



# **Section 5**

## **Reports to 2013 Synod**

District Church Council

## 2013 DISTRICT CHURCH COUNCIL REPORT TO CONVENTION OF SYNOD

The theme of *In His Steps* reflects a desire, in 2013, to ensure we not only be disciples of Christ but active in following in his footsteps every day.

This Convention of Synod continues the concepts of mission into our existing and new communities and the power of personal witnessing of faith. The District Church Council (DCC) urge all delegates to return to their congregations and parishes ready to encourage all members of our Church to follow *In His Steps*.

The DCC members continue to offer their time and effort every 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of the month from midday. Most meetings finish between 6-7pm.

The past year has demanded much time and effort from the members of DCC as they have begun the laborious task of finalizing the *Delegation of Authority* paper. This undertaking is completed outside the regular meeting time. It has been a blessing and privilege to serve the Lutheran Church of Australia, Queensland District (LCAQD).

The DCC members are listed. The Director of Ministry and Mission, John O'Keefe and the District Executive Officer, Michael Turner are consultants to the DCC and attend all meetings. The Bishop's Executive Assistant provides secretariat support to the DCC.

District Church Council at 31/05/2013	Congregation	DCC Sub Committees	Attendance 11 meetings & LCC Joint Workshop
Bishop Noel Noack	Prince of Peace, Everton Hills	Executive The Bishop is a member of all sub-committees and Departments	11
Rev Paul Smith 1st Vice-Bishop	St Marks, Caloundra	Executive	9
Rev James Haak 2nd Vice-Bishop	Lockyer Valley Parish Gatton	Executive	9
Wendy Hoopert Secretary	St Peters, Indooroopilly	Executive	12
Rev Brenton Fiedler	Good Shepherd, Toowoomba		8
Margit Hubbers	Our Saviour, Rochedale		9
Michael Klatt	St Pauls, Nundah		10
Rev Stuart Kleinig	South West Qld Parish. Dalby		8
Rachel Peitsch	St Peters, Indooroopilly	Constitutions	8
Andrew Spyropoulos	St Marks, Mount Gravatt	Risk, Audit & Finance Committee	10
Cheryl Steinhardt	Redeemer, Laidley		10

Michael Stolz	Prince of Peace, Everton Hills	Risk, Audit & Finance Committee DCC rep on GCC	9
Peter Weier	Grace, Redcliffe		8

On a 4 monthly rotation cycle, the LCAQD Department Directors and the Chairs of each Department report directly to the DCC.

This term, DCC resolved 371 resolutions, reviewed and received 49 sets of minutes, and reviewed and received 66 reports.

DCC approved \$242, 289 worth of loans to congregations, \$3.086M to Lutheran Community Care (LCC) and \$12.252M to Lutheran Education Queensland (LEQ) schools. In addition to the numerous school council appointments DCC reappointed Sue Kloeden as Executive Officer of LEQ and called Rev John O’Keefe as Director of Mission and Ministry.

Last year DCC developed the mission statement for the LCAQD:  
*To lead and partner in the mission of the Gospel.*

The *Strategic Priorities that supported this statement* were grouped into three focus *Initiatives* and through out the term the following activities assisted in the accomplishment of the LCAQD’s *Strategic Direction*.

### **Leadership**

- Investments in leadership/training coaching included 20/20; key officeholder; training and coaching of Pastors.

### **Partnering**

- Improved communication across the District
- Employment of a part time communications/newsletter co-ordinator

### **Mission**

- Supported and invested in African and Asian Ministry
- Youth & Young Adults

o *Governance* – Australian Institute of Company Director’s Course (AICD) for all DCC members. Martin Kreiwaldt , a former past chair of AICD, facilitated the training assisting the board to further understand company structure and the non for profit board in relation to governance. The DCC board was joined by the department directors and various other members from each department board. DCC thanks them for their time spent training and in service to the Church.

o *Disaster Relief* : This year the LCAQD were well prepared to lend support, assistance and offer guidance to those affected by the 2013 disasters.

o *Improved reporting* from Departments LCC conducted a joint LCC/DCC workshop to update DCC on the progress of plans for the Nundah redevelopment.

Early in 2013 DCC members and consultants gathered for a weekend retreat at Santa Teresa near Wynnum. The LCAQD and it's board members were blessed by their time in reflection and prayer. Plans are already underway for next years retreat to also include the departments of the LCAQD.

General Convention of Synod, Adelaide was attended by Bishop Noel Noack, Rev Paul Smith, Rev James Haak,, Wendy Hoopert, Rev Brenton Fiedler, Margit Hubbers, Rev Stuart Kleinig, Andrew Spyropoulos, and Michael Stolz .

Farewell and deep thanks are offered to Rev Graham Harms, on his retirement and his wife Sirpa, who established the Disaster Response and Recovery Coordinator's role.

DCC congratulate Cherie Argall on the birth of her first child Jackson and wish her God's blessing on her resignation and welcome Kate Ryan who will replace her. Kate briefly filled in for Gabby Rogers and then replaced Dawn Pope who moved to LEQ, DCC also congratulate Karoline Lane (Payroll) on the birth of her new son, Michael. Karoline is on maternity leave.

DCC give thanks to all department directors, their staff and councils who assisted in the work of the Church through out the year.

A special thanks to the Bishop's Executive Assistant who has continued to refine and develop paper less DCC board meetings.

Respectfully submitted  
In His service



Wendy Hoopert  
Lutheran Church of Australia Queensland District Secretary