



Section 16

2014 Convention of Synod

Lutheran Youth of Qld Report

LUTHERAN YOUTH QUEENSLAND

We continue to be humbled and excited by the opportunity to serve our God through our District's Lutheran Youth of Queensland ministry. We also continue to be humbled by the generous support we receive from individuals, congregations, the District and our colleague departments. Thank you for partnering in ministry with us, we hope that you and your congregation are proud of what we are achieving together as a District through our shared ministry to children, teenagers and families.

The following Synod Report will hopefully give you a good overview of our last 12 months and our ministry generally. There is only so much that we can share through a written report so please don't hesitate to contact us if you have any questions about our ministry. You can contact our office on 3511 4080 or alternatively you might like to visit our stand or talk to one of our team at Synod. We'd love to share more about what we do with you!

TWO THINGS THAT EVERY LCAQD CONGREGATION SHOULD KNOW

There are still lots of people in our District who don't know much about the ministry of Lutheran Youth of Queensland. If you can we'd love you to share the following two points with your congregation.

1. Our Ministry has grown to include FIVE areas

1. Holiday Camp Ministry - *Christian Life Week camps plus more!*
2. Young Adult Ministry – *Support for university students and young adults*
3. Campsite Ministry – *Two beautiful sites & a powerful ministry*
4. Congregational Support – *Training events and networking for church leaders*
5. Schools Ministry – *Leadership Training programs in Lutheran schools*

2. We exist to support the District congregations

We believe that congregations are the heartbeat of our church and we're here to help. Our ministry has been deliberately developed to support congregations in their ministry to children, teenagers and families. Please use what we do to support and compliment your local ministry. Ask us about our amazing Elevation Training day, our quarterly networking events for leaders and the FREE *Faith at Home* resource produced by our national ministry partners, Grow Ministries.

HOLIDAY CAMP MINISTRY

There are few ministries in our church that transform the faith of young people more than our District's holiday camps. The experience of Christian community that camp provides gives young people the opportunity to discover more about themselves and God in a safe environment. We continue to be humbled by the way that God works through the volunteer leaders on camp, and the campers themselves, to grow the faith and confidence of children and teenagers. We've outlined below a small sample of the feedback we received from our CLW campers last year – the feedback demonstrates why camping has been a core part of our church's ministry for over 50 years!

I invited a close friend to youth one time and she enjoyed it, not before long she was coming to church with me on a regular basis and she was wanting to learn more and more. I decided to invite her to CLW where she was so thankful for the opportunity and that it had opened her up to a whole new level of believing in God. She said that it had impacted her life way more than she could ever imagine and that she was glad to be a Christian. Thanks CLW!

My time at CLW has made me realise my worth and value as a person. CLW made me aware of the masks that I wear, and how I no longer have to battle with these - I just have to give them to God. I have loved seeing a deeper side to my friends and I feel fresh, renewed and excited to go out into the world knowing God loves me!

CLW is a place where I have gained many true Christian friends and as well as gaining more knowledge about not only God but myself. CLW has saved me from heading in the wrong direction and has put my back on the track to following God, it truly changed my life. I now feel more confident in myself and connected to God.

More than Christian Life Week

In addition to the transformational Christian Life Week (CLW) camps that our church knows and loves; we also now facilitate 'Adventure style' camps during the summer holidays.

Our new 'Adventure style' camps (called *Blast* and *Explode*) have been developed to offer a Christian camp experience for teenagers who are new to the Christian faith or not ready for the bible study intensity of a CLW camp. These camps have grown in popularity over the last 2 years, particularly amongst Lutheran school students, and allow us to share the Gospel with teenagers we wouldn't be able to reach another way.

Camping Ministry Support

We want to acknowledge and **thank the incredible congregations that sponsor children, teenagers and young adults to attend our holiday camps.** Every year a number of congregations in Queensland provide substantial discounts - *some pay the entire cost* – so that the young people in their communities can grow closer to God

through our holiday camps (either as campers or leaders). Thank you for investing so strongly and clearly in the faith of the young people in your congregation!

We also want to extend our thanks to Lutheran Women of Queensland for making Christian Life Week camps their funding focus for the next 2 years. Thank you for this incredible gift!

YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY

Appointment of Tom Schmidt as our new Young Adult Ministry Coordinator

We were thrilled to install Tom Schmidt as our new Young Adult Ministry Coordinator in March. Tom is one of the most experienced youth workers in the LCA and brings with him great insight from his recent role as Youth and Young Adults Coordinator at Immanuel Lutheran Church, Buderim.

Tom has hit the ground running and already connected with a lot of local Brisbane congregations. He is in the process of calling every congregational Pastor in Queensland with the purpose of introducing himself and growing our understanding of congregational needs in the area of young adult ministry.

We encourage congregations to connect with Tom and take advantage of his expertise in this important ministry area. In particular we would love congregations to use Tom to assist young adults to find new church homes when they move for study and work.

Evaluation of Effective Young Adult Ministry Practice in the LCAQD

In December we commissioned an evaluation of Young Adult Ministry Practice in the LCAQD with the purpose of identifying what is working, what isn't and how the District might be able to support congregations in Queensland. The research included interviews with key church leaders in the LCA, a literature review of current local and international young adult ministry research, and analysis of over 300 responses to an online survey by young adults themselves. The resulting report (attached) has given us a valuable understanding of the key challenges our church faces in ministering to young adults (18-30) and clear recommendations regarding how Lutheran Youth of Queensland can provide practical assistance to congregations.

Some of the key findings include:

1. Young Adults have a passion and interest in the future of our church.
2. In many cases we have not equipped our Young Adults with a strong enough understanding of faith for them to survive and engage with today's secular Australian culture.
3. Young Adults want a church that will help them to wrestle with current issues (ie. Sexuality) in a deep and critical way. They have had enough of what they perceive as simple answers.

4. Our Church needs to improve how it supports Young Adults in transition out of school and into adult life. This can be the biggest life change Young Adults have ever experienced and they find it tough!
5. Young Adults desire worship that speaks into their everyday life in a relevant way, and they have a strong desire for inter-generational community.

We are still working through the final report and identifying how we can appropriately adopt and action the key recommendations. We hope to communicate our planned response to congregations through a formal letter in the coming months. We are also working with Bishop Noel Noack to finalise a communication plan that shares the results with all congregations in the LCAQD and initiates a dialog aimed at enhancing our ministry support for young adults - *stay tuned!*

CAMPSITE MINISTRY

Koojarewon Youth Camp

We were excited to formally add Koojarewon Youth Camp to our ministry in April this year after

District Church Council (DCC) decided to transfer management responsibility of the ministry from Lutheran Community Care.

We are honoured to be able to contribute to this important Lutheran ministry and we want to acknowledge the incredible service of the many Lutheran members who selflessly contributed to establish and grow the ministry of Koojarewon Youth Camp – thank you!

In only a short time we have already developed an exciting 3 year operations plan that we believe will position Koojarewon Youth Camp as an important school camp provider that offers a unique ‘Australian Bush camp’ experience. To achieve this outcome we will particularly need to invest in marketing, team development and the addition of programming activities.

A key focus of our plan also involves reconnecting the ministry of Koojarewon Youth Camp with the Darling Downs church community. We will need the assistance of the local church community to make Koojarewon sustainable. In particular we will need:

1. **Prayer support!** – Thank God for the opportunity that Koojarewon provides to share the Gospel with young and old. Pray that God would work powerfully in the lives of those connected with Koojarewon.
2. **Volunteer support** – Join us at our upcoming work camps and working bees, beginning in June 2014.
3. **Financial support** – Lutheran Youth of Queensland will be investing substantial funds into

Koojarewon over the next 3 years to ensure its future success. We would welcome partners who are willing to invest with us to make this possible.

Thank you in advance for partnering with us to make Koojarewon Youth Camp a powerful ministry of our church.

Luther Heights Youth Camp

Our ministry at Luther Heights Youth Camp continues to grow from strength to strength. We are thrilled to host more than 10,000 people at Luther Heights every year and honored to be able to share the Gospel with so many.

The visitors to Luther Heights are wide and varied (ie. school groups to community groups, church groups and corporate events) but all come for the same reason – to escape the ‘everyday’, to experience something new and to discover more about themselves.

We’re thankful for the way that God is working through our team at Luther Heights to impact young lives and create lifelong memories. The feedback below will give you a glimpse into the great things that are happening at Luther Heights!

What a Wonderful Camp! The food is amazing (a highlight for both students and staff) and the kitchen staff so friendly and helpful! The activity leaders are also fantastic dealing with some difficult conditions (weather and students) with grace and confidence. Can't wait to be back again.

Sarah St Patricks Gympie

I have been coming to Coolum since 1973, Luther Heights has been present since I can remember. For some time the beautiful place was not fully utilised and its reputation was less than ordinary. I have now been reintroduced to Luther Heights. WOW. What a wonderful experience. It is very evident that there is a vision and it is being acted upon. Thank you for bringing this beautiful place back to the community.

Madome Hennessy. Director of Boarding St Peters Lutheran College.

Thank you so much for a fun camp. Great staff running fun and engaging activities. The accommodation, food and general grounds were all of a very high standard. It's amazing how you cater for every individual and nothing is too hard. The program and activities were all specifically designed for our school and its clientele. All staff are knowledgeable, enthusiastic and inspiring to the students. Thanks Again!!!

Urangan State High School.

Thank you very much for a terrific camp experience. The students have been absolutely surprised and delighted about how much fun camp can be! They have been full of stories about how kind the staff have been, how wonderful the food is (and amazed at the quantity) and how much they have enjoyed the activities. Thanks for encouraging the students to give everything a go. They have all experienced a great

sense of achievement. All this has been achieved with God's strength and under his watchful eye. We have been blessed to have this wonderful camp experience. Every Blessing

St Peters Lutheran College Year 4.

CONGREGATIONAL SUPPORT

An important part of Lutheran Youth of Queensland's ministry is the support that we provide to congregations. We believe that congregations are the heartbeat of ministry in the LCAQD and we are proud to support local congregational ministry through the provision of training, networking opportunities and coaching.

Our *Elevation* training day has become an important way to support and equip leaders in children, youth and family ministry. This annual one-day event offers specialist electives delivered by experienced trainers from Queensland and interstate, and in 2014 equipped 170 Sunday school teachers, youth leaders and primary school teachers.

Every quarter we also facilitate a free *Ministry Morning Tea* for children, youth and family ministry workers in SE Queensland. These networking events, which incorporate an expert guest presenter, have been a very effective way to support local ministry workers (volunteer and paid) and grow connections between churches. Our Ministry Morning Teas are open to everyone (and they're FREE!) – please make sure your Pastor, Sunday school teachers and youth leaders know about this great PD opportunity.

SCHOOLS MINISTRY

We are privileged to be able to support the ministry of our Lutheran Schools by providing Christian leadership training programs to equip students in our schools. During the last synodical term we were thrilled to train more than a thousand students from 17 Lutheran schools during the last synodical term.

Each training event that we facilitate is tailor made to meet the requirements of the Lutheran school involved and the needs of their students. We facilitate both short-term (1/2 day, full-day, camp) or long-term (six month coaching for key student leaders) training at the school's choice of location. The training topics include servant leadership, teamwork, communication, conflict resolution, managing stress, developing trust and overcoming fear.

Importantly we find that these training events are a great opportunity to present the Gospel to students. Our training unashamedly promotes Jesus as the perfect servant leader and our Lutheran facilitators reinforce this message through the way they encourage and lead the students. We believe that these training events compliment the great work of our Lutheran schools in sharing the Gospel with students.

HOW YOU CAN SUPPORT THIS IMPORTANT MINISTRY

We are continually humbled by the generous support that we receive from members of the Queensland District. Your support (pray, volunteer time and finances) is the reason that the ministry of Lutheran Youth of Queensland continues to exist.

You and your congregation can continue to grow the effectiveness and reach of this important Lutheran ministry in the following ways:

1. Pray for us – Please add us to your congregational prayer list.

2. Volunteer Support

a) Join one of our upcoming Work Camps at Luther Heights or Koojarewon (June and August). Help us reinvigorate the buildings and grounds while having lots of fun - just like the working bees of old!

b) Administration Support

We are always looking for volunteers to assist with administrative tasks in our three offices (Milton, Ipswich and Coolum). Contact us to find out more.

3. Financial Support

You and your congregation could provide one-off or monthly contributions. Donations can be made at www.lyq.org.au/donate.

To find out more about how you can help or to register your support please contact Aaron on 3511 4080 or aaron.glover@lyq.org.au.

Thank you for your on-going support.

Respectfully submitted,
Ian Grieshaber
Lutheran Youth of Queensland – Chairperson

BACHMANN ROBINSON



ACCOUNTANTS, AUDITORS & TAX AGENT

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF LUTHERAN YOUTH OF QUEENSLAND

Scope

We have audited the Income and Expenditure Statement, Balance Sheet, Notes to and Forming Part of the Accounts (if any), for the year ended 31st December 2013. The entity's management is responsible for the preparation and presentation of the accounts and the information they contain. We have performed an independent audit of these accounts in order to express an opinion on them to the members of the entity.

Our audit has been conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards to provide reasonable assurance as to whether the accounts are free of material misstatement. Our procedures included examination, on a test basis, of evidence supporting the amounts and other disclosures in the accounts, and evaluation of accounting policies and significant accounting estimates. These procedures have been undertaken to form an opinion as to whether, in all material respects, the accounts present a view of the entity which is consistent with our understanding of its financial position and the results of its operations.

The audit opinion expressed in this report has been formed on the above basis.

Qualification

As is common for organisations of this type, it is not practicable for the Association to maintain an effective system of internal control over income received until after their initial entry in the accounting records. Accordingly our audit in relation to income was limited to amounts recorded.

Audit Opinion

In our opinion the accounts of the entity are properly drawn up so as to give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the economic entity as at 31st December 2013 and of the surplus of the economic entity for the year ended on that date.

BACHMANN ROBINSON

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Richard Dinsdale', is written over a horizontal line.

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RICHARD DINSDALE - MIPA

March 21 2014

LUTHERAN YOUTH OF QUEENSLAND
Income and Expenditure Statement
For the Year Ended 31st December 2013

	2013		2012	
	\$	\$	\$	\$
INCOME				
Bus Fares	7202.08		5325.00	
Corporate Sponsorship	12363.64		6363.64	
Event Fees	314911.26		305100.95	
Expense Reimbursement	2283.85		5109.20	
Faith Family Subscription	4334.80		3998.54	
Fund Raising	60832.39		59555.82	
Grants & Subsidies	4000.00		96794.29	
Interest Received	11412.02		12748.71	
Luther Heights Contribution	139811.02		110000.00	
LCA - Qld Contribution	94117.92		0.00	
Sales of Stock	3880.00		3679.82	
Other Income	51.43		54.71	
Special Funding	0.00		0.00	
		655200.41		608730.68
EXPENSES				
Accommodation	41206.79		46967.36	
Advertising	11608.36		15318.66	
Audit and Professional Fees	10521.00		12570.44	
Bank Charges	1388.88		1278.29	
Catering	92563.71		96840.13	
Coach Charter	3318.08		8211.45	
Cost of Goods Sold	2246.00		2298.50	
Depreciation	3572.83		4697.50	
Event Program Costs	50465.17		48594.55	
Fundraising Costs	15575.03		15259.20	
Insurance	1873.67		2400.52	
LCAQD Governance	18800.04		0.00	
Long Service Leave Provision Expense	5119.21		1448.20	
Office Rental	10801.88		11175.52	
Postage Printing & Stationery	7611.02		9962.32	
Other Expenses	10838.50		11712.78	
Salaries & Superannuation	301512.44		305425.53	
Staff Training & Development	10420.93		10050.20	
Telephone	5768.07		7071.03	
Travel Costs	9793.13		16199.43	
		615004.74		627481.61
Net Surplus / (Loss) for Year		<u>40195.67</u>		<u>-18750.93</u>

LUTHERAN YOUTH OF QUEENSLAND
Balance Sheet
As at 31st December 2013

	2013		2012	
	\$	\$	\$	\$
ACCUMULATED FUNDS				
Asset Replacement Reserve		3306.22		3306.22
Salary Reserve		80000.00		80000.00
Opening Balance	213664.03		249460.27	
Less: Transfer to LSL Provision	0.00		-17045.31	
Add: Net Surplus / (Deficiency)	40195.67		-18750.93	
		253859.70		213664.03
		337165.92		296970.25
 <i>Represented by:</i>				
CURRENT ASSETS				
Cash at Bank	61389.88		3728.48	
Cash at Bank - Investment Accounts	329771.81		251281.97	
Petty Cash	0.00		0.00	
Prepayments	0.00		717.00	
Sundry Debtors	15730.78		77018.66	
		406892.47		332746.11
FIXED ASSETS				
Fixed Assets at WDV		6877.83		8633.13
		413770.30		341379.24
CURRENT LIABILITIES				
Trade Creditors	37139.53		14159.35	
Prepaid Debtors	4060.00		314.00	
Annual Leave Provision	0.00		1595.04	
Long Service Leave	26281.65		19567.40	
GST	0.00		0.00	
Unspent Event Sponsorship	9123.20		8773.20	
		76604.38		44408.99
		337165.92		296970.25

LUTHERAN YOUTH OF QUEENSLAND
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2013

Note 1: STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTING POLICIES

These financial statements are a special purpose financial report prepared in order to satisfy the financial reporting requirements. The committee has determined the association is not a reporting entity.

The statements are prepared on an accrual basis whereby items are brought to account as money is earned or expenses incurred, from the records of the association and are based on historic cost.

(a): FIXED ASSETS

Fixed assets have been included at cost and are depreciated over the estimated useful lives of the assets.

(b): DONATIONS IN KIND

Donations in kind are not recorded until they are converted to cash by sale.

(c): GRANTS RECEIVED

Grants received are returned as income when received (including for capital purposes). Unspent grant moneys (if any) are retained in bank account at year end.

Note 2: MORTGAGES AND CHARGES

There are no mortgages, charges and other securities affecting the assets of the Association.

STATEMENT BY MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE

The committee has determined that the association is not a reporting entity.

The committee has determined that this special purpose financial report should be prepared in accordance with the accounting policies outlined in Note 1 to the accounts.

In the opinion of the committee the financial statements as set out on the previous pages:

1. Present fairly the financial position of the entity as at the 31st December 2013 and,
2. Present fairly the results of the entity for the period ended on that date and,
3. At the date of this statement, there are reasonable grounds to believe that the entity will be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.

This statement is made in accordance with a resolution of the committee and is signed for and on behalf of the committee by:

Director 

Business Manager 

Date: 28/02/2014