

## TERMS OF REFERENCE

### RECONCILIATION LISTENING AND FACILITATION TEAM

#### Background

The Emmaus Group report was presented to the 2020 AGM of St Paul's Lutheran Church Box Hill. The AGM was conducted on 23 August 2020. The report contained a number of recommendations.

At the AGM the congregation resolved:

1. THAT the congregation acknowledge and give thanks for the Emmaus Group and its report.
2. THAT Church Council provide an update on progress of the Emmaus Group recommendations at the November congregation meeting.

The very first recommendation in the Emmaus Group report is:

*We acknowledge that there remains the need to continue the reconciliation process. We seek to glorify God through supporting either the commencement or continuation of a safe, well planned and clearly communicated reconciliation journey for people and recommend resources be engaged as needed to facilitate this.*

It is this recommendation that is primarily being addressed in being ready to hear from people who wish to reconcile with others, or who wish to continue in reconciliation with others, or who wish to explore the possibility of reconciling with others in a safe and confidential way.

#### Purpose of the Team

1. To be available to listen to people who wish to speak to someone at St Paul's about reconciling with others (i.e. to be the first point of contact for anyone who may wish or need to speak to someone).
2. To be a safe and confidential group of listeners for people who wish to share their experiences and seek help for next steps.
3. To be a safe and confidential group for people to explore what the next steps are for them.

#### Scope

1. To be available to confidentially receive requests for help related to reconciliation with others.
2. To begin to help people explore what their next steps might be.

#### Suggested Membership / Skills Set

1. Pastoral sensitivity and ability to keep confidentiality.

2. A basic understanding of the principles of Biblical peacemaking as outlined in the 'Blessed are the Peacemakers' Bible study material.
3. Have undertaken peacemaking or counselling coaching training.
4. Have completed the relevant Church Safe/SP3 training satisfactorily. Training to be undertaken should include:
  - a. 'Member' LCA-PS training - i.e. the 6-hour day training. The Level 1 Professional Standards training includes details about reporting suspected abuse or disturbing behaviours.
  - b. Read the relevant LCA Policies and Procedures relating to Children and Vulnerable People. Note that LCA Policies and Procedures are applicable to all members/volunteers of the LCA:  
*"The policy and procedures apply to:*
    - All ministries and activities of the Church
    - All pastors, lay workers, employees, members, volunteers and visitors.'
  - c. Read relevant State Legislature re Mandatory Reporting.
  - d. Hold a current Working with Children check (WWCC).
5. Suggested membership: two pastors and two laypeople.

### **Reporting, Tenure of the Group and Review**

The group will meet at least monthly, or more often if it is deemed helpful for mutual supervision and support.

The group will report to Church Council via Senior Pastor.

Initial tenure: 6 months, with review at 5 months with a view to making a recommendation to Church Council concerning ongoing tenure.

### **Resourcing**

Relevant and timely ongoing professional development.

Space at Riversdale Road and/or at Station Street to meet with people, if COVID-19 restrictions allow.

Preparation of a Listening and Facilitating Tool Kit for each member of the team.

*This version:*

*Neville Otto, 24 September 2020*