



Section 17

Reports to 2013 Synod

Lutheran Laypeople's League



Thanks be to God for another successful year of LLL operations as we continue to support the ministry and mission of the Lutheran Church. We also thank our depositors and supporters who enable the LLL to provide significant benefits and services to the Church.

Some of the highlights of financial year 2011/2012 include:

- Providing Benefits & Services to the LCA totalling over \$13.3M
- Legacies and Donations of over \$2.5M
- Celebration of 90 years of service
- Development of Lutheran ePay.

BENEFITS AND SERVICES

Total benefits and services provided to the LCA over the last year are valued at over \$13.3M. The major component of this is the interest saving as a result of providing low interest loans to LCA organisations was estimated at \$9,157,701 for the year ending 30 June 2012.

Grants totalling \$3,942,762 were provided to the LCA and associated LCA organisations. Other services provided to the LCA are worth \$235,432. These services include provision of various administration and financial services to the LCA.

LEGACIES AND DONATIONS

Legacies totalling \$2,480,292 were received during the 2011/2012 financial year and donations totalling \$68,494.

These legacies and donations are invaluable to the work of the LLL and provide a perpetual benefit as part of the LLL Permanent Funds – ‘Always lent, never spent’. Every legacy and donation received by the LLL is added to these Permanent Funds which support the Church in a variety of ways, in mission both overseas and local, ministry through lay workers, media, youth & family. LLL Permanent Funds form the Reserves of the LLL which provide a strong capital base as an additional protection and safeguard for LLL depositors.

LOANS

Loans outstanding as at 30 June 2012 totalled \$337,050,050 with all of these loans made to LCA organisations. The Lutheran School sector is the largest borrower of LLL funds and saves significant amounts of money each year by being able to borrow at low

interest rates from the LLL. This enables these schools to provide a superior religious based education to nearly 40,000 students in Australia each school day.

Estimated interest saved by all LCA organisations borrowing funds from the LLL during the last financial year is \$9,157,701.

DEPOSITS

Depositor funds increased to \$620,238,898 as at 30 June 2012 and these deposits enable the LLL to provide low interest loans to Church projects. LLL@Home registered users totalled 16,742 as at 30 June, with nearly 80% of LLL transactions now being processed through electronic means.

A sincere thank you to all LLL depositors for your deposit support which enables the Church to save substantial amounts of money as projects borrow from the LLL.

90 YEARS OF SERVICE

November 2011 marked the 90th Anniversary of the commencement of the LLL. Board allocations at the end of last financial year included special Thanksgiving Gifts to the LCA, Districts, Lutheran Education Australia and Lutheran Aged Care Australia totalling \$1.6M.

Lutheran ePay

The LLL is managing and funding the development of a new electronic donation and payment portal for the Lutheran Church and all associated organisations. This is an exciting project which will allow LCA members and supporters to:

1. Make once off and/or regular donations and payments to any LCA department or organisation
2. Use their credit/debit card or bank account to make donations and payments
3. Maintain their regular donations and payments, receive notifications and obtain historical information.

This facility is planned to be available later in 2013 and more information will be made available by the LCA as we approach release date.

LCA ADMINISTRATION

Administration services are provided to the LCA as follows:

LCA Insurance Fund

LCA Subscriptions (The Lutheran magazine & Lutheran Theological Journal)

LCA Treasury (LCA, LEA & SA District accounting, payroll and services)

LCA Funds (Pensions, Provident & Car Grants).

Assets insured through the LCA Insurance Fund as at June 30 2012 were valued at 3,332,138,879. Our brokers continue to negotiate excellent insurance cover and rates, which provide a significant benefit to Church organisations. The costs associated with the group policies that are negotiated with insurers are substantially lower than would

apply if individual policies were negotiated, and the cover is usually superior to that provided by individual policies. The LCA Professional Standards Unit (PSU) is also funded via this facility.

TRACT MISSION

Lutheran Tract Mission (LTM) has been operated by the LLL for a number of years, providing a large range of Christian leaflets (tracts), faith cards, bookmarks etc to be used in spreading the Good News of the Gospel.

A total of 462,595 tracts were distributed by LTM during the last year with donations received of \$43,726. We produced 71 new tracts during the year including a range of tracts concentrating on our aging population (i.e. Hospital visiting, dementia, grief and loss). We are also refreshing the look and feel of a range of popular tracts that are looking dated. Children's ministry will continue to be a focus for new tracts and we are also producing information tracts to help Lutherans understand their faith more.

REGULAR ELECTRONIC GIVING (REG)

Current REG statistics are as follows:

LCA Organisations using REG: 285

Participants contributing via REG: 2,239

Monthly giving via REG: \$451,727 (i.e. \$5,420,727 per annum).

BOARD

God has given our Board members a wide range of skills and experience, and they use these gifts to carry out their governance role professionally, always ensuring that the objects of the LLL to serve the Church are upheld.

All praise and honour to our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ for continuing to bless the work of the LLL and for enabling us to support the ministry and mission of the Church for over 90 years.

Yours in Christ

THE LUTHERAN LAYPEOPLE'S LEAGUE OF AUSTRALIA INC

Andrew Waldhuter

Promotions Manager