

PROTOCOL 11
2007⁷

EUCCHARISTIC HOSPITALITY

**GUIDELINES FOR ANGLICAN AND LUTHERAN
CONGREGATIONS WHO DESIRE TO PRACTISE EUCCHARISTIC
HOSPITALITY AND SHARE PASTORAL CARE**

The National Bishops' Meeting resolved to adopt the *Guidelines for Anglican and Lutheran Congregations who Desire to Practise Eucharistic Hospitality and Share Pastoral Care* prepared by the Anglican Lutheran Consultation. Where Local Agreements are made they should be in the form specified in the annexure to the guidelines.

⁷ Note: This protocol is a voluntary agreement by the bishops for the exercise of their ministry.

***GUIDELINES
FOR ANGLICAN AND LUTHERAN CONGREGATIONS WHO
DESIRE TO PRACTISE EUCHARISTIC HOSPITALITY AND
SHARE PASTORAL CARE.***

PREAMBLE

For many years Anglicans and Lutherans in Australia have been engaged in theological discussions. The culmination of these deliberations was the publication of the document "Common Ground: Covenanting for Mutual Recognition and Reconciliation between the Anglican Church of Australia and the Lutheran Church of Australia." This report was launched at a special evening service conducted in St. Peter's Cathedral, Adelaide, on 1 April, 2001.

Subsequently, "Common Ground" was adopted by the General Synods of both churches: Lutheran in 2003 and Anglican in 2004. "Common Ground" is not a declaration of church union, but a solemn pledge to work towards that goal. However, "Common Ground" does enable Anglicans and Lutherans to serve one another. Shared pastoral care and Eucharistic hospitality between local Anglican and Lutheran communities living in rural, regional or remote areas may be practised after consultation with the Anglican Diocesan Bishop and the Lutheran District President. Any such initial local agreement is secured on the joint authority of the Diocesan Bishop and the District President, but does not have diocesan-wide or District-wide application.

A meeting of the Anglican-Lutheran Consultation (August, 2005) decided to encourage Bishops and Presidents to pursue actively situations where cooperation between Anglican and Lutheran congregations can take place.

SOME SUGGESTED GUIDELINES

- 1 Where Lutherans and Anglicans wish to have joint worship and/or pastoral care, or where they wish to practise Eucharistic hospitality, approval is obtained from the respective Anglican Diocesan Bishop and the Lutheran District President.
- 2 Local Agreements are to be made on the following basis:
 - a. joint public profession, by participating congregations, of the catholic faith as contained in the Nicene Creed.
 - b. an undertaking to respect the distinctive traditions enshrined in the Augsburg Confession and the Book of Common Prayer with the Thirty-nine Articles of Religion.
 - c. joint commissioning of clergy by the local Anglican Bishop and Lutheran President.
- 3 A statement of Local Agreement is drawn up and signed by the Bishop and the President, by the local pastor and local parish priest, and by representative lay leaders of both congregations.
- 4 Such a Local Agreement implies ongoing pastoral care and Eucharistic hospitality in a local area for an agreed period, and is not to be understood as occasional Eucharistic hospitality (provided for by the Anglican General Synod Canon 14 of 1973.) Rule xxiii made pursuant to Canon 14, 1973, already makes possible sustained Eucharistic hospitality for Lutherans.
- 5 When services are conducted by an Anglican minister, an authorised Anglican liturgy is used. When services are conducted by a Lutheran pastor, an authorised Lutheran liturgy is used.
- 6 Anglican and Lutheran congregations, and in particular the clergy of both churches, are encouraged to study together "Common Ground", which forms the basis for this agreement.

- 7 Anglican and Lutheran congregations, and their clergy are asked to note the following additions to "Common Ground" made by the respective General Synods.

Lutheran General Synod, October, 2003

The General Synod of the Lutheran Church of Australia adopted the recommendations of the Anglican-Lutheran Dialogue in regard to a National Covenant with the insertion of the following clause as recommended by the General Pastors' Conference:

"The Lutheran Church of Australia requires that wherever arrangements for local eucharistic hospitality are being considered, the College of Presidents will ensure that there is agreement on baptismal regeneration and the real presence of Christ's body and blood in the Lord's Supper, and that the position of the LCA on the ministry of Word and Sacrament and the ordination of women is not compromised."

Anglican General Synod, October, 2004

The Anglican General Synod adopted the recommendations of the Anglican-Lutheran Dialogue in regard to a National Covenant with the insertion of the following clause:

"The Anglican Church affirms its willingness to work with the Lutheran Church in the process of developing a distinct Episcopal office."

- 8 Where joint worship and Eucharistic hospitality and shared pastoral care between Anglicans and Lutherans take place, both groups are encouraged to share with one another church literature such as bulletins, newsletters and church papers.
- 9 In accordance with the suggestion in the "Second Report from the Anglican-Lutheran Dialogue" (2002), the Anglican-Lutheran Consultation will monitor local cooperation between Anglicans and Lutherans where Eucharistic hospitality and joint worship and shared pastoral care takes place, and submit reports to the House of Bishops and the College of Presidents.

LOCAL AGREEMENT

BETWEEN

**THE ANGLICAN CHURCH OF AUSTRALIA
IN THE DIOCESE OF**

AND

**THE LUTHERAN CHURCH OF AUSTRALIA,
.....DISTRICT**

CONCERNING

**EUCHARISTIC HOSPITALITY AND SHARED PASTORAL CARE
BETWEEN THE CHURCHES IN**

PREAMBLE

“Common Ground, Covenanting for Mutual Recognition and Reconciliation between the Anglican Church of Australia and the Lutheran Church of Australia”, acknowledges that Anglicans and Lutherans recognise each other as continuing in the apostolic faith and ministry. Paragraph 4.1 makes this important affirmation:

We recognise each other as churches that, despite our failings, stand in the community of apostolic faith and ministry. We acknowledge that in each other’s ordained ministries gospel oversight and administration of the means of grace are authentic and effective. We pledge to work together to develop joint participation in mission and witness, and to continue to seek ways of manifesting the unity that is ours in Christ.

Furthermore, paragraph 4:2 states:

In particular, we believe that this agreement in faith and order we have reached is sufficient basis for a national Covenant by which regional agreements for eucharistic hospitality and recognition of ministry may be entered into. Under this covenant each church may invite and welcome the members of the other church in a particular locality to share in Holy Communion and to receive pastoral care according to need.

THE LOCAL AGREEMENT

Anglicans and Lutherans in
have heard the same prompting of the Holy Spirit in their local
pastoral situation.

We have studied together "Common Ground" as the basis of this
local agreement.

Recognising this local initiative, an agreement is hereby established
between

the Anglican parish of.....
and
theLutheran congregation
in

who agree to:

- 1 extend eucharistic and pastoral hospitality to each other's
members in this local community.
- 2 use only the authorised liturgy of the minister conducting the
worship i.e. when services are conducted by a Lutheran pastor,
a Lutheran liturgy will be used and when services are
conducted by an Anglican minister, an Anglican liturgy will be
used.
- 3 allocate offerings according to the wishes of the Anglican and
Lutheran congregations.
- 4 ensure that Anglican and Lutheran clergy liaise regarding the
pastoral care of members.
- 5 review this local agreement in months/years.

Signed by Date.....

Bishop of the Diocese of

Signed by..... Date.....

President of the Lutheran Church of Australia,District

Lutheran Pastor

Chair of Congregation

.....

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Anglican Incumbent

Churchwarden

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TO GOD BE THE GLORY