

An open letter to the College of Bishops and the General Church Board of the LCANZ

Date: 14 April 2023

Dear Bishop Paul Smith, Assistant Bishop Neville Otto, Bishop David Altus, Bishop Lester Priebbenow, Bishop Mark Vainikka, Bishop Mark Whitfield, Bishop Peter Hage, Bishop Robert Bartholomaeus, and members of the General Church Board: Pastor Tim Stringer, Kim Baumeler, Paul Argyle, Charmaine Harch, Tim Wiebusch, Mel Zerner and Peter Zweck,

Christ's grace and peace be with you.

Thank you for your proactivity in getting work started on the recent Synod proposal toward General Convention of Synod 2024 and in putting together the eight working groups. We prayerfully walk alongside you as you choose members of the LCANZ for each of these working groups in your next meeting. Thank you for making these working groups accessible to all and for being so open and transparent about this work.

There are varying communications and opinions circulating throughout the LCANZ post Synod, with various messaging. It is the firm understanding of the signatories below that we do not hold to theological elitism of knowing the only 'truth' and needing to point out 'falsehoods', nor do we have any interest in division of the LCANZ or pitting people of the LCANZ against each other. The people on this list of signatories are faithfully practising Lutherans in Australia and New Zealand who long to give their voice toward the inclusion of women in the ordained ministry of the LCANZ in the way it will be put forward at the next Convention of General Synod. We express wholehearted gratitude to you for adopting a pastoral, caring and considered way forward as we all walk together on this new journey, albeit united in Christ, who is the resurrection and new life.

We will publish this open letter on Streams in the Desert (<https://www.streamsinthedesert.com.au>) and Women at the Well (<https://www.watw.com.au>) and would like to publish your response on these platforms with your permission.

In God's grace and peace

Signatories

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|---------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Maria Rudolph | 9. Joy Christian |
| 2. Libby Jewson | 10. David Christian |
| 3. Cathryn Hamilton | 11. Geoff Burger |
| 4. Liz Winderlich | 12. Steen Olsen |
| 5. Margaret Modra | 13. Robert Voigt |
| 6. John Zeppel | 14. Jeff Silcock |
| 7. Kathy Matuschka | 15. Dean Zweck |
| 8. Sue Westhorp | 16. Vic Pfitzner |

17. Shelley Koch
18. Stephen Haar
19. Maurice Schild
20. Peter Lockwood
21. Louis A Moss
22. Jordan Moore
23. Dania Ahern
24. Brian Ahern
25. Marg Simpfendorfer
26. Jo Freckelton
27. David Freckelton
28. Monica Christian
29. Ivan Christian
30. Deborah Myers
31. Peter Pfitzner
32. Ian Graue
33. Greg Bensted
34. Peter Bean
35. Anna Watson
36. Jennie Jones
37. James Jones
38. Margaret Mickan
39. Tim Castle-Schmidt
40. Iris Gladigau
41. Gary Jewson
42. Paul Meyer
43. Betty Meyer
44. Denise Grieshaber
45. Mark Lieschke
46. Helen Burger
47. Kenneth Stringer
48. Yvonne Claus
49. Helene Schulz
50. Sharryn Cook
51. John Schubert
52. Cathy Brown
53. Ruth Olsen
54. Joyce Graue
55. Ruth Rathjen
56. Alan Collyer
57. Coral Collyer
58. Bruce Lockwood
59. Michelle Eastwood
60. Wendy Begg
61. Allen Kloeden
62. Martin Albrecht
63. Tick Zweck
64. Chris Mann
65. Lynette Williams
66. Jim Strelan
67. Joy Strelan
68. Alison Jarick
69. Emily Hunt
70. Alison Short
71. Anita Short
72. Roger Hunter
73. Marie Miegel
74. Rick Strelan
75. Inari Thiel
76. Sue Kloeden
77. Karen Dymke
78. Nathan Hedt
79. Julie Hahn
80. Lynne Schmidt
81. Steven Cramer
82. Shiron Dixon
83. Jan Baker
84. Lester Dreckow
85. Debbie Dreckow
86. Merrilyn Beaumont
87. Mark Christian
88. Patricia Walker
89. Gus Schutz
90. Steve Liersch
91. Ben Hentschke
92. Dylan Miegel
93. Robin Mann
94. Dorothy Mann
95. Juanita Kleinig
96. Ian Rentsch
97. Lyn Marshall
98. Ray Schulz
99. Nerida Schulz
100. Heidi Joy
101. Ronda Rohrlach
102. Rob Rohrlach
103. Brian Wandel
104. Diane Wandel

105. David Schuller
106. Geoff Crooks
107. Peter Hudson
108. Susanne Hudson
109. John Juers
110. Miriam Juers
111. Jeff Wood
112. Chris Bartholomaeus
113. Pamela Richardson
114. Clive Richardson
115. Ray Meharg
116. Karel Tepper
117. Vibeke Hopley
118. Paul Schulz
119. David Filsell
120. Dawn Ehrke
121. Ron Ehrke
122. Narelle Shallard
123. Monica Hueppauff
124. Kaye Pfeiffer
125. Amanda Garrett
126. Irene Faith Joppich
127. Karen Peters
128. Gary Peters
129. Geraldine Avent
130. Gladys Koch
131. Edwin Koch
132. Joy van der Hoek
133. Kay Buckland
134. Peter Buckland
135. Rod Schubert
136. Melinda Zavalis
137. Mike Vitale
138. Val Vitale
139. Nicky Bricknell
140. Gloria Harch
141. Michael Rudolph
142. Mark Butler
143. Judy Bartels
144. Armin Bartels
145. Hannah Pietsch
146. Anna Nürnberger
147. Helen Middelmann
148. Tony von Brandenstein
149. Peter Westhorp
150. Marion Schubert
151. Mark Schubert
152. Junette Schoell
153. Edwin Schoell
154. Shirley Schubert
155. Tania Nelson
156. Graeme Lienert
157. Christine Cunningham
158. Elaine Schultz
159. Kate Beaumont
160. Jordana Wilson
161. John Pumpa
162. Lucy Pumpa
163. Mark Simpfendorfer
164. Elsbeth Ampt
165. Owen Dixon
166. Bryce Walker
167. Klaus Schulz
168. Heather Mithen
169. Anna Kroehn
170. Lee Kroehn
171. Karyn Cullen
172. Irma Dymke
173. Teresa Goldsbrough
174. Leena Vuorinen
175. Trudi Doblin
176. Maryanne Molenaar
177. Stephen Nuske
178. Julie Nuske
179. Kathy Thompson
180. Sarah Thompson
181. Carmen Ost
182. John Beaumont
183. David Miles
184. Isabel Mason
185. John Hoffmann
186. Erika Hoffmann
187. Margaret Hammerer
188. Rainer Hammerer
189. Anna Zweck
190. Gordon Wegener
191. Marie Wilson
192. Lara Messom

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| 193. Christopher Messom | 237. Timothy Pietsch |
| 194. Lily Messom | 238. Ann Pietsch |
| 195. Graham Greenberger | 239. Lisa Miles |
| 196. Rosalie Greenberger | 240. Max Kanowski |
| 197. Grace Tink | 241. Freda Kanowski |
| 198. Kay Robinson | 242. Rachel Crooks |
| 199. Doris Groth | 243. Timothy Muller |
| 200. Klaus Groth | 244. Mary Muller |
| 201. Jürgen Kahlfeld | 245. Cheryl Wilson |
| 202. Niels Kroyer | 246. Graham Wilson |
| 203. Teresa Kroyer | 247. Hermann Scriba |
| 204. Marlene Crone | 248. Frauke Scriba |
| 205. Alyssa Leach | 249. Gudrun MacDonald |
| 206. Brad Leach | 250. Hans Hornscheidt |
| 207. Adam Kramer | 251. Helga van Rooyen |
| 208. Karlea Kramer | 252. Volney Klintworth |
| 209. Barbara Mattiske | 253. Rosemarie Klintworth |
| 210. Grant Mattiske | 254. Sigrid Kramp |
| 211. Jan Haar | 255. Monika Reif |
| 212. Marcia Lohe | 256. Stefanie Strunk |
| 213. Peter Hoffmann | 257. Joy Wundersitz |
| 214. Jan Hoffmann | 258. Geoff Wundersitz |
| 215. Mariany Crone | 259. Robin Braunack |
| 216. Michael Crone | 260. Heiko Plange |
| 217. Jason Sander | 261. Kirsten Zweck |
| 218. Jennifer Sander | 262. Darren Trentepohl |
| 219. Arianah Sander | 263. Kate Traeger |
| 220. Valerie Volk | 264. Jacob Traeger |
| 221. Ingrid Synwoldt | 265. Stephen Miegel |
| 222. Margaret Hunt | 266. Colleen Fitzpatrick |
| 223. John Hunt | 267. Heather Schuller |
| 224. Gerhard Rüdiger | 268. Colleen Ball |
| 225. Liz Mibus | 269. Janny Thomas |
| 226. Lois Hage | 270. James Wilson |
| 227. Jennie Edwards | 271. Beverley Wilson |
| 228. Bill Edwards | 272. Norma Sellner |
| 229. Wayne Zweck | 273. Grace Schache |
| 230. Wendy Zweck | 274. Jill Ottens |
| 231. Sherry Fairbairn | 275. Graham Ottens |
| 232. Stuart Fairbairn | 276. John Held |
| 233. Shirley Linke | 277. Jacqui Liu |
| 234. Ronda Held | 278. Stephen Wang |
| 235. Elva Mutton | 279. Sue Schubert |
| 236. Geoff Mutton | 280. Gemma Girke |

281. Skye Newton
282. Kym Ritchie
283. Bronwyn Ritchie
284. Elizabeth Miller
285. Nathan Wessling
286. Erik Tikoft
287. Suanne Tikoft
288. Graeme Tepper
289. Tommi Vuorinen
290. Fred Veerhuis
291. Minna Vainikka
292. Samuel Vainikka
293. Miriam Vainikka
294. Sam Vainikka
295. Eva Pailas
296. Harry Mithen
297. Maureen Walkemeyer
298. Stuart Heinrich
299. Andrew Graebner
300. Mike Graebner
301. Diane Graebner
302. John Pepper
303. Fiona Pepper
304. Roslyn Schulz
305. Peter Schulz
306. Liz Wieland
307. Lois Whittal
308. Roger Whittal
309. Linda Leibbrandt
310. Christine Sindt
311. John Gerlach
312. Peter Maley
313. Jenny Maley
314. Ashlee Jewson
315. David Walkenhorst
316. Janet Evans
317. Murray Evans
318. Yvonne Claus
319. Karen Crouch
320. Glenn Crouch
321. Robin Hueppauff
322. Andre Jewson
323. Hilde Grey
324. Ruth Brisbane
325. Dean Solmundson
326. Colin Hentschke
327. Carolyn Carson
328. Tiffany Turner
329. Andrew Pietsch
330. Chey Mattner
331. Libby Mattner
332. Kathy Wilson
333. David Wilson
334. Lauren Grieger
335. Dan Bricknell
336. Cathy Beaton
337. Dan Mueller
338. Monica Bodenstaff
339. Rob Bodenstaff
340. Margaret Ames
341. Colin Ames
342. Mike Cunningham
343. Ingrid Phyn
344. Peter Fleig
345. Sue Otto
346. Martin Ellgar
347. Robyn Masters
348. Renee Simpfendorfer
349. Craig Heidenreich
350. Glenn Schultz
351. Wendy Schultz
352. Karen Weier
353. Dennis Canute
354. Ian Lutze
355. Joel Cramer
356. Mark Whitfield
357. Leanne Whitfield
358. Chelsea Whitfield
359. Brittany Whitfield
360. Charlotte Whitfield
361. Maurice Materne
362. Myra Materne
363. Peter Gerhardy
364. Eric Hedt
365. Leanne Hedt
366. Cheryl Kuhne
367. Robert Kuhne
368. Pamela Mickan

369. Audrey Burger
370. Sharon Geue
371. Robyn Oatey
372. Ronda Hahn
373. Lesley Johnson
374. Judy Butler
375. Micaela Romiti
376. Liz Bartholomaeus
377. Rosemary Cramer
378. Jonathan Westhorp
379. Andrew Collyer
380. Thilo Troschke
381. Julie Troschke
382. Jan Collyer
383. Kirsten Zweck
384. Darren Trentepohl
385. Colin Reuter
386. Doris Reuter
387. Jill Hobden
388. Sabine Slade
389. Arja Nurkka
390. Erik Rohde
391. Josie Rohde
392. Phoebe Pilli
393. Claudia Kerley
394. Ted Bromwich
395. Bethy McKinnon
396. Tracy Adams
397. John Walkenhorst
398. Marg Walkenhorst
399. Jill Walkenhorst
400. Keith Braendlar
401. Kay Braendlar
402. Fay Modra
403. Erica Walker
404. Pauline Simonsen
405. Lynda Truss
406. Rowan Truss
407. Ian Pfeiffer
408. Peter Neville
409. Vivienne Lutze
410. Glenis Kupke
411. Stephen Rudolph
412. Janelle Rudolph
413. Valdis Andersons
414. Andrew Vanderwal
415. Marg Bremner
416. Judy Hembrow
417. Elizabeth Huckel
418. Wayne Huckel