



ST Luke's Lutheran Church Albury

Book of reports for Annual general meeting

27th April 2025

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To Members of St Luke's Lutheran Church Congregation

The Annual General Meeting of St Luke's Congregation will be held on Sunday morning April 27th 2025 following the service at 10.30am.

The church council urges all St Luke's members to be in attendance at this important meeting and to take an active part in the running of church affairs.

Attached is a copy of the AGM Meeting minutes held on 28th April 2024 and reports for meeting. Please read and bring these documents along to the meeting.

Lynne Cox

Chairperson

St Luke's Congregation.

Agenda

27th April 2025

1. Welcome and Opening Prayer: Pastor Will Frost
2. Roll Call and Apologies
3. Adoption of minutes from previous AGM held on 2st April 2024
Passed:
Seconded:
4. Business Arising from previous meeting
 - Communion Services: these are now held fortnightly, review to be conducted
 - LLL changes have now been implemented re change to Religious Charitable Development Fund
 - St Lukes now contribute two thirds of the costs related to rent and pastors salary with St Peter's.

5. Incoming correspondence
 - Various letters from Bishop Richard Schwedes and Bishop Paul Smith updating the LCA members on Synod outcomes
 - Advice from Bishop Paul Smith re updating constitutions in congregations. He would like congregations to wait until Oct 2025 to update when the synod motions on Woman's Ordination will have the final wording supplied
6. Outgoing correspondence
7. Election of 2025/2026 Church Council members, Pastoral Carers and Stewards

Church Council

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

Nominated:

Seconded:

Pastoral Carers

John McClelland
Dorothy Dunkerton
Verna McGrath
Helen Diffey
Colin Parry

Nominated:

Seconded:

Stewards

Noel Frohling

John McGrath

Elaine Wolter

Ian Bahr

Jenny Kilo

Barbara Frohling

Nominated:

Seconded:

8. Pastor's Report – Pastor Will Frost As per book of reports

Passed:

Seconded:

**9. Church Council Chairperson's report – Lynne Cox
As per book of reports**

Passed:

Seconded:

10. Treasurer's Report – Terry Caldwell

Passed:
Seconded:

11. Office Manager's Report – Nikki Spaans

Passed:
Seconded:

12. Evening Fellowship

Passed:
Seconded:

13. Pastoral Carer's Report-

Passed:
Seconded:

14. St John's report and update – Peter Reed

15. Property Report

Passed:
Seconded:

16. Any Further Business

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.

Pastor's Report

REPORT OF PASTOR WILL FROST – ST LUKE'S AGM 2025

1. Memorandum of Understanding

St Peter's experienced some challenges and consequently more of my time than was expected has been devoted to them. They are in a much better place now and I now expect that the 60/40 work ratio of the MOU will therefore be more realistic. The MOU will need to be reviewed by myself and Bishop Richard Schwedes some time this year.

2. Church Services

2.1 Sunday Worship: I am very grateful for our music team; they provide a wonderful blend of traditional and contemporary music. Those that assist with the Sunday morning services (Holy Communion, readings, flowers, technology, tea, etc.) are to be commended. To be sure, there will always be a need for more people to be involved in these activities to "spread the load" so to speak.

2.2 Children's addresses: It would be helpful if we could get more people to do these.

2.3 Advent and Christmas: Advent was a blessed time for both congregations. For Christmas Eve, we had a BBQ and members performed the skit "The Angel's Story" with the service very well attended. More people appear to be attending Christmas Eve services than Christmas day, therefore, we should devote some time and effort to preparing something extra for the Eve service in the future. I was at St Peter's for Christmas day.

2.4 Lent and Holy Week: I am holding midweek Lenten devotions in both congregations, the theme being "Why should we take Jesus seriously" which is a study of the theology of the Cross in Luke's Gospel. Holy Week: a midweek Lenten service along with Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Sunday. The theme of the midweek devotions will flow into Holy Week, that is, how St Luke understands the Cross.

3. Pastoral care

The pastoral care team meet on the first Wednesday of a month to discuss pastoral issues. We have decided to shift the monthly aged-care visits to the first Thursday of the month. I hold a HC service at Calvary, Estia, and UPA, most often with someone from the care team in attendance. I do home visits when needed. I would like to devote more time this year visiting our general membership. The strengths of our pastoral care include: sound Gottesdienst; an active prayer ministry; the craft group has regular visitors that are non-members; good stewardship; active bible study groups; people licensed for Word and Sacrament ministry, lay-reader availability; a good council; and a general culture of mutual care and comfort amongst members. Challenges:

reaching out to the young families that occasionally visit, perhaps we can offer them a refresher course on Christian faith as means to get to know them better.

4. Ministry team

I enjoy a good working relationship with Peter Reed, Nikki Reed-Spaans, and John McClelland. We meet every Thursday morning to discuss administrative, spiritual, missional, and pastoral issues in the congregation, as well as plan for Sunday services. I appreciate the excellent work of our office administrator Nikki; she is a real blessing to have around. I provide pastoral and theological support to Peter Reed, our mission outreach person at St. John's School Jindera. I am learning much from him regarding his unique role at that college. Peter and John are doing extra-theological study which has been a wonderful growing process for them both.

5. Funerals

We farewelled Robert Schmidt, Bruce Shadbolt, and Antje Kuzeff (St Luke's); and Anita Habermann, Clive Rorhrlach, Dieter Klier, Elizabeth Jacob, Gisela Hantsch; Neville Pontt, and Vera Arden (St Peter's).

6. Baptism

Ezekiel Lieschke.

7. Bible studies

I assist with studies for the evening ladies guild meetings, as well as the ladies afternoon fellowship group. I would like to run more contextually orientated bible studies in the congregation.

8. St. Johns School

I occasionally hold a staff devotion, or deliver an address and prayers for the Friday evening service. The missional project that Peter is involved with is a significant for this southern Riverina area. Regular Friday evening chapel worship, a Thursday evening bible study, family games club, Holy Week services, and now a youth group. Peter is earning his keep. This mission project is open to support from *all* congregations. Please let us make an intentional effort to support it. Consider it our missional calling to spread Jesus to our community.

9. Christian education

We had eight confirmees. I used the resource "Baptized We Live" written by Daniel Erlander. The children did well and enjoyed their confirmation journey.

It seems to me that confirmation groups in a local congregation go through cycles: one will get a large group one year and the following few or none.

10. District

The Ministry and Mission Conference held at Warrambui on 4-6 June with the theme “Meeting People Meeting Jesus” was a blessing and great learning experience.

11. Pastor’s Conferences and Synod

I was unable to attend district and national conferences and synods this year. The decision was taken at national convention to amend the LCA teaching regarding ordination to include female pastors. I am in principle theologically and biblically speaking in agreement with the decision.

12. Personal

My children visit me every fortnight for a weekend. The kids are certainly growing and I thank you all for accepting them both with open arms. Keegan is level 2 autistic with ADHD so can be a real challenge at times. For those of you that do not know yet, I am level 1 autistic with ADHD. It is difficult to navigate oneself through a “neurotypical” world at times: there are a few comorbidities related to the condition. I am coming to better understand the unique wiring of my brain as times goes on. Perhaps we could do a bible study related to autism and ADHD.

13. Other challenges, opportunities, and positives

- How to go about a family ministry considering we are mainly retirees.
- The implementing of our child-safe policies and procedures.
- Forming relationships with the community (groups, organizations, and so on).
- We are slowly growing numerically.
- The general workload of our congregation in terms of the gifts, skills, and availability of people.
- How to work with your AuDHD pastor.

Please ask questions after reading my report, I am here to learn from you. I can’t think of anything else to say, so here it ends.

Blessings,

Will.

Chairperson's Report 27th April 2025

The Annual General Meeting of our church is a time for us to reflect on the year that has been and turn our heads to the year ahead. I hope this report will encourage you in what God is doing in the life of our church, as we pursue the mission of Jesus at St Luke's Albury. May we give thanks to God in our prayers for the significant things he is doing among us.

I would like to remind you of the following statements I listed in my report last year related to our mission.

Our vision is to be a God-centred, caring, worshipping and outward looking Christian community. The following statements underpin the ministry and mission of our congregation.

1. We gather for worship.
2. We welcome all.
3. We care for our congregation.
4. We care for others.
5. We reflect and envisage.

There is much to be thankful to God for over the last 12 months. Our church has grown in many aspects: in faith and deepening maturity: in strengthening relationships in community: in new people coming into the life of our church: in growing care of people experiencing hardship or heartache.

So, I would like to thank you for the interest you express by coming today and reading reports. I would also like to express my gratitude to the many people who are involved in practical ways of ministry, leadership, formation and maintenance in our congregation. So many of you freely, and continually give your time and talents to various aspects of congregational life.

I would like to thank Church Council members who have assisted me during the year: Verna McGrath: Deputy Chair, Terry Caldwell: Treasurer, Christine Essex: Secretary, Dorothy Dunkerton: Pastoral Carer, Robert Schulz: Property Maintenance and Paul Hoffman General member

Our office administrator Nikki Spaans has competently managed all the office tasks during the last 12 months. Nikki prepares the bulletin each week, rosters and keeps tabs on those who need to complete safe church training and provide working with children check reminders to those who need to renew theirs. Nikki has also organized her workday on a Thursday to assist those who need help with IT issues at home. She keeps us updated in the bulletin each week when items arrive from NSW District and updates us on any changes with the LCA Child safety Standards. Recently she updated our Child Safety Action Plan with the LCA. Along with all these roles Nikki has given her time on other occasions to organize services for funeral, baptisms and visiting groups such as Australian Lutheran Worl's Service. An evacuation practice was carried out and an evacuation plan is currently being prepared.

Since February 2024 Pastor William Frost has been our permanent minister and this has meant a consistency in delivery of our Sunday services and his ability to be able to connect with those within the congregation. He has also conducted visits with the pastoral carers to those people who are unable to attend services due to medical or health problems. Our MOU with St Peter's means that Pastor Frost is sharing his time with their congregation on a one third two thirds basis. Our church time changed to 10.30am because of this sharing arrangement. The MOU is now due for a review, and this will be conducted by Bishop Richard Schwedes. Pastor Frost now resides in the St Peter's manse and St Luke's contributes two thirds of a rental agreement to St Peter's. St Peter's are responsible for all maintenance of their manse. In 2024 Pastor Frost was able to conduct a confirmation class with several children who were confirmed in December. He is hoping to also have another confirmation class in 2025.

The Woman's Fellowship Groups both evening and afternoon groups have all continued to meet. The evening fellowship group have catered for several events as a fundraising activity. These include catering for funerals and NSW District Church Council Meetings.

The craft group continues to meet regularly and have invited other members of the community to join them as well. This group have been busy making things for community groups.

The Pastoral Carers have continued to offer great support to members who have been sick, those who find it difficult to come to church because of mobility and members who reside in nursing homes in Albury. They have been able to offer communion in the home. Thank you to this team of dedicated members who unselfishly give their time to others.

The music group and organists have led our worship in music and singing each Sunday. This group of dedicated members faithfully offer their services and give their time to practice each week to ensure we are familiar with the music and songs that are used in services each week. Thank you for your musical talents that have assisted in highlighting our ministry and congregational life each week.

Ruth Grulke has continued to meet with members for a prayer group on a Thursday morning at 10am. This group have been praying for members and our future. Thankyou Ruth for leading this part of our ministry.

Ruth also has organized fellowship groups in activities such as our Easter breakfast. During the year there have been several occasions where members have been able to share meals in our church hall.

Men's breakfast group continues to meet at 8am on the last Saturday of each month at the Commercial Club. Their numbers are small, but they have continued to enjoy fellowship each month.

Each Sunday our worship committee present the visual presentations that appear on the overhead screens using pro presenter program. Thank you to the small band of members who put this together each week and coordinate the presentation in church.

We also have another group of volunteers who supervise Correctional Services people each Thursday to complete the mowing of lawns, sweeping and blowing leaves and make the areas around our buildings feel welcoming each week. Thank you for completing this important task.

We continue to support with Peter Reed, St John's school Chaplain on planting a new church group at the school as the Sending church. Please try to attend some of the Friday night activities that Peter organizes at the school. Now we pay Peter's wages and expenses and then each month NSW District reimburse us for these costs.

In October 2025 there will be an online Synod and John McClelland as our synod rep with be participating in this. This synod will be focussing on a Pastoral Doctrinal Statement in relation to Synod's decision last year. After this online Synod we will be

reviewing our constitution and making any changes necessary. This will then go to a Congregational meeting for approval.

This will be my last formal meeting as the congregational chairperson. As I indicated last year, I would be stepping down from the role this year. I have sold my house in Albury and will be moving to Maroochydore on the Sunshine coast at the end of May or early June. Thank you to all those people who have supported me during my time as chairperson. I will miss everyone at St Lukes but will welcome visits if you are holidaying on the Sunshine coast.

“And this is my prayer: that your love may abound more and more in knowledge and depth of insight, so that you may be able to discern what is best and may be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, filled with the fruit of rightness that comes through Jesus Christ- to the glory and praise of God”

Philippians 1: 9-11

Faithfully submitted.

Lynne Cox, Chairman

Treasurer's Report

St. Luke's Lutheran Church Albury
Receipts & Payments Prev Year Comparison
April 1, 2024 through March 31, 2025

	Apr 1, 2024 - Mar 31, 2025	Apr 1, 2023 - Mar 31, 2024	
RECEIPTS			
Offering at Services	36935.00	42102.00	
LLL - Electronic Offerings	77737.00	65591.00	Total Offering 114673 / 107693
Legacy - Judy Pelchen	0.00	5000.00	
Lease - 440 Guinea St	21799.00	20558.00	
Hall Hire & Donation	1290.00	620.00	Dance instructor recently resumed.
Garage Sales	1100.00	365.00	
Easter Breakfast	27.00	-4.00	
Fundraising - Return & Earn	38.00	99.00	
Advent Evening - Donations	0.00	24.00	
Fundraising - High Tea	0.00	355.00	
Fundraising - Food Feast	0.00	265.00	
Name Badges	0.00	245.00	
Donations - Dishwasher	4310.00	0.00	
Donations - Ladies Guild		-239.00	Temporarily held Ladies Guild funds
Donations-Trading Table	4405.00	3286.00	\$1965 to both ALWS and LCA Welfare & Disaster Fund, Dec 2024. \$600 ALWS75
Donations - PNG Birth Kits	185.00	0.00	
Donations-ALWS (incl Christmas)	1896.00	388.00	Includes ALWS75 offering of \$1800.
Donations-LCA Disaster & Welfare	0.00	235.00	
Retiring Offering - Gen/NSW Synod	275.00	170.00	
Donations-Funerals (Music & Tech)	0.00	710.00	
Donations - other	1171.00	200.00	
St Johns Plant Donations	0.00	2694.00	

SJP-AISNSW Chaplaincy Grant	10035.00		10145.00	St John's transferred to St Luke's. Covers SJP payments when no reimbursement from LCANSW.
SJP-District-Reimbursement	106722.00		95856.00	LCANSW reimburses monthly all SJP expenses including PR's salary, since Easter 2023
St Peter's contribution - Pastor expenses	33367.00		5925.00	St Peter's pays 1/3 of Pastor Expenses Determined by ratio of members.
Interest received	2391.00		893.00	Improved interest rate and higher balance.

TOTAL RECEIPTS **\$ 303,683.00** **\$ 255,483.00** UP:
Off/DW/Hall/ALWS75/Don/SJP/Int

PAYMENTS

LCA Transfer Fund	0.00		38891.00	Paid 50% of Ps Salary in vacancy
Payroll - Pastor	100623.00		14456.00	Now a full year of salary.
LCA Funds- Pensions/Providence	3924.00		3924.00	
Payroll - Malcolm Hall (adjustments)	0.00		-6085.00	Adjustments for tax, workers comp & LSL.
Payroll - Bronwyn Gabriel	0.00		-166.00	Only refund of LSL
Payroll & SJP allowances - Peter Reed	96990.00		92256.00	Now reimbursed by LCANSW
Payroll - Nikki Spaans	13101.00		12469.00	One day per week.
LCA HRS - Processing Fees (all salaries)	818.00		598.00	PR's fee in SJP reimbursement
Manse Rental - Tarakan Av	751.00		22100.00	\$1700 bond repayment.
Cleaning Contract	6324.00		5456.00	
Cleaning - Expenses & Supplies	91.00		164.00	
IT-Accounting, internet, Office365, Web-hosting, Pro- Presenter, Anti-Virus, Planning Center	4381.00		2965.00	SJP 1/2 Plan Center & Pro-Presenter
Optus Phone & Messaging	507.00		480.00	
Electricity & Gas (432G)	3929.00		3513.00	
Electricity & Gas-Manse(436G)	702.00		825.00	
Gas (Elgas) - Hall	58.00		200.00	
Electricity & Gas - Tarakan Av	0.00		2256.00	Pastor paid after installation.
Insurance-Bldg & Cont	7503.00		7731.00	Lessee pays share for 440G
Office Supplies & postage	306.00		671.00	
Printer/Copier Contract&Service	2079.00		1774.00	
Rates & Water	2469.00		1966.00	Lessee pays for 440G
Synod Expenses	465.00		620.00	

Convention & Conferences - Lay & Pr	290.00	550.00	
CSRE Primary Schools (Generate)	0.00	1000.00	Annual contribution. Not invoiced this year.
Secondary Rel Ed (Generate)	960.00	960.00	Contribution of \$80 per month.
Repairs and maintenance	1626.00	2526.00	Hoping for grant for upcoming work.
Fire Equipment & Tests 432&436G	243.00	0.00	Lessee pays for 440G.
Rental 440G Expenses	1479.00	1780.00	Mostly agent fees.
Musos & Techies - fellowship	0.00	125.00	Uses Musos & Techies Fund
Music, AV & IT expenses	364.00	2525.00	Very little new equipment in recent year.
Advertising & Promotion (Services)	0.00	308.00	
Church Service Requirements	703.00	518.00	Includes Baptism expenses.
Copyright Regn.& Licences	381.00	714.00	Fewer licences.
Confirmation expenses	137.00	0.00	
AW Regional Food Share	0.00	206.00	
District Budget	10000.00	10000.00	
ALWS- member donations	4453.00	1850.00	Includes Trading Table share.
LCA Disaster and Welfare Fund	1956.00	1697.00	Includes Trading Table share
PNG Birthing Kits	326.00	0.00	Trading Table subsidised donations
Donations - The Light 98.3	0.00	100.00	Consider again for next year.

TOTAL PAYMENTS
\$267,939.00
\$231,923.00
SURPLUS/DEFICIT
\$ 35,744.00
\$ 23,560.00

Pleasing increase. Similar to SP contrib.

St Luke's Lutheran Church Albury
Balance Sheet EXCERPTS Prev Year Comparison
As of March 31, 2025

	<i>Mar 31, 2025</i>	<i>Mar 31, 2024</i>	
<u>Bank Accounts</u>			
St Luke's - General	62,784.00	84,627.00	Consider decrease against the 638M increase.
638 Macaulay St Sale	104,327.00	71,230.00	638M sale proceeds less improvements (e.g. church roof and heating) Includes rent from 440 Guinea St Includes SJ's AISNSW chaplaincy grants - catch up on past SJ support when St Luke's covered Peter Reed's salary without reimbursement from LCANSW.
Earmarked - Trading Table & PNG	250.00	960.00	\$1956 to both ALWS and LCA Welfare & Disaster Fund, Dec 2024. Also \$345 to PNG birthing kits and \$600 to ALWS75.
Earmarked - Musos & Techies	632.00	632.00	Donations for services of musicians and techies. To be spent at their discretion
Earmarked - Banners (\$500-30/30)	536.00	536.00	Balance of LCA Grant - to be used for banners.
Earmarked - Fundraising Reserve	415.00	415.00	Set aside to fund set-up of fundraising events.
Earmarked - Tech Equip/S'ware	0.00	200.00	Donation earmarked and used for tech.
Earmarked - Flowers	524.00	524.00	Fundraising proceeds put aside to support provision of flowers
Legacy - Judy Pelchan	4,860.00	5,000.00	Purchased offering bags. Considering candlesticks, altar cloths, vases, crucifix
Petty Cash	2,000.00	2,000.00	Separate bank account with VISA Debit cards for immediate payments.
St John's Plant	11,105.36	6,633.00	Reserve for supporting Peter Reed/St John's Plant expenses. LCANSW reimburses monthly.
TOTAL IN BANK ACCOUNTS	\$187,433.36	\$ 172,757.00	Pleasing increase in overall bank balance.

<u>Liabilities</u>			
ATO (PAYG/GST)	6,387.00	3,088.00	Higher at this stage in 2025, but will balance out later with some ATO re-imbursements for GST paid.
Lay LSL Provision	9,609.00	8,115.00	St Luke's needs to set this aside for Peter's & Nikki's LSL. LCA LAY LSL FUND closed.

Office Manager's Report

Not much has changed overall since 2024 regarding my role. I continue to have office hours on Thursdays. Most Thursdays I meet with Pastor Will, Peter Reed and John McClelland to discuss St Luke's and the progress at St John's. I've also attended a few Riverina Leadership Gatherings to keep updated on the regional goings on.

Weekly I continue to do the bulletin, print the readings for the following Sunday, the deposit and purchasing needed supplies. We've successfully found an easy way to share the service orders with St Peter's to help manage Pastor Will's time better. My big goal over the last year was updating the parish registry, the births deaths and marriages have successfully been updated, I am missing a few dates but have been doing my best to find them in spare moments. The communion list still has a small gap though I haven't given up! I have begun keeping a digital record of the registry as well so make it easier to search but that task is on-going.

I also assisted Pastor Will in the confirmation class that was run last year, which I think went really well. I hosted a few confirmation based games that seemed to be a big hit with the kids. If there is interest in another class this year I will also assist.

I've started an IT drop in day during office hours for anyone who has problems with their devices, and am happy to help outside of those hours for those that need it. I've had a couple people drop in and I hope I was able to help them adequately! I hope to continue this as long as there is need!

We've had a fire inspection that found some concerns (the next one is scheduled for May) and I have completed a new evacuation plan which is now available, though will continue to be updated as needs arise. The plan is an annual trial evacuation in which the plan can be altered if needed.

Scheduling has been much less of a concern this year, I think we've all found our groove! There's always room for more volunteers though, especially for morning tea. If we would like to do communion weekly again we would also need a few more helpers. A MASSIVE shoutout to all volunteers, you're all amazing!

Correctional services have been a little hit and miss though the current gentleman is a very hard and efficient worker.

I have assisted where needed with funeral and baptisms as well as assisted ALWS with their 75th anniversary celebration which was hosted at St Luke's last month.

We also had a safe church training webinar at St Luke's, and I continue to keep our safe church training and volunteers updated. Including submitting the Child Safe Action plan review for the year.

Submitted by Nikki Spaans

Evening Fellowship Report 2025

Our Fellowship currently has 11 members. We continue to meet monthly using the bible studies from the Lutheran Woman magazine, usually led by Pastor Will. Members are rostered to present devotion at each meeting.

We support the projects of LWA and LWNSW-ACT from our offerings and catering funds. With the Day Guild we now operate a joint bank account; Ruth Grulke and Wendy McLaughlin have been appointed as joint treasurers. Our funds enabled us to contribute \$1500 towards the new dish washer.

Members have attended the Retreat at Warrambui and we look forward to the NSW/ACT convention at Belconnen and the Southern Zone fellowship day at Walla Walla.

The World Day of Prayer service was hosted by St Luke's in March with 50 people attending, giving us the opportunity for social interaction with other Christian women. The executive thank those fold who assisted us with implementing the program. Following meetings with representatives from all participating churches it has been resolved to combine both the Northern and Southern zones for this event in the future/

Some of our meetings are held offsite and our program includes various activities. We thank God for the opportunity to meet together around his Word and enjoy fellowship.

Submitted by Helen Differy

20/03/2025

2025 Pastoral Carer's Report

Your Pastoral Carers have continued to provide care to congregational members.

During the year we have had three baptisms with each child presented with a candle at the service and a box containing items to remember the day and to encourage an annual celebration of their baptism.

There have been two funerals. The All Saints remembrance service was well attended, and many people took the opportunity to remember someone.

Home Communion is carried out monthly. We have recently changed the day to the first Thursday of the month to follow our Pastoral Carers meeting on the first Wednesday. Visits are made to Calvary, Estia and Southern Cross nursing homes as well as to some individuals. The number of people needing this care is increasing as more of our members become home bound or move into care.

It is wonderful to see the way people care for each other generally within the congregation. Our visits to people only supplement the care you give each other. We encourage you to continue doing this, but please let one of the Pastoral Carer team know of anyone wishing a visit from them or from Pastor Will.

John McClelland for the Pastoral Carer team.

Church Planter Report – St Luke’s AGM 2025

October this year officially marks three years since I was hired as church planter at St John’s. This provides a good chance to reflect on the past few years, and look towards the future.

We have been running Friday night services for over two years now, for a mixture of Christian and non-Christian families. Some recent highlights for me include:

- A 5-year-old girl teaching her non-Christian mother how to pray at church
- The enthusiasm of our kids who lead worship, act out bible stories, and are engaged in our church services
- Church volunteers working with school students to make pancakes on Shrove Tuesday, and building relationships with them
- Kids inviting other kids and their parents to church!
- The enthusiasm of our youth group teenagers who are taking the lead in organising the program
- Bethlehem volunteers opening up their homes for bible studies
- Bethlehem volunteers running a food safe course for teenagers wanting to cook as part of their youth group
- Bethlehem volunteers bringing in baked goods for the staff at St John’s
- St Luke’s Volunteers attending Friday Night services because they want to support engagement with young families in the LCA
- Young families from Bethlehem connecting in with families from the school on Friday nights

What all these stories have in common is they don’t involve paid church workers! The greatest resource of any church, after God, is its people. Each church member has unique gifts and abilities to help the whole (1 Cor 12:12-14). Church workers come for a season then leave, but the community remains and grows together through it all.

Property Report

Repairs and Maintenance. The major items action items for the past 12 months have been –

Fibre NBN - Previously we were relying on 3G/5G wireless network connection for the internet to the church and this was not meeting expectations. NBN had an offer available to connect to a fibre connection for no install cost (but an increase in the annual cost), so we took this offer up. The previous Telstra line into the church property was cut some years ago, so this took some time to re-establish a connection (5 visits by NBN contractors). Fortunately NBN bore the cost of this work. We now have an operative internet connection that is being used

Dishwasher – The commercial dishwasher in the kitchen was replaced due to the previous dishwasher breaking down and being uneconomic to repair. The cost of this dishwasher was \$6513.68

Fire Safety inspection identified completed in November 2024 with a few items that needed to be addressed.

Drum Kit- Sale of the drum kit that was sitting at the front of the church

Cleaner - Employed a new cleaner (Taniya) for the church as the previous cleaner (David has retired).

Bees – removal of Bees from the internal of the walls for the sanctuary.

Thanks to Paul Hoffman for working on the garden watering system in brining that up to scratch;

Thanks to Colin, Judy, Paul and others for watering the garden in times of need.

Under Discussion

Repair of cornice and minor plaster repairs for the Church office

Painting of the fascia board for the church office

Painting of the window trim for the church office

Touch-up of the paint work on the gates

Painting of the fascia of the church hall

Church council are waiting on outcome of possible maintenance grant from Lutheran Church of Australia

Correctional Services update

St Luke's currently hosts and supervises offenders under community orders. A lot of work does get done (but can be variable) around the church and this is quite evident. This can only happen if St Luke's provides the supervisors. I would like to thank the supervisors, but mainly –

Lyne Cox

Carmel Khan

Terry Caldwell

John McGrath

Clean up working bee

There was a pre-Christmas working bee to clean up the church and surrounds.

Security

We still continue to have issues with buildings being left unlocked. Please be mindful of locking building the key-box when leaving church property. Did you know the key-box has trap door in the top of the key-box? You can lock the box once you take the keys out, then just drop the keys into the top of the key-box once you have finished with the keys.