



St Luke's Lutheran Church Congregation

Minutes Annual General Meeting – 21st April 2024 – 11.45 am

1. **Welcome and Opening Prayer** – Pastor Will Frost
2. **Roll Call and Apologies** – refer attendance sheet – 51 in attendance.
Apologies: 7 as per attendance sheet.
3. **Adoption of minutes from previous AGM held on April 30th, 2023**

Passed: John McClelland

Seconded: Haydn Blaess

All in favour – passed.

Business Arising from the previous meeting – 30/4/2023

- MoU between St Luke's Lutheran Church, Albury and St Peters Lavington.

4. **Incoming correspondence**
 - LCA NSW and ACT District Convention of Synod Report.

5. **Outgoing correspondence**

Nil

6. **Election of 2024/2025 Church Council Members**

Chairperson:	Lynne Cox
Deputy Chairperson:	Verna McGrath
Treasurer:	Terry Caldwell
Secretary:	Christine Essex
Pastoral Carer:	Dorothy Dunkerton
Property Management:	Robert Schulz
General Member:	Paul Hoffman

- Thanks to Noel for his role as Deputy Chair in the last 3 years.
- Paul Hoffman to join as a General Member and Verna McGrath to take positions of Deputy Chairperson.

Accepted: Ian Bahr.

Seconded: Edna Galvin

All in favour - passed.

7. **Pastor's Report – Pastor Will Frost.**

As per book of reports

- No questions re the report.
- Haydn Blaess – thanks to Will for accepting the call.
- St Peter's Manse will be open in about 3 weeks. Open Day yesterday for all members to view. Will need to be out of the existing Manse by May 10th.
- Will's approach is to facilitate and give the congregation time to heal due to changes we have gone through. He is spending more time on pastoral and spiritual work due to St Peters services and care. He is alternating attendance at meetings e.g. church council, ladies guild. The 2 services are currently working well.

Pastor Will thanked Nikki for her work and assistance.

Passed: John McClelland

Seconded: Ruth Grulke

All in favour – passed.

8. **Church Council Chairperson's Report – Lynne Cox**

As per book of reports

- Lynne: thank you for support from the Church Council over the year. Lynne would like to step down next year.
- Haydn Blaess – vote of thanks to Lynne for her work and competency as Chair.

Passed: Colin Parry

Seconded: Colin Knobel

All in favour – passed.

9. **Treasurer's Report – Terry Caldwell**

As per book of reports

- No questions.

Passed: Ruth Grulke

Seconded: Elaine Wolter

All in favour – passed.

10. Office Manager's Report – Nikki Spaans

As per book of reports

- Lynne thanked Nikki for her work and assistance.
- Ruth Grulke noted that internet issues are creating some difficulties with admin duties which can make Nikki's work more difficult.

Passed: Dalise Scholz

Seconded: Myrna Frohling

All in favour- passed.

11. Evening Fellowship Report

As per book of reports

- No questions

Passed: Carmel Khan

Seconded: Elaine Wolter

All in favour – passed.

12. Afternoon Fellowship Report

As per book of reports

- Haydn – investigation of joining with St Peters would save Pastor Will time.
Myrna advised that this will be discussed with Diana Semmler from St Peters.

Passed: Terry Caldwell

Seconded: Verna McGrath

All in favour – passed.

13. 2024 LCA NSW and ACT District Synod Delegate Report – John McClelland

- Way Forward Project: list of 3 proposals re Women's Ordination.
 1. 2 separate church groups – 1 with men only and 1 including women.
 2. Women to be ordained in congregation calling them.
 3. Situation to stay as it is at the moment – men only Pastors.
- Currently trying to set up Pastoral Carers to enable members to contact them to discuss problems re the Ordination. Training sessions coming up for the Pastoral Carers.
- Myrna – what is the percentage of votes for and against?– John: about 50/50.
- There was a video that was shown to the congregation re the Ordination. There is a newer video that has been put out in the last week – runs for 15 minutes. Pastor Will has not yet viewed it.

14. **Church Plant Report – Peter Reed**

- All is going well. Fortnightly services conducted with about 45-55 attending.
- Peter has spent the last week in Port Macquarie teaching Frontier. It stopped during COVID and is now being led by Mark Worthing. They are doing training for lay people.

Discussion of need for more lay people or academic training for SMPs. Board still discussing as need to be aware of outcome of upcoming ordination vote.

15. **Property Report**

As per book of reports

- Internet – will be looking at getting fibre internet to replace copper – to improve speed and efficiency.
- Recent issues with locking of doors. All doors were recently left open – new digital locks will be put on office, church and hall doors. A code will be needed to open the doors and the same code will be used for all doors.

Myrna stated that people could still leave the door open even with the new locks.

Lynne asked that all members ensure that the doors are locked.

- Robert is going to make a lock for the Macauley Street side gate for extra security - to reduce access as items have been taken e.g. cans, bottles, hose connectors.

Passed: Hadyn Blaess

Seconded: Colleen Hoffman

All in favour – passed.

16. **Pastoral Carers Report -**

As per book of reports

- No questions
- Pastoral Carers are quite busy with their visiting.
- Carmel Khan – grateful for the wonderful work Pastoral Carers are doing and they are very much appreciated.

Passed: Olive Severn

Seconded: Myrna Frohling

All in favour – passed.



Pastoral Carers Election

John McClelland: Contact Person

Dorothy Dunkerton

Verna McGrath

Helen Diffey

Colin Parry

Nominated: Terry Caldwell

Seconded: Haydn Blaess

All in favour – passed.

17. Stewards Election

Noel Frohling

Ian Bahr

Elaine Wolter

John McGrath

Jenny Kilo

Nominated: Heather Heinjus

Seconded: Elaine Wolter

All in favour – passed.

18. New Business

- Communion Services – we were having communion every Sunday. Now every 2nd Sunday due to lack of communion assistants; and ease for Pastor Will when his children are in attendance.

Concern with risk of members tripping when children are there.

Ruth Grulke noted concern for those that can't make it to church every week and may miss out on communion.

Ruth Blaess – happy with current arrangements but if situation changes, move it back to weekly.

Pastor Will advised that speaking theologically, there is equal balance on word and sacrament.

Motion: To continue with communion every second week and a review to be undertaken before the next AGM.

Moved: Haydn Blaess

Seconded: Noel Frohling

All in favour – motion passed.

- Our church office mobile number will be used for both congregations.
- Rent: St Lukes will pay two-thirds based on congregational numbers.
- MOU is reviewed annually in consultation with the Bishop.



Other New Business:

- LLL -people will have received lots of correspondence re changes to the LLL. Background – LLL changed to be a bank in 2019. New Legislation means changes are required to the LLL- this will result in reduced support to church. They are now changing back to a Religious Charitable Development Fund. REG – from June, REG will have to be done via an external account and will be called investments not deposits.
Account holders have to give 30 days notice to withdraw – monies can only go to an account in the same name or regular transfers set up to an account in the same name.
Terry advised all to be aware of scammers with the changes and to make direct contact with LLL to discuss changes.
Terry is willing to assist anyone with the upcoming changes. He will be in the hall from 9am next Sunday and then again after the service to assist with queries. You will need to bring identification, concession cards and your LLL client number.
Terry has a copy of the changes.
Notice of assistance to be added to the bulletin.

19. Meeting Closed - 12.45 pm.
Closing Prayer - Lynne Cox.