



**LUTHERAN
CHURCH**

OF AUSTRALIA

OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

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Ms Maria Rudolph

Via email: rudolph_maria@icloud.com

23 March 2022

Dear Maria

Grace and peace in Christ to you.

The College of Bishops (CoB) acknowledges the open letter from you and the other signatories to the letter.

Our debate over the ordination of women is a difficult matter for the LCA, and one that has troubled and divided us for a long time. The CoB is attentive to the care and support of the whole church on this journey and will be meeting together with the GCB in May to discuss the various issues before the church in the lead up to the in-person sessions of the 20th regular convention of General Synod in February 2023. The pastoral care and support for delegates and visitors during the convention is also utmost in the minds of the CoB and GCB.

The duty of the CoB is to nurture and pastorally support the wellbeing of the Church in fulfilling the mission of God. This is God's call which we articulate in our constitution and the installation vows for the office of bishop, both churchwide and district.

As church we place our issues before the Lord and pray for His guidance as we gather to discuss and debate important matters for us. In doing so we faithfully strive to show grace and love to each other. For no matter the individual views on this or other matters of import for the church, we have a common purpose in Christ in proclaiming the Gospel.

Yours faithfully

Dr Nigel Long

Secretary of the Church

Lutheran Church of Australia & New Zealand

On behalf of the College of Bishops

where love comes to life