

## WA District Church Council – June Update

District Church Council met for its regular monthly meeting on Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> June. We continue to meet via Zoom for most of our meetings and are finding this an effective way to meet. In July we plan to gather as a group for our meeting and enjoy the blessing of being together in person. There is another dimension of being together that can only be experienced by a person's physical presence. This is something God is aware of. The incarnation of Jesus as a human being and the true presence of Christ in the sacrament are signs of how significant presence is. Praise God that he is present with us!

At the meeting on the 22<sup>nd</sup> DCC was pleased to be able to approve several grant requests from congregations.

- Hope Geraldton made a grant request from the Mission Resources Fund totalling \$5000.
- Kalgoorlie/Boulder also made a similar grant request for \$5000.

Both of these requests were for assistance with attending to improvements to their worship space and facilities including air-conditioning, sound equipment and seating.

Whilst the DCC is pleased to be able to support a variety of grant requests we do note that the LLL has gifted money to us with the **specific focus of stimulating mission**. We look forward to approving grants that focus on getting our churches out of the building and into the community.

A further grant of \$3300 was approved to support the erection of an art installation at Living Waters Lutheran College. This installation will focus on the theme of Living Water and will be unveiled (God willing) in conjunction with the Living Water simultaneous art exhibition being promoted by the LCA NZ. See a later news item for more details about the art exhibition.

**DISASTER RELIEF** - The WA District in cooperation with the LCA Disaster Relief Fund recently made several relief payments to families affected by Cyclone Seroja. The following letter of thanks was received from one of the families whose home and farm were badly damaged by the cyclone.

Hi Mike,

Thank you so much for your prayers and financial support. Hannah and I really appreciated it and are most humbled.

Please send on our gratitude to all responsible from the LCA.

We love our Lutheran family so much.

God bless,

John and Hannah and girls.

We are pleased to be able to offer this support on behalf of the wider church.

**WALK MY WAY WA** – Walk My Way is a significant fund raising effort by Australian Lutheran World Service (ALWS) and it supports education in the developing world. Our second WA Walk My Way is being planned for September 11<sup>th</sup> 2021. Our school Living Waters College will join us in hosting this event and we look forward to incorporating a focus

Start planning to be involved in Walk My Way as a walker, a sponsor or a support person. In 2019 WA punched above its weight and provided several of the top 10 total of sponsorship across Australia. This is a fabulous cause so let's get behind it. More details will follow but save the date. If you are not able to walk in Perth there will be ways to walk wherever you are.

**SIMULTANEOUS ART EXHIBITION** – Calling all artists!! Let’s get our creativity on.

Art is a fantastic way to express our faith and to share the good news of the gospel. To stimulate our creativity and inspire our artistic endeavours the LCA is holding a Simultaneous art exhibition later in the year. For more information visit - <https://visualarts.lca.org.au/living-water-art-exhibition/> Wherever you are there will be ways to get involved - either online or in some WA exhibition spaces.

On the occasion of the **Walk My Way** event (see above) we plan to link in with the simultaneous art exhibition by holding a display of art. This will include the unveiling of the LWLC art installation, displays of some student work and the opportunity for our WA church artists to show their work.

So get painting or sculpting or taking photos or crafting – however you express yourself creatively. The theme of the exhibition is **“Living Water”** so let’s see what we can produce. More information on how to display will be coming.

**UPDATE RE GENERAL PASTORS’ CONFERENCE AND SYNOD** – These important national events have been affected by COVID uncertainty and will now be held two parts. Essential items such as elections will be held online this year in the planned timeslot. Other business will now be postponed until an in person gathering can be held – hopefully in 2022. Please pray for the organising teams for both events who must now plan accordingly.

**NATIONAL CHURCH LIFE SURVEY** – Congregations will have received preliminary information about the National Church Life Survey being held later in the year (October – exact dates TBC). Our participation right across the LCA is being organised and coordinated.

**SALE OF MORAWA MANSE** – Upon the closure of St Paul’s Morawa (2019) ownership of the church and manse in Morawa passed to the District. After working through some issues regarding title the DCC recently sold the manse property realising about \$60k. This money will now be held in the District accounts and reported to Synod for further action. The church and parking block at Morawa are currently in the process of being rezoned for possible sale. DCC notes with thanks the work of Paul Offszanka (former St Paul’s member) and our District Treasurer Lester Dreckow in monitoring the property and facilitating the sale.

**LOCUM PASTOR / DISTRICT BISHOP** – The locum portion of Pastor Mike Fulwood’s dual role as Bishop/District Locum has once again been assigned to St Luke’s Parkwood. St Luke’s was the only congregation to express an interest in hosting this role and so Pastor Mike will continue to work with St Luke’s as its part time pastor in addition to his duties as part time bishop of the District.

**FYI Bishop Mike on Leave** – Bishop Mike will be on leave from 29<sup>th</sup> June till the 14<sup>th</sup> July. This time will include some compassionate leave with family as he attends the interring of his mother’s ashes following her funeral in February. Bishop Mike was unable to be with family for the funeral due to the COVID lockdown at that time. In addition, Mike will take some annual leave and “attend” the online General Pastors’ Conference.

During this leave period our Assistant Bishop Pastor Peter Hage will be acting bishop role can be contacted in case of emergency on 0466 303 999 or [peter.hage@lca.org.au](mailto:peter.hage@lca.org.au)  
For administrative matters please contact District Treasurer Lester Dreckow on [admin.wa@lca.org.au](mailto:admin.wa@lca.org.au)

**LIVING WATER LUTHERAN COLLEGE** – Our Lutheran School in the West recently had a visit from director John Proeve. John oversees Lutheran schooling in SA, NT and WA and regularly visits with schools. Due to COVID restrictions it had been some time since he was able to visit LWLC.