



Section 5

2014 Convention of Synod

District Church Council Report

The theme this year, ***Lord teach us to pray***, demonstrates for us a path to develop last year's theme - *In His Steps*. The Lutheran Church of Australia Queensland District (LCAQD) is encouraged and inspired to be well equipped with prayer as Disciples of Christ.

Prayer underpins all that we do in the Church. *Unless the LORD builds the house, its builders labor in vain. Unless the LORD watches over the city, the watchmen stand guard in vain. Psalm 127:1-2*

This discipleship theme will continue to be developed in the years ahead. District Church Council (DCC) passed a resolution after last years Convention of Synod that the LCAQD Convention of Synod continue with the practice of holding Convention of Synod on a weekend where the Sunday is the first Sunday in June.

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

District Church Council at 07/04/2013	Congregation	DCC Sub Committees	Attendance 11 meetings & Santa Teresa Retreat LCC workshop
Rev Noel Noack Bishop	Prince of Peace, Everton Hills	Executive The Bishop is a member of all sub-committees and Departments	14
Rev Paul Smith 1 st Assist. Bishop	St Marks, Caloundra	Executive	12
Rev James Haak 2 nd Assist. Bishop	Lockyer Valley Parish Gatton	Executive	12
Wendy Hoopert Secretary	St Peters, Indooroopilly	Executive	12
Rev Brenton Fiedler	Good Shepherd, Toowoomba		12
Margit Hubbers	Our Saviour, Rochedale		13
Michael Klatt	St Pauls, Nundah	Constitutions RAFC	13
Rev Stuart Kleinig	South West Qld Parish. Dalby		9
Rachel Peitsch	St Peters, Indooroopilly	Constitutions	10
Andrew Spyropoulos	St Marks, Mount Gravatt	Risk, Audit & Finance Committee	Absent due to Family commitments
Cheryl Steinhardt	Redeemer, Laidley		14
Michael Stolz	Prince of Peace, Everton Hills	Risk, Audit & Finance Committee DCC rep on GCC	13
Peter Weier	Grace, Redcliffe		9

DCC meet on the 4th Thursday of each month (where practical) at 3:30pm. On a 4 monthly rotation cycle, the LCAQD Department Directors and the Chairs of each

Department report directly to the DCC. Every month the departments also provide DCC with a written report.

This term, DCC carried 264 resolutions, reviewed and received 49 sets of minutes, and reviewed and received 57 reports.

DCC approved \$1,764,736 worth of loans to congregations, \$14.886M to Lutheran Education Queensland (LEQ) schools and assisted the Mission and Ministry Department with large projects totaling \$322,000. The borrowing limit for three schools was increased.

In 2013 DCC appointed 23 people to various councils and approved another 23 people in reappointments to councils in the District and the LCA. DCC also appointed 2 principals to schools of the District. The Executive Council also approved 75 “signatures under seal” at the District office.

In conjunction with the work of the Professional Standards Unit, the DCC approved 11 policies, guiding conduct and procedures in our District.

DCC approves the budgets of the departments and sale of various properties in the District.

Fifteen new or revised congregation constitutions were approved by DCC in 2013.

DCC approved the finalization of the loan application in readiness to purchase level 3 at 24 McDougall St, Milton. This matter is progressing as reports go to print. Late in 2013 DCC approved the management change of Koojarewon, Highfields from LCC to LYQ in order to provide a better mission fit.

DCC welcome Rev Don Wickleman to the District on assignment to Good Shepherd, Toowoomba and St Johns, Kingaroy as a school of the District.

In 2012 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 throughout the term the following activities assisted in the accomplishment of the LCAQD's *Strategic Direction*.

Leadership

- Investments in leadership/training/ coaching further developed and handed over to the LCA.

Partnering

- Improved communication across the District
- To subscribe to the LCA Queensland District Newsletter please email district@qld.lca.org.au

Mission

- Supported and invested in African and Asian Ministry
 1. Newlife Childcare refurbishment
 2. Amana Family Daycare move to Newlife
 3. Rev Jade Bauer moved into Newlife manse
- Youth & Young Adults
 1. Funded research into young adults in the Church
 2. Tom Schmidt employed as Young Adult coordinator

Other initiatives during the period include:

- *Governance*: Developed a programme of work for DCC meetings
- *Disaster Relief*: Training seminar for Pastors.
- *Improved reporting*

The LCA has extended an invitation to the LCA to host the 2015 General Convention of Synod at Redeemer Lutheran College, Rochedale from 29th September-4th October.

This is a great challenge for our District and I ask you to keep the Church and all our leaders in your prayers as they plan for this event.

There are a number of new faces at the LCAQD office this year including

- Lois Hage – as Personal Assistant to M&M Director Rev John O’Keefe
- Juliette Warnes – Leadership Trainer, LYQ (position vacated by Emma Graetz)
- Tom Schmidt, Young Adult’s Co-coordinator, LYQ
- Candice (Cass) Truss – Administration Assistant, LYQ
- Carole Mitchell – LCAQD Payroll

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

Neil Kube, the Bishop’s Executive Assistant, continues to support DCC members and assists the refinement of the governance function. Thank you for the many hours you devote to this task and your smiling face at the end of the phone.

Please continue to pray for the DCC as they continue their work in the Church.

Respectfully submitted
In His service

Wendy Hoopert
Lutheran Church of Australia Queensland District Secretary