nominations Committee, to seek and receive nominations for the position of District Bishop, District Assistant Bishop and all other committees of the District.

MOTION - DCC

The following changes and additions are proposed for the constitution of the LCA WA District Inc.

1) In Article 1, NAME AND INTERPRETATION, insert the following definitions

1.2.12 'nominations committee' means the appointed committee of the District who will seek and receive eligible and willing names of candidates to fill positions of the various committees of the District.

2) Section 7.15 Nominations currently exists as follows;

7.15 Nominations

The method of nominating the Bishop and thereafter in their order the Assistant Bishops of the District shall be as follows:

Current Constitution states

7.15.1 A Nominations Committee consisting of three [3] pastors shall be appointed by the Pastors' Conference Program Committee not less than six [6] months prior to the convention of the Synod at which the election for the office of Bishop falls due.

Proposed change

7.15.1 The Nominations Committee appointed by the WA District must convene not less than six [6] months prior to the convention of the Synod at which the election for the office of Bishop falls due.

3) Section 8.14 Nominations, currently exists as follows;

8.14 Committee on Nominations

The election of officers and committees shall be undertaken in the following manner:

Current Constitution states

8.14.1 The District shall appoint a Nominations Committee which shall consist of three [3] voting members of member congregations who shall serve for a three [3] year term.

Proposed change 8.14.1 The District shall appoint a Nominations Committee which shall consist of two [2] lay members and one [1] pastor from the WA District, who shall serve for two [2] year term.

Moved:

Seconded:

By LCA WA District Church Council

Meeting Date: 27 January 2021.

Bishop's Report – Pastor Mike Fulwood

Pastor Mike continued in his role of Bishop LCA WA District (0.5 FTE) during the last term having been re-elected at the 2019 Convention of Synod held at Bethlehem Morley. Pastor Mike also continued his service in a locum role (0.5 FTE) to St Luke's Lutheran Church, Parkwood.

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

Our last Synod theme (2019 Morley) was "Certain in Christ, Bold in Action". My closing words were to invite God to "bring it on". Little did we realise how we would be forced to embrace this theme.

The last year has been marked by disruption. COVID19 invaded our lives almost immediately following the 2020 Mission and Ministry Conference. Within a week or so of gathering as a District we entered a lockdown in which our churches and schools were shut, and our regular patterns were turned upside down.

In the words of Dorothy from the Wizard of Oz, "Toto, I've a feeling we're not in Kansas anymore."

COVID brought with it a variety of things. Firstly there was change, disorientation and challenge. Then there was a time of experimentation, resilience and renewal. Later there was a feeling of tiredness. COVID has certainly been a long journey and that's true even in WA where the impact has been relatively small compared with the rest of Australia and the world.

Certainly it has been different and we are still coming to terms with how different.

Dorothy eventually made it back to Kansas because that's what always happens in Hollywood stories from the 60s. However, it is likely that we will never return to the post COVID world and it is not certain what the new will look like.

We are perhaps in the space which author Jeff Manion called "the land between".¹ His reflection was that God's people are often caught between a place they have been called to leave and a place that has been promised to them. There is often a "wilderness journey" where we experience many of the things that God's people experienced as they made their way from what was before (Egypt) to what was ahead (the promised land).

The Exodus presented many challenges and many temptations. It was a time in which the Israelites were more immediately reliant on God than any other and the wilderness was a place in which their faith was shown to be subject to all imperfections. It was a refining time and a redefining time.

In the light of this we are well served to avoid thinking of this time as "unprecedented". Rather we are facing the same temptations that have always come to human beings and have the same promises from God that believers have always relied upon so let's press into those truths.

¹ "The Land Between" – Finding God in Difficult Transitions by Jeff Manion Zondervan (2010)
LCAWA District Convention of Synod - Book of Reports 2021

I am encouraged to be able to report to you that our congregational and District leaders, our pastors, teachers, lay workers and school staff have been resilient and committed. They quickly adapted to the needs of a new reality and worked strongly together to continue to serve our communities during this time.

It was an excellent time of sharing resources and multiplying our impact. New technologies were discovered and different ways of doing things were explored. There are numerous discoveries that will persist into the future and we have found some ways of working smarter not harder.

The long-term effects of our experience are yet to be seen. It is still not clear what impact COVID has had on our communities of faith. Some people have not yet returned to worship and some people have found faith in the crisis. What the new landscape will look like is yet to be revealed and is impossible to predict.

Perhaps that's the greatest lesson of all in this time – we are so little in control of anything. Thanks to all those who have stepped up in this time, thanks for your resilience and adaptability, your care and support for others, your willingness to share your gifts with others.

It is usual in these reports to mention some statistics. This year they seem meaningless. Whatever numbers we might produce (and can we even produce them at this time?) will be a comparison against a very different reality.

Financially it seems that our District and our congregations did not fare too badly through the early part of the current pandemic. There were fears that we would suffer due because our regular income through offerings would be curtailed. However many people embraced online giving and Regular Electronic Giving (REG) as alternative ways to give and support for ministry actually grew in some places. The Jobkeeper support program initiated by the Federal Government and WA State Government initiatives to support utility costs flowed to many of our churches and this helped congregations to maintain support for our church workers. What seemed to be under threat when lockdown was first announced has not eventuated. Some churches have recognised the need to make sure that government grants are not simply squirrelled away for another rainy day. The government's plan was that payments would stimulate the economy and some churches have looked for ways to spend these gifts in ways that help them to keep people in work. I commend this approach where it is possible.

In my role as Bishop, along with the support of the DCC it has been important to keep up a flow of information. We have tried as best we can to keep local churches informed of changes to COVID regulations and to help you navigate your way through the complex requirements of SafeWA, Jobkeeper, attendance limitations and other regulations.

Special thanks to the teams at Rockingham Mandurah and Concordia Duncraig who led the way in livestreaming in our District and were willing to share their efforts far and wide. It was good to have some local content in this arena. Once again this was a good example of what is possible when we cooperate in ministry.

My hope is that this experience will set the platform for much broader cooperation across our District into the future. We are so much stronger and better together than we are in isolation.

What can we take from the experience of the last year?

We have learned to be flexible. Though it is not the nature of our churches to adapt quickly we have discovered that we could do it when needed. It took a pandemic to create the conditions whereby we could see this.

I pray that we do not simply fall back into old habits because I recall that the Israelites, having been rescued by God, continued to long for the settled and familiar life of Egypt. That might well be our temptation too. We might easily wish we could go back to how things were pre-COVID.

The reality is that despite how the Israelites remembered the old days the reality was that things were not so good back in Egypt.

Familiar? Yes. Predictable? Yes. But Egypt was also a place of slavery and death.

God called his people out of Egypt and where the Lord led he also promised that he would go with them. In fact, God's daily presence and power was nowhere more obvious than when his people inhabited the "land in-between".

May we rely continually on God as we continue our journey as pilgrim people.

In Christ's service

Pastor Mike Fulwood

Bishop LCA WA District.

Faith for the Future

2020 was a year of mixed blessings for the *Faith for the Future* project and the St Johns Court development which was really no different than the experiences across the whole of the community. I am writing this report as we are enduring another week of lockdown which I pray is all that it will be.

FFF has a strong vision for Stage 2 of the project which is necessary to enable us to meet our commitment to the WA District of providing substantial funding and a level of financial independence. We have had to deal with some challenges in the last 3-4 years with a significant downturn in the commercial tenancy market after the boom ended which has impacted on our ability to raise finance and get Stage 2 started.

Independent from COVID, we lost a major tenant midway through 2020 due to the expiry of the Lease and we also had to provide substantial COVID rent- and outgoings-waivers to our remaining tenants, which resulted in a reduction of \$120,000 in our income from the tenancies. The time involved in negotiating our way through all of this was also significant. The empty tenancy also resulted in us having to cover an additional portion of the building outgoings expenses including a drastic increase in insurance costs. The net income received from St Johns Court was just sufficient for us to cover our repayment obligations towards our loan from Lutheran Homes WA (2020YE balance \$1,16M). However, due to the eventual (and expected) lower income, we provisionally suspended all payments towards our LLL loan (2020YE balance \$408k) and also suspended our advance profit share to the WA District.

On the brighter side, we are fortunate in that we are in a prime location, particularly in regard to education and proximity to the Central Institute of Technology. It is an attractive location for business that services learning. We are currently in the process of finalising the replacement of a tenant for the remaining vacant space although at a lower rent than previously. The tenant is expected to commence during February. Competitive market conditions with an excess of supply of commercial tenancies has meant that rent is also impacted by incentives such as 'rent-free' periods.

For sometime now we have been considering an opportunity which would enable us to proceed with Stage 2 in about two years although this has been muddled by the pandemic. Whilst a very positive opportunity for the project, we still have a while to go before we can see such a plan come to fruition.

Amongst other things, we still need to raise significant funds and we encourage you to consider whether you are able to personally support the project in the way of donations or a bequest. *Faith for the Future* is a WA District project and I can only reiterate that it will ultimately result in a level of financial independence for WA not previously experienced and with all the possibilities this offers to strengthen the broader Church in WA.

I wish to again thank your FFF committee of Alexandra Naisbitt, Terry Sellner, Noel Reid and Dean Solmundson for their unswerving devotion to this task... we are getting older though and some young blood would be good if you feel you would like to make a contribution to what is a District project. We are all uplifted by the support and encouragement we receive from our Church Family.

Yours in Christ

Mike Graebner
Chairperson

Lutheran Homes Foundation (WA) Inc.

LHFWA has been blessed by a stable Committee of Management since the previous WA District Convention in 2019, with the following committee members re-appointed at its Annual General Meetings on 31 March 2019 and 13 December 2020 (later than usual due to the COVID-19 pandemic).

- Chairperson: Mark Altus
- Treasurer: Simone Micke
- Secretary: Janny Thomas
- Member: Bill Mansas
- Member: Wally Chrulew
- Member: Roslyn Zadow

Sadly, we needed to say farewell to Pastor Matt Bishop as both committee member and Spiritual Advisor at our 13 December 2020 AGM, with a vote of deep appreciation and gratitude being passed for his outstanding service. However, we were also delighted to be able to appoint Pastor Steve Liersch in his place.

2019 included a strong focus on financial governance, driven primarily by the reduction in market interest rates to historic lows - even pre COVID-19. This had large consequences for LHFWA as its major asset and source of income is its loan to St Johns Perth for the Faith for the Future (FFF) project, with the interest rate on the loan originally pegged to the LLL savings rate (i.e. to the LLL deposit rather than lending rate).

In this regard we were grateful when St Johns Perth agreed to a request by LHFWA in June 2019 to fix the loan interest rate at no less than 2.25% (the LLL savings rate at that time). If still pegged solely to the LLL savings rate, the interest rate payable on the loan would since have fallen to 0.25% (from 1 January 2021). The loan rate of 2.25% now aligns more closely with the new LLL lending rate of 2.4% (also from 1 January 2021).

LHFWA's major beneficiary over the last two years nonetheless continued to be the FFF Project. On the original loan balance of \$1.2 million the interest rate of 2.25% represented an annual cost saving to the project of \$33,000, relative to the LLL lending rate of 5% that applied until 31 December 2019. The savings for the project were still significant in 2020, even though the benchmark rate (i.e. LLL lending rate) had dropped to 3.15% by 1 April 2020.

The interest income on the loan to St Johns and on cash balances also enables LHFWA to make grants in accordance with its objects, which include: "... provision of assistance for elderly or disadvantaged people of both sexes and of any religious persuasion who are in necessitous circumstances" and "Assist organisations or individuals in the relief of poverty, distress or misfortune". During 2019 and 2020 the Committee approved grants to:

- the ALWS Walk My Way GRACE (Give Refugees a Chance with Education) campaign, by way of sponsorships of Western Australian participants (totaling \$2,600);
- Bethlehem Morley Community Care, including grants for each of its emergency relief, high school breakfast club and professional counselling programs (totaling \$3,000);
- families of victims of the Christchurch mosque massacre, by way of a donation to the LCNZ fund set up to help support the families (\$1,000);

- the St Johns Perth Emergency Fund (\$2,000);
- the LCA International Mission appeal for Indonesian Lutheran teachers impacted by COVID-19 school closures (\$1,500);
- Lutheran Youth WA, to be used for further subsidising the cost of camp fees for children or youth (\$1,500);
- the Balga Salvation Army Corp's 'Just Brass' music teaching program (\$3,000); and
- The St Bart's 2020 Christmas appeal in Western Australia (\$1,000).

LHFWA's total assets at end December 2020 stood at \$1.35 million, compared to its foundational assets at end April 2016 of \$1.267 million - comprising of loan principal (\$1.16 million at end December 2020), capitalised interest (now fully repaid by St Johns) and cash (\$0.19 million at end December 2020). This is consistent with the Committee's objective of maintaining the value of LHFWA's assets in 'real' terms (i.e. inflation-adjusted).

LHFWA is blessed to have Keith Kowald as auditor. Although LHFWA's relatively small size means there is no legal requirement for its books to be audited, the Committee considers an audit at least every third year (covering each preceding year) to be good practice. Looking ahead, a key basis for LHFWA considering grants will continue to be an annual invitation to each LCA WA District congregation to apply for funding for initiatives that fall within LHFWA's objects (currently issued in June). However, in view of only limited responses to date, the Committee will also continue to consider more targeted invitations and discretionary donations, especially for eligible purposes in Western Australia.

LHFWA will also need to consider alternative investment options as loan principal is gradually repaid by St Johns Perth, with very little interest now earned on LHFWA's cash assets. Under the loan agreement, St Johns Perth is currently required to repay the whole of the loan by June 2024 (or such later date as notified by LHFWA to St Johns). However, it is expected that St Johns will seek a significant extension to the loan term.

The Committee's plans also include potentially establishing a dedicated LHFWA website. Additionally, we are very conscious of the need for Committee succession planning.

I again take this opportunity to thank each of the LHFWA Committee of Management members for their dedication of time and considerable God-given talents to their roles.

Mark Altus | Chairperson
E: mark.altus@live.com.au



LUTHERAN HOMES FOUNDATION
(WA) INCORPORATED

Lutheran Women of Western Australia

I start this report with a Bible verse I believe has reflected the past year. Proverbs 16:9 "In their hearts humans plan their course, but the Lord establishes their steps".

The Lutheran Women of Western Australia celebrated their 50th (Golden) Anniversary in May 2019. The day was a true celebration of what these Ladies have achieved in those 50 years. Pastor Matt Bishop and Morley congregation hosted this special day. We extend our thanks to all who helped make it so memorable. Thirty five Ladies (and some partners) from other states attended to help with the celebrations. Guest speakers were from South Australia, Alice Springs and Western Australia.

Now back to the verse, The LWWA had been planning, with Our Spiritual Advisor, Pastor Glenn Crouch, Secretary Karen Crouch and the Executive Committee to hold the 2020 Convention in May at Kalgoorlie but as we now all know COVID-19 changed the Human plans. Convention was put on hold later to be cancelled.

The Lord established another way for the ladies to meet and study God's word, thanks to Pastor Glenn and Karen a Zoom Bible study group was formed which met each Friday morning, this just went to show that neither COVID-19 nor the vast distances of Western Australia could stop the Ladies from reaching out to each other to study God's word. This proved to be such a blessing for Ladies in isolation across our state.

Fellowship Day had to be rearranged from the usual August date to October 31st, this then coincided with Reformation Day, what a good day to celebrate with Ladies from all over the state coming together at Rockingham Church thanks to Pastor Steve Liersch and congregation. Bishop Mike Fulwood opened the day with "Acknowledgement to Country " and a brief explanation on the Lutheran Church of Australia Reconciliation Action Plan, Pastor Glenn lead an inspiring Bible Study ,hymns were sung, in memory of two Ladies who have been called home to God.

Pastor Matt was guest speaker, he spoke on the life of Martin Luther's wife Katherine, what a life with some profoundly sad times which she always rose above to do some amazing work. It was a great privilege to learn about her. Ladies received a white rose tied with red, yellow, blue and black ribbons Luther's Rose.

May 2021 Convention is now being planned to be held in Kalgoorlie, details will be forthcoming.

Debbie Dreckow and I attended the 'mid term' meeting of the LWA via zoom from Melbourne last October, plans are well under way for the LWA Convention to be held in Horsham, Victoria in September 2021. All details are slowly coming out at present.

Thank you to all who have helped past and present with the planning of these events. We can't do anything without your help.

Our hearts are planning the coming events but the Lord will establish our steps.

God bless

Ronda Hahn

President Lutheran Women of Western Australia

My apologies for the brevity of this report – I will expand on it further when we meet for LCAWA Synod in Esperance. I write this report from my parent's house, where my husband Mike, our three kids and I are currently staying, after having to break COVID-19 Lockdown to evacuate our home, during the bushfires in the Perth Hills.

2019 was much the same for LYWA, with our usual camps/events taking place (Jan Camp, Dads & Kids Camp, YAC, and a Leadership Day).

As we all know, 2020 was a very different year! After successfully holding Jan Camp 2020, things changed dramatically, with COVID-19 having a massive effect on LYWA's ability to minister to the young people of the LCAWA district. After much discussion and many changes to COVID-19 guidelines, LYWA decided to hold Dads & Kids Camp 2020, as at 'At Home' experience for families, while YAC 2020 was held as an 'Online' camp for young people. Obviously these events were significantly different to the usual format, but were still valuable and provided an opportunity for LYWA's ministry to continue.

Maria Price has continued in the role of LYWA Ministry Worker and is an invaluable asset to both the LYWA Management Committee and also members of the leadership team.

The LYWA Management Committee has also been working to introduce a new paid casual role (known as the LYWA Camp Facilitator), to further support LYWA's camping ministry. This is an ongoing process, but we hope to be able to advertise and fill this role in the coming months.

LYWA's Young Adult ministry was halted somewhat in 2020, due to COVID-19 restrictions. The Young Adults Bible Study continued throughout the year, using an online platform. This was led by Pastor Matt Bishop (who has now taken a call to South Australia), so it is uncertain as to whether this group will continue to meet in 2021. There are still plans to hold a Young Adults camp, but it has been difficult to make specific plans, due to the COVID-19 guidelines continually changing.

A review took place in 2020, regarding the support that congregations are able to provide for LYWA camps. Currently, each congregation takes turns on a roster, to provide support for a specific camp, either through donations, releasing their Pastor to attend or providing kitchen helpers, depending on the size of their congregation and their circumstances. The overwhelming response was that congregations are happy to continue with the support they are currently offering. As such, a new roster will be drawn up and released at Synod.

LYWA has continued to be blessed by very generous financial support. The LLL Australia has provided a significant amount of funding, for a three year period, to all youth camping ministries across the LCA. This funding has been provided specifically to support and further the capabilities of the current camping ministries, to encourage new campers to engage with the camping ministries and to financially support families, to be able to send their children to camps.

LYWA was also very fortunate to receive a grant from the Lutheran Homes Foundation, to further support families in being able to send their children to camps.

LYWA would like to thank Pastor André Meyer (St John's Perth) for his continued commitment to LYWA and for all the time and effort he puts in to being the LYWA Pastor.

We would also like to thank our District for its continued support – we appreciate your prayers and the generosity and commitment that congregations continually show to our ministry.

Serica Yurisich

Director – LYWA Management Committee

Professional Standards Officer

Grace, mercy, and peace in Christ to all.

Please accept my written report to update and inform the WA District Lutheran Church of Australia and New Zealand (LCANZ) of the activities/work/duties conducted by Bill Mansas, the WA Professional Standards Officer (PSO) for WA District of the LCANZ.

Significant Events

The events of 2020 were significantly curtailed due to the Covid-19 pandemic sweeping the world. I can advise that during this period and to date I have been extremely well supported by the Professional Standards Department (PSD) of the LCANZ, and Australian Lutheran College (ALC).

2020 started off early with a Level 1, Safe Church Training (SCT) Workshop held at the Bethlehem Morley Church on 22nd January 2020. We had a total of 9 x participants - 7 x BMLCA members, 1 x St Luke's, Parkwood member, and 1 x Concordia, Duncraig member.

Numbers at this and previous workshops were relatively small.

However, I have no issues presenting to small groups, as I believe if people are willing and able to commit to attending SCT workshops, even in small numbers, then I am more than willing to present to them.

Then in March came Covid-19, and self-isolation (ISO), that in comparison with the rest of the country lasted for a relatively short time in WA, but still had the effect of halting further presentations of face-to-face (F2F) SCT workshops.

The PSD, in partnership with the ALC, had already been developing a shorter "Refresher" version of training for those who had completed full SCT in the last 3 years. This was a computer-based "iLearn" version of the SCT that could be accessed by members of the LCANZ throughout Australia and New Zealand. Attention was diverted to making the full SCT available online, thereby providing the opportunity of keeping training up to date whilst the many versions of the ISO rolled on.

ALC and PSD staff collaboration led to many improvements in SCT for both the iLearn and the F2F workshop versions. The training and resources, such as the Workshop Resource Pack (WRP), were updated resulting in better alignment with the Team Member Guide. This took some time and involved many hours work by ALC staff, with input from all the PSO's around Australia. Once the iLearn SCT was formalised and accepted by the PSD it was rolled out for all congregational leadership to participate.

With the same care and precision, once iLearn SCT was up and running, the SCT Refresher training was also eventually rolled out.

The training is now an evolving fluid system that must respond to an ever-changing world.

Many West Australian participants have taken up the challenge of completing full iLearn SCT and the iLearn SCT Refresher. The Refresher has allowed members to remain up to date without having to complete the full SCT again.

I must re-iterate that the iLearn SCT does not replace the F2F SCT workshops but has been developed primarily for members of congregations that are unable to attend SCT workshops. It has been a blessing to have this available during the COVID pandemic.

The statistics for 2020 were:

	F2F Workshop	Full - iLearn		Refresher - iLearn	
<i>Registered</i>		27	100%	16	100%
<i>Cancelled</i>		1	4%	0	0%
<i>Incomplete</i>		16	59%	6	38%
Total complete:	9	10	37%	10	63%

Feedback

<i>Highly valuable</i>	33%	31%	10%
<i>Mostly valuable</i>	33%		10%
<i>Limited value</i>		8%	
<i>Limited value</i>			
<i>Not rated/recorded</i>	33%	62%*	80%*

* Feedback ratings not initially recorded in iLearn

Challenges

I perceive that currently the greatest challenge facing WA and the PSD is the role of the PSO in WA as a part time one day a week position (7.5hrs)

This was highlighted further with the development of the iLearn SCT, which involved learning and developing new administration systems/policies for the iLearn programme.

Unfortunately, I was unexpectedly struck down with several medical issues that caused me to take several months of Sick Leave. This created a backlog of work that caused a bit of stress for both me, the PSD, and the District.

Proposed Workshops

It is important for our Church to remain informed of the impact of Royal Commissions on our organisation, changes to legislation, how we are responding to community expectations, and changes to Church policies and procedures. As we work through those things, we are reminded to reflect God's love in all we say and do. I have previously contacted several congregations requesting expressions of interest in holding Level 1 SCT training however, have not received any responses. I will also be endeavouring to speak to delegates at the Synod to lock in SCT workshops.

Closing

I continue having regular online meetings with Tim Ross, manager of the PSD, and participating in online meetings with members and friends of PSD.

I am looking forward meeting up with members of the WA District at workshops.

Safe Church Training (SCT) in all its forms looks at our moral, ethical, and legal duties of care from a spiritual perspective. I am part of a team, dedicated to supporting you in ensuring our people, programs and places are safe. Please walk with the PSD in the journey of improving our behaviour for the sake of the Gospel.

Yours in Christ,

W.(Bill) Mansas

Professional Standards Officer, PO BOX 158, Morley WA 6943

Treasurer's Report

2020, an interesting year for District finances – With the introduction of Covid-19 restrictions in March, it was great to be able to join with LCA District Administrators in many meetings exploring the financial implications. The District Administrators were a great support in understanding the generous Australian government grant programs introduced to assist employers.

Government Grants – The District received:

- \$ 20,000 Cash flow Boost grants, of which \$10,000 was forwarded to St Luke's Parkwood as they share the funding the of the Bishop/Locum salary.
- \$ 39,000 Jobkeeper grants for the quarters April-June and July-September.

Of the \$ 39,000 Jobkeeper grants:

- \$ 9,750 (50% of one employee benefit) effectively went to Parkwood by way of reduced contributions for the Locum salary.
- \$ 13,800 in salary top-up passed on to employees as required.

The net balance of these grants, namely:

- \$25,250, has enabled the District to meet salary expenses without the need to drawdown on our grants and reserves as originally planned.

Budget Contributions – We continue to phase-in a proportional model where congregation contributions are based on the number of their communing members over age 18. As we also wish to limit increases requested of congregations, this phase-in process will take several more years.

Congregations were offered the option to reduce their contributions in light of the impact that Covid-19 restrictions may have. This resulted in:

- \$ 4,552 reductions by congregations taking up this offer.
- \$ 10,000 reduction in the planned Faith For the Future contribution.

We praise God for the generous congregation contributions to District and, in turn, to the LCA. The District forwarded the budgeted contribution of:

- \$ 49,000 to the LCA.

Fundraising - The Bishop's Reserve wine fundraiser in partnership with Olive Farm Wines was run for the third time in 2020. We thank Olive Farm Wines and the Yurisich family for their generous support. The 2020 Bishop's Reserve fundraiser will provide:

- \$ 5,000 donation from Olive Farm Wines (not yet recorded in the accounts).

We thank Michael Yurisich and Fred Kroeger for the time and effort they put in to managing this fundraiser. Michael and Fred have also offered to run this fundraiser more than once per year and we thank them for this initiative. We encourage congregations to continue to support this fundraiser.

Grants Received – The Lutheran Laypeople's League (LLL) generously supports the work of the LCA. Grant received during 2020:

- \$ 7,000 LLL Camping Ministry Grant. This is the second grant which has been offered for 3 years.

Grants Forwarded – Of grants received by the District, the following were forwarded during 2020:

- \$ 7,000 LLL Camping Ministry Grant for 2019 forwarded to LYWA.
- \$ 7,000 LLL Camping Ministry Grant for 2020 forwarded to LYWA.
- \$ 5,000 LLL Mission Resources Grant forwarded to Concordia Duncraig for their Worship Service Streaming facilities.
- \$ 5,000 LLL Mission Resources Grant forwarded to Rockingham/Mandurah for their Chapel Technology Upgrade.

Note that:

- \$29,195 balance of LLL Mission Resources Grants are held by the District – applications from congregations for grants of up to \$5,000 are welcome at any time.

Grants Approved – LLL Mission Outreach Grants (formally LLL Mission Stimulus Grants) are administered directly by the LLL after District approval:

- \$ 25,000 LLL Mission Outreach Grant for 2020 approved to support the Mission Facilitator role for their SENT Sending Church initiative.
- \$ 10,000 LLL Mission Stimulus Grant approved in 2019 and paid over 2 years, 2019 and 2020, to fund the GROW Ministries coaching program being run by the LCA for WA congregations.

Note that the LLL still offers:

- \$ 22,000 balance of these grants not used in previous years
- \$ 25,000 grant for WA in 2021
- \$ 25,000 grant for WA in 2022

Applications from congregations for these grants of up to \$25,000 are welcome at any time.

Synod Offering – in 2019, the Synod offering was forwarded via LCA International Mission as follows:

- \$769.60 to Mick Hauser
- \$769.60 to Hanna Schulz

Staffing – The paid roles are:

- District Bishop (0.5 FTE)
- Admin Support (casual)
- LYWA Ministry Coordinator (0.2 FTE)
- LYWA Camp Facilitator (casual), this role was introduced in 2020

Grants that we received previously for paid positions did not need to be drawn down in 2020 due to the Australian Government grants received.

The LYWA Camp Facilitator role was funded from the \$2,000 per year that the District allocates to LYWA and the reserves held for LYWA (the LYWA Operating Account).

Development Fund – This fund has been used to provide:

- \$20,000 loan in December 2019 to Katanning/Narrogin parish to assist with the purchase of their manse property which was originally crown land. This loan was repaid by July 2020.

Morawa Property – The Morawa manse is providing rental income to this account. We thank Paul Offszanka for assisting with these properties and tending to any maintenance required.

As the District has no foreseeable need to retain the Morawa church and manse properties, these have now been offered for sale. The Morawa church was originally sited on a crown land reserve, but this property has now been purchased, the total cost being:

- \$ 9,917 (land valuation price \$ 7,000, plus costs).

Account Balances

	Opening Balance 1/1/2020	Closing Balance 31/12/2020	Surplus / (Deficit)
Grant Funds			
Admin Support	16,766.87	16,766.87	-
Bishop Support	35,350.00	35,350.00	-
LYWA Camping Ministry	7,000.00	-	(7,000.00)
Operating Accounts			
General Funds	14,880.99	16,432.81	1,551.82
Fundraising	8,134.75	-	(8,134.75)
LYWA	4,647.95	4,107.28	(540.67)
Mission & Ministry	3,506.26	2,764.74	(741.52)
Morawa Property	8,181.08	6,384.89	(1,796.19)
Office Equipment	2,972.90	2,778.18	(194.72)
Pastors InService	13,195.97	10,549.82	(2,646.15)
Professional Standards	5,921.53	5,936.03	14.50
Payroll Liabilities			
LSL Liability	2,921.52	3,204.52	283.00
Special Funds			
2020 Fund	38,891.81	38,891.81	-
Development Fund	9,879.29	29,879.29	20,000.00
General Synod Travel	6,761.97	8,661.97	1,900.00
Lay Development & Training	37,918.43	37,144.52	(773.91)
LCA Mission Resources	39,195.71	29,195.71	(10,000.00)
LCA Transfer & Support Fund	55,102.02	55,102.02	-
Legacies			
Balde Legacy	20,000.00	-	(20,000.00)
Dudas Legacy	5,000.00	5,000.00	-
Ewart Legacy	10,000.00	10,000.00	-
Norvilas Legacy	10,000.00	10,000.00	-
Total	356,229.05	328,150.46	(28,078.59)

Financial Statements – The financial statements are presented for 2020 with the comparison with 2019. Since our AGM last year, the reports have been restructured with some changes to the naming and grouping of report lines.

Lutheran Church of Australia WA District Inc
Balance Sheet
As of December 31, 2020

	Dec 31, 20	Dec 31, 19
ASSETS		
Current Assets		
Chequing/Savings		
LLL Account		
**General Funds	16,432.81	14,880.99
Grants		
Admin Support	16,766.87	16,766.87
Bishop	35,350.00	35,350.00
LYWA Camping Ministry	0.00	7,000.00
Total Grants	52,116.87	59,116.87
Operating Accounts		
Fundraising	0.00	8,134.75
LYWA	4,107.28	4,647.95
Mission & Ministry	2,764.74	3,506.26
Morawa Property	6,384.89	8,181.08
Office Equipment	2,778.18	2,972.90
Pastors InService	10,549.82	13,195.97
Professional Standards	5,936.03	5,921.53
Total Operating Accounts	32,520.94	46,560.44
Payroll Liabilities		
LSL Liability	3,204.52	2,921.52
Total Payroll Liabilities	3,204.52	2,921.52
Special Funds		
2020 Fund	38,891.81	38,891.81
Development Fund	29,879.29	9,879.29
General Synod Travel	8,661.97	6,761.97
Lay Development & Training	37,144.52	37,918.43
LCA Transfer & Support Fund	55,102.02	55,102.02
Legacies		
Balde Legacy	0.00	20,000.00
Dudas Legacy	5,000.00	5,000.00
Ewart Legacy	10,000.00	10,000.00
Norvilas Legacy	10,000.00	10,000.00
Total Legacies	25,000.00	45,000.00
LLL Mission Resources	29,195.71	39,195.71
Total Special Funds	223,875.32	232,749.23
Total LLL Account	328,150.46	356,229.05
Total Chequing/Savings	328,150.46	356,229.05
Other Current Assets		
Property Bond, District Manse	1,800.00	1,800.00
Total Other Current Assets	1,800.00	1,800.00
Total Current Assets	329,950.46	358,029.05

Lutheran Church of Australia WA District Inc
Balance Sheet
As of December 31, 2020

	Dec 31, 20	Dec 31, 19
Other Assets		
Loans		
Development Fund		
Katanning/Narrogin - Land 2019	0.00	20,000.00
Total Development Fund	0.00	20,000.00
Total Loans	0.00	20,000.00
Total Other Assets	0.00	20,000.00
TOTAL ASSETS	329,950.46	378,029.05
LIABILITIES	0.00	0.00
NET ASSETS	329,950.46	378,029.05
EQUITY		
Opening Bal Equity	323,759.35	323,759.35
Retained Earnings	54,269.70	30,289.31
Net Income	-48,078.59	23,980.39
TOTAL EQUITY	329,950.46	378,029.05

Lutheran Church of Australia WA District Inc
Income and Expenditure
January through December 2020

	Jan - Dec 20	Jan - Dec 19
Ordinary Income/Expense		
Income		
Budget Contribution		
Albany	1,355.00	2,120.00
Dalyellup	3,770.00	3,600.00
Duncraig	17,684.00	14,767.00
Esperance	6,708.75	6,575.00
Geraldton	2,912.50	0.00
Kalgoorlie	2,180.00	2,145.00
Katanning/Narrogin	3,835.00	5,490.00
Morley	6,475.00	6,200.00
Parkwood	5,554.38	6,000.00
Perth	34,350.00	34,000.00
Perth - Chinese	1,325.00	2,500.00
Perth - Finnish	140.00	530.00
Perth Faith for the Future	0.00	10,000.00
Rockingham/Mandurah	7,855.00	7,500.00
Total Budget Contribution	94,144.63	101,427.00
District Activities Incoming		
District Synod	0.00	2,310.00
District Synod Offerings	0.00	1,539.20
Mission & Ministry Confere...	7,435.00	0.00
Pastors Conference Fees	3,000.00	2,610.00
Total District Activities Incomi...	10,435.00	6,459.20
Gifts and Donations Income		
Donations	1,986.49	2,380.40
Fundraising	0.00	8,200.00
Total Gifts and Donations Inc...	1,986.49	10,580.40
Government Grants		
Cashflow Boost	10,000.00	0.00
JobKeeper	39,000.00	0.00
Total Government Grants	49,000.00	0.00
Interest Income	5,903.24	8,437.86
Reimbursed Expenses		
Congregations	2,116.36	0.00
LCA - WA Bishop Expenses	538.11	0.00
Locum - Parkwood	45,742.37	56,771.01
LYWA	3,099.09	0.00
Relief Ministry	0.00	1,200.00
Total Reimbursed Expenses	51,495.93	57,971.01
Total Income	212,965.29	184,875.47
Gross Profit	212,965.29	184,875.47
Expense		
Auxiliaries Support		
LWWA	0.00	900.00
LYWA	0.00	2,154.19
Total Auxiliaries Support	0.00	3,054.19
Congregation Support		
Katanning-Narrogin	0.00	180.00
Total Congregation Support	0.00	180.00

Lutheran Church of Australia WA District Inc
Income and Expenditure
January through December 2020

	Jan - Dec 20	Jan - Dec 19
District Activities Outgoing		
District Synod	0.00	1,475.00
District Synod Offerings	0.00	1,539.20
M&M Conference	7,983.17	0.00
Pastors Conference	5,201.44	8,981.58
Training & Development	815.36	4,005.27
Total District Activities Outgoing	13,999.97	16,001.05
District Expenses		
Accounting	250.00	500.00
Advertising	526.00	504.00
Bank Charges	10.24	0.00
Fundraising Expenses	0.00	67.14
Gifts and Donations	204.04	45.45
Insurance Office Contents	0.00	44.10
Office	0.00	20.42
Office Supplies	105.56	60.36
Software	1,594.27	521.84
Travel	773.91	0.00
Treasurer	80.29	68.45
Total District Expenses	3,544.31	1,831.76
LCA		
Budget Contribution	49,000.00	48,000.00
Graduate Program	0.00	4,027.26
Pastoral Support Payments	0.00	100.00
Total LCA	49,000.00	52,127.26
Reimbursable Expenses		
Congregations	1,951.36	0.00
LCA	1,401.92	-831.50
LYWA	3,099.09	0.00
Total Reimbursable Expenses	6,452.37	-831.50
Staff		
Admin Support	1,614.68	3,388.87
Bishop	86,489.48	81,124.91
HRS Fees	429.58	384.50
LYWA Camp Facilitator	2,540.67	0.00
LYWA Ministry Coordinator	26,808.05	11,536.94
Workcover	1,735.21	1,103.82
Total Staff	119,617.67	97,539.04
Staff Expenses		
Bishop Comms	1,796.60	1,674.04
Bishop Equipment	1,794.72	0.00
Bishop Expenses	694.14	2,344.84
Bishop Travel	0.00	5,505.85
Manse & Office	23,418.05	23,444.09
Total Staff Expenses	27,703.51	32,968.82
Subscriptions		
Churches Comm. on Educa...	1,588.00	1,522.73
Council of Churches	250.00	150.00
Total Subscriptions	1,838.00	1,672.73

Lutheran Church of Australia WA District Inc
Income and Expenditure
January through December 2020

	Jan - Dec 20	Jan - Dec 19
Sundry		
GST Adjustment	101.21	175.45
GST Rounding	2.15	1.20
Total Sundry	103.36	176.65
Total Expense	222,259.19	204,720.00
Net Ordinary Income	-9,293.90	-19,844.53
Other Income/Expense		
Other Income		
Bequests Received		
Balde Legacy	0.00	20,000.00
Total Bequests Received	0.00	20,000.00
Grants Received		
LLL Camping Ministry Grant	7,000.00	7,000.00
LLL Mission Resources Grant	0.00	20,000.00
Total Grants Received	7,000.00	27,000.00
Property - Incoming		
Morawa	9,360.00	9,674.30
Morawa Asset Sales	1,055.00	0.00
Total Property - Incoming	10,415.00	9,674.30
Total Other Income	17,415.00	56,674.30
Other Expense		
Bequests Outgoing		
Balde Legacy	20,000.00	0.00
Total Bequests Outgoing	20,000.00	0.00
Grants		
Home Mission	0.00	8,000.00
LLL Camping Ministry Grants	14,000.00	0.00
LLL Mission Resources Grants	10,000.00	0.00
Total Grants	24,000.00	8,000.00
Property - Outgoing		
Morawa	2,282.69	4,849.38
Morawa Land Purchase	9,917.00	0.00
Total Property - Outgoing	12,199.69	4,849.38
Total Other Expense	56,199.69	12,849.38
Net Other Income	-38,784.69	43,824.92
Net Income	-48,078.59	23,980.39

Proposed Budget – Overall the budget presented allows for 2 to 3% increases in expenses. Our contribution to the LCA is increased by about 2% each year.

Previously the budget included costs for the 0.5 FTE role of Bishop. In reality, the District is the employer of the whole Bishop/Locum shared role and receives a contribution from the congregation which hosts the locum role. The proposed budget shows the full commitment to this role with the Locum contribution shown as income. This more closely matches what we see in the Income and Expenditure statement.

As we continue to phase-in the proportional model for congregation contributions, we run a deficit budget. This deficit is met by continuing to drawdown on grants previously received for the Bishop and Admin Support role, and the 2020 Fund.

We will continue funds replenishment for General Synod travel and office equipment replacement, but other funds currently have sufficient balances for foreseeable needs.



**LCAWA District
Proposed Budget - July 2021 to June 2022**

EXPENDITURE:

Staff		142,800
Bishop/Locum	120,000	
Admin Support (casual)	4,500	
LYWA Coordinator (0.2)	14,000	
LYWA Camp Facilitator (casual)	2,000	
HRS Fees	500	
Workcover	1,800	
Auxiliaries		900
LWWA	900	
District Activities		2,200
District Synod/Conference	2,200	
District Expenses		2,300
Accounting	250	
Advertising	550	
Insurance	200	
Office Supplies	200	
Software	1,100	
LCA		50,000
Budget Contribution	50,000	
Subscriptions		1,850
Churches Comm. on Education	1,600	
Council of Churches	250	
Funds Replenishment		2,300
General Synod Travel	1,500	
Mission & Ministry	0	
Pastors Conference	0	
Training & Development	0	
Provision Office Equipment	800	

TOTAL EXPENDITURE **\$202,350**

INCOME:

Budget Contributions	98,240
Albany	2,260
Dalyellup	3,720
Duncraig	14,000
Esperance	8,020
Geraldton	2,480
Kalgoorlie	3,200
Katanning	3,840
Morley	7,000
Narrogin	1,200
Parkwood	5,540
Perth	35,100
Perth Chinese	2,800
Perth Finnish	580
Rockingham/Mandurah	8,500
FFF Contribution	10,000
Locum Contribution	56,000
Bank Interest	5,000
District Synod/Conference	2,200
Fundraising	5,000

TOTAL INCOME **\$176,440**

Draw Down	
Grant - Bishop	14,000
Grant - Admin Support	3,000
2020 Fund - Budget Deficit	8,910

TOTAL **\$202,350**

Lester Dreckow
Treasurer

Nominations Committee

Purpose of this report

Under Clause 8.14.2.6 of the constitution of the District, the Nominations Committee is to present a list of candidates for all positions to the Convention at which the elections are to be conducted.

Positions to be filled

The following positions are to be filled by election at the 2021 Convention:

- Nominations Committee (3)
- Secretary of the District (1)
- Treasurer of the District (1)
- Additional lay voting members of member congregations in the District (4)
- The Western Australia representative of Lutheran Education South Australia Northern Territory Western Australia (1)
- Constitutions Committee (6 including one Pastor and the District Secretary).

The term of office for the Nominations Committee is 3 years while the term of office for all other positions is 2 years with the newly elected officers and committee members assuming their duties at the conclusion of the Convention.

Background

The Nominations Committee for 2020 appointed by the District Church Council consists of:

- **Pastor Kim Kuchel**, member of Duncraig congregation
- **Keith Kowald**, member of Morley congregation
- **Debbie Dreckow**, member of Duncraig congregation

The Nominations Committee has consulted all current office bearers and committee members to learn of vacancies and of intentions to accept or decline re-election. It has sought nominations for all offices and committees of the District by direct approach to potential nominees as well as correspondence to the Secretary of each member-congregation of the District.

Sufficient nominations have been received to fill all positions, and this report provides details of the nominees. Our work has been undertaken in accordance with the requirements of 8.14 of the District Constitution, including confirming that all nominees are eligible and willing to accept office (Clause 8.14.2.5).

In accordance with Clause 8.14.3 of the District Constitution, additional nominations may be made by any voting member of the Convention, provided that the consent of the person nominated has been obtained.

The Nominations Committee thanks all congregational voting members who have made themselves available to discuss and prayerfully consider our requests. In particular, we thank all those members who have agreed to be nominated for service in the roles to be filled.

Nominations and Recommendations

Nominations Committee (3 required)

- **Kim Kuchel.** Kim is a pastor and a voting member of Concordia Duncraig congregation. He is currently serving on the Nominations committee and is eligible for re-nomination. At the time of writing there are no other nominations for this position.
- **Keith Kowald.** Keith is a voting member of Bethlehem Morley congregation. He is currently serving on the Nominations committee and is eligible for re-nomination. At the time of writing there are no other nominations for this position.
- **Debbie Dreckow.** Debbie is a voting member of Concordia Duncraig congregation. She is currently serving on the Nominations committee and is eligible for renomination. At the time of writing there are no other nominations for this position.

Secretary

The Nominations Committee nominates **Tracy Adams** for the position of Secretary of the District. Tracy is currently serving in this position. She is a voting member of Rockingham Mandurah congregation and is eligible for re-nomination. At the time of writing there are no other nominations for this position.

Treasurer

The Nominations Committee nominates **Lester Dreckow** for the position of Treasurer of the District. Lester is currently serving in this position, is a voting member of Concordia Duncraig congregation and is eligible for re-nomination. At the time of writing there are no other nominations for this position.

Lay voting Members (4 required)

The Nominations Committee nominates the following four lay voting members as additional members of the District Church Council.

- **Keri Manuel.** Keri is currently serving in this position. She is a voting member of St John's Perth congregation and is eligible for re-nomination. At the time of writing there are no other nominations for this position.
- **Chris Antonini.** Chris is currently serving in this position. He is a voting member of Concordia Duncraig congregation and is eligible for re-nomination. At the time of writing there are no other nominations for this position.
- **Maya Kraj-Krajewski.** Maya is a voting member of St John's Perth congregation. She has indicated a willingness to serve as an extra member of District Church Council and is eligible for nomination. At the time of writing there are no other nominations for this position.
- **Melvin Hettner.** Melvin is a voting member of St Stephen's Katanning congregation. He has indicated a willingness to serve as an extra member of District Church Council and is eligible for nomination. At the time of writing there are no other nominations for this position.

The Western Australia representative of Lutheran Education South Australia Northern Territory Western Australia

- **Francois Pienaar.** Francois is currently serving in this position. He is the principal of Living Waters Lutheran College Warnbro and is a voting member of the Rockingham Mandurah congregation. He is eligible for re-nomination and at the time of writing there are no other nominations for this position.

Constitutions Committee (6 required to include a pastor and the District Secretary)

- **Jason Pokela.** Jason is the pastor and a voting member of St Johns Esperance congregation. He is currently serving as the pastoral representative on the committee and is eligible for re-nomination. At the time of writing there are no other nominations for this position.
- **District Secretary.** Tracy Adams has been nominated for the position of Secretary of the District and if elected, will also become a member of the Constitutions Committee. She is currently serving on this committee, is a voting member of Rockingham Mandurah congregation and is eligible for re-nomination. At the time of writing there are no other nominations for this position.
- **Ray Kowald.** Ray is currently serving in this position. He is a voting member of St Stephen's Katanning congregation and is eligible for re-nomination. At the time of writing there are no other nominations for this position.
- **John Ottaway.** John is a voting member of Concordia Duncraig congregation, is willing to serve in this position and is eligible for nomination. At the time of writing there are no other nominations for this position.
- **John Spicer.** John is a voting member of St John's Perth congregation, is willing to serve in this position and is eligible for nomination. At the time of writing there are no other nominations for this position.
- **Keith Kowald.** Keith is a voting member of Bethlehem Morley congregation, is willing to serve in this position and is eligible for nomination. At the time of writing there are no other nominations for this position.

THE NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE

(Pastor Kim Kuchel, Keith Kowald, Debbie Dreckow)

St Paul's Lutheran Church, Albany

Membership

St Paul's has a current membership and communing membership of 17 people although we only have on average nine people attending each week.

This last year of course has been completely different to other years. We were closed due to COVID-19 from March 22nd and reopened our doors on July 5th.

Significant Events

On June 30th 2019 we celebrated the 40th anniversary of our hall. The official dedication of the hall was on June 24th 1979. We had a theme where everyone was to wear something red and had a fun questionnaire and prizes.

Early last year we started on extensive maintenance and renovations on the outside and inside of Saint Paul's. This included upgrading the toilets into Disabled toilets.

Franz Moeller has been holding piano recitals for a number of years which have been becoming increasingly popular and the money raised from the recitals has gone into a piano fund to go towards purchasing a new piano for St Paul's. We now have a new piano in the church and the old one can still be used in the hall. Franz has been playing the piano most weeks for the Sunday service.

Joys and Challenges

St Paul's Ladies Fellowship continues to meet twice a month to study the Lutheran Women's magazine, except during the COVID period. We also celebrate our birthdays together if possible. Judith Pech had her 80th birthday last year and this year Christa Jeremic and Wilma Hewitt have both turned 90.

I lead the Lay services each week with Franz leading the Holy Communion services. Bishop Mike has also visited St Paul's and led services for us. He also recorded a Christmas message which we played at our Christmas Eve service last year. For the services that I lead I have been playing recorded sermons from the Lutheran Media which have been well received. All of the members help in some way, either with the readings, ushering, music, cleaning etc.

We have about 5 members who are "shut ins". These members have sermons, prayers and the bulletin delivered to them. One of our Ladies Fellowship Ladies had two ladies visit her for prayer and fellowship when COVID made it difficult to have the meetings at her home.

COVID 19 was a challenge for everyone and still is having to keep up the COVID safe practices. Because we are few in numbers we are finding it hard to keep up with all the red tape, regulations, Admin duties, training and reporting; unfortunately none of us are getting any younger and these tasks are becoming increasingly difficult for us. Some of us are not that tech savvy either which can cause problems. Franz and I participated in a Zoom meeting for Congregational Chairpersons as well as members from the District Church council last October. I would not have been able to be involved without Franz's help as I am pretty inept where technology is concerned although I am improving.

Future Endeavours

We have been studying Renew Missional Leadership together after the Sunday service about once a month and plan to continue the study this year.

Although we have an aging congregation there are prospects of gaining new younger members with one of our younger members due to have a baby in a couple of months. We are looking forward to try and keep our Church doors open and once again having children for a Sunday school.

We are hoping in the coming months to have a Pastor come to St Paul's to Minister to us. We are in need of some leadership direction. What can we/should we do differently? Whatever we do in the future we will remember (Neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord).

Romans 8:39

Faye Spidell

Chairperson

Concordia Lutheran Church, Duncraig

Current Membership

Communing members 18+ - 83

Average weekly worship – 54

(this includes services where attendance was limited by Government regulation and does not include those people worshipping online during this time and for the remainder of 2020)

Significant Events

The year of 2020 started with plans to work on many things, most of which had to be placed on hold as together, we faced the worldly challenge of the COVID-19 virus.

Early February started with a visit by Verena Johnson from the LCA Church Worker Support Office during which, we were supplied with many ideas and resources. This was quickly followed by a Leadership Retreat which resulted in plans for the year with the first step to hold a Holy Spirit weekend followed by a congregation wide look at our vision & mission.

Planning was just getting up and running at the end of February when... COVID-19 crept up, quickly escalated and the many plans that we had went out the window.

COVID-19 shook us up, challenged us to do things differently and taught us the value of being able to freely come together and worship our God.

Initially, COVID-19 meant handwashing and hand sanitising then the 22nd March saw our service limited to 100 people and a first try at live streaming with a phone as the camera. It worked and those staying home had a first chance to worship online.

The next Sunday all church services were closed by government order and only those people providing the livestream were allowed in church. Pastor Michael showed his ease both in front of and behind a camera and he, Chris Antonini and the worship team started 11 weeks of grappling with cameras, software, face book and You Tube in order to continue providing our congregation and others with the opportunity to continue worship. By the time we could restart 'in person worship' with limited numbers, many people had learned how to record prayers, readings, children stories and songs to contribute to the service. We celebrated Easter and the 40th Anniversary of the formation of Concordia online.

We also learned how to use Zoom to meet with each other to chat and to hold church council meetings, bible study, an Alpha Marriage Course, Lenten reflective services, devotions on-line and Zoom prayer meetings.

We sought to maintain our communications with regular COVID emails to the congregation and the Congregational Ministry Team undertook to regularly contact everyone in our church family to ensure that all was well and that needs were met.

People sought to make the most of what we could do within the government regulations with Maria Rudolph 'walking my way' by herself from house to house and collecting donations online for the Australian Lutheran World Service as she went.

Our first in-person church service was Sun 14th Jun and since then we have continued with a combination of in-person church and live Facebook and You Tube streams.

We are continuing to live-stream our Sunday service as a way to provide services not only to our congregation and other congregations but also to provide a witness to a much wider audience.

Our IT equipment was old and groaning under the streaming requirements but a grant from the district in June has enabled us to update our church computer and purchase suitable cameras and software.

The past Christmas of 2019 had seen us join with other local churches to run and support a very successful Kingsley Carols but the decision for 2020 was to suspend the event and pick it up again in 2021.

Joys

Supporting Maria Rudolph in undertaking study for a Bachelor of Ministry through ALC with pastoral supervision of the practicum by Peter Hage of St John's.

Our continued strong Craft group which serves the local community and has 45- 60 participants each week.

Initially our finances took a dip in 2020 but with the help of Jobkeeper and many people moving to give via REG or bank transfers we have been blessed with the income needed.

The outstanding way that everyone has been willing to adapt to the changes required of us this year and to serve each other.

Challenges

Meeting the needs of our children and youth as numbers have fallen along with teachers and volunteers in this area.

Future Endeavours

Continuing to provide an on-line streaming of our worship service along with ensuring that enough people are trained to provide the technical side during each service.

Encouraging every member to participate in a small group Bible Study with studies that address a specific topic, are supported in Sunday Services and run for a set number of weeks.

Getting back on track with the plans that were derailed in 2020!

Kathy Clarke

Chairperson

St John's Lutheran Church, Esperance

Current Membership

Communing members 18+: 71

Average weekly worship: 42 in LAMP (50 when adjusted for shutdown weeks)

Joys and Challenges

We hesitate to go over in detail the reality that we all faced in 2020 due to Covid-19. In some sense we were quite fortunate here in Esperance to not have had a case of Coronavirus in 2020. I heard many people reflecting how they appreciated the remoteness of our town.

In any circumstance there is opportunity and what we found is the forced situation to revisit how we provide worship opportunities. This led to a trial period of a second service held on Friday evenings with a slightly different feel to our usual Sunday worship Services. The implementation of this was not an easy decision, the thought that we are breaking up an already small worshipping community was very real. Since May, the Fridays have been held and have been well received by many in the community. The reminder for us is to seek God and His will for us in this place, to have a go with what He is asking of us and be ready to re-adjust should we get it wrong.

There were many good things that happened during 2020 with people joining parish Bible studies hosted on Zoom out of Kalgoorlie (thanks Glenn), our young girls group still meeting for the year despite the challenges faced and adapted well to utilising Zoom also.

There is still a challenge to keep encouraging each other in intentionally gathering together at worship and Bible Study, especially since the usual Sunday spot was filled by other things for a time and new habits were formed.

Future Endeavours

As we move forward, we humbly seek the Lord's will in what to re-establish, and we are in the process of that now coming into our annual AGM.

Pastor Jason Pokela

St Paul's Lutheran Church, Kalgoorlie Boulder

We are a small congregation in the heart of the Eastern Goldfields of WA. We average around 15-20 people each week (of around 30 members + children), and have been blessed with the ongoing involvement of those from PNG and other parts of the world. One of our differences to other small congregations is that we normally have more men than women at our services, and most of the congregation is under 50. One of our challenges is that the work environment often involves weekend work, and our local community is putting on more and more events – thus there is a lot of competition for church time, and we do want our people working and involved in the Community. However, the year ahead is looking positive with a Confirmation Class of four students (from three families) about to start and 5 Baptisms scheduled at the time of this writing – as well as the LWWA Conference in May 😊

We continue to work well with our fellow churches of all denominations in Kalgoorlie-Boulder. Pastor Glenn has a weekly “Prayer followed by Coffee” meeting with fellow Pastors (normally between 4 and 10 of them). We have a combined service on the evening of the first Sunday each month, and our small church hosts one of these (in June 2019, but sadly the one scheduled for July 2020 had to be cancelled).

We are also blessed with our sister congregation – Esperance. Pastor Jason's visits are welcomed, and our Parish of friendship seems to work quite well, as we remember and pray for one another. Sadly, the 400 km distance does mean that often our plans to do things together don't always come off. We regularly pray for one another – and there is a strong sense of fellowship and support between the congregations.

Esperance also has been providing us with financial support over the last few years, and thus Pastor Glenn is being funded at 0.4 FTE. The financial side of things is an area in which we continue to value your prayers, as Pastor Glenn normally works at least 3 days (0.6 FTE) a week on Church related work – but that is not something we can currently cover – and so Glenn and Karen's family business is covering the extra costs, and that can be a struggle for them at times. Over the past 2 years, the Lord has blessed them with an influx of work, and this has helped greatly – whilst things are not as certain for them in 2021, we pray that their business continues to do well.

We have weathered the COVID situation reasonably well. We switched to on-line Zoom-based Services when we couldn't meet in person. The Big Success has been our Zoom-based Bible Studies, as this was found to be a good approach for those who get home from work late, and for former Kalgoorlie people, now elsewhere, to join us – plus this allows us to offer something to our friends in Esperance – and we do welcome their involvement. Thus, we are continuing this approach in 2021

We do have some key folk will be leaving us shortly, as well as others who may not be here much longer. We do need your prayers for more people to join us. We are looking forward to where the Lord leads in 2021 and beyond!

Pastor Glenn Crouch

Katanning/Narrogin Lutheran Parish

During the year we managed to obtain the services of a minister on a monthly basis with Pastor Kim Kuchel attending on most occasions & Bishop Mike Fulwood visiting twice.

Lay readers continue to take many of the weekly services during the year.

'Be Connected' classes were held after church during the winter months. This is a Government initiative available to groups encouraging them to learn more about their individual devices and on-line transactions. Some finance was available as an incentive for the group to complete the course, provided the funds were used to enhance the Information Technology of the Congregation. Subsequently, the Congregation decided to have a large TV screen and sound box installed in the church thus enhancing our Power Point and live streaming Services.

With our Manse no longer required for a resident Pastor, it was decided to turn it into an Airbnb. Following this decision, some upgrading and generous donations, this project became a reality, and is proving to be very popular and profitable.

A new sound system was installed later in the year again due to the generosity of all of our members.

Our church virtually closed down at the beginning of March due to Covid restrictions. However, weekly Services resumed in June 2020.

Mainly Music sessions have continued to be held in the church hall during the year and have proved very popular to many families with children 0 to 4 years, from around Katanning and surrounding towns.

As a fundraiser, members also cater for the Katanning Ag. Society evening meal, it was a great fellowship experience.

Roll on 2021

Martin Sadler

Chairman, St Stephen's Lutheran Church Katanning

Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Morley

Current Membership

Communing Members 18+:	63
Average weekly worship attendance:	51

Significant Events

- Hosted the WA District Convention in March 2019 and the 50th anniversary convention of Lutheran Women of WA in May 2019.
- Continued the shared ministry with Hope Lutheran Church, Geraldton. Pastor Matt visited twice yearly providing worship services, bible studies and visitations.
- Due to Covid-19 restrictions, our Christmas Eve service this year was held on the lawned area adjacent to the church with over 100 members and friends attending, providing a witness to passers-by.
- Our old plastic church chairs have been replaced with new church chairs, enhancing the appearance and comfort of our worship space.
- Covid-19 restrictions gave us an opportunity to do weekly bible studies via Zoom. Up to 6 different households joined in, saving around 200kms of cumulative travel each week as well as a significant saving in time.
- Pastor Matt also led fortnightly LYWA Young Adult bible studies on Zoom, helping people to stay engaged and oriented in the Word.
- Members of the congregation continued to be involved in the Hampton High Breakfast Club, providing breakfasts and encouragement to schoolchildren and the school.

Joys and Challenges

- Covid-19 presented us with some challenges during 2020. During the lockdown period, we decided not to have full online live services, encouraging members to utilise the online services provided by many other Lutheran congregations, both locally and interstate.
- Pastor Matt really enjoyed serving those of our members not connected online with a weekly distribution of the sermon, service order and bulletin. Other members helped with the distribution. Regular visitation provided a lot of opportunity to be in the Word and to support one another.
- Our community aid programme through Bethlehem Community Care and supported by our congregation, provided food hampers, food vouchers, financial assistance and counselling to many needy people in our community. It is a joy to be able to bless people and to show the love of Jesus in this way.
- Our Sunday School continues with good attendance and good support from the parents. Since Covid-19 restrictions affected the Sunday School room space, classes were held on Saturday afternoons in the church, once again with great parental support. What a joy it is to see our children learning about Jesus!

Future Endeavours

- We were saddened when our pastor, Matt Bishop, accepted a call to Blair Athol congregation in Adelaide in October. However after almost 5 years at Morley, it was God's will that his talents be utilised elsewhere. We have been blessed to have had him and his family minister to us during this time. The Bishop family was farewelled with a service on 13th December 2020.
- When one door shuts, another one opens. By the grace of God, Pastor James Luk has been assigned to Morley as our pastor and will take up his assignment as soon

as border restrictions allow him and his family to move from Victoria to Western Australia. We are looking forward to the opportunities that may be available to our congregation and the community through his giftings as we continue our endeavours to further God's kingdom in our area.

Lorraine Schutz

Secretary

St Luke's Lutheran Church, Parkwood

As was experienced throughout the world, the year 2020 brought challenges and opportunities to the congregation of St Luke's. Our dependence upon our Lord was highlighted and the blessings we have living in Western Australia brought into sharp focus. Regular Sunday church services were interrupted for 14 weeks and replaced by online formats of services from other congregations. We adopted new ways of interacting with each other, with fellowship via zoom and a system of carers set up to ensure the congregation stayed in touch via phone, email or other platforms. Lady's fellowship continued regular meetings via Zoom and continued to fund raise for mission work and new floral arrangements in the church.

The return of face-to-face services required a tremendous amount of fore-thought, preparation and communication with our other building user groups (Hope Methodist and Perth Korean Baptist Church). A great deal of thanks needs to go to Greg Lehmann (departing Chairperson), Simon Pfitzner, Bishop Mike Fulwood and the church council for their diligence and work to allow us to resume worship. Sunday worship has changed with appropriate social distancing measures and cleaning procedures, no morning coffee and altered Sunday School. A challenge remains to develop the best format to commune together and nourish each other.

We remain extremely grateful for the 0.5 FTE service of Bishop Mike Fulwood and Narelle, along with Pastor Dieter Dell'Antonio and Monica, who have provided us with much sustenance, encouragement and support during 2020.

Unfortunately, the year of 2020 continued to see a trend of falling congregation numbers and increasing congregational age. Several families left St Luke's at the beginning of the year to join other congregations. The subsequent reduction in volunteers and financial implications have raised concern regarding the long-term sustainability of St Luke's. As a result, a working party was convened at the end of 2020 in order to examine the future direction of St Luke's and strategies to negotiate 2021 and beyond. We have however been blessed with enthusiastic support from newer members within the congregation, and look to God to continue to lead us.

Leon Adams
Chairman

St John's Lutheran Church, Perth

Communing members 18+: 311
Average weekly worship: 184
(3 services weekly – 6pm Saturday, 8.30am & 10.20am Sundays)
(+ German 3rd Sunday of each month with average adult attendance: 30)

Significant Events

St John's continues to benefit from the blessings of having two pastors serve in our congregation, working together to lead our weekend worship services and guide us in our various mission and ministry venture. They also serve our district as Lutheran Youth WA Pastoral advisor (Ps André Meyer) and Assistant District Bishop (Ps Peter Hage). Ps Peter also serves on the LCA committee for International Mission.

St John's has been blessed by the wonderful vision our forebears in choosing to build so close to the city, and the attention to detail that resulted in the iconic church being built - in 1936. All these years later, we are able to come together in this beautiful building to worship our Lord and saviour. St John's Church building is steeped in heritage. As with all structures, essential maintenance is required to keep the building safe and in pristine condition. Over the years cracks have appeared and need to be fixed. As such Church Council has endorsed a fund-raising campaign called "Celebrating our Heritage" to cover the cost of repairs.

COVID played a major role and the establishment of a COVID safe committee was essential to provide guidance. This has impacted on many of the usual activities and gatherings; however it also provided a new opportunity for the recording and broadcast of weekly services via Facebook. Most significant was finding ways for the St John's Congregation to stay united despite not being able to meet physically, and this was achieved through regular communication via the office and pastors. (Email, bulletins being sent weekly, Facebook and website updates).

During the 2020 COVID lockdown we learnt to do and try things in new ways. Our Children's Church hosted a successful on-line lesson with mailed out activities. Our youth group developed skills in on-line meetings and events. And for the first time we held a 11pm Christmas Eve service as a worship option for members because of limited seating in our worship centre.

Significant for us at St John's last year was the added blessing of Maria Rudolph who has served St John's as part of her Bachelor of Ministry degree with ALC. Maria was installed as Ministry Intern at our combined service on the 23rd February 2020. We are also blessed in having one of our young members Sean Hotinski, begin his studies with ALC. His studies have been on-line allowing him to engage in practical experience here in his home congregation.

Monthly German Services continue to be led enthusiastically by Chris Urschitz, who travels to Perth all the way from Lake Clifton. This small sub congregation of St John's has also benefited from active involvement of Maria Rudolph, e.g. leading the annual Krippenspiel and caring for some of the elderly members. Attendees value the opportunity to worship once a month in their mother tongue. On Christmas Eve we

served the wider German community of Perth by filling the church to capacity for two services. The main challenge of this sub congregation is to attract younger families to the regular services.

Joys and Challenges

A joy for St John's has been the establishment of a GROW ministry team (in conjunction with St Luke's congregation Parkwood, and Concordia congregation Duncraig), being coached by the LCA's Child, Youth and Family Ministry department. This team is exploring intergenerational ways of growing faith and life in our congregation. We are grateful to the LCAWA District in providing funding for our congregations to learn in this way.

Although COVID 19 had lots of challenges it was also a joy to be able to resume Church Service's from June however with restrictions, some of which are still in place.

From a financial point of view, despite (or rather because of) COVID, St John's ended the year 2020 very positively. We received higher than expected offerings largely due to many of our members converting to giving offerings via REG – which resulted in more consistent income than the “irregular” plate offerings. This increase, combined with the various ATO subsidies and grants received as well as some minor savings across our budgeted expenses, has resulted in St John's ending the year with a net profit for the first time in the past three years compared to our predicted budgeted loss. The profit was mainly because of the ATO subsidies received.

Future Endeavours & Staffing

For many years St John's has been served faithfully by our hard-working Office Administrator Sharon Reid. She has now moved to a well-deserved retirement, and we are excited to welcome Rhia Bradtke to the role.

In 2019 the congregation undertook a consultation and review process which resulted in the creation of a strategic plan to guide us for the next 3–5 years. While years of deficit budgets was the impetus to begin this process, God has led us to look at ways of improving in leadership and communication, team ministry, pastoral care, intergenerational worship, service to children, families, youth and outreach; as well as our finances. We have begun supporting our leaders with the implementation of new IT systems and ways of working together.

Our aim is to grow, as we fulfil our mission to celebrate and share the love of Jesus our Saviour.

Armin Bartels

Chairperson

Grace Lutheran Church, Perth

Service Details

Service	Grace Lutheran Church Perth (Mandarin Service)
Location	16 Aberdeen St, Perth WA 6003
Time of Worship	Every Sunday, 10.45am – 12.00pm
Average Membership (per week)	45

Background

Our church was established by the "Joint-Venture" between the Basel Christian Church of Malaysia (BCCM) and Lutheran Church of Australia (LCA). We held our first (Mandarin) Sunday service in May 2004. The members of the (Mandarin) congregation are mainly from Mainland China and Malaysia.

In January 2017, we officially became the youngest member of LCA and are known as Grace Lutheran Church, Perth.

Significant Events

- Most of the youths are now actively serving the Lord in various activity groups. Some have become members of the Church Council committee.
- Both Councils of Grace and St John's Lutheran Church Perth continue to maintain a joint council and meet regularly in order to enhance the cooperation and collaboration in serving the Lord

Joys and Challenges

- Praise the Lord Grace Lutheran Church was able to celebrate its first Christmas Day service this year. The attendance was far exceeding our expectation. A significant number of non-believers from mainland China came for the service and the lunch fellowship after the service. We pray that they were able to hear and understand the Christmas message. We also continue to pray for God's mercy that they will be able to respond and accept Jesus as their saviour one day in the future.
- Due to COVID-19 pandemic, our Sunday Worship services were put on hold between March and June 2020. Praise God we have since resumed our services from July 2020 until present. We continue to pray for all other churches in COVID affected areas to be able to resume their services in worshipping the Lord soon.
- Please continue to pray for Grace Lutheran Church in searching for a bi-lingual pastor as our current resident pastor, Pastor Ku, has "officially" retired but continue serving as a volunteer pastor.
- Praise the Lord we now have brother Richard Yeo engaged as the Church's lay worker to serve Grace Lutheran Church Perth congregation

Galvin Chong

Chairperson

Rockingham Mandurah Lutheran Church

Name of Congregation and Location

Rockingham Mandurah Lutheran Church, One Church 2 Worship Sites.

8:30am Sunday Lions Hall, Park Road, Mandurah

10:30am Sunday Chapel, 52 Swallowtail Parade, Warnbro

Current Membership

Communing members 18+ 105

Average weekly worship Mandurah; 25

Rockingham: 38

(These figures are the best that can be extracted from COVID affected statistics during 2020.)

Significant Events

Sadly, with the arrival of Covid, the RMLC Leadership Council make the difficult decision to close Faith Spot Café, a ministry which had been associated with the church and school for many years. We give thanks for the ministry that this provided and for the many volunteers who faithfully served in the Café.

Our youth ministry saw a change in leadership as Matt Schubert finished his time as the employed Youth Coordinator and we welcomed Manuela Swift to the position. Matt Schubert was as a Mission Facilitator in June 2020 in a 0.5 position for six months and then moved to a full-time position at the beginning of December 2020 after RMLC's financial position improved, thanks to a generous donation. Matt is employed on a yearly contract.

Christina Mader, our office administrator also left her position at the end of December, 2020 and after reviewing the hours and position, RMLC has employed Manuela Swift for 0.2.

Of significant note is the commencement of the extension of the chapel hall with a storage room. This has been a long-held dream and is being overseen by a small dedicated team. Costs are kept low through volunteer labour and donations. RMLC was able to begin this project because of a generous bequeath from a church member; Aldus Balde.

Due to Covid we were unable to have our planned celebrations of the 20th anniversary of the opening of the church building. However, we hope to revisit that as an event sometime in 2021.

Joys and Challenges

The challenge of Covid inspired key people at RMLC to start Live streaming our worship services. This has now become a weekly event, bringing hope and joy to many. Our next challenge is to connect with those who watch an intentional way.

Financial security is a significant challenge as we seek to give our employees some security. God has blessed us in this area beyond what we could imagine. Firstly we were

successful in receiving a grant from New and Renewing Churches which is spread over two years. We also receive a Mission and Ministry grant from the LLL. And finally we received a very generous gift of \$50,000 from the Nairne congregation in South Australia. All this can be used to pay for salaries, so this puts us in a position of security as we work towards becoming self-sufficient in our ability to employ a Mission Facilitator full time into the future.

Good governance is a challenge that the LC is embracing as we look at setting up efficient processes so that future leadership has a solid foundation to work on. As part of this we were able to release a Strategic Direction document for 2020-2023.

Future Endeavours

Our Mission Facilitator, Matt Schubert, along with Pastor Steve Liersch and the Leadership Council are committed to doing mission in the Rockingham/Peel region. We are building capacity within our missional communities with the aim of a planting team fellowshiping and serving in an intentional manner at a chosen community outside of our current community.

We give thanks to God for his provision to us and we remember that God is faithful in his promises.

Monika Tropiano

Chairperson, RMLC

Living Waters Lutheran College

Principal's Report

Living Waters Lutheran College is a coeducational Christian college for students from Kindergarten to Year 12, from the communities of Baldivis, Rockingham, Mandurah and surrounding areas in Western Australia. Since its inauguration in 1997, Living Waters Lutheran College has established a unique ethos and Christ-centred learning environment.

Our philosophy and approach are encapsulated in the College's mission statement, which is:

"At Living Waters Lutheran College, we share the love of Jesus as we educate those in our care enabling them to realise their God – given potential for a life of service."

We especially focus on catering for every student's individual needs with a high emphasis on the social, emotional, physical and academic dimensions.

Student wellbeing and pastoral care are of paramount importance here at our College. Our pastoral care programs aim to nurture and grow our young people into responsible, ethical and empathetic citizens who lead a life of purpose with integrity. We believe that a culture of respect for all members of the school community has a significant effect on students. Not only does it increase engagement and positive learning outcomes, it also strengthens students' wellbeing and resilience. Students who develop positive and respectful relationships also develop feelings of security, confidence and empowerment. Our College Chaplain and full time Counsellor provide support for all staff, students and families when needed.

We work with families to enable students to realise their God-given potential and to achieve personal excellence. We offer the right educational setting to explore and achieve these aspirations while deeply caring for the whole person.

We offer a broad curriculum that recognises student engagement and active learning opportunities. Students are encouraged and supported to do their very best and to take an increasing responsibility for their own goals and achievements. As a College, we recognise that at times students will need assistance and support to achieve their personal milestones in their educational journey. Our Learning Enrichment Centre (LEC) is a network of teachers and staff who support them as they pursue personal excellence.

The College offers a wide range of co-curricular activities, currently including Performing Arts opportunities in Music and Drama, participation in the Politics and Law Mock Trial competition, Student Leadership opportunities, House competitions, service learning, debating, outdoor education and sporting pursuits. Student achievement is a high priority and we endeavour to walk the extra mile to make a difference in every students' life.

We make it our goal to meet our Mission: Each student is challenged to look for ways to reach their potential by making the most of the high-quality programs offered. By

modelling Christian values, we encourage students to serve others, their school, their family and the wider community.

We believe it is important that all young people develop an understanding of Christian principles and values and strive to use these to form the foundation on which they build their lives.

It is our goal through the teaching of a balanced curriculum, reinforced by Christian values, that each student is encouraged and supported to develop their talents and gifts.

We introduced some new programs in 2020: Specialist Basketball and Netball Programs, STEM Year 7 (Learning Beyond Program), Stage Learning in the Primary School (a new philosophy to embrace 21st century learning) and our Specialist Music Program which introduces various brass instruments to students from year 6 onwards. The students can then choose to play in our concert band. The talents of this group have grown immensely. We make scholarships available for our Specialist Programs on application. Students also need to undergo a rigorous assessment for these programs to attain a scholarship.

Significant College Events

• Conversion to online learning – Upskilling of teachers, students and parents to use Teams, Seesaw and work packs for Primary students • 3rd Feb – Primary Parent Information Night • 8th Feb – Y7-9 Parent Information Night • 9th Feb – Y10-12 Parent Information Night • 8th – 19th Feb – Primary Swimming Lessons • 18th Feb – School Photo Shoot • 19th Feb – Year 7 BBQ • 22nd – 26th Feb – PAT Testing • 3rd – 5th Mar – Year 6 Camp • 5th Mar – Secondary Swimming Carnival • 6th Mar – ACER Testing for Scholarships • 6th Mar – Formal • 8th Mar – RKAS Interschool Swim Trials • 10th – 12th Mar – Year 7 Camp • 12th Mar – Primary Swimming Carnival • 17th Mar – College Open Day • 19th Mar – National Day of Action against Bullying & Violence	• 24th June – Lightning Carnival • 30th Jun – 2nd Jul – Staff Professional Development • 27th – 29th Jul – School Photo Days • 29th – 30th Jul – Mary Poppins Production (TBC) • 9th – 12th Aug – HASS Week (TBC) • 12th Aug – CPSSA League Tag Carnival • 13th Aug – Staff Wellbeing Day • 16th Aug – Secondary Pre-Athletics Carnival • 18th Aug – Secondary Athletics Carnival • 18th – 20th Aug – Y11 Leadership Camp • 19th Aug – Primary Cross Country Carnival • 23rd – 25th Aug – GEOED/GTOED Camp • 6th Sep – ACC Athletics Carnival • 8th Sep – Y12 Outdoor Rec Expedition • 8th Sep – College Open Day • 9th Sep – CPSSA Cross Country Carnival • 13th – 17th Sep – Book Week
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• 22nd – 26th Mar – Scholastic Book Fair • 22nd – 26th Mar - OLNA • 22nd Mar – ACC Swimming Carnival • 31st Mar – CPSSA Swimming Carnival • 1st Apr – Community Spirit Day • 21st – 23rd Apr – GEOED/GTOED Camp • 20th & 27th Apr – Parent Teacher Interviews • 3rd – 5th May – AEOED Camp • 10th May – SMT White Card • 11th – 21st May – NAPLAN • 12th May – Secondary Cross Country Carnival • 14th May – 10OED Excursion to Indoor Climbing Centre • 20th May – 9OED Mountain Biking Expedition • 27th May – ACC Cross Country Carnival • 14th – 25th June – Y10 Workplace Learning • 16th Jun – College Open Day • 23rd – 25th June – Year 12 Retreat	• 16th Sep – 10OED2 Mountain Biking Expedition • 17th Sep - 10OED1 Mountain Biking Expedition • 23rd Sep – Primary Athletics Carnival • 24th Sep – Rostia Urban Challenge (TBC) • 14th Oct – Y12 Farewell Day & Graduation Dinner • 15th Oct – Un-Muck-Up Day • 20th Oct – Valedictory • 25th – 27th Oct – AEOED Camp • 28th Oct – Y9/10 JSL Movie Excursion (TBC) • 28th Oct – Rostia Dinner (TBC) • 29th Oct – Y10 Event (TBC) • 3rd Nov – College Open Day • 4th Nov – CPSSA Athletics Carnival • 25th Nov – Y11 Outdoor Rec Expedition • 29th Nov – 3rd Dec – Arts & Technology Week • 6th Dec – Primary Presentation & PS Awards Night • 7th Dec – Awards Night • 8th Dec – Secondary Big Day Out
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Challenges

- Having to have so many plans in place to have any school-based event and switching between plans sometimes on a daily basis. A lot of work/planning didn't get used at all. The logistics at times were exhausting.
- Dealing with the collective anxiety in the school community. There was a great uncertainty and at times anger over the changes that were occurring which were completely out of the College's control.
- Implementing different modes of teaching and learning – it was a steep learning curve for staff and students implementing and then adjusting to the online platforms TEAMS and SEESAW as well as preparing physical working packs for Primary aged students.
- Coping with the culture change that COVID brought about: new terminology, new routines including hand sanitising and temperature checks as well as a hyped up cleaning regime at the College.
- Concern regarding attracting increased enrolments for the future – ongoing marketing and promotion plans continued to be implemented and adjusted.

Joys

- Seeing the Year 12 cohort become more and more resilient to change and uncertainty as time went on.

- Staff bonding with the Year 12 group as the College worked closely with them to ensure that their wellbeing was a priority.
- Excellent year 12 ATAR results – best ranking since 2010 and best ATAR Median score since 2016 – 81.5. This is a result of resilient and committed students and professional and supportive staff.
- Seeing the College work with one purpose and everyone doing more over a long period of time but with little or no complaints. Everyone was willing to do more because they had to to assist our students and community during this difficult time. COVID united us in many ways. We had great success in online delivery for students K -12 and excellent feedback from families.
- Attaining stability in enrolments and systematic growth. Receiving feedback of parents' confidence in the changes implemented by the Executive team. Implementing new curriculum initiatives and setting high expectations of staff to improve student success in teaching and learning. Staff have really embraced the new initiatives.
- Positive staff and strong relationships with parents and students – continued improvement in our pastoral care of students and families driven by our Chaplain and Counsellor, supported by our excellent pastoral care teachers.
- Implementing a new timetabling program for more effective staffing and forward planning.
- Spiritual growth of staff and the implementation of the Growing Deep program during our weekly Spiritual sessions with staff. Well structured devotion program during homegroup in the mornings and whole College Chapel/ assembly weekly.
- Strong relationship with the local RMLC community and Ps Steve Liersch.
- **New projects completed:** ELC branding and adventure playground embracing the concept of the environment being the third teacher. Upgrading learning spaces in Primary to address 21st Century Learning (4 have been done – x2 per year), Solar panels on our gym roof to minimise our carbon footprint and save on electricity costs, installation of an elevator in the secondary building for those with disabilities and severe injuries to have easy access to the first floor's learning spaces, replacing the carpets in the secondary school. The College has a new and refreshed look and the physical environment is very neat and tidy – gardens, lawns and flowerbeds look great.

Future Endeavours

- Implementing new curriculum initiatives addressing 21st Century Learning and future careers.
- Ongoing upgrading of learning spaces.
- Digital Signboard planned for the main entrance and significant signage around the College to guide people easily to various buildings.
- External gym facility for the secondary students and community members using the gym facility for sports and other clubs etc.
- Rendering the Primary School buildings to give it a more modern look.
- A future plan when finances permit will be to create a Digital Hub equipped with advanced digital technology, programs and equipment. I hope that K-12 students will be able to take advantage of this.

Below is a list of Board and LWLC Executive members. This is followed by a report from our Board Chairperson, Mrs Elizabeth McKinnon.

Board Members

- Dr Elizabeth McKinnon – Chairperson

- Mr Frank Wittwer – Vice Chairperson
- Ps Steve Liersch – Church Representative
- Mrs Wendy Wittwer – Church Representative
- Mr Andrew Swift – Church Representative
- Mr Volker Hopfmueller – Church Representative
- Mrs May-Lisa Baldwin – Community Representative
- Mrs Jenny-Lee Fussell – Community Representative
- Mr Stuart McDougall – Community Representative
- Mr Francois Pienaar – College Principal (ex officio)
- Mr Wayne Burman – Business Manager (ex officio)

Executive Members

- Mr Francois Pienaar – College Principal
- Mrs Deborah Kluczniak – Head of Secondary
- Mrs Johan Davies – Head of Primary
- Mr Wayne Burman – Business Manager

I want to thank DCCWA and RMLC for their contribution and commitment to our College community. Your prayers and support are highly appreciated by myself and all the staff at LWLC.

The College leadership continues to be guided and uplifted by the College Board. We are grateful for the support we receive.

Yours in Christ

Francois Pienaar

LWLC College Principal

Chairperson's Report

- **Constitutional and Governance Changes:** After several years of reworking, a thoroughly revised Constitution was adopted by the Association of Living Waters Lutheran College in June 2019. The reason for the new constitution was two-fold. Firstly, an update was necessary to ensure the College met the legal obligations of the *Associations Incorporation Act 2015* within an acceptable timeframe. Secondly, we had been encouraged to move to a Board-only model of governance as preferred by Lutheran Education Australia of whom Living Waters is a member College. Under this model, K-12 Colleges such as ours maintain a close and mutually supportive relationship with a local congregation, but the relationship is not a formal one so there is an absence of financial accountability at this level. In practice, the most notable change to College governance is the changed structure of Board membership – increasing the voting membership of the Board to now include the congregational pastor and increasing the number of members drawn from the community beyond the local church or wider WA church district. This move was seen as an important step in ensuring the Board is made up of members with the complementary mix of skills and expertise that is necessary for good governance. Board members are also then encouraged to take up professional development opportunities to better equip them for their role.

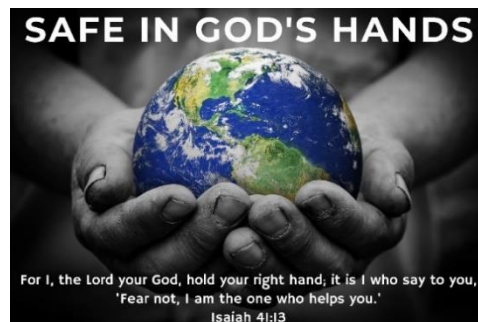
- **Principal and Exec Team:** For Living Waters, as for everyone else, 2020 was a year like no other. The arrival of Francois Pienaar as Principal in 2019, together with a largely revamped executive team, had brought renewed energy and focus to the life and functioning College after a difficult year before. But there had necessarily been many changes in a relatively short time span so it was the hope that in 2020 we could draw breath, so to speak, when of course COVID struck! All credit must go to the staff for navigating so successfully through the very many hurdles, and despite the challenges there is much to be thankful for. Culture: As a College with a Christ-centred philosophy Living Waters aspires to provide a culture built on a foundation of core values such as love, justice, compassion, forgiveness, and service. Staff receive ongoing professional development to grow in their understanding of this philosophy and what it means to teach in a Lutheran school, and are encouraged in their personal faith journeys through regular staff devotions and prayer opportunities. Integral to College life are daily devotions held in pastoral care classes as well as regular chapel times which continued via live streaming through the COVID restrictions. We have continued to be served well by our (lay) chaplain, Craig Gough, who has led pastoral care initiatives and provided support for Christian Studies classes, devotions and chapels. Craig, in turn, has been well-supported by Ps Steve and Ps Stuart Traeger from Lutheran Education. This past year has seen a renewed focus on student well-being and pastoral care.
- **Community:** A healthy three-way partnership between staff, students and their families is vital for a learning community to thrive, and having to face some very unique challenges together in 2020 has added strength to this partnership at Living Waters. The College community is certainly blessed by the leadership of its Executive team, so many deeply committed staff, and behind-the-scenes support from a dedicated P&F committee. Staff changes include the retirement of RMLC members, Glenda McTaggart and Judy Rippon and Leon Kroehn, and the moving on of Lynne Hart. We would particularly like to thank each of these members for their many years of dedicated service. Also of note to RMLC, is that after a short break in operations of the Faith Spot Café the College was pleased to be able to take on its oversight, with Machel Hancock continuing as manager, which has given welcome continuity to this long-standing ministry initiative.
- Living Waters very much values its mutually supportive relationship with the RMLC community. We are grateful for opportunities to partner in ministry and mission, be it via a pastoral presence, Youth ministry, prayer support, the Pre-primary Bible-giving service, the Faith Spot Café, Christmas Carols, participation in joint fund-raising efforts, sharing of facilities, or many instances of personal time and giftings offered in service. Engagement with the wider WA District of the church also happened when the M&M Conference was hosted at the College at the beginning of March. This proved to be a welcome opportunity to showcase the venue and have church members interact with students participating in a Service Learning Program.
- **Connections with the wider community** have continued to be built by participation in outside events, even with the restrictions imposed this year. Involvement in local service projects has also been a great way to build students' appreciation for the lives and needs of others, whilst promoting the College to community beyond our sphere. LWLC has established a strong relationship with Bethanie Village and primary and secondary students are involved in activities and events there. ALWS

outreach program – fundraising for our Cambodia village project establishing irrigation for veggie gardens etc, outside toilets for the community in the village continued. In partnership with RMLC we launched Containers for Change as a fundraising project for RMLC to upgrade the chapel area used by the College. Bins for recycling are placed in the school yard for students to be part of this project and also a big bin is located in the parking area for parents and community members to recycle their cans and bottles.

- **Teaching & Learning:** The year began very positively with staff enthusiastic and embracing changes to curriculum and delivery. Implementation of staged learning across several combined Primary year groups gave opportunity for the successful introduction of innovative teaching methods whilst addressing some of the resourcing constraints we were faced with. The establishment of an Early Learning Centre has also brought focus to the importance of laying strong physical, social and emotional foundations as the basis for a child's learning development. New in 2020 was a STEM program for Year 7 students, complementing local niche specialist programs in Music, which includes involvement in a concert band, and two Sport programs (basketball and netball) that were also introduced this year. With students intentionally exposed to many experiences and opportunities to prepare them for the future, they have the choice in Senior Secondary School of following a university pathway (ATAR), general and vocational pathway (VET) or a combination of the two, and we are proud of the excellent results across the board of this year's graduating class.
- **Once COVID struck,** came the necessity for students to move to online learning. The teachers worked incredibly hard to upskill and adapt as necessary to get this up and running. The College leadership, teachers and support staff cannot be commended highly enough for managing a virtually seamless transition through a stressful time for all. Fortunately, it wasn't too long before students returned to campus, albeit with some ongoing restrictions and changed practices. Importantly, their education progressed as it should, and the many excellent results and great achievements of our students bear testament to their resilience as well as reward for effort.
- **Operations and Resources:** Getting the right staff to student ratio is crucial for maintaining viability of any school, and with the major re-structure of two years ago and with several further tweaks to staffing roles and leadership structure we are now in a healthy position moving forward for a school that sits at about 600 students. There is also an ongoing need to balance resources spent on maintenance of current facilities and improvements to what we can offer. Refurbishment of the Early Learning Centre and the construction of an exciting new playground have been highlights of the last 12 months, and other recent visible major works include installation of solar panels and a elevator in the Upper Secondary School building which will be a great benefit to those with mobility issues and severe injuries to be able to access learning spaces on the upper floor of the building.

Elizabeth McKinnon

Chairperson, LWLC College Board



At the time of writing this report as a world, nation, State and Territories, and local communities, we are navigating our way through turbulent waters due to the ongoing Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.

As we continue to adapt to this new reality one thing is certain, that it will have a profound impact on the emerging future for our world, our Australian society, the Church, Lutheran Education (in general) and LESNW learning communities.

We rest in the knowledge and hope that we are safe in God's hands. He is the constant in our lives whilst everything around us is uncertain and changing.

This report will cover some highline elements of the current reality and emerging future of LESNW.

Governance: The implementation of the new LESNW Constitution and governance structure was a focal point during 2019. At the local level Living Waters Lutheran College adopted a new constitution in May 2019 based on the LESNW Board Only model constitution.

LESNW regional office staff continue to support learning community governing boards in their understanding of governance and in turn, their effectiveness. The key focus has been working with boards on clarifying a vision for a preferred future, undertaking a gap analysis between their current reality and this preferred future and the development of strategic actions to bridge this gap.

LESNW Vision and Strategic Intentions 2021-2023: When faced with challenging and uncertain times it can be easy to concentrate on the 'immediate' and lose sight of the long-term strategic focus. During 2020 the LESNW board together with the LESNW learning community leaders and the regional office staff, were intentional about identifying a collective preferred future. The collective vision for all learning communities is clearly expressed in the Vision for LESNW: *LESNW is a community of learning communities that is thriving, supportive and compassionate, having a common foundation, that collaborate to enable each community to achieve its vision.*

The Strategic Intentions 2021-2023 are framed around 5 Goals with related strategies. From the commencement of 2021 the respective Goal Working Groups, comprised of representatives from across LESNW learning communities (with additional support from the regional office staff), will commence engagement in identified actions to fulfil the strategies associated with their goal.

Complexity being viewed as Opportunity: There have been many challenging and complex issues that LESNW has dealt with, especially for some of our learning communities that have experienced significant challenges which have seen the need to be adaptive and alter the way in which they operate. Working to minimise risk and financial harm has required creativity, persistence and faith. The LESNW board and regional office staff have been intentional about considering issues in partnership with the learning communities.

Government Funding

LESNW schools continue to benefit from the financial support of both the Commonwealth, State and Territory governments. In 2020 the Commonwealth Government introduced a new funding model that is based on parents' capacity to contribute. This has resulted in changes to funding for a number of LESNW schools. For a small number of schools this new approach to funding has been hugely beneficial with significant increases in year-to-year funding over the nine year transition. However, some schools face a significant reduction in their overall funding through the transition period.

The LESNW board, with the intention of ensuring it does everything within its means to ensure present/current sustainability as well long term prosperity and sustainability for all our learning communities adopted a revised funding model for 2020 and 2021 to ease the impacts of funding changes. At this time the Living Waters the parents' capacity to contribute data, indicates that the college will receive additional funding through the nine year transition. This will be of immense benefit to the college as it continues to provide quality Christian education for its students into the future.

System Initiatives

The introduction and implementation of CompliSpace, aimed to assist learning communities establish a robust policy platform, mitigate risk and ensure compliance is met, has been positive, is still evolving and has already provided leadership teams and governing boards with a means to best fulfil school registration and other legislative compliance.

'Education Geographics' has provided each member learning community with their demographic dashboards, maps and analysis of their existing and potential catchments. This information facilitates targeted marketing focus and efforts.

A suite of financial tools has been provided to schools to better assess financial performance and minimise associated risk. The tools include performance indicators, benchmarks and strategies to improve operational performance.

A Framework/Toolkit for Business Planning is presently being developed to assist learning communities to gather information and documentation to chart the course towards their continued success and sustainability.

Enrolment Data - LESNW Schools 2019/2020– A comparison

		DOMESTIC ENROLMENTS							
Analysis by State		Primary	Secondary	Aug-20		Primary	Secondary	Aug-19	Change
South Australia	SA	6657.5	5998	12656		6760	5926	12686	-31
Northern Territory	NT	871	695	1566		955	753	1708	-142
Western Australia	WA	223	359	582		244	409	653	-11
TOTAL ENROLMENTS BY STATE		7752	7052	14804		7959	7088	15047	-244
									-1.6%

There has been a 1.6% decline in enrolments across LESNW from 2019 to 2020.

Contributing factors to this have been the economic downturn in both the Northern Territory and Western Australia, and the announcement of the changing status of Year 7

enrolments to secondary schools in South Australia effective from 2022. The later has seen a move of siblings in LESNW primary only schools to other Independent R-12 schools.

The LESNW regional office staff have been working in close partnership with the Living Waters leadership and board over the past 18 months and are confident that the college is making good progress towards its longer term sustainability.

Looking to the emerging future

The horizon ahead may be a bit fuzzy in view of the current reality we live in, but it is with real hopefulness that we step forward as we re-examine whose we are in Christ and the commission we together with the Church to share the love and grace of Jesus with the students, staff and families connected to our learning communities. With God holding our right hand we rest in the confidence that he will lead us safely into the future.

The COVID-19 reality provides a wonderful opportunity for learning communities to reimagine themselves and transform the way in which learning and social interaction happens. What this will look like for each individual community will be contextual, but one thing is certain it will not be the same as it is today.



Respectfully submitted

John Proeve

LESNW Executive Director

LLL District Synod Report 2021



We thank and praise God as he continues to bless the mission of the LLL in assisting the Lutheran Church of Australia. Our depositors and supporters have again enabled us to provide significant benefits to assist the mission and ministry of the Church.

Highlights of the last financial year include:

- Benefits and Services to the LCA totalling over \$8.4m
- Legacies and Donations of over \$2.9m
- Depositor balances exceeding \$1.2b.

Benefits and Services

The LLL exists to support the mission of the Lutheran Church of Australia (LCA) by lending to borrowers approved by the LCA. The majority of loans continue to be within Lutheran education.

LLL depositors provide a significant benefit to the LCA by providing the matching deposits that enable the LLL to offer these loans. We thank our depositors for providing these funds to enable loans to be made.

A total of \$2.3m of Permanent Fund grants were paid last financial year. These grants are made possible by legacies and donations that have been gifted to LLL Permanent Funds, and Board allocations to support specific ministries of the LCA at national, district and local levels.

LLL depositors electing to forego interest by holding non-interest-bearing savings accounts enable the LLL to provide additional benefits to a range of different LCA ministries. Over \$744,000 was paid to many LCA organisations as a result of non-interest-bearing accounts held over the last 12 months.

Legacies and Donations

A total of \$2,739,901 was left to the LLL as legacies over the last 12 months. These legacies were from 18 different benefactors. In addition, a further \$169,895 was gifted to the LLL in donations.

Legacies and donations are all added to LLL Permanent Funds, which enable the LLL to provide grants to a wide range of LCA ministries.

We thank God for all those people who have left funds to the LLL to enable the Church to continue to receive benefits, even after they are no longer with us. These gifts not only provide a benefit to the Church, but they also form part of the capital base of the LLL, which provides further protection to depositors who invest their funds with the LLL.

Deposits

LLL deposits continue to grow, with deposits as at 30 June 2020 totalling \$1,279,626,620.

As everyone is aware, we are currently experiencing an unprecedented low interest rate environment. For the LLL, the historically low interest rates impact on the investment returns that are generated on deposited funds. In light of that, the LLL has had to reduce the interest rate the Deposit Account in recent times. The LLL will continue to provide a savings account that is 'at-call', meaning funds are available at any time with no fees or charges at all.

Loans

LLL loans as at 30 June 2020 totalled \$298,259,361, which is a \$1.6m increase from 12 months earlier. The majority of these loans continue to be to Lutheran schools with over 90% of LLL loans provided to the Lutheran education sector.

LCA Administration

The LLL provides a range of administrative services to the LCA as follows:

- LCA Insurance Fund
- LCA Subscriptions (*The Lutheran & Lutheran Women* magazines; *Lutheran Theological Journal*)
- LCA Funds (Pensions, Provident & Car Grants).

Regular Electronic Giving (REG)

The past financial year has seen a marked increase in the participation in REG. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic Congregations experienced rolling closures during 2020 which prohibited people from gathering together. Members still wanted to financially support their congregation and so REG has been used by many to continue giving.

REG statistics as at 30 June 2020 are as follows:

LCA organisations using REG: 282

Participants contributing via REG: 2,966

Monthly giving via REG: \$682,151 (ie \$8,185,819 per annum).

The annual figure of \$8.1m represents an increase of 22% or \$1.5m over the past 12 months. We continue to encourage all congregations to promote the anonymous LLL direct debit platform called REG.

LLL 100th Anniversary

2021 marks the 100th year the LLL of supporting the Lutheran Church in Australia. During the year we will be commemorating and highlighting areas this support has been provided. The LLL has only been able to provide this support because of the loyal support of our accounts holders so we honour and thank God for each and every one of you.

We encourage everyone to read the LLL publication '*Together in mission*' which provides further information about how the LLL partners with LCA organisations to help bring the Gospel to people in Australia and around the world. *Together in mission* is available for electronic download at the LLL website, www.lll.org.au

All thanks to God for blessing the work of the LLL and we pray that He will continue to guide and bless us as we support the mission of the Church.

Andrew Waldhuter

Promotions Manager

LLL Australia

Minutes of 2019 Synod

Lutheran Church of Australia – WA District Convention 2019

Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Morley

“Certain in Christ, Bold in Action”

MINUTES

FRIDAY 1st March 2019

7:00pm, Bethlehem Morley hosted a wine and cheese evening to welcome all.

SATURDAY 2nd March 2019

WORSHIP & OPENING OF CONVENTION

Liturgist: Pastor Matt Bishop

Address: Bishop Mike Fulwood, 2 Corinthians 3:12

Bishop Mike Fulwood declared the 48th Synodical Convention of the WA District open.

SESSION 1

Welcome

Acknowledgement of Country – Bishop Mike Fulwood

Welcome by Bethlehem Morley – Steve Nickolai

Welcome to interstate guests:

Rev John Henderson, Bishop, Lutheran Church of Australia/NZ

Rev Dr Andrew Pfeiffer, Assistant Bishop, Lutheran Church of Australia/NZ
(Saturday)

Christine Matthias – Grow Ministries

John Proeve – Executive Director, Lutheran Education SA, NT & WA

Andrew Waldhuter – Lutheran Laypeople's League

Celia Fielke – Lutheran Media

Rev Matt Anker – International Mission

Tim Ross – Professional Standards (representing Support Services)

Associate Professor Lisa Schmidt – Director, Lutheran Education Australia

Bishop Mike welcomed to the District (during this synodical term):

Pastor Peter Hage (St Johns Perth)

Pastor Michael Rudolph (Concordia Duncraig)

Pastor Kim Kuchel (return from Defence Chaplain)

Francois Pienaar (Principal, Living Waters Lutheran College)

Bishop Mike acknowledged completion of service in the District:

Pastor Tony Traeger

Pastor Richard Schulze

Pastor Rodney Witmitz
Pastor Mark Kleemann (Air Force Chaplain)
Sue Sullivan (Principal, Living Waters Lutheran College)
Andrew Leske (Principal, Ocean Forest Lutheran College)

Greetings

Pastor Tony Traeger
St Paul's Albany, Arlene Gimondo

Apologies

Rev James Winderlich, Principal, Australian Lutheran College
Mark Altus, Simon Pfitzner, Graeme Lienert (on Sunday afternoon)
Immanuel Finnish (no delegate attending)
St Paul's Albany (no delegate attending)
Robert Lange (Narrogin, no delegate attending)
Rosemary Davidson
Pastor Jason Pokela

Attendance

- Quorum is minimum of 28 being half of the eligible delegates
- Confirmed that a quorum was present: 39 delegates present

Endorsement of Convention Appointments

Chaplain	Pastor Matt Bishop
Secretary	Lester Dreckow
Minute Secretaries	Tracy Adams, Lois Hage
Electoral Officer	Pastor Kim Kuchel
Tellers	Chris Kempin, Lucas Kroeger
Popular Report	Karen Crouch
Vote of Thanks	Volker Hopfmueller, Monika Tropiano

Moved that the Convention Appointments be endorsed.

Moved: DCC, Seconded: Pastor Peter Hage, Carried

Procedure of Business

Voting procedure, show of hands for proposals, secret ballot for election of office bearers.

Normal rules of business will be followed; need to be speaking to a proposal. If bringing a motion or amendment, please prepare wording for display on the screen.

Moved that the Book of Reports be accepted and taken as read.

Moved: Monica Bodenstaff, Seconded: Ruth Brisbane, Carried

Minutes of the LCA WA District Convention 2017 of WA District Synod - Book of Reports page 71

Moved, that the minutes of the LCA WA District Convention 2017 be adopted.

Moved: Volker Hopfmueller, Seconded: Monika Tropiano

Alteration: Correction of name, Martin Van Koldenhoven

Vote: Carried

Further alteration: Correction of name, Phil Worts

Business Arising

Reporting Back

1. 2017 Synod offering of \$1817 was forwarded to ALWS
2. As a result of Synod decision to employ a 0.5 bishop/0.5 locum the locum role was assigned to St Luke's Parkwood. This decision was made by DCC after opportunity was given to all congregations to apply to host this role.
3. At the 2017 Convention of Synod it was decided not to elect WA GCC representative but rather to delay such election until closer to the 2018 LCANZ General Convention of Synod. Email voting held in mid-2018 resolved to further delay any election until the outcome of proposed changes to the makeup and election of GCC (now GCB) was determined. As a result of changes adopted by 2018 General Convention of Synod a WA representative on the GCB is no longer directly elected by our Synod so no further action required.

Information: GCB does not currently have a WA based member but could do so in the future. It is understood that all GCB members do not represent their state but work together for the good of the whole church. However, the lack of a WA voice on the team means we need to work at communication flow in both directions. DCC is being proactive in this regard.

For Further Discussion

4. Synod 2017 resolved to increase the position of WA District Bishop to 0.5 FTE for three years but to review this arrangement in 2019. This matter will come before the Synod in a later session (see proposals).

Convention Offering

Background: For the Sunday morning offering, after the host congregation retains their average cash offering, the remainder is known as the "convention offering". It is also usual for the host congregation to be invited to suggest the purpose of the convention offering, but the Synod makes the final decision.

In accord with this clarification of "convention offering", Bethlehem Morley makes the following suggestion:

Be it resolved that the convention offering be donated equally to Hanna Schulz and Michael Hauser working within Lutheran Mission International.

Moved: Bethlehem Morley, Seconded: Bill Mansas, Carried

Announcement: Hand in names to our Chaplain Matt Bishop for In Memoriam to be held on Sunday afternoon.

Proposals

Bishop Mike introduced proposals 1, 2, 3 as listed in the Book of Reports, namely:

1. Bishop role of 0.5 FTE (full time equivalent)
2. District Locum role 0.5 FTE
3. WA District Constitution approval

No further late items or proposals were received

Declared the Agenda is now set for our Convention

MORNING TEA

SESSION 2

Chaired by Assistant Bishop Peter Hage

Session kick-off: Welcome to Manuela Scharlach – youngest person at General Synod last year. Shared her experience in the GROW Leadership program and involvement in the Splash (youth) and Plus (young adults) programs.

District Bishop's Report – Bishop Mike Fulwood

Synod text 2 Corinthians 3:12 – 2 types of glory:

- How might we veil the grace of God?
- and Unveil the glory of the grace of God?

Key thoughts from the report

- What do you want your Bishop to look like? Most prominent answers were:
 - Desire for presence from the Bishop
 - Pastor to the Pastors
 - Communication – keeping the District informed
- Encouragement to join WA Lutheran News on Facebook
- Encouragement to increase an attitude of co-operation within the District
- Big changes in rural ministry; no longer the capability to have full time Pastors
- Highlighted the need for SP3 (Safe Places, Safe Programs, Safe People); need to bear the cost joyfully and willingly
- Correction from report, page 16, 2nd paragraph, second line commencing “Whilst the LLL” should read “Whilst LCA Insurance”
- God is challenging us to rediscover the heart of mission

- A word of grace: HOPE, a certain hope that is based on the promises of God

Q: Monika Tropiano, DCC – How is your travelling going as being part of the College of Bishops?

A: Important to be an active participant; the Bishops are enormously supportive; a good environment in which to work and serve one another. It is challenging to be a leader in the church.

Q: Can the District do anything further to support you?

A: Personally very comfortable with how the Office of the Bishop is working currently; a PA who ~~not~~ is not on site is not a suitable staffing model at the moment; DCC has been very supportive. Was privileged to attend the installation of the Bishop for Jordan and the Holy Land.

Pastor Peter Hage – Expressed gratitude that our Bishop was the face of the LCA to the world

Margaret Pfitzner, Dalyellup – We have been the recipients of ministry by Bishop Mike – heartfelt thanks during the times of the College closure and other needs of the congregation. Thank you to Bishop Mike (and Narelle) for immediate responses for care and compassion.

Q: Pastor Peter Hage – How is balancing the 50/50 role of Bishop and Pastor to Parkwood?

A: Impossible to balance well, privileged to work in a church environment, grace is part of our language; good working relationship and conversations with Parkwood in this regard

Under/serving or over/serving? It is a challenge for all of us, I honour you, the delegates, who serve the church and are here willingly

Q: Pastor Matt Bishop – endorsement of Bishop Mike re efficiency

A: "I respond out of fear and need the clear the decks to relax"

Chaplain Matt Bishop prayed for Bishop Mike Fulwood

Bishop Mike returned to chair the meeting

Review of District Bishop Role – Volker Hopfmueller

Volker presented the review process and results, see Book of Reports page 20

Q: Tracy Adams, Rockingham Mandurah – Is 0.5 role of Bishop sufficient?

A: Bishop Mike – It is a question of balance; there is always more that can be done; it is a question of current allocation of resources/staffing; is this the best use of resources? a question for you to answer

A: Volker – Previously our 0.25 President did not attend General Church Council meetings – a representative attended.

Q: Margaret Pfitzner, Dalyellup – Can you participate in College of Bishops meetings electronically?

A: Bishop Mike – Meet in person six times per year, don't meet in person quite so much; but there are different qualities in discussion when in the same room which is needed to deal with things adequately.

Treasurers Report – Fred Kroeger

Fred presented the Treasurer's Report, Book of Reports page 31-36

- Explained the staged approach to phasing in a proportional model of congregations funding the District budget; a staged approach over 5 years; will draw on \$50,000 from the 2020 Fund to support deficit budgets over these 5 years.
- We do need to fund our roles rather than depend on future grants.
- The LYWA Camp account is now closed and the small balance is allocated to the LYWA Coordinator role.
- The 2018 accounts have been audited; needs a small correction in the next Australian Tax Office Business Activity Statement.

Q: Pastor Peter Hage – Thanks to Fred for his contribution to the District. How are grants supporting the role of Bishop?

A: Two lots of funding received – see page 35; \$75,000 gift from LLL and \$28,000 gift from NSW District; total of \$103,000 being used over a 3 year period; have used about half so far.

Q: Pastor Steve Liersch – What are the chances of getting on-going recurring funding?

A: Funding for staffing roles almost impossible; submission planning must be sorted very well in advance; everyone is fighting for a dollar.

Bishop John Henderson – The annual funding round from LLL is not provided for the church bureaucracy, they will not fund the on-going structures of the church.

Monika Tropiano, DCC – DCC has worked very hard looking at opportunities for funding the 0.5 Bishop role

Fred – The amount of administrative support required by the Bishop has decreased and the funds available for this role will last longer.

Bishop Mike – 3 important things have changed that make funding go further; reassignment of staffing, fundraising effort, and the Faith For the Future project is now contributing \$10,000 per year. 4th thing is a working group that has been looking at alternate ways for funding for the District.

Q: John Spicer, Perth – Are Parkwood happy with the reduction of full time Pastor to half time Pastor? And can Parkwood afford the 0.5 role of Pastor?

A: Fred: Have moved from vacancy to half time Pastor

A: Bishop Mike – was there previously in a reconciliation role partially funded by the LCA.

A: Sonia Hueppauff, Parkwood – Have a very good relationship with Pastor Mike and the situation works very well; a symbiotic relationship.

A: Fred: Parkwood are happy and have the capacity to pay the 0.5 role.

Constitution

Bishop Mike – Attention drawn to briefing document about the proposed changes to the constitution, Book of Reports page 7; the need to COMPLY, an UPDATE in accord with LCA constitutions, and no change in SUBSTANCE

Chaplain Matt Bishop asked for lunch instructions and introduced Marty (Martin Luther), referred to the Small Catechism prayers; Grace as written by Martin Luther.

LUNCH

SESSION 3

Chaplain Matt Bishop gave thanks for meal with words from Psalm 136

Promotional material flyer for ALWS Walk my Way WA – Peter Hage to speak more about this tomorrow in ALWS presentation

Session Kick-off: Obang Girma – Anywaa people translation project

- From Ethiopia and came to Australia through refugee camp in Kenya – initially at Parkwood, then Perth Bible College and now supported by Duncraig
- Encouraged to create a read and write program for his native language, Dha-Anywaa, and development of a website for language work and resources which is being funded by an LLL Mission Stimulus Grant
- Will impact this language group in Ethiopia (and potentially language speakers globally through the website)

Chaplain Matt Bishop prayed for Obang and this project.

Nominations District Church Council (DCC) – First Reading

Pastor Kim Kuchel presented the nominations for District Church Council:

Bishop – Pastor Mike Fulwood

Assistant Bishop – Pastor Peter Hage

Secretary – Tracy Adams

Treasurer – Lester Dreckow

Extra Member – Keri Manuel

Extra Member – Graeme Lienert

Extra Member –

Extra Member –

- Please speak to Pastor Kim Kuchel if there are further nominations for these positions.
- Pastor's Conference accepted nominations of:

Bishop – Mike Fulwood,

Assistant Bishop – Peter Hage,

LYWA – Andre Meyer,

LWWA – Glenn Crouch,

Lutheran Homes – Matt Bishop,

Constitutions Committee – Jason Pokela

Additional Appointments to DCC:

LESNW Representative – Francois Pienaar

Noted: A GCC Representative is no longer required under the new GCB arrangements.

LCA report – Rev John Henderson, Bishop, Lutheran Church of Australia

- Greetings from members of the LCA and NZ
- The mission of the church is two-fold – worship and unity
- Some members are asking questions like is the mission of the church happening? Have we lost our sense of purpose?
- Bishop John encouraged us to see worship of God as MISSION and should be the primary focus in our lives both consciously and unconsciously. We worship God through the reading of His Word and partaking in the Sacraments. God serves us – we do not serve Him. And through God serving us, we can serve others. Know our faith and learn to actively pass it on to the next generation. The Unity Candle lit at the beginning of this synod signifies our unity with God and each other. Let us continue to be united together in faith, not as individuals but as one.
- The 2020 M&M Conference would be a good place to continue talking about the ordination issue as at the moment there are no formal plans of what to do next as it has only been several months since the vote was decided at the last General synod held in Sydney, October 2018.

Q: Pastor Kim Kuchel – Is it a hermeneutical question re ordination?

A: No answers yet as no formal plans of how we as the LCA move forward.

Q: Sean Lord, Perth – Question on the word 'catholic' being used in the Creed

A: This is the original word meaning universal of all time, the word Christian was only introduced in recent times. It's good to use the original word.

Chaplain Matt Bishop prayed for Bishop John and his work

Short time of reflection / Rite of Forgiveness – Bishop Mike Fulwood

- The 2018 LCA/NZ General Synod acknowledges the deep hurt in the course of the debate on ordination and seeks reconciliation
- Encourage self examination using the 10 Commandments focussing on 1st, 5th, and 7th
- To Love is the Law – 1 Corinthians 13
- Reflection on 1 John 1: 8-9

Bishop Mike handed over the chair to Assistant Bishop Peter Hage

Proposal 1 – presented by Sonia Huepaufl

Submitted by St Luke's, Parkwood

Whereas at the 47th regular Convention of the LCA WA District Synod resolved that we proceed with increasing the Bishop role from 0.25 to 0.5 FTE (Full Time Equivalent) effective from the installation of the new Bishop for an initial period of 3 years, to be reviewed at the next synodical Convention;

Be it resolved that the LCA WA District continues with a 0.5 FTE (Full Time Equivalent) beyond the 3 year period as adopted at the LCA WA Synod 2017.

Moved: Sonia Huepaufl, Seconded: Dieter Dell'Antonio

- Speakers in favour of this motion: Volker Hopfmueller, Monika Tropiano, Fred Kroeger, Dieter Dell'Antonio

Vote: Carried

AFTERNOON TEA

SESSION 4

Session Kick-off: Morley "Refreshing" Project – Pastor Matt Bishop

- Spoke about the refurbishment and improvement of the physical church plant at Morley – church, manse and surrounds which was possible due to a \$25,000 Mission Stimulus Grant. An extra \$8,000 donation enabled extra work to be completed. We, as synod, are enjoying the fruits of this labour.
- Bishop Mike Fulwood prayed for Pastor Matt and the Morley congregation.

LCA Reports

Lutheran Education

- John Proeve spoke of the challenging times post closure of Ocean Forest Lutheran College and the Halls Head campus of Living Waters Lutheran College. He acknowledged the outgoing principal of OFLC, Andrew Leske and Patrick Moore, Acting Principal of Halls Head Campus and the commitment they had to these schools to the very end. He also acknowledged Bishop Mike Fulwood and Pastor Steve Liersch as they pastorally supported these two communities during a very difficult time.
- Synod theme very appropriate here as these communities move forward in Christ with Living Waters Lutheran College and the appointment of a new principal, Francois Pienaar.
- Francois Pienaar then shared that this is the start of a new year, a new beginning and we now move forward. He is committed to growing and invigorating this school community, drawing on the College Mission Statement and Values Statement to provide excellence in all areas of education and learning. He believes he has a calling to serve this community and looks forward to the future at LWLC.
- Associate Professor Lisa Schmidt was introduced as the new Director for LEA (Lutheran Education Australia). She spoke about education within the LCA and spoke of the Quality School Survey which is a national survey to help check how we are going. She highlighted the need for focus on year 7-12 students as they are moving towards adulthood and tend to question everything they are learning. We, in Lutheran Schools, have opportunity to share Christian beliefs and principles with them. Our Mission within Lutheran Schools is not only to students and staff but to the families and members of the wider school communities.

Celia Fielke and Christine Matthias

- Cross-Cultural Ministry – Grants are available, Cross-Cultural Conference
- Grow Ministries – 10 Guiding Principles, Grow Training and Coaching
- Lutheran Media – Messages of hope reaching into the community, Happyland website
- Ministry with the Ageing – resources available

- New and Renewing Churches – become either a Sending Church or a Partner Church, speak to Pastor Steve Liersch as Rockingham Mandurah are involved
- There are many resources available for these departments so please go to the relevant websites to access or download. GROW Ministries has resources for purchase as well. Please visit displays to see what's available and have a chat.

Tim Ross

- Ministry Support - There is a new document 'Our direction 2018-2024' to assist in local planning in the wider church community. The LCA will implement 50 recommendations from the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse. Recent media reporting is incorrect.
- Church Worker Support – Dr Christine Materne heads this department. There are church worker support officers who visit church workers in WA each year. Pastor Gordon Wegener (retired) is providing Professional Pastoral supervision to our pastors.
- Communications – Linda Macqueen heads up this department. They can assist in websites, design and advice on e-communications.
- Finance & Administration – Debbie Venz is the LCA Business Manager who looks after this department. LAMP 2 – will come out only after the LCA is confident it can provide the safest possible storage of private information. The next Convention of General Synod is in 2021 and will be held in Victoria.
- Lutheran Archives – Rachel Kuchel is our Archivist and ensures the preservation of church records and documents. If you have any such documents, please contact the Lutheran Archives directly.
- Professional Standards – Tim Ross heads this department. Training program has been updated and now has only 2 levels of training. The new Professional Standards Officer for WA is Bill Mansas.

Rev Dr Andrew Pfeiffer

- Australian Lutheran College (ALC) – Rev Dr Andrew Pfeiffer extended greetings from Rev James Winderlich, Principal of Australia Lutheran College, who was an apology for the LCA WA Convention of Synod. He thanked the WA District for their support of ALC. This is now a diverse multi-cultural community and he encouraged people who are interested to contact ALC regarding courses that are currently being offered.

Pastor Matt Anker

- Pastor Matt is the new Assistant to the Bishop, Mission International and replaces Glenice Hartwich who has retired from this position. He spoke of 1+1+1 (1 paid missionary in PNG; 1 Indonesian partner church has Lutheran in their name; 1 person stood against the false prophets of Baal in 1 Kings 18 and defeated them) = 3 in 1 'The trinity – Father, Son and Holy Spirit' which is the heart and centre of all Mission. If we would like to know more about our Mission International Partners, they are all listed in the 2019 Lenten Prayer Calendar. This is available in hard copy or is downloadable from their website. Pastor Matt also invited delegates and visitors to come and speak with him further afterwards if they have any questions and to visit the Mission International display.

Proposal 3, District Constitution

Submitted by District Church Council

Bishop Mike: Are there any questions to be raised about the proposed constitution?

- Q: Chris Antonini, Duncraig – If we need to meet annually what will that look like?

A: Bishop Mike responded that yes, we have to meet, and DCC will work on this.

- Graeme Lienert advised that GCB has endorsed the Constitution at their meeting this last week.

Bishop Mike presented the proposal

Whereas:

- a) the LCA WA District is an Incorporated Association in WA; and
- b) the WA Associations Incorporation Act 2015 requires an association to update to their rules to meet the requirements of the Act by 1st July 2019

Be it resolved the revised constitution of the Lutheran Church of Australia, Western Australia District Incorporated be approved.

Moved: Graeme Lienert on behalf of the Constitutions Committee

- Graeme advised that in clause 8.12.1 the word “manage” is changed to “administer” for consistency with clause 1.2.3.

Seconded: Peter Hage, Carried

Close

Chaplain Matt Bishop, Romans 5:1-11

DINNER

For an evening of fellowship, dinner was held at St Luke's Lutheran Church, Parkwood.

Speakers: Eden Bishop and Erin Geurds-Cook – Grow Leadership

SUNDAY 3rd March 2019

9:30am WORSHIP WITH HOLY COMMUNION

Liturgist: Pastor Matt Bishop

Preacher: Bishop John Henderson, 2 Corinthians 3:12

SESSION 5

Session Kick-off: Bishop Mike and Jo Klein – Geraldton's partnership with Morley

Quorum Check; 36 delegates in attendance

Bishop Mike highlighted the History Project display; Graeme Lienert is undertaking this project with the blessing of DCC

Proposed Budget

Fred Kroeger presented the proposed budget for 2019/2020

- Income is supported by \$10,000 from the Faith For the Future and \$7,950 from the Olive Farm wines fundraiser

Proposal: Be it resolved that the Proposed Budget for 2019/2020 as presented as an addendum to the Book of Reports be adopted.

Moved: Fred Kroeger, **Seconded:** Tracy Adams

- Minimal discussion

Vote: Carried

For the support of the District:

- REG – Regular Electronic Giving; pre-filled forms distributed; specific ministries can be supported also; District contributions requested to be over and above what is being contributed to the congregations
- Partnership with Olive Farm Wines for fundraising; thanks to all for support; 21 per cent of sales were from outside WA
- Please be mindful of any businesses the District can partner with for fundraising
- Bequests are also welcomed

Australian Lutheran World Service (ALWS)

Pastor Peter Hage, Chairman of ALWS

- Thank you for your gracious generous hearts supporting the work of ALWS; \$102,018.76 contributed last year to ALWS by WA supporters
- Encouraged participation in Walk My Way fundraiser for ALWS
- Jamie Davies has been appointed as Executive Officer of ALWS

Lutheran Laypeople's League (LLL) – Andrew Waldhuter

- Highlights of the last year include:
 - Benefits and Services to the LCA totaling over \$10M
 - Legacies and Donations received of over \$2.5M
 - Depositor balances exceeding \$1.1B
- The LLL is now the size of mid-sized credit unions
- REG, Regular Electronic Giving has been revitalised, information is being distributed to congregations
- Will be introducing a 31-day Notice account when interest rates improve

Chaplain Matt Bishop prayed for ALWS and the LLL

Lutheran Youth of WA (LYWA) – Serica Yurisich

- Grow Ministries National Youth Forum, 3 of our youth were able to attend, Erin Geurds-Cook, Ben Belke, Tom Schubert, along with mentors, Manuela Scharlach, Oliver Swift and Matt Schubert
- Equipping for Effective Child and Family Ministry training day was held at Morley
- LYWA Camping program dates
- Thank you for the money, food and time donations to the camping ministry

Bishop Mike prayed for LYWA and the leadership.

In Memorium

Chaplain Matt Bishop conducted the In Memorium service.

LUNCH

SESSION 6

Session Kick-off: Pastor Steve Liersch talked about Rockingham Mandurah being a sending church. Resources are available through new and renewing churches.

Professional Standards

Monika Tropiano

- Thank you for welcoming me to your congregations
- Improvement to Working With Children Check are happening

Tim Ross

- As Monika is stepping down, introduced Bill Mansas as the incoming Professional Standards Officer of the WA District.
- Expressed sincere gratitude to Monika for her work over the past 7 years.

Bill Mansas was installed to his role by Bishop Mike Fulwood.

Nominations District Church Council – Second and Final Reading

Pastor Kim Kuchel presented the nominations for District Church Council:

Bishop – Pastor Mike Fulwood

Assistant Bishop – Pastor Peter Hage

Secretary – Tracy Adams

Treasurer – Lester Dreckow

Extra Member – Keri Manuel

Extra Member – Graeme Lienert

Extra Member – Chris Antonini

Extra Member – vacant

- No further nominations have been received; declared that these people are elected to District Church Council.

Additional Appointment to DCC includes:

LESNW Representative – Francois Pienaar

- Appointments confirmed for Pastor's Conference nominations of:

LYWA – Andre Meyer,

LWWA – Glenn Crouch,

Lutheran Homes – Matt Bishop,

Bishop Mike thanked Synod for the trust placed in these office holders.

Proposal 2 – presented by Sonia Huepauff

Submitted by St Luke's, Parkwood

Whereas at the 47th regular Convention of the LCA WA District Synod resolved that the LCA WA District synod calls a full-time pastor for the role of Bishop and part-time locum;

Be it resolved that the LCA WA District Locum (0.5 FTE) role continues and continues to be assigned to St Luke's Parkwood.

Moved: Sonia Huepauff, Seconded: Debbie Dreckow

Amendment submitted by District Church Council – presented by Monika Tropiano

Amendment: Be it resolved that the LCA WA District Locum (0.5 FTE) role continues. Expressions of interest for assignment of the locum are to be submitted to District Church Council.

Moved: DCC, Seconded: Pastor Peter Hage

- Explanation by Monika and Peter Hage and Bishop Mike;

Vote on the amendment: Carried, the amendment becomes the motion.

Be it resolved that the LCA WA District Locum (0.5 FTE) role continues. Expressions of interest for assignment of the locum are to be submitted to District Church Council.

Vote: Carried

Lutheran Homes Foundation – report is in the Book of Reports

Lutheran Women of WA (LWWA) – Roslyn Zadow

- 50th anniversary of LWWA, convention is to be held 4th May 2019 at Morley.
- Looking forward to a lot of attendees at convention due to an invite at National Synod
- Theme: Woman of Faith through the Generations. Ephesians 3:20-21. Guest speakers Desma Kuchel, Tracy Adams and Rachel Hage.
- Thanks to Pastor Crouch for becoming our spiritual advisor.
- Wear something gold for the anniversary should you choose.
- Thanks to Mike Yurisich for preparation of logo items

Prayer and blessing by Chaplain Matt Bishop

Bishop Mike spoke about the closure of Morawa congregation at the end of 2018 and an invitation to the closing service of thanksgiving and celebration on 7th April 2019 10:30am.

Faith for the Future (St Johns Perth) – Mike Graebner

- It is now 4 years since the completion of Stage 1; has been a successful stage; but comes with challenges of managing a new building; have 4 substantial tenants
- Net return of approx. \$230,000 last year, most used to repay debt
- Current LLL loan is approx. \$600,000
- Lutheran Homes Foundation loan is \$1.2M
- Received bequests of \$1.32M to St Johns Perth which have been used to reduce debt
- Stage 2 not a viable option in the current economic climate; would not be able to pre-lease
- Recommended making \$10,000 per year contribution to the WA District, to be reviewed annually
- Thank you to everyone for the support for this project

Prayer and blessing by Chaplain Matt Bishop

Bishop Mike thanked the Faith for the Future committee and St Johns Perth

Next Year

Mission and Ministry Conference, to be held on the March long weekend 2020. DCC will explore how to meet the requirements for an AGM

Vote of Thanks – Monika Tropiano and Volker Hopfmueller

Monika and Volker conveyed thanks to Bethlehem Morley congregation for hosting and catering for this convention; to St Luke's Parkwood congregation for hosting the Saturday evening dinner; and to all of the speakers and presenters who have contributed to this convention

Bishop Mike: Thanks to all for serving as Synod Delegates and a reminder you are still a delegate for this synodical term

CLOSING SERVICE AND INSTALLATION

Liturgist: Bishop Mike Fulwood

Reading: Romans 12:1-12

Address: 2 Kings 4:1-7

Assistant Bishop Peter Hage thanked DCC members completing their service:

Volker Hopfmueller, since 2004 as DCC Member, including 9 years as GCC Representative

Fred Kroeger, since 2004 as Treasurer

Simon Pfitzner, since 2015 as DCC Member

Monika Tropiano, since 2015 as DCC Member

Bishop Mike Fulwood conducted the Installation Rite of District Church Council

GLOSSARY

ADI – Authorised Deposit-taking Institution

AGM – Annual General Meeting

ALC – Australian Lutheran College

ALWS – Australian Lutheran World Service

DCC – District Church Council (of Western Australia)

FTE – Full time equivalent

GCB – General Church Board (of the Lutheran Church of Australia)

GCC – General Church Council (of the Lutheran Church of Australia)

LCA – Lutheran Church of Australia

LEA – Lutheran Education Australia

LESNW – Lutheran Education SA, NT and WA (previously LSA)

LLL – Lutheran Laypeople's League

LWLC – Living Waters Lutheran College, Warnbro and Halls Head

LWWA – Lutheran Woman of Western Australia

LYWA – Lutheran Youth of Western Australia

PSD – Professional Standards Department of the LCA