

Table of Contents



Evangelical Lutheran Church in Guyana

Notice of Convention	2
Opening Service	3
Convention Programme	4
Convention Committees	5
The Executive Council	6
Pastors, Parish and Ministry Directory	7
Diaconate	8
Ministers, Delegates, Advisory Delegates, Fraternities	9
Rules of Order (By- Laws)	10
Convention Minutes	11 - 17
President Report	19 - 25
Vice-President Report	27 - 28
Secretary's Report	29 - 34
Treasurer's Report (<i>includes Auditor's Report</i>)	35 - 54

Administrative Office

Lutheran Courts
P.O. Box 88
New Amsterdam
Guyana, SA.

Auditor

Lancelot A. F. Atherly
F.C.C.A.
64 Brickdam, Stabroek
Georgetown
Guyana, SA.

At the Crossroads...

We are seeing a world in transition, rapidly changing and it is imperative for us as a church to acknowledge these changes so that we can better answer the needs of the people. We can be victims of change, but we can be its authors as well as its guardians. Can we be examples of what it is to respond and at the same time to lead, to change boldly, but to hold to what is true faithfully as well? What are we to do in the midst of a rapidly changing culture? A church in dialogue? A church that listens? A humbler church? But the other side of us is anxious that we might be compromising the Gospel and moving with the world rather moving the world with the power of God. We have entered a highly specialized generation in medicine, in commerce, in engineering, in communication technology — there is an expert in everything. What is the church an expert of? Jack of all trades and master of none? What is our expertise that would necessitate people to come? We must daringly and honestly ask ourselves whether or not our church provides answers to the vexing problems in human hearts, the skepticism of many of the young, and the indifference of those who think that the days of religion have given way to the age of science. We have our liturgical pomp and pride but are our rituals connected to the hopes and frustrations, the joys and grief of the people? Are we still understood and relevant to the struggles and visions of our people? Can we listen to gutter language without judgment? The transitions need our attention. The shifts in paradigms need shifts in our approaches. A defensive church will not inspire and ignite souls. Let us search for answers and ask the Holy Spirit to inspire and set our hearts on fire.

Evangelical Lutheran Church in Guyana

75th Annual Convention

Notice of Convention

15th January 2018

In accordance with Article IX, Sect. 4 of the Constitution and, Sect. V: Item 4 of the By-Laws of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Guyana (ELCG), notice is accordingly given for the convening of the 75th Annual Convention of the ELCG which will be held from Sunday May 06, 2018 to Tuesday May 08, 2018 at Ebenezer Lutheran Church and Lutheran Hall, New Amsterdam.

Draft Business Agenda:

1. Call to Order
2. Announcement of Committees by the Vice President
3. Report of the Committee on Registration and Credentials and Conduct of Elections
4. Matters arising from Minutes of 2017 Convention
5. Report of the President *'concerning the life and all aspects of the work of this Church*
6. Report of the Vice President
7. Report of the Secretary *'on the work of the Executive Council and Statistical Reports from Parishes'*
8. Report of the Treasurer; Presentation of the Auditor's Report, and 2019 Administration Budget, and other financial matters
9. Report from National Youth Ministry re: Living Reformation Project
10. Written Motions/Resolutions
11. Election of Officers and Members of the Executive Council
12. Close of Convention.

The Executive Council has approved the following theme and Sub-themes for Convention 2017:

Theme: *Preaching, Teaching, Reaching - Our Church at the Crossroads*
Sub-themes: *Baptized, we live.*
Cheerfully, we give.
Worshipping, we praise.

In accordance with Article VII, Section 11 of the Constitution of the ELCG, please be reminded that Pastors/Deacons are required to submit to the ELCG Secretary, Parish/Congregational Statistical Report for 2017 by 28 February 2018. A copy of the relevant form is attached for your use – one for each Congregation.

The Convention Bulletin will be compiled and distributed to all members of Convention in accordance with Sect. V: Item 6 of the by-laws of the Constitution prior to the opening of Convention and as such, we look forward to your timely submission of the requested information for inclusion in the Convention Bulletin.

Also, in accordance with Article IX, Sect. 5 of the Constitution and Section II: Item 2 and 3 of the By-Laws of the Constitution, please be reminded that you are required to forward the names of the two Convention delegates (one male, one female) to the Secretary by latest 1 March 2018.

We look forward to your participation at the 75th Annual Convention of the ELCG.

Yours in Christ,

Elocia Smith
Secretary, ELCG
Lutheran Courts, New Amsterdam, Berbice, Guyana.

Evangelical Lutheran Church in Guyana
75th Annual Convention

“Preaching, Teaching, Reaching - Our Church at the Crossroads”

Opening Service

March of Witness 08:30 am

Musical Preludes 09:00 am – Musical Prelude / Chorus Singing

Venue: Ebenezer Lutheran Church
Lutheran Courts, New Amsterdam, Berbice

Preacher: Rev. Leroy Nicholson, President, ELCG

Liturgist: Hon. Sandra Kurtzious, Redeemer Parish

Celebrant: Rev. Gloria Sampson, Ascension Parish

Communion Assistants: Rev. Conrad Plummer, Redeemer Parish
Rev. Babsie Pierre, Calvary Parish
Rev. Leonard Fitzpatrick Peters, St. John Parish
Deacon Ackloo Ramsudh, Ebenezer Parish
Deacon Mavis Campbell, Advent Parish
Ms. Dynutha Adonis, Ascension Parish
Ms. Veronica Sawh, Good Shepherd Parish
Mr. Ronleigh Watson, St. Matthew Parish

Lesson Readers: 1st Lesson - Mr. Terry Bayney, Redeemer Parish
2nd Lesson - Ms. Grace Denny, Good Shepherd Parish
Holy Gospel - Rev. Leroy Nicholson, President, ELCG

Acolytes: Ebenezer Parish and Transfiguration Parish

Ushers: Ebenezer Parish and Transfiguration Parish

Music: Mr. Lemuel Samuels

† † † † †

Opening of Convention -Rev. Leroy Nicholson, President, ELCG

Welcome -Ms. Elocia Smith, Secretary

Greetings from Fraternal Representatives

Evangelical Lutheran Church in Guyana

75th Annual Convention

“Preaching, Teaching, Reaching - Our Church at the Crossroads”

Convention Programme

Sunday, May 06, 2018

08:30 - 09:00 March of Witness
09:00 - 09:30 Musical Prelude/Chorus singing
09:30 - 13:00 Opening Worship Service – Word and Sacrament
Opening of Convention and Greetings
13:00-14:30 Lunch – Convention Officials and Delegates
14:30-17.00 Registration and Open Time, Executive Council meeting
17.00-18.00 Dinner
18:00-20:00 Talent Show
Evening Prayers - Chaplain

Monday, May 07, 2018

08:00-08:30 Devotion - Chaplain
08:30-09:45 Presentation and discussion on Sub-theme 1 *“Baptized, we live”*
Presenter - Rev. Conrad Plummer, Redeemer Parish
Moderator – Mr. Michael Davy Ram, St. Andrew Parish
09:45-10:45 First Business Session
10:45-11.00 Refreshment Break
11.00-12:00 Second Business Session
12:00-13:00 Lunch
13:00-14:15 Presentation and discussion on Sub-theme 2 *“Cheerfully, we give”*
Presenter - Rev. Sugrim J. Gobin, St Andrew Parish
Moderator- Mr. Samuel J. Goolsarran, Redeemer Parish
14.15-15.15 Third business Session
15.15-15.30 Break
15.30-17:00 Fourth Business Session
17:30-17:45 Dinner
18:00-20:00 Camp Fire and Closing Devotion – Rev. Leroy Nicholson and Ebenezer Parish

Tuesday, May 08, 2018

08:00-08:30 Devotion - Chaplain
08:30-09:45 Presentation and discussion on Sub-theme 3 *“Worshipping, we praise”*
Presenter – Deacon Shelda Emanuel, St. Andrew Parish
Moderator- Rev. Shirley Jaundoo, St. Michael Parish
09:45-10.00 Break
10.00-11.30 Fifth Business Session
11:30 -12.00 Vote of Thanks
12:00-01:15 Closing Service of Word and Sacrament
Liturgist - Dec. Mahendra Singh, Advent Parish
Preacher - Rev. Michael Pryce, Bishop ES, ELCIC
Celebrant - Rev. Babsie Pierre, Calvary Parish
Communion Assistants - Rev. James Patrick Jones, Emmanuel Parish
Dec Ishwardei Melville, St Andrew Parish
Close of Convention - Rev. Leroy Nicholson, President-ELCG

Lunch & Departure

Evangelical Lutheran Church in Guyana 75th Annual Convention

“Preaching, Teaching, Reaching - Our Church at the Crossroads”

Convention Committees

1. Committee on Reference and Counsel

Rev. Sugrim Gobin - Chairperson
Hon. Sandra Kurtzious
Mr. Samuel J. Goolsarran

Terms of Reference

A resolution of general character which is not germane to the pending question or report shall be given to the Committee on Reference and Counsel by the Delegate proposing such resolution. The Committee shall report all such resolutions to the Convention with its recommendations. Memorials from Parishes shall be submitted to the Committee at the commencement of Convention for the Committee's study and recommendations to Convention. Other duties of the Committee shall be to recommend special orders for the hearing of representatives, to grant or deny permission to distribute printed matters not issuing from the Office of the Secretary, and to give such to the President as he may desire in the course of Convention.

2. Committee on Minutes

Ms. Elocia Smith - Chairperson
Rev. Amanda Singh
Dec. Leeta Chutkhan

Terms of Reference

The Committee on Minutes shall approve draft Minutes of the Convention and report thereon to the Executive Council. Approval of the Minutes of Convention shall be the responsibility of the Executive Council of this church at its first regular meeting after Convention and the Executive Council shall implement all actions of Convention without delay.

3. Committee on Registration and Credentials and Conduct of Elections

Ms. Lauren McCalman - Chairperson
Dec. Ackloo Ramsudh
Mrs. Elizabeth Paduman

Terms of Reference

To register all Delegates, Pastors, Advisory Delegates, Deacons, Representatives of Fraternity and Partner Agencies.

To present a report at the first business session on registration and recommend the seating of participants in accordance with the Constitution.

To conduct elections in keeping with the Constitution and By-laws.

Parliamentarian

Rev. Conrad Plummer

Terms of Reference

To advise on Constitutional and Procedural Matters.

Convention Chaplain:

-Rev. Amanda Singh

Evangelical Lutheran Church in Guyana
75th Annual Convention

“Preaching, Teaching, Reaching - Our Church at the Crossroads”

The Executive Council

1. **Rev. Leroy Clifton Clebert Nicholson**
President
Ebenezer Parish

2. **Hon. Sandra Elizabeth Kurtzious**
Vice-President
Redeemer Parish

3. **Ms. Elocia Neshia Farida Smith**
Secretary
Redeemer Parish

4. **Mr. Michael Davy Ram**
Treasurer, ELCG
St. Andrew Parish

5. **Rev. James Patrick Jones**
Member, Executive Council, ELCG
Emmanuel Parish

6. **Rev. Conrad K. Plummer**
Member, Executive Council, ELCG
Redeemer Parish

7. **Rev. Babsie I. Pierre**
Member, Executive Council, ELCG
Calvary Parish

8. **Ms. Lauren McCalman**
Member, Executive Council, ELCG
Emmanuel Parish

9. **Deacon Mahendra Singh**
Member, Executive Council, ELCG
Advent, Parish

Evangelical Lutheran Church in Guyana

75th Annual Convention

Pastors, Parish & Ministry Directory

Rev. Gloria Sampson *Pastor*
Ascension Parish
120 West Ruimveldt, Georgetown
Tel.# 231-0276/646-3742

Rev. Babsie Pierre, *Pastor*
Calvary Parish
North Road, Bourda, Georgetown
Tel. # 226-4227
Email: calvary@guyananet.com
Email: babsie_pierre@yahoo.com

Rev. Conrad Plummer, *Pastor*
Redeemer Parish
208 Sheriff Street, Georgetown
Tel.# 227-3351/ ckassoc@networksgy.com
Email: redeemer@guyana.net.gy

Rev. Sugrim Gobin, *Contact Pastor (Retired)*
St. Andrew Parish
Area B, Lot 1, Chateau Margot, ECD
Tel. #220-2348
Email: jgobin47@gmail.com

Rev. Amanda Singh, *Pastor (ag)*,
St Matthew Parish,
Broomhall, Mahaicony, ECD
Tel: 232-3144
Email: amandasingh423@gmail.com

Rev. Amanda Singh, *Pastor*
Advent Parish
Bath Settlement, WCB
Tel. # 232-3144
E-mail: amandasingh423@gmail.com

Rev. Leroy Nicholson, *Acting Pastor*
Good Shepherd Parish
Rosignol, WCB
Tel. # 333-6593 / nicholsonleroy@yahoo.com

ELCG oversight
Reformation Parish
Berbice River,
Tel.# 645-5661

Rev. Leroy Nicholson, *Pastor*
Ebenezer Parish
Lutheran Courts, New Amsterdam, Berbice
Tel. # 333 6593
Email: nicholsonleroy@yahoo.com

Rev. Shirley Jaundoo, *Oversight Pastor*
Transfiguration Parish
Lutheran Courts, PO Box 88, Berbice,
Tel.# 333 5881
E-mail: bless_shirley@yahoo.com

Rev. Leonard Fitzpatrick Peters, *Pastor*
St. John Parish
Williamsburg, Corentyne, Berbice
Tel. # 322-5438
Email:

Rev. Shirley Jaundoo, *Pastor*
St. Michael Parish
Philippi, Corentyne, Berbice
Tel. # 333 5881
E-mail: bless_shirley@yahoo.com

Rev. Partick Jones, *Pastor*
Emmanuel Parish
Skeldon, Corriverton, Berbice
Tel. # 339-3349
E-mail: jpjones529@aol.com

Committee Chairpersons and Directors

Christian Education and Literature
Rev. Babsie Pierre, *Chair*
Tel: 226-4227; babsie_pierre@yahoo.com

Rev. Shirley Jaundoo, *Director*
Tel: 333 5881: bless_shirley@yahoo.com

Youth Ministry
Ms. Dynutha Adonis, *Chair*

Mr. Wayne Melville, *Director*

Lutheran Lay Academy
Rev. Leroy Nicholson, *Director*

Guyana Lutheran Music Academy
Hon. Sandra E. Kurtzious, *Chair*

Finance and Stewardship
Mr. Michael Davy Ram, *Chair*
Tel: 220-4853, michael.ram@republicguyana.com

Mission and Evangelism
Mr. Michael Davy Ram, *Chair*
Tel: 220-4853, michael.ram@republicguyana.com

Church Vocations
Rev. Leroy Nicholson, *Chair*

Worship
Rev. Leroy Nicholson, *Chair*

Interpretation
Rev. Leroy Nicholson, *Chair*

Evangelical Lutheran Church in Guyana
75th Annual Convention

“Preaching, Teaching, Reaching - Our Church at the Crossroads”

Diaconate

Deacon Ackloo Ramsudh
Ebenezer Parish

Deacon Leeta Chutkhan
Transfiguration Parish

Deacon Sharon Sulker
Transfiguration Parish

Deacon Shelda Emanuel
St. Andrew Parish

Deacon Ishwardei Melville
St. Andrew Parish

Deacon Mahendra Singh
Advent Parish

Deacon Beverley Johnson
Advent Parish

Deacon Mavis Campbell
Advent Parish

Deacon Keith V. Hazel
Emmanuel Parish

Deacon Elaine Grannum
Redeemer Parish

Evangelical Lutheran Church in Guyana
75th Annual Convention
“Preaching, Teaching, Reaching - Our Church at the Crossroads”

Members of Convention: Ministers, Delegates & Overseas Partners

<u>Parish</u>	<u>Ministers</u>	<u>Delegates</u>
1. Emmanuel	Rev. James Patrick Jones	Ms. Lauren McCalman <i>Vacant - Male Delegate</i>
2. St Michael	Rev. Shirley Jaundoo	Ms. Nooron Carew <i>Vacant - Male Delegate</i>
3. St John	Rev. Leonard Fitzpatrick Peters	Ms. Milicent Razack Mr. Shabraz Ally
4. Transfiguration		Ms. Melissa Ramsarran Mr. Wayne Bruce
5. Ebenezer	Rev. Leroy Nicholson	Ms. Corrine Daphness Mr. Tony Sawh
6. Reformation		<i>Vacant - Female Delegate</i> <i>Vacant - Male Delegate</i>
7. Good Shepherd		Ms. Noelene Livingston Mr. Christopher Wordsworth
8. Advent	Rev. Amanda Singh	Ms. Sheneza Noble Mr. Lionel Moonsammy
9. St Matthew		Ms. Monica Amos Mr. Saphier Hussain
10. St Andrew		Ms. Valerie Cruckshank-Alleyne Mr. Shaheed Ahmad
11. Redeemer	Rev. Conrad Plummer	Ms. LaDonna James Mr. Terry Bayney
12. Calvary	Rev. Babsie Pierre	Ms. Shellon Greene Mr. Robert Perry
13. Ascension	Rev. Gloria Sampson	Ms. Selena Lepps <i>Vacant - Male Delegate</i>

Other Members of Convention

i) Advisory Delegates with Voice

Hon. Sandra Kurtzious, Vice President, ELCG
 Ms. Elocia Smith, Secretary, ELCG
 Mr. Michael Davy Ram, Treasurer, ELCG
 Deacon Mahendra Singh, Member Ex. Co. ELCG

ii) Voice in connection with Auxiliaries

Mr. Christopher Wordsworth, Rep.-Youth Ministry
 Ms. Shelon Bruce - President, ELCW

iii) Voice in connection with respective Parish

Deacons – as listed on page 8

iv) Overseas Partner – Voice on recognition of Chair

Rev. Kit Robinson, FBS/ELCA
 Ms. P J May, FBS/ELCA
 Ms. Marcee Strickland-Wilkes, FBS/ELCA
 Ms. Chris Klafs, FBS/ELCA
 Rev. Michael Pryce, Bishop ES ELCIC
 Ms. Laurie Knott, ELCIC
 Ms. Ritta Hepomaki, ELCIC
 Mr. Reza Karg, ELKS

v) Parliamentarian

Rev. Conrad Plummer

Evangelical Lutheran Church in Guyana
75th Annual Convention
“Preaching, Teaching, Reaching - Our Church at the Crossroads”

Convention Rules of Order

SECTION XV – RULES OF ORDER (By-Laws)

Item 1. Debate and Decorum:

- (a) Every delegate and Minister shall have the right to speak once on all questions. After all those desiring to do so have spoken she/he shall have the right to speak again.
- (b) Every delegate and Minister shall obtain the recognition of the chair before speaking.
- (c) The mover of any proposition shall have the right to close the debate.
- (d) Every delegate and Minister shall confine herself/himself strictly to the question before the Convention.

Item 2. Voting:

- (a) Every delegate and Minister shall have the right to vote on all questions.
- (b) Any delegate or Minister shall have the right to have his/her dissent, with reasons, recorded on any question or part thereof.

Item 3. Motions and Resolutions:

- (a) Every delegate and Minister shall have the right to make a motion or offer a resolution.
- (b) Every motion or resolution shall be presented to the Secretary in writing.
- (c) Every motion or resolution, unless otherwise indicated, shall require for confirmation a majority vote of the voting body present.

Item 4. Rules of Order:

All parliamentary rules and practices not covered by the Constitution and By-Laws shall be determined by Robert’s Rules of Order latest edition.

Evangelical Lutheran Church in Guyana

75th Annual Convention

Convention Minutes # 902

Theme: Liberated by God's Grace

The following are the Minutes of the 74th Annual Convention of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Guyana held from 30th April to 2nd May 2017 at Ebenezer Lutheran Church, New Amsterdam, Berbice.

1. Sunday 30th April, 2017: Opening Worship

The Opening Worship Service began with a procession led by the Cofona Band around the block at 8:45h then was followed by 'singspiration' led by Mr. Michael Davy Ram and assisted by the Guyana Lutheran Music Academy Teachers.

Leaders of the Service were:-

Preacher:	Rev. Leroy Nicholson – Ebenezer Parish
Liturgist:	Mr. Michael Davy Ram – St Andrew Parish
Celebrant:	Rev. Patrick Jones - Emmanuel Parish
Lesson Readers:	Ms. Selena Lepps – Ascension Parish (1 st Lesson)
	Ms. Renita Singh – Good Shepherd Parish (2 nd Lesson)

Music:

GLMA led by the music teachers: Ms. Kirsten Vezina, Ms. Lauren Hahn and Mr. Sandor Miko. Mr. Wayne Melville – St Andrew Parish.

2. Summary of Worship Message

Rev. Leroy Nicholson reflected on the theme: Liberated by God's grace. John 8:32; And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free. Some people are all about the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth. The famous atheist Thomas Huxley admitted; "A man's worst difficulties begin when he is able to do as he likes." The dirty little secret of all mankind is we are all sinners, enslaved to sin and the consequences of sin.

We need liberation from sin; liberation to live our lives in simple love and obedience to God and the Lord Jesus Christ. The good news of the Gospel is we can be liberated; but that liberation from sin has evidence; we must believe in Jesus, abide in Jesus; when we believe in Jesus we experience salvation, when we abide in Jesus we walk in discipleship.

The result of salvation and discipleship are an understanding of truth and the ability to experience true liberation from sin. Paul the Apostle puts it this way. Romans 8:2; For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has made me free from the law of sin and death. Many times we fail to see the true meaning and the true significance of the word "Freedom". For many the word "Freedom" means "free to do what I want", without consideration of moral or immoral content, moral or immoral consequence.

"There are two freedoms—the false, where a man is free to do what he likes; the true; where a man is free to do what he ought." We can choose a way that is opposite to God's way, and we wind up with tragic consequences and regrets.

We stumble in the dark, we are tangled in sin, strangled by disobedience, until we can only taste the bitter and rancid bile of Spiritual death, so long as we are in bondage to sin we are never truly free. Jesus has freed us from sin and for service.

Freedom from sin begins with believing and accepting all that Jesus says is true. All that Jesus says about God, all that Jesus says about the terror and horror of sin, and that Jesus says about the real meaning of life.

3. Commission of New Deacons

Having been examined and approved for commissioning by the Executive Council, and accepted the Call, the Assembly witnessed the commissioning of four Candidates, into the Diaconate Ministry of the ELCG by the Rev. Leroy Nicholson, President:

- Mr. Mahendra Singh
- Mr. Ackloo Ramsudh
- Ms. Mavis Campbell
- Ms. Sharon Sulker

The Secretary, Ms. Elocia Smith, presented certificates to the Deacons who were commissioned.

5. Opening Convention

The President, Rev. Leroy Nicholson formally declared the 74th Annual Convention of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Guyana, to be in session.

6. Welcome and Greetings

The Secretary, Ms. Elocia Smith welcomed and extended cordial greetings to all including the ELCG's overseas partners.

Greetings were brought from: Rev. Thomas Unrath, FBS, Mr. Keith Myra, ELCIC, Rev. Urwin Holband, ELKS, Mr. Girma Gutema, Guyana Mission of Ethiopia, Rev. Phillip Rose from the NACCC and Rev. Cheryl Isaac of the Methodist Church.

7. Meeting

The Executive Council met at 3:10 p.m. with representatives of our overseas partners attending Convention – ELCIC, FBS and ELKS for discussion on matters of mutual interest and accompaniment. The matters discussed included lack of communication, need for information on Lay Academy, Leadership – Women, Men, Youth and Lay Leaders.

The main objective is to bridge the gap between ELCG and our Partners with ongoing communication, also to set goals and to encourage development in the areas of Leadership, Deacons, Treasurers, Lay Academy, Music Academy and Christian Education Department for, long term programming, areas of assistance, strategic planning and project.

The day's events concluded in the evening with a Talent Show with the GLMA students, which was held in the Ebenezer Lutheran Church sanctuary and led by the music teachers of the Guyana Lutheran Music Academy.

Monday 1st May 2017

8. Assembly and Worship Devotion

Convention assembled at 8:00a.m. for worship. Devotion was conducted by Convention Chaplain, Deacon Mahendra Singh.

9 Convention Sessions

Hon. Sandra Kurtzious, Vice President, in line with the Constitution, presided at the Convention sessions. She welcomed and extended greetings to all in attendance.

10. Sub-theme

The first sub theme: **Revelation – Who God Is** was presented by lead presenter, Rev. Amanda Singh followed by discussions with moderator, Rev. Sugrim Gobin.

Rev. Amanda Singh reiterated on Revelation -Who God Is -- God as a Creator, God as a Person, God as Spirit and God is Love.

11. First Business Session

Eight (8) Ministers, twenty-four (24) Delegates and (4) Advisory Delegates were registered by the Secretary as voting members of Convention based on submission from Parishes.

This session was called to order by Vice President, Hon. Sandra Kurtzious

12. Committees

The Vice President announced the composition of the following Convention Committees as printed in Bulletin Page 5.

Committee on Reference
Committee on Minutes
Committee on Registration and Conduct of Elections

Parliamentarian: Mr. Samuel Goolsarran

13. Report of the Committee on Registration

Ms. Lauren McCalman, Chair-Committee on Registration presented the following report:

Ministers	8
Delegates	24
Advisory delegates	4
Deacons	9
Fraternal Representatives	9

Convention voted to accept the report of the Committee on Registration.

14. Roll Call

The Secretary, Ms. Elocia Smith called the roll of voting members of convention. Present were Eight (8) Ministers and twenty-four (24) Delegates as follows:

Parishes	Ministers	Delegates
Emmanuel	1. Rev. Patrick Jones	1. Mr. Aaron Chand 2. Ms. Lauren Mc Calman
St. Michael	2. Rev. Shirley Jaundoo	3. Mr. Clifford Drepaul 4. Ms. Ivy Dindyal
St. John	3. Rev. Leonard F. Peters	5. Mr. Samuel Sukhu 6. Ms. Arlene Fewram
Transfiguration		7. Mr. Wayne Bruce 8. Ms. Melissa Ramsarran
Ebenezer	4. Rev. Leroy Nicholson	9. Mr. Tony Sawh 10. Ms. Corrine Daphness
Reformation		11. Mr. Walter Taylor 12. Ms. Codeine La Rose
Good Shepherd	5. Rev. Amanda Singh	13. Mr. Christopher Wordsworth 14. Ms. Renita Singh
Advent		15. Ms. Lisa Jerome 16. Mr. Saphier Hussain
St. Matthew	6. Rev. Sugrim Gobin	17. Ms. Monica Amos 18. Mr. Saheed Ahmad
St. Andrew		19. Ms. Fiona Rambissoon 20. Mr. Terry Bayney
Redeemer		21. Ms. LaDonna James 22. Mr. Robert Perry
Calvary	7. Rev. Babsie Pierre	23. Ms. Hazel Sanmoogan
Ascension	8. Rev. Gloria Sampson	24. Ms. Selina Lepps

15. Agenda, Convention Programme and Time Schedule

Convention voted to accept these as printed in the Bulletin.

Second Business Session:

17. President's Report

The President, Rev. Leroy Nicholson, in his report reflected on the theme: Liberated by God's Grace. He also reported on the general situation of the church including Pastoral Assignments, International Relations, Partnership Ministries, Standing Committees, Lay Academy, Youth Ministry, 500th Reformation Anniversary and Ministerium.

After discussion, Convention voted to receive the report of the President with appreciation and also approved the recommendations for appropriate actions by all concerned.

18. Vice President's Report

The Vice President, Hon Sandra Kurtzious reflected on Convention theme and her responsibility as Chair of the Executive Council. The report concentrated on contributions we make individually and as a Church as we prepare for God's Call in building membership and the auxiliaries in this part of his vineyard.

Convention received the report of the Vice President with appreciation.

19. The Second Sub-theme

The second sub theme: **Reformation- Who We Are** was presented by lead presenter, Rev. Shirley Jaundoo followed by discussions with moderator, Rev. Thomas Unrath.

Rev. Shirley Jaundoo explained "Who We Are" in the most profound way to the conventioners.

She said that this anniversary gives us an opportunity to affirm and reaffirm the divine truths that God revealed through His servant Martin Luther as he was guided by the Holy Spirit. These Divine Truths, in Latin phrases have been called "The Five Solas" which emerged during the reformation, summarized then and now, the Reformers' Theological convictions about the essentials of Christianity.

1. Sola Scriptura (Scripture alone).
2. Solus Christus (Christ alone).
3. Sola Gratia (Grace alone).
4. Sola Fide (Faith alone).
5. Soli Deo Gloria (Glory to God alone).

Third Business Session

20. Secretary's Report

This report was presented by the Secretary, Ms. Elocia Smith who presented the work of the Executive Council, the Church-wide Statistics and recommendations.

After discussion, Convention voted to receive the report of the Secretary with appreciation and also approved the recommendations for appropriate action by all concerned.

Fourth Business Session

21. Report of the Treasurer

The Treasurer, Mr. Michael Davy Ram, presented the Treasurer's report as follows:-

The Treasurer's report included information on Income, Cash position, Bank reconciliation, Apportionment, Convention expenses, Convention project, Special funds, gifts/donations/bonuses, Overseas grants, Sale of properties and Assets and Capital acquisition. After discussions and explanations, Convention voted to receive the report of the Treasurer with appreciation.

The Auditor's Report by L.A. Atherly and Company, Chartered Accountants was presented by the Treasurer. After discussions and explanations, Convention voted to adopt the Auditor's Report.

The 2018 Church wide Budget: Following discussions, particularly on apportionment set at \$2,400.00 per active member, Convention voted to approve a budget that will not include an increase in apportionment.

22. Recommendations from the Treasurer

Recommendation:

- (i) A propose payment plan to receive all outstanding apportionment owing to ELCG from all the relevant Parishes by June 30th 2017.
- (ii) That the apportionment of \$868,110.00 owed by the Reformation Parish is forgiven and the Parish be exempted from apportionment until December 31st, 2020 after which the Finance Committee will take further action.
- (iii) That the designated funds for the Lutheran Home be directed to the Living Reformation Project.

The Treasurer's concerns were that the non-payments for apportionment is a sign of bad management by Parishes.

After discussions, Convention voted to approve the recommendations.

23. Campfire

A Campfire and closing devotion was led by Rev. Leroy Nicholson and youths of Ebenezer Parish.

Tuesday May 2nd 2017

Morning devotion was conducted by Deacon Sharon Sulker and Deacon Leeta Chutkhan.

24. Third Sub-theme

The third sub theme: **Revolution – Who Is Ready** was presented by lead presenter, Mr. Michael Davy Ram followed by discussions with moderator, Deacon Shelda Emanuel.

Mr. Ram stressed in his presentation that, to be truly ready, it is first through the Holy Spirit, daily Prayers and Commitment.

Fifth Business Session

25. A Proposal for the Living Reformation Project was presented by Ms. Lisa Jerome and Mr. Christopher Wordsworth who laid out a thorough plan to the 74th Annual Convention, 2017 of the ELCG.

Pledges totaling \$864,000.00 were received for the Living Reformation Project from the Convention.

27. 500th Reformation Anniversary Celebration in Guyana

Mr. Michael Davy Ram – Chair of the 500th Anniversary Celebration of Reformation Committee presented the proposed events for the celebrations in 2017. A number of suggestions and recommendations were made. Convention approved the plans for the Anniversary Celebrations.

28. Vote of Thanks

The Secretary Ms. Elocia Smith expressed grateful thanks and appreciation to all for their attendance, active participation and service in various capacities. Particular appreciation was expressed to the representatives of our overseas partners.

29. Closing Service and Close of Convention

The closing service of Word and Sacrament was conducted by Deacon Keith Hazel, Liturgist; Rev. Patrick Peters, Preacher and Rev. Babsie Pierre, Celebrant.

31. Next Date for Convention is 6th May, 2018.

32. Close of Convention

The Rev. Leroy Nicholson, President of the ELCG, using the Order for the Close of Convention, officially declared the 74th Annual Convention 2017 closed.

Submitted on behalf of the Committee on Minutes,

Elocia Smith
Secretary, ELCG

(Minutes approved by the Executive Council at meeting held June 10, 2017)

Notes

Evangelical Lutheran Church in Guyana

75th Annual Convention

Report of the President

Reflection: *Our Church at the Crossroads*

I am convinced that with every crisis, with every crossroad a nation faces, there is either more chaos or massive correction, bad critics or a brilliant cure.

The world is in a crisis and stands at a decisive crossroad. And the next few choices she makes – will determine her destiny!

If this world ends up in the graveyard of civilizations, it will be of her own doing! There will be no one to blame but the people that make up this once blessed place!

Psalms 33:12 “Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord.”

Folks, mark my words, if substantial change does not happen early enough, we will face calamity, like we have never seen before in the history of this nation!

But the sad part to this scenario is - if we ever reach the pit of despair and we pray, pray, pray – there just might not be an answer from heaven!

1 Samuel 8:18 “When that day comes, you will cry out for relief from the leaders you have chosen, and the Lord will not answer you in that day.”

The only cure for the crookedness, the craziness, the chaos and the confusion is the Cross!

And the key is – the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Guyana, at this crossroad, needs to be that transformed people of God, who demonstrate a trust in the Old Rugged Cross of Christ as the only beacon of light in these dark days!

1. Personnel

Parishes	Number of Congregations	Pastors	Deacons
Emmanuel	4	Rev. Patrick Jones	Keith Hazel
St. Michael	5	Rev. Shirley Jaundoo	-
St. John	3	Rev. Leonard F. Peters	-
Transfiguration	3	Rev. Shirley Jaundoo (<i>Oversight Pastor</i>)	Leeta Chutkhan Sharon Sulker
Ebenezer	3	Rev. Leroy Nicholson	Ackloo Ramsudh
Reformation	5	President and Executive Council, ELCG	-
Good Shepherd	4	Rev. Leroy Nicholson (<i>Oversight Pastor</i>)	-
Advent	4	Rev. Amanda Singh	Beverly Johnson Mahendra Singh Mavis Campbell
St. Matthew	4	Rev. Amanda Singh (ag)	-
St. Andrew	3	Rev. Sugrim Gobin, (<i>Oversight Pastor, Retired</i>)	Ishwardei Melville Shelda Emanuel
Redeemer	1	Rev. Conrad Plummer	Elaine Grannum
Calvary	1	Rev. Babsie Pierre	-
Ascension	4	Rev. Gloria Sampson	-
13	44	8	10

2. Comments

The Evangelical Lutheran Church in Guyana has **(8)** Pastors and **(10)** Deacons. To guarantee Pastoral services to all Parishes, the ELCG has assigned one Pastor in an acting capacity, and two Pastors have been designated “Oversight Pastors.”

During the past year Mr. Arnold Baron and Mr. Hapworth Thom have assisted in the reformation Parish by conducting worship services and visitations in that Parish. The ELCG expresses its gratitude to Mr. Arnold Baron and Mr. Hapworth Thom for their invaluable service.

The effort to a sustainable ministry in the Reformation Parish was strengthened by a three-day visit by the President and two lay persons during the month of April, 2017.

3. Internship, Ordination and Assignments

Mr. Ackloo Ramsudh, Mr. Mahendra Singh, Ms. Sharon Sulker and Ms. Mavis Campbell have successfully completed their Internship/probation for the Diaconate Ministry and were examined by the ELCG Vocations Committee. They were recommended to the Executive Council, with whose approval they were commissioned during the opening service of our 74nd Convention.

4. Resignation/Retirement

The Executive council of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Guyana received a letter of retirement from Rev. Sugrim Gobin with effect from 31st December, 2017.

The ELCG expressed heartfelt thanks to Rev. Sugrim Gobin for his invaluable service to the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Guyana.

5. Relationships

i. Lutheran World federation

The LWF is a Global Communion of Christian Churches in the Lutheran Tradition. The LWF acts on behalf of its member churches in areas of common interest, such as ecumenical and interfaith relations, theology, humanitarian assistance, human rights, communication and various mission and development. Its Secretariat is located in Geneva, Switzerland. The Rev. Martin Junge is the General Secretary.

The ELCG has been kept informed of development in the service of the LWF and has received invitations to participate in events sponsored and hosted by the LWF.

Mr. Christopher Wordsworth represented the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Guyana at a Lutheran World Federation (LWF) sponsored Human and Institutional Capacity Development Workshop (HICD) in Lima Peru for Member Churches within Latin America and the Caribbean held from the 14th to the 17th March, 2017. This workshop was a follow-up on the HICD Workshop held in the same territories and discussed the outcome of those workshops, more-so necessary guidelines to follow for the sustainability of our member churches.

The Evangelical Lutheran Church in Guyana was represented by Rev. Leroy Nicholson and Mr. Joshua Seepersaud at the Lutheran World Federation 12th Assembly held in Namibia, South Africa, from the 12th to the 16th May, 2017, during which time, the 500th Anniversary of Lutheran Witness Globally was Commemorated with grand service of Word and Sacrament on the 15th May, 2017. Mr. Michael Davy Ram attended in the capacity of Council Member of the Lutheran World Federation.

After recommendation from the Lutheran World Federation, and endorsement from the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Guyana-Executive Council, Mr. Michael Davy Ram now serves as Advisor to the Lutheran World Federation Committee on Finance for the period 2017-2023.

ii. Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA)

The ELCG continues to share a treasured relationship with the ELCA. Vocabulary has denied us the ability to find the more preferred words to express our gratitude for the presence and impact of Rev. Raquel Rodriguez over the years. We were blessed at our 72nd Annual convention in May, 2015 by her timely journey with us which has now come to an end through retirement. At this crossroad, we thank God for her committed and exemplary leadership. We also welcome The Rev. Jaime Dubon as the new Area Desk Director for Latin America and the Caribbean ELCA-Global Mission.

iii. Ministry Among Guyanese (MAG)

This Committee is located in the Metropolitan New York area and is the Executive Body of the Guyanese Lutherans in the diaspora. It comprises former Guyanese Pastors and Lay persons whose desires are to support the ministry of the E.L.C.G. However, our relationship with M.A.G. has become dormant.

iv. Wartburg Theological Seminary (WTS)

The E.L.C.G continues to be the preferred territory of Wartburg Theological Seminary (W.T.S) in Dubuque, Iowa in their Students' January Cross Cultural Immersion Program. The E.L.C.G has over the years, hosted several students through the kind partnership of the parishes which

received them. Sean Avery was the only student on the Cross Cultural Immersion Program in January 2018.

v. Lutheran Lay Academy

The Rev. Dr. Winston D. Persaud – Professor of Wartburg Theological Seminary continues to give support to the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Guyana in its preparation of Pastors and Deacons for their Christian Vocation. Dr. Persaud conducted sessions on the T.E.A.M. Program on July 22, 2017 in the Redeemer Parish hall, Sheriff Street Georgetown, and July 29, 2017 in the Lutheran Lay Academy Hall, New Amsterdam, Berbice. These sessions were conducted with primary focus on “Being Lutheran in the 21st century: hearing the Witness to the Gospel in Luther’s Hymns!

vi. Guyana Mission Network

The Guyana Mission Network continues to play a vital role in the life of the E.L.C.G under the leadership of the Rev. Dr. Winston Persaud. The G.M.N has been instrumental over the years in providing the Pastor’s Diaries, Lutheran Study Bibles, with copy given to every Pastor and Deacon. It also provides Bibles and other literature for the Christian Education Department.

vii. Fellowship Lutheran Church

Fellowship Lutheran Church is an E.L.C.A Congregation in Tulsa Oklahoma. Since 1996 it has reached out to the E.L.C.G in many ways through various supporting programs and visits that have mutually enriched one another’s ministries and missions. They have contributed toward assisting retired Pastors and were instrumental in establishing the Music Academy.

Dr. Erv Janssen, who has been instrumental in this partnership since its inception; even though he no longer holds the reign, is to be remembered in our prayers and expressions of Gratitude.

viii. Florida Bahamas Synod (FBS)

The Companion Synod relationship with FBS is one of accompaniment. The President of the E.L.C.G, the Rev. Leroy Nicholson recently attended the installation of the newly Elected Bishop of the FBS, Bishop Pedro Saurez on 20th January, 2018.

We are grateful for the service of accompaniment given to us by Mr. Thomas Unrath, and looks forward to its continuation through his successor, Rev. Kit Robison. The visit by Ms. Chris Klafs and two others to the ELCG last summer is evidence of a continuing relationship with FBS. Chris continues to make numerous trips to Guyana; some personal and some where she teamed up with others. Most, however, were on behalf of FBS.

A Tri-Party Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) has been drafted between the Florida Bahamas Synod, The Evangelical Lutheran Church in Suriname and The Evangelical Lutheran Church in Guyana and signed by the three parties.

ix. Evangelical Lutheran Church in Suriname (E.L.K.S)

Last year we were graced with the presence of team led by Brother Leendert Darnound and Rev. Urwin Holban at our 74th Annual Convention. We were also blessed with the presence of Rev. Kross as our guest preacher at our 2017 Reformation Service. As neighbors, we look forward for greater participation and continued dialogue with our mutual ministries.

x. Eastern Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada (E.L.C.I.C)

This partnership between the E.L.C.G and the Eastern Synod of the E.L.C.I.C has been strengthened since it was ratified almost 18 years ago during the 59th Annual Convention of the Church.

The short-term missionaries gracing us with their presence and service, is an example of the mutual support and value, the Eastern Synod of the E.L.C.I.C placed on this relationship.

We record with gratitude and appreciation the contributions of all those who, in a very sacrificial way, “blazed the trail” for more short-term missionaries.

The Eastern Synod – E.L.C.I.C in its partnership with the E.L.C.G has exhibited its continuous support and commitment through its financial contributions made and invitations extended to the E.L.C.G to attend Assemblies in Canada. The executive Council of the ELCG continues to have dialogues with the Eastern Synod through Tele-conferences.

6. Ministries

i. Christian Education Department

The Christian Education Department remains an integral dimension of the E.L.C.G. The Committee continues to take a “hands on” approach to the work of the CED with regular meetings to assess and advise on the work done at the department.

Besides supplying the needs for Sunday-school and Vacation Bible School, the department continues to produce Advent and Lenten Devotional booklets.

ii. Evangelical Lutheran Church Men

In spite of the abundance of experience, expertise, and talents existing among the men of the ELCG, the Church is still to realize the establishment of a National Men’s Executive. The problem seems to be one of commitment. This is amusing since the men of the Church offer leadership in the Congregations, work-places, social organizations and committees. The time has come for the men of our church to garner their leadership skills and use them as good stewards in God’s Mission.

iii. Evangelical Lutheran Church Women

The Evangelical Lutheran Church Women held its 35th Annual Convention from the 23rd to the 25th July, 2017 under the theme, “*Liberated by God’s Grace.*”

At their 35th Annual Convention a new National Executive Body was elected, with Sister Shelon Bruce elected President. For the year 2017, the National ELCW continued with their outreach program, National Day Service, Feeding Program, Health talk and Visitation.

iv. Church Vocations Committee

The Church Vocations Committee continues to provide an important service to the E.L.C.G. The following candidates were interviewed and recommended by the CVC:

- | | |
|--------------------|-------------------------|
| Mr. Ackloo Ramsudh | -Ebenezer Parish |
| Ms. Sharon Sulker | -Transfiguration Parish |
| Ms. Mavis Campbell | - Advent Parish |
| Mr. Mahendra Singh | -Advent Parish |

These candidates were commissioned at our 74th Annual Convention and are currently serving in their respected Parishes.

v. The Guyana Lutheran Music Academy

The dream a Guyana Lutheran Music Academy was realized in September 2014 after dedication and selfless effort by musicians Eric Sayre and Mike Murchinson, support from Fellowship Lutheran Church, various groups in the United States of America and Guyana. For logistical reasons, the Guyana Lutheran Music Academy has been closed for a one-year period, from May 2017 and is expected to be reopened in September 2018.

7. Ministerium

The Evangelical Lutheran Church in Guyana Ministerium met on Thursday 16th March, 2017 in the Good Shepherd Parish. Pastors and Deacons were blessed with Pastor Amanda Singh sharing from the experience gained from her Clinical Pastoral Education Scholarship and Pastor Leroy Nicholson presenting on "The Sacrificial Law and the Church."

Ministerium is intended to allow Pastors and Deacons to lend/give support to each other with the challenges that come with being a Witness to Christ.

The bond among Pastors and Deacons was again strengthened by a Christmas social held on the 17th December, 2017, and was hosted by the Redeemer Parish.

In acknowledgement of the effect of grief upon the life of individual directly and indirectly, the ELCG Ministerium in partnership with the Rev. Dr. Dale Young held a two-day Grief Support Workshop on the 24th and 25th February, 2017 at the Redeemer Parish hall. This workshop was open to all Pastors, Deacons and Lay Persons.

8. Standing and other Committees

The standing Committees have always been an important instrument of the Church. Through the committees, specialized areas of ministry are undertaken with the broader involvement of the Laity. These committees include The Mission and Evangelism Committee, Church Vocation Committee, Christian Education and Literature Committee, Finance and Stewardship Committee, Committee on Worship and the Camp and Retreat Board. These Committees met on 14th January 2017 at Ebenezer Lutheran Parish where they reflected on their achievements in light of their planned program for 2016 and also to plan for 2017.

9. Committee on Youth Ministry

Very early in 2017 the committee on Youth Ministry circulated its plans of activities. Under the leadership of the Chairperson Mr. Dave Bassoo and Director Mr. Wayne Melville, the Committee on Youth Ministry was determine in ensuring their plans were executed.

During the past year, the Chairperson Mr. Dave Bassoo resigned and was replaced by Ms. Dynutha Adonis. The N.Y.C recognizes the contribution of Mr. Dave Bassoo and expresses sincere gratitude.

All scheduled Activities were completed according to the calendar of the ELCG with a few additional activities.

10. Committee on Reformation 500 Anniversary

At the E.L.C.G. joint 2015 Reformation Service, a committee was commissioned with the responsibility to plan for the 500th anniversary Celebration of Lutheran witness. This committee

has done justice to its office of responsibility much to the satisfaction of worshippers at Reformation 2017.

11. Recommendations

- i. Considering the unique and diverse nature of each Parish in the E.L.C.G., Parishes should strive to share their **human** and **financial** resources where possible so that the entire Church can benefit.
- ii. Neighboring Parishes should seriously consider collaboration in some areas of ministry such as Luther League, E.L.C.W., E.L.C.M. and Revival Services so that bonds of friendship and fellowship may be built and make our Church more visible.
- iii. The E.X.C.O should continue its practice of support to Parishes through meetings with the Parish Councils, and that the confidence and respect of the audience be respected.

12. Acknowledgement/Conclusion

The presidency of the E.L.C.G has allowed me the privilege to visit parishes within the E.L.C.G. Some being official Parish visits whereas others were as guest preacher/speaker. Those visits also provided opportunities to discuss inter-personal relationships which affect God's mission and ministry.

Interactions in the Parishes were also based on discussions on how maximum usage of personnel, assets and resources can be realized since leaders are able to lead better when they have a reliable support base.

As another year as your President comes to an end, I wish to express gratitude to all the Members of the Executive Council. Special thanks to our Vice-president Sister Sandra Kurtzious for her honest feedbacks/transparent leadership and the Pastors for their prayerful support.

Also I wish to express thanks to my colleagues in the Ministerium, (Deacons and Pastors) and our very efficient and competent Administrative Secretary.

Last, but not least, I wish to thank my family, especially my wife Janice and friends for their unfailing love and support.

On a very serious note, please be advised that I am not available for re-election as the ELCG President nor a member of the Executive Council.

God's blessings to all!

Respectfully submitted,

Rev. Leroy Nicholson
President, ELCG

Notes

Evangelical Lutheran Church in Guyana

75th Annual Convention

Report of the Vice-President

“Go to the People of all Nations and make them my disciples. Baptise them in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, and teach them to do everything I have told you”.

Matthew 28: 19-20

This Brothers and Sisters, as we were told many times, is the Great Commission given to us by Jesus, and for us believers, it is not optional.

We have a responsibility as Christians to Preach, Teach and Reach the unbelievers, and we mean every Christian, and it is not only the responsibility of Pastors, Deacons and Missionaries. When we fail to do so, then we fail to carry out the mandate given us.

Ezekiel 3:18 says ***“You must warn them so they may live, if you don’t speak out to warn the wicked to stop their evil ways, they will die in their sin. But I will hold you responsible for their death”.***

As we examine the theme chosen for this our 75th Annual Convention, we must be mindful of all the ills of society facing our nation and our world. We are indeed at the Crossroads. As individuals and as a church, we have an extremely important mission, because we are Christ’s representatives. So we have to preach, teach, reach and persuade men and women so that they believe and accept God as their Lord and Saviour so that they can have eternal life.

The ELCG has endeavoured to carry out the mandate by various outreach programs, Lay Leadership involvement, and Partnering locally and internationally with our sister Churches in North America, Latin America and the Caribbean, in areas such as the Lutheran Lay Academy, The Guyana Lutheran Music Academy, the Cross Culture Immersion Program for Students from the Wartburg Theological Seminary, Various Leadership programs in and out of Guyana, Local Feeding Programs to Schools, and the Homeless and Less Fortunate, Coffee Mornings, distribution of hampers, monthly hosting and feeding of Senior Citizens, and various other outreaches.

It is however in doing God’s work, that we become more aware how easy it is to be distracted, because of the challenges in our society and so it is time we become willing to give up our agenda and accept God’s agenda for our life. We are at the crossroads, and we have to decide.

The ELCG is in the process of crafting a five-year Strategic Plan for our local church and Overseas Partners, and it is our hope that every member of the ELCG will commit to working in harmony to achieve those plans, for in so doing, we will also be fulfilling our mission.

I extend sincere greetings to everyone attending this Convention, and gratitude for the support and guidance given to me during my tenure as the Vice President of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Guyana, without which I would have been incapable of carrying out my functions as I did.

I Pray that as we seek to Preach, Teach and Reach more and more persons each day, we will remember that Jesus has promised that ***“God will give you all you need from day to day, if you live for him and make the Kingdom of God your primary concern.”*** Matthew 6:33.

Grace and Peace

Hon. Sandra Kurtzious
Vice President, ELCG

Evangelical Lutheran Church in Guyana

75th Annual Convention

Report of the Secretary

Reflection: **Preaching, Teaching, Reaching – Our Church at the Crossroads!**

The Lord said to his people, “Stand at the Crossroads and look. Ask for the ancient paths and where the best road is. Walk in it, and you will live in Peace.” But they said, “No, we will not!” Then the Lord appointed sentries to listen for the trumpet’s warning. But they said, “We will not listen.” So the Lord said, “Listen, you nations, and learn what is going to happen to my people. Listen, earth! As punishment for all their schemes I am bringing ruin on these people, because they have rejected my teaching and have not obeyed my Words. Jeremiah 6:16-19.

The theme for our convention this year; “Our Church at the Crossroads,” is a definite admission which prompts us to ask, what has gone wrong? Who or what is to be blamed? The strong, confident, even triumphant institution that we remember from our youth or that others have told us about from decades ago is not what we and our children experience today.

To be what it is today, the church in every age had to acknowledge and accept her limitations and just entrust herself to God with the resources available to her. To pull negative labels out of the bag about our church at this time will further isolate and ostracise our members. In such a delicate and sensitive situation, support, encouragement and renewed commitment would be more beneficial and helpful.

The efforts of the Executive Council cannot go unnoticed, the ministry of the pastors, deacons and lay leaders must be recognised, the input of the youths are valuable, the women’s group play their role and the Sunday school provide foundation.

ELCG’S task is to keep holding on, trusting God on the crossroad, refusing to become overshadowed with fear in difficult times and to continue to be what the faithful church is; a church preaching, teaching and reaching.

Work of the Executive Council and Church-wide Statistics

The Secretary is required to submit a report to the Annual Convention of this Church based on:

- I. The work of the Executive Council,
- II. The Annual Parochial Reports from all the Parishes.

Very thankfully, I commended the Parishes for the timely submission of their reports which created a smooth flow in the presentation of the statistics. I am pleased to report accordingly.

The Executive Council, met monthly during 2017 with the exception of May, due to Convention held in this month and August, 2017 respectively which most of the Pastors proceeded on Annual Leave. During the period under review the Council considered matters affecting the administration and life of the Church, and took decisions and made interventions on several matters, including:

- I. The appointment/assignment of Pastors, Acting Pastors, Contact Pastors and Deacons in Parishes.
- II. Ongoing relationships and partnerships with ELCA/DGM, Wartburg Theological Seminary, Fellowship Lutheran Church, Florida-Bahamas Synod, Lutheran World Federation, Eastern Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada, ELKS of Suriname, GMN of USA and MAG of USA.

- III. The continuing development of Pastors, Deacons and Lay leaders which provides intensive training through the interventions by Rev. Dr. Winston Persaud, Professor of Systematic Theology at Wartburg Theological Seminary, USA.
- IV. Parish administration workshops for Pastors, Deacons, and Officers of Parish Councils;
- V. The Executive Council sponsored a joint meeting with the Standing Committees on the 4th February, 2017 to review their Terms of Reference and to plan their programme of work for the year 2017.
- VI. Overseas representation, conferences; and Leadership Seminars.
- VII. Overseas resource persons for training interventions for the Ministerium and the Diaconate.
- VIII. Personnel matters and issues of concern involving clergy, Deacons, Staff and Parishes through interviews, dialogues, and meetings;
- IX. Matters pertaining to the Christian Education Department and the National Youth Ministry.
- X. The approval of four Candidates for the Diaconate Ministry who would be prepared through appropriate exposure, assignments, and training to be followed by the constitutional procedure for examination interview, and approval for commissioning.
- XI. Consideration and actions relating to property assets of the Church from the Property Committee under the Chair the Hon. Sandra Kurtzious, Vice President of the ELCG, Executive Council.
- XII. Incoming and Outgoing correspondences and regular reports from Officers.
- XIII. The Commissioning of four Deacons and the Retirement of one Pastor.

I am also pleased to present the Church-wide Statistics as submitted by Pastors/Parishes. There are still inaccuracies in the statistics from some parishes and reports of records/congregational registers not located. This situation in such parishes needs to be addressed by the Pastors, Deacons and Parish Councils.

While it is noted that the keeping of accurate parochial records of each Congregation is a constitutional duty of the Pastor, it is also by extension, the responsibility of Deacons, and Officers of Parish Councils in keeping with the framework of our Constitution and By-laws. The submitted figures are tabulated/ collated in the following pages.

Apart from the Reformation Parish, the following Congregations have:

No Sunday Schools:

- | | | |
|------|------------------------|--|
| I. | Emmanuel Parish | - Emmanuel, St. Matthias |
| II. | St. John Parish | - St. Bartholomew, St. Peter, St. John |
| III. | Transfiguration Parish | - Transfiguration |
| IV. | Good Shepherd Parish | - Good Shepherd, Good Samaritan |
| V. | Advent Parish | - Faith |
| VI. | St. Matthew Parish | - Messiah |
| VII. | Ascension Parish | - King of Glory, Epiphany |

No Luther Leagues:

- | | | |
|-------|------------------------|--|
| I. | Emmanuel Parish | - Nativity, Emmanuel, St. Matthias, St. Philip |
| II. | St. John Parish | - St. Bartholomew, St. Peter, St. John |
| III. | Good Shepherd Parish | - Good Samaritan, Nazareth, Resurrection |
| IV. | Advent Parish | - Faith, Christ, Hope, Advent |
| V. | St. Matthew Parish | - St. Matthew, Messiah, Holy Communion |
| VI. | Transfiguration Parish | - Transfiguration |
| VII. | St. Michael Parish | - St. Stephen |
| VIII. | Redeemer Parish | - Redeemer |
| IX. | Ascension Parish | - Ascension, Epiphany, King of Glory, Mt. Zion |

Recommendations:

I wish to respectfully bring to this Convention, from the statistical viewpoint the following recommendations:

- I. According to Article VIII Section 7 (b) of the Constitution, all Parishes are required to submit the Minutes of their Annual Congregational Meeting.
- II. That serious consideration be taken in the growing declined of membership and active participation within the congregations, at the same time restructuring programs with a common vision and goals for ministry that inform the work of both the laity and members.
- III. To conduct a realistic evaluation of the Ministry is very important for every congregation. Take into consideration not only the leadership qualities of the pastor, but also the ministry provided by lay leaders and members of the Congregation. This builds a foundation for performance evaluation through prayer, conversation, and team building.
- IV. To establish a ministry review and performance evaluation process, periodic checks can help to keep the ministry on track. An annual review process can become an essential routine for healthy congregations.

Gratitude

I wish to take this opportunity to extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to all, for their kind support and co-operation as we strive and work together proclaiming God's Word in the best interest of the Church, in the Name of our Risen Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

Respectfully Submitted,

Elocia Smith
Secretary, ELCG

**Evangelical Lutheran Church in Guyana
2017 Church-wide Statistics**

Parish	Bap- tised	Con- fir- med	Comm. 2/3 times	Active 4 times Comm.	Sunday School	Luther League	Women 's Group (ELCW)	Men's Group (LCM)	Bible Class	Choir
Emmanuel										
Nativity	224	0	0	0	5	0	0	0	0	0
Emmanuel	558	89	54	37	0	0	6	0	0	0
St. Phillip	222	63	34	28	12	0	6	6	0	0
St. Matthias	236	13	09	07	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sub Total 1.	1,240	165	97	72	17	0	12	6	0	0
St. Michael										
St. Luke	182	156	15	13	8	15	10	0	13	0
St. Stephen	269	76	12	6	4	0	3	0	3	0
St. Michael	344	146	29	14	9	9	4	0	12	0
St. James	404	183	14	6	4	1	4	0	4	0
St. Barnabas	180	79	30	13	13	4	7	0	7	0
Sub Total 2.	1,379	640	100	52	38	29	28	0	39	0
St. John										
St. John	1413	624	24	18	0	0	0	0	0	0
St. Peter	148	76	8	8	0	0	0	0	0	0
St. Bartholomew	102	44	18	17	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sub Total 3.	1,663	744	50	43	0	0	0	0	0	0
Transfiguration										
Transfiguration	500	104	10	6	0	0	0	0	0	0
Holy Cross	295	140	18	18	5	3	6	0	4	0
Bethel	434	225	48	48	25	18	8	5	7	0
Sub Total 4.	1,229	469	76	72	30	21	14	5	11	0
Ebenezer										
Ebenezer	2462	2061	151	109	15	12	20	9	16	10
St. Timothy	341	335	20	12	10	0	0	0	0	0
St. Thomas	482	408	45	25	5	10	0	0	5	0
Sub Total 5.	3,285	2,804	216	146	30	22	20	9	21	10
Reformation 2011/2012										
Grace	31	30	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Atonement	19	24	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
St. Paul	20	20	9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Mt. Hermon	14	12	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Mt. Carmel	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Reformation	21	22	12	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Hururu	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Riverside	28	27	15	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Mt. Olivet	23	22	12	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sub Total 6.	156	157	59	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

**Evangelical Lutheran Church in Guyana
2017 Church-wide Statistics**

Parish	Bap- tised	Con- firmed	Comm. 2/3 times	Active 4 times Comm.	Sunday School	Luther League	Women 's Group (ELCW)	Men's Group (LCM)	Bible Class	Choir
Good Shepherd										
Good Samaritan	200	68	11	11	0	0	0	0	0	0
Good Shepherd	483	389	43	34	0	12	0	0	0	12
Nazareth	282	134	21	18	11	0	0	0	0	0
Resurrection	178	94	6	6	15	0	0	0	0	0
Sub Total 7.	1,143	685	81	69	26	12	0	0	0	12
Advent										
Hope	130	115	53	52	50	0	0	0	17	0
Christ	80	52	41	27	22	0	0	0	12	0
Faith	88	62	28	31	0	0	0	0	17	0
Advent	81	50	53	27	30	0	0	0	10	0
Sub Total 8.	379	279	175	137	102	0	0	0	56	0
St. Matthew										
Bethany	182	89	32	24	20	9	0	0	0	0
St. Matthew	380	152	55	44	12	0	8	0	8	0
Holy Communion	307	40	24	20	20	0	8	0	8	0
Messiah	281	69	18	15	0	0	6	0	6	0
Sub Total 9.	1,150	350	129	103	52	9	22	0	22	0
St. Andrew										
Swargia Vani	194	229	30	30	11	7	0	0	0	0
Sadhu Sundar Singh	257	230	34	29	25	11	12	0	0	0
St. Andrew	341	278	45	24	10	4	0	0	6	0
Sub Total 10.	792	737	109	83	46	22	12	0	6	0
Redeemer										
Redeemer	1180	861	123	115	34	0	14	0	32	0
Sub Total 11.	1,180	861	123	115	34	0	14	0	32	0
Calvary										
Calvary	1243	719	71	62	21	3	3	4	3	9
Sub Total 12.	1,243	719	71	62	21	3	3	4	3	9
Ascension										
Epiphany	157	154	14	10	0	0	0	0	7	0
Ascension	710	224	12	10	12	0	0	0	7	0
King of Glory	180	181	8	4	0	0	0	0	3	0
Mt. Zion	338	138	12	8	12	0	0	0	10	0
Sub Total 13.	1,385	697	46	32	24	0	0	0	27	0
Grand Total	16,224	9,307	1,332	986	420	118	125	24	217	31

**Evangelical Lutheran Church in Guyana
2017 Church-wide Statistics Summary
2013 – 2017**

Particulars	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Pastors	9	7	8	9	9
Deacons	13	13	10	9	11
Congregations	44	44	44	44	44
Sunday Schools	35	33	31	21	27
Luther League	19	16	16	41	14
ELCW	26	22	18	16	16
ELCM	14	8	9	4	4
Bible Classes	25	27	24	17	23
Choirs	8	4	4	4	3
Baptized as at 31 December	16,034	16,050	16,144	13,783	16,224
Baptized during the year	66	103	55	161	71
Confirmed as at 31 December	9,109	9,222	9,269	7,722	9,307
Confirmed during the year	29	51	63	78	25
Communing members	1,543	1,477	1,552	1,218	1,332
Active Members	1,232	1,179	1,174	990	986
Total in Sunday School	569	575	475	362	420
Total in Luther League	176	172	171	132	118
Total in ELCW	209	234	148	127	125
Total in ELCM	54	59	33	9	24
Total in Bible Class	241	290	195	186	217
Total in Choirs				23	31
Weddings	35	46	29	20	23
Funerals	51	53	53	47	41
Thanksgiving Services	133	161	95	169	188

Evangelical Lutheran Church in Guyana

75th Annual Convention

Report of the Treasurer

Greetings in the name of our Risen Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ! The following is the report of the Treasurer for the year ended December 31, 2017.

1.0 Income

The Total Income for the Year 2017 was \$9,165,531: representing 89% of our 2017 Budget of \$10,250,000:. However, only \$5,012,994 (55%) represents local income, of which 15% (\$1,413,685:) are designated funds from local sources.

The remaining 19% (\$4,152,537:) was achieved through grants/gifts/refunds from the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA), Fellowship Lutheran Church (FLC), Guyana Mission Network (GMN), the Lutheran World Federation (LWF) and Guyana Lutheran Music Academy (GLMA) tuition fees.

Please see 2017 Financial Highlights for further details.

1.1 Cash Position

The following is the Cash Position as at Dec 31, 2016:

Cash in Hand	\$	0
Cash at Bank -Current Account	\$	3,218,182
-Optimizer Account	\$	25,359,496
-Save & Prosper	\$	9,138,375
Total		<u>\$37,716,054</u>

1.2 Bank Reconciliation

The reconciliation of the Current Account indicates that there were no items outstanding as at December 31, 2017.

1.3 Apportionment

Apportionment budgeted for 2017 was \$2,348,000 coupled with net outstanding payments of \$4,608,247 puts total Parish apportionment outstanding as at Jan 01, 2017 to \$6,956,247:

During the year under review, we received payments totaling \$1,762,000: representing approximately 25% of total outstanding payments. At the close of the year 2017, total Parish Apportionment outstanding has increased by approximately 13% when compared to the corresponding period of 2016.

We would like to commend the following Parishes for meeting/surpassing their apportionment obligation to the ELCG:

Met Obligation

Calvary Parish	-Zero outstanding balance as at December 31, 2017
St. Andrew Parish	-Zero outstanding balance as at December 31, 2017
St. Matthew Parish	-Zero outstanding balance as at December 31, 2017

Surpassed Obligation

Good Shepherd Parish	-Paid in excess \$64,800 as at December 31, 2017
----------------------	--

We also commend the Emmanuel Parish for contributing the highest percentage (98%) of its outstanding balance by parish and the Advent Parish for highest percentage of payment towards the total outstanding balance of the network as at Dec 31, 2017.

Based on a decision of the 74th Annual Convention, the apportionment debt of Reformation Parish has been forgiven and the Parish is exempted from apportionment fees up to Dec 2020.

1.4 Convention Project

Last year, the 74th Annual Convention designated project was the “Living Reformation Project.” This was envisioned by the Youth of the ELCG with the intention of establishing a “Luther Centre” that provides space for seminars, meetings, library and museum.

The following were pledged and received:

Pledged	GY\$847,000
Received during 2017	GY\$632,000
Outstanding Pledges	<u>GY\$215,000</u>

This has been the all-time highest pledge received towards a Convention project. We encourage donors to settle their outstanding balances by Jun 30, 2018.

Additionally, the 74th Annual Convention approved the use of funds designated for the Lutheran Home for the Living Reformation Project. As such, this project has been boosted by an additional GY\$1,285,600: bringing the total towards this project GY\$2,132,600:

Please refer attach for details.

1.5 Donations/Gifts/Bonuses

Gifts from Guyana Mission Network were received for and given to the Clergy and Deacons during December 2017 as follows:

9 Pastors @ GY\$30,000 each	GY\$270,000:
12 Deacons @ GY\$15,000 each	GY\$180,000:
Total	<u>GY\$450,000:</u>

Additionally, the EXCO approved a gift of GY\$15,000: for one employee of the Church during the year. The GMN also contributed to National Youth Camp 2017 in the sum of GY\$250,200:

1.6 Overseas Grants/Gifts/Refunds

During the year, our partners overseas continued their support of the ministry in Guyana. To this end, the ELCG benefitted from grants/gifts/refunds totaling GY\$4,152,537 during 2017 and these funds were designated as follows:

From Evangelical Lutheran Church in America:

<u>Annual Grant</u>	
Christian Education	US\$ 2,000:
Lay Leaders Training	US\$ 5,000:
Total	US\$ 7,000: (GY\$1,443,904)

From Fellowship Lutheran Church
Annual Pension Subsidy GY\$480,000:

From Lutheran World Federation
Refund for travels to 12th Assembly GY\$1,182,558:

From Guyana Mission Network
Gifts-Pastors and Deacons GY\$465,750:
National Youth Camp 2016 GY\$250,200:
Total GY\$715,950:

From Overseas Affiliates (Individuals)
National ELCW GY\$ 20,775:
National Youth Ministry GY\$ 40,850:
Emmanuel Parish GY\$ 20,100:
Redeemer Parish GY\$248,400:
Total GY\$330,125:

1.7 Property/Assets

a. Property- Land

During the year, we have arranged survey and valuation of the property at Blairmont, Bush Lot and Lochaber.

The EXCO considered and approved the sale of lands owned by the ELCG at the following locations.

- i. W $\frac{1}{2}$ of Lot 686 Plantation Ruimveldt (GPL) GY\$40,000,000: (Down Pyt GY\$20M)
- ii. E $\frac{1}{2}$ of Lot 686 Plantation Ruimveldt GY\$60,000,000: (Down Pyt GY\$22.5M)
- iii. 120 West Ruimveldt GY\$40,000,000: (Sale in Progress)
- iv. W $\frac{1}{2}$ of Lot 50 Section 'A' Buxton, ECD GY\$ 6,000,000: (Advertised for Sale)
- v. 9 Smythtown, Theater Alley, NA GY\$ 5,000,000: (Sale in Progress)
- vi. Plegt Anchor GY\$ 4,000,000: (Sale in Progress)

Down payments totaling GY\$42,500,000: were so far received.

b. Property –Land and Building

As we continue routine upkeep of the “Hanson House” and its surroundings, we are in negotiation with a prospective Lessee for the renovation and subsequent rental of the premises. We have had further negotiations with the prospective Lessee and a building design was approved by the Executive Council. We are in the process of costing the project and engaging contractors. Once the terms are amenable, we foresee a transformation of the ambience and a guaranteed long term source of income for the ELCG.

2.0 Expenses

During the year we expended 98% of our budget of \$10,250,000: Total expenditure for the year amounted to GY\$10,067,739: of which GY\$5,109,513: was spent from Designated/Special Fund.

2.1 Maintenance

a. "Hanson House," Sheriff Street, Georgetown

Work commenced on the Hanson House renovation project in 2014. So far, we have expended funds to erect a new perimeter fence and to clean the compound of debris. As stated above, we expect to enter into a long term arrangement for the effective stewardship of the property.

We provide below a summary of expenditure:

2014

Fence	GY\$375,000:
Clearing Debris	GY\$100,000:
Total	<u>GY\$475,000:</u>

2015

Fence (Labour Charges)	GY\$275,000:
Clearing Debris	GY\$171,000:
Total	<u>GY\$446,000:</u>

2016

Weeding/Clearing Debris	GY\$ 29,970:
Total	<u>GY\$ 29,970:</u>

2017

Weeding/Clearing Debris	GY\$ 45,000:
Total	<u>GY\$ 45,000:</u>

b. Lutheran Camp and Retreat Centre, Skeldon, Corriverton

The Lutheran Camp and Retreat Centre located at Skeldon, Corriverton was identified as the site for the Living Reformation Project. However, the ELCG has received an offer to utilize the property for the purpose of a private school managed by overseas and local citizens. The ELCG had meetings with the prospective Lessees and negotiations are ongoing.

Meanwhile the ELCG has expended the sum of GY\$280,000: during 2017 for maintenance of the property.

c. Catechist House, Stanleytown, New Amsterdam

During 2016, the ELCG Executive Council took a decision to commence repairs to the small Catechist house at Stanleytown, New Amsterdam. The following works were done:

2016

General Repairs	GY\$168,191:
Resurface flooring	GY\$ 97,699:
Landfilling	GY\$108,000:
Painting	GY\$150,000:
Total	<u>GY\$523,890:</u>

2017

Repairs to trestle/Windows/Washroom	GY\$ 91,791:
Painting	GY\$ 64,410:
Weeding	GY\$ 26,000:
Total	<u>GY\$182,201:</u>

In addition to the foregoing, the utilities were restored and general maintenance of the property was undertaken.

d. GLMA Teachers' House, St. Ann's Street, New Amsterdam

The ELCG continues to support in the maintenance of the property which currently houses the GLMA teachers. During the year funds were expended for the upkeep of the property and minor repairs were done.

e. ELCG Bus – BJJ 9671

The Mini Bus BJJ 9671 previously used for the Medical Mission was handed over to the ELCG during 2013. The bus was refurbished and we outline the associated costs below:

2013

Mechanical Repairs and Maintenance	GY\$180,700:
Paint and Body Work	GY\$170,000:
New Tyres	GY\$175,000:
Total	<u>GY\$525,700:</u>

2014

Mechanical Repairs and Maintenance	GY\$ 27,500:
New Battery	GY\$ 32,000:
Legal Fees for transfer	GY\$ 42,500:
Signage/Keys	GY\$ 3,400:
Total	<u>GY\$105,400:</u>

2015

License/Fitness/Insurance	GY\$ 79,340:
Total	<u>GY\$ 79,340:</u>

2017

Insurance	GY\$ 10,400:
Total	<u>GY\$ 10,400:</u>

Grand Total **GY\$720,840:**

A decision was taken by the Executive Council to dispose of the bus due to its lack of use. We have since negotiated a sale at GY\$1,100,000: for the Bus and received a 50% down payment. The transaction is expected to conclude by May 31, 2018.

2.2 Transfiguration Parish Parsonage

The ELCG Executive Council has been in discussions with the Transfiguration Parish Council on the use of the parsonage located within the Lutheran Courts compound as the alternative site for the Living Reformation Project.

Consequently, the Transfiguration Parish has been offered the house designated for the Christian Education Director located in Stanleytown, New Amsterdam.

Resulting from meetings and discussions with the Transfiguration Parish and the National Youth Ministry, an agreement was reached that will benefit all parties involved and the wider Church.

2.3 Assets/Capital Expenditures

During 2017, GY\$166,435 was spent in this area and we provide expense details below:

3 Cellphones	GY\$ 40,998:
1 Filing Box	GY\$ 5,437:
Legal/Valuation Fees	GY\$120,000:
Total	<u>GY\$166,435:</u>

2.4 Convention Expenses 2017

2017 Annual Convention accounts are as follows:

Income

Registration	GY\$ 326,000:
Offering	GY\$ 71,070:
Total Income	<u>GY\$ 397,070:</u>

Expenses

Meals/Snack	GY\$ 414,000:
Snacks for Opening Service	GY\$ 148,757:
Bulletin/Banners/Photography	GY\$ 156,500:
Hospitality/Hosting/Gifts	GY\$ 134,114:
Transportation/Accommodation/Cleaning	GY\$ 143,495:
Additional Staffing Cost	GY\$ 20,000:
Total Expenditure	<u>GY\$1,016,866:</u>

Deficit (GY\$619,796:)

2.5 500th Anniversary of the Reformation

The year 2017 marked the 500th anniversary of the reformation and the ELCG joined with Christians around the world in celebrating this momentous occasion. Below is a summary of expenses incurred for this celebration:

Income

Meals	GY\$ 172,300:
Memorabilia	GY\$ 108,250:
Offering	GY\$ 54,420:
Total Income	<u>GY\$ 334,970:</u>

Expenses

Publicity/Media	GY\$ 182,489:
Memorabilia/Awards	GY\$ 240,470:
Guest Preacher	GY\$ 127,209:
Meals/Beverage	GY\$ 398,303:
Programme	GY\$ 22,500:
Total Expenditure	<u>GY\$970,971:</u>

Deficit	(GY\$636,001:)
Budget	GY\$750,000:
Surplus	GY\$113,999:

2.6 Training and Education

During the year funds totaling GY\$599,625 were expended in the area of training and education. This expenditure reflects the continued thrust and vision of the ELCG in the area of developing and equipping leaders in the church.

Training-Intensives	GY\$ 87,283:
WTS Students' Training	GY\$295,107:
Grief Counselling Workshop	GY\$155,957:
Administration Workshop	GY\$ 61,278:
Total	<u>GY\$599,625:</u>

2.7 Loans Granted

No loans were granted during the period under review.

3.0 Audit

We have received Audited Statements from the following Parishes/Auxiliaries:

- Calvary
- St. Andrew
- St Matthew
- Good Shepherd
- St Michael
- Ebenezer
- Advent
- National Youth Ministry
- Christian Education
- National ELCW

Audit Statements are outstanding from the following:

- Emmanuel
- Ascension
- Redeemer
- Reformation
- Transfiguration
- St. John

We encourage Parishes that have not submitted their audited statements to have their accounts audited and submit same to the ELCG by June 30, 2018.

The ELCG (Executive Council) accounts were audited by our Auditors L.A. Atherly & Company and a copy is attached.

4.0 Finance Administration

A discussion on Finance and Parish Administration was conducted in February 2017 at the joint meeting of the Executive Council and Committees/Parish Councils. This workshop attracted attendance in excess of 30 persons and was considered fruitful and beneficial to all.

Based on discussions held at the joint meeting and a review of Financial Reports for 2017, there is a great need for additional training on finance management that will target Parish Chairpersons and Treasurers.

5.0 Budget

The proposed 2019 budget is set at GY\$12,310,000: This is a decrease of approximately 4.5% of the 2018 Budget.

Based on our anticipated income, we project an overall deficit of GY\$2, 619,000: or approximately 21% of the budget.

In order to further reduce our 2019 financial deficit, we are proposing a 4% increase in Parish apportionment. The proposed contribution per Active member is set at \$2,500 up from \$2,400.

In 2014 Convention approved recommendation 6f which required each Parish to submit to the Executive Council by March 31 annually, their Parish Budgets. We have received submission from the following Parishes:

- Good Shepherd - GY\$1,351,000: *(9.5% increase from 2017)*
- St Andrew - GY\$5,400,000: *(1.9% increase from 2017)*

We remind Parishes to submit their Budgets as soon as possible.

6.0 Observations and Future Outlook

As a Church, how have we done financially? Our net cash movement during the year 2017 was approximately negative 2.34% (GY\$902,208:). This movement was tempered by the generous support of our overseas partners and friends (45%), local support through Parish apportionment (19%) and rental/interest income (11%).

While the movement has not been significant, the foregoing percentages show that we are heavily dependent on external support and we are far from becoming a self-supporting Church.

From a Parish perspective, the financial position has remained fairly stable moving by approximately by 7% in a positive direction.

We highlight below the top three Parishes with the highest financial turnover during the year 2017:

Rank	Parish with Highest Income	Parish with Highest Expenditure	Parish with Highest Retained Balance as at December 31, 2017
#1	Redeemer	Redeemer	Calvary
#2	Calvary	Ebenezer	St. Andrew
#3	Ebenezer	Calvary	Redeemer

We continue to have a growing concern with Parishes non-payment of apportionment. Again, we reiterate that if this is left unchecked, Parishes will end up harbouring unmanageable financial debts.

We provide below a synopsis of the current position of Parishes as it relates to apportionment debt and debt servicing:

Position/Trend	Clear	Concerned	Critical
Parish	Calvary	Redeemer	Advent
	Emmanuel	Transfiguration	Ascension
	Good Shepherd		Ebenezer
	Reformation		St. John
	St. Andrew		St. Michael
	St. Matthew		

Since approved by the 74th Annual Convention, no Parish proposed a payment plan to the ELCG Finance and Stewardship Committee including justifications and recommendations for relegations. This is despite a total outstanding balance as at January 01, 2017 of \$4,608,247 and a closing balance as at December 31, 2017 of \$5,194,247:

From our review of Financial Statements submitted by Parishes, we further note the following:

- a. The 74th Annual Convention approved the recommendation for systems be put in place to ensure that requests for loans facilitated through the Parishes' treasury whether personal, corporate or otherwise must receive prior approval from the ELCG Executive Council. However, we noticed a personal loan granted by one Parish that has not been brought to the attention of the Executive Council.
- b. One parish has budgeted remuneration for its Chairperson at approximately 75% of Pastor's basic salary. While this gesture may be in good faith, it may set a precedence and require further consideration. Such decision should be referred to the Executive Council for its opinion/approval prior to adoption.
- c. Many parishes include Balance Forward in their Total Income for the year. Total Income should reflect the total amount received during the reporting period.
- d. Financial records of Parishes are audited and signed off by its own members.
- e. Some Parishes have no allocated funds for Youth and Women's ministry.
- f. Maintenance is under-budgeted.
- g. Financial reports are submitted late or incomplete.
- h. Eleven (11) of seventeen financial reports submitted for 2017 have discrepancies with their opening balances as at January 01, 2017. The closing balance as at December 31, of the preceding year must always be the same as the opening balance of the following year.
- i. Balance as per bank Statement differs from Cash Book balance but there were no outstanding/unpresented items reported.

- j. Balance as per Cash Book only accounted for the Chequing account balance. This must include all accounts. As such, Balance as per Bank Statement on the Audit Report must include all accounts.

The Executive Council remains committed to and continues its discussion on the way forward as it relates to the following:

- a. Continued dialogue and negotiations on the best possible use of the Camp and Retreat Centre, Skeldon, Berbice.
- b. Ensuring the best returns are received from the sale of the ELCG Bus and the “Hanson Property” which is located in a prime location in Georgetown while being cognizant of the Redeemer Parish’s ministry within its environs.
- c. Continue to provide support National Youth Ministry on the Living Reformation Project.
- d. Continually oversee the management of the Church’s assets, ensuring effective stewardship is exercised at all times, and where necessary dispose of obsolete/un-utilised assets at the best market price available.
- e. Continue working along with Parishes and provide guidance and support for more effective and self-sustainable Parish ministries.

7.0 Recommendations

I place the following recommendations before the Convention for favourable consideration and approval:

- i. That an increase in Parish Apportionment from GYD\$2,400: to GYD\$2,500 per active member for 2019 be approved by this convention. This represents an increase by GY\$8.33 per month per active member.
- ii. That Parishes cease with immediate having their members audit their accounts. We recommend that the parish engage independent Auditors to perform such functions.

We hope that the foregoing recommendations find favour with the Convention.

7. Conclusion

Once again, I express thanks to the Executive Council and the membership of the ELCG for this opportunity to serve in the capacity of Treasurer. I pray for a successful and blessed 75th Annual Convention.

God’s Peace and Blessing,

Michael Davy Ram
Treasurer

EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN GUYANA
Financial Highlights - Dec 31, 2017

		<u>Budget Dec 31, 2017</u>	
		<u>Value</u>	<u>% Achieved</u>
Opening Balance as at <u>Jan 01, 2017</u>	38,618,262		
Apportionment	1,762,000	10,250,000	89%
Interest	406,964		
Rental of Buildings	612,000		
Designated Funds			
-Overseas Remittances	4,152,537		
-Local Remittances	1,413,685		
Other	818,345		
Sub total 1.	9,165,531		
Funds Transfer	0		
Sub total 2.	9,165,531		
Total Income	9,165,531		
Total Expenditure	(10,067,739)		
Closing Balance as at Dec 31, 2017	<u>37,716,054</u>		
 <i><u>Represented by:</u></i>			
Chequing Account #653-424-2	3,218,182		
Optimizer Account #486-479-9	25,359,496		
Save & Prosper Account # 2546	9,138,375		
Closing Balance as at Dec 31, 2017	<u>37,716,054</u>		
Proof	<u>0</u>		

EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN GUYANA
Reconciliation Statement - Dec 31, 2017

			Balance as at Dec 31, 2017		
			Actual	Adjusted	Carried FWD
<u>Chequing Account #653-424-2</u>					
	Balance on Book		3,218,182.21		
	<i>Credits at Bank not on Book</i>	0			
	Sub total 1.	<u>0</u>			
	<i>Debits at Bank not on Book</i>	0			
	Sub total 2.	<u>0</u>		<u>3,218,182.21</u>	
	Balance at Bank		3,218,182.21		
	<i>Credits on Book not at Bank</i>	0			
	Sub total 1.	<u>0</u>			
	<i>Debits on Book not at Bank</i>	0			
	Sub total 2.	<u>0</u>		<u>3,218,182.21</u>	
	PROOF (must always be zero)			<u>0.00</u>	3,218,182.21
<u>Optimizer Account #486-479-9</u>					
	Balance on Book		25,359,496.27	<u>25,359,496.27</u>	
	Balance at Bank		25,359,496.27	<u>25,359,496.27</u>	
	PROOF (must always be zero)			<u>0.00</u>	25,359,496.27
<u>Save and Prosper Account</u>					
	Balance on Book		9,138,375.49	<u>9,138,375.49</u>	
	Balance at Bank		9,138,375.49	<u>9,138,375.49</u>	
	PROOF (must always be zero)			<u>0.00</u>	9,138,375.49
	Total Liquid Assets of ELCG (EXCO)				<u>37,716,053.97</u>

Evangelical Lutheran Church in Guyana
Income Statement 2017

Particulars	Total Actual
Apportionment	1,762,000
Calendars	12,000
Clergy Assistance	0
Convention	397,070
Convention Project	667,000
ELCG-Administration	0
Cancelled Cheque/redeposit	6,305
Gifts/Donations	20,100
Interest	406,964
LWF Refund/Grant	1,182,558
Music Programme -FLC	746,685
National ELCW	20,775
National Youth Commission	291,050
Overseas (ELCA) Grants	1,443,904
Overseas (ELCIC) Gifts	0
Overseas (GMN) Gifts	465,750
Overseas (FLC) Gifts -Pension	480,000
NELCW and Redeemer Parish Gift	248,400
500th Anniversary Celebrations	334,970
Rental of Buildings	612,000
Sale of Assets	0
Seminars/Workshops/Training & Ed	68,000
Total	9,165,531
Budget 2017	10,250,000
Surplus/(Deficit)	(1,084,469)

Evangelical Lutheran Church in Guyana
Income/Payment Schedule of Parish Apportionment

Parish	Opening Balance Jan 01, 2017	Apportionment 2017	Sub-total	Payment 2017	Balance Dec 31, 2017
Emmanuel	62,000	142,000	204,000	200,000	4,000
St Michael	501,300	120,000	621,300	0	621,300
St John	690,497	92,000	782,497	0	782,497
Transfiguration	105,000	196,000	301,000	196,000	105,000
Ebenezer	940,600	474,000	1,414,600	200,000	1,214,600
Reformation***	0	0	0	0	0
Good Shepherd	(64,800)	186,000	121,200	186,000	(64,800)
Advent	1,264,250	228,000	1,492,250	228,000	1,264,250
St Matthew	(34,000)	218,000	184,000	184,000	0
St Andrew	0	214,000	214,000	214,000	0
Redeemer	453,000	204,000	657,000	204,000	453,000
Calvary	0	150,000	150,000	150,000	0
Ascension	690,400	124,000	814,400	0	814,400
Total	4,608,247	2,348,000	6,956,247	1,762,000	5,194,247

*** Debt written off for Reformation Parish as approved by the 74th Annual Convention-May 2017

Evangelical Lutheran Church in Guyana Accounts Receivable 2017

Ln #	Parishes & Other	Total Receivables as at Jan 01, 2017	Parish/Other Liabilities		Receipts		Total Receivables as at Dec 31, 2017
			Convention Pledge 2017	Apportionment 2017	Convention Pledge	Apportionment	
	Parishes						
1	Emmanuel	246,400	10,000	142,000	10,000	200,000	188,400
2	St Michael	507,300	10,000	120,000	0	0	637,300
3	St John	753,597	5,000	92,000	0	0	850,597
4	Transfiguration	87,000	25,000	196,000	0	196,000	112,000
5	Ebenezer	881,300	30,000	474,000	0	200,000	1,185,300
6	Reformation**	939,110	20,000	0	20,000	0	0
7	Good Shepherd	(78,300)	20,000	186,000	20,000	186,000	(78,300)
8	Advent	1,253,950	10,000	228,000	10,000	228,000	1,253,950
9	St Matthew	(88,500)	20,000	218,000	20,000	184,000	(54,500)
10	St Andrew	25,500	30,000	214,000	0	214,000	55,500
11	Redeemer	555,000	25,000	204,000	0	204,000	580,000
12	Calvary	72,000	20,000	150,000	25,000	150,000	67,000
13	Ascension	711,200	10,000	124,000	10,000	0	835,200
	Other						
14	Aaron Chand	0	2,000		2,000		0
15	Anonymous-CK	0	20,000		20,000		0
16	Anonymous-SG	0	10,000		10,000		0
18	Christian Education	0	10,000				10,000
19	Christopher Wordsworth	0	50,000		25,000		25,000
20	Clifford Drepaul	0	16,000		16,000		0
21	Corinna La Rose	0	15,000		15,000		0
22	Corrine Daphness	0	2,000		2,000		0
23	Deacon Ackloo Ramsudh	0	2,000		2,000		0
24	Deacon I Melville	0	5,000		5,000		0
25	Deacon Mahendra Singh	0	10,000				10,000
26	Deacon Sharon Sulker	0	5,000		5,000		0
27	Deacon Shelda Emanuel	0	5,000		5,000		0
28	Dec Lansford John	5,000	0		5,000		0
29	Dec Leeta Chutkhan	3,000	5,000		3,000		5,000
30	ELCW -National		20,000		20,000		0
31	Elizabeth Paduman	2,000	0		2,000		0
32	ELKS		28,000		28,000		0
33	ELKS/FBS/ELCG		55,000		55,000		0
34	Elocia Smith		30,000		30,000		0
35	Ivy Ragnauth		19,000		19,000		0
36	Janice Nicholson		5,000		5,000		0
37	Jhula Goolsarran		75,000		75,000		0
38	Keith Myra		20,000		20,000		0
39	Kitchen Staff		5,000				5,000
40	Ladonna Kisson	3,000	0		3,000		0
41	Lauren McCalman		5,000				5,000
42	Lisa Jerome		5,000		5,000		0
43	Monica Amos		1,000		1,000		0
44	National Youth Ministry	10,000	20,000				30,000
45	Rev Patrick Peters		5,000		5,000		0
47	Rev. Babsie Pierre		10,000		10,000		0
48	Rev. Leroy Nicholson		5,000		5,000		0
49	Robert Perry		5,000		5,000		0
50	Ryan Ramsarran	2,000	2,000		4,000		0
51	Sandra Kurtzious	20,000	15,000		20,000		15,000
52	Saphier Hussain		100,000		100,000		0
53	Shellon Bruce		5,000		5,000		0
54	Shirla Smith		10,000		10,000		0
55	Walter Taylor		10,000		10,000		0
	Total	5,910,557	847,000	2,348,000	667,000	1,762,000	5,737,447

**Debt written-off by decision of 74th Annual Convention.

Evangelical Lutheran Church in Guyana
Expenditure Statement 2017

Line No.	Particulars	Total Actual (YTD)	Budget 2017	Designated Funds	Actual Exp 2017 (Less Designated Funds)	Actual Variance
1	Affiliations -LWF	84,881	75,000	0	84,881	(9,881)
2	Assets/Capital Expenditure	166,435	250,000	0	166,435	83,565
3	Assistance -Parishes	194,000	250,000	0	194,000	56,000
4	Audit Fees	57,000	50,000	0	57,000	(7,000)
5	Auxilliary- ELCM	0	50,000	0	0	50,000
6	Auxilliary- ELCW	0	50,000	(1,285,600)	0	50,000
7	Auxilliary-Youth Ministry	50,000	50,000	0	50,000	0
8	Bank Charges	39,541	50,000	0	39,541	10,459
9	Camp & Retreat Centre	0	0	0	0	0
10	Christian Education Dept.	471,600	0	412,830	0	0
11	Cleaning & Supplies	3,173	60,000	0	3,173	56,827
12	Committees	300,000	350,000	0	300,000	50,000
13	Convention Expenses	1,023,171	975,000	0	1,023,171	(48,171)
14	Convention Project	0	0	1,952,600	0	0
15	Gifts/Bonuses/Donations	1,024,550	150,000	1,046,075	0	150,000
16	Insurance -Fire	195,500	250,000	0	195,500	54,500
17	Insurance -NIS (Employer)	55,440	75,000	0	55,440	19,560
18	Insurance -Motor Vehicle	10,400	25,000	0	10,400	14,600
19	Local Travel	0	125,000	0	0	125,000
20	Maintenance -Equipment/Vehicles	0	350,000	0	0	350,000
21	Maintenance -Property	1,098,468	800,000	0	1,098,468	(298,468)
22	Meals and Accommodation	321,044	375,000	0	321,044	53,956
23	Miscellaneous	57,964	200,000	0	57,964	142,036
24	Missions -Overseas Partners	746,685	150,000	746,685	0	150,000
25	Office Supplies	48,052	150,000	0	48,052	101,948
26	Pension	480,000	480,000	480,000	0	480,000
27	Rates and Taxes	56,751	50,000	(6,751)	0	(6,751)
28	Salary & Allowances -Admin Secretary	701,250	720,000	0	701,250	18,750
29	Salary & Allowances -President	420,000	480,000	0	420,000	60,000
30	Salary & Allowances -Administrator	0	480,000	0	0	480,000
31	Salary -Deacons (Stipend)	0	480,000	0	0	480,000
32	Special Services	668,137	500,000	0	668,137	(168,137)
33	Training/Workshops	599,625	600,000	1,031,074	0	600,000
34	Travel -Overseas	306,421	500,000	1,182,558	0	500,000
35	Travel-EXCO Members (Local)	294,600	200,000	0	0	200,000
36	TV/Radio Broadcast/Advertising	302,834	250,000	0	302,834	(52,834)
37	Utility- Tel./Fax/Internet	205,000	175,000	0	205,000	(30,000)
38	Utility-Electricity	60,000	200,000	0	60,000	140,000
39	Utility-Water	25,217	100,000	0	25,217	74,783
40	Website Hosting/Maintenance	0	175,000	0	0	175,000
	Total Expenses	10,067,739	10,250,000	5,566,222	6,144,258	4,105,742

Evangelical Lutheran Church in Guyana
Schedule of Designated/Special Funds

Ln #	Particulars	Opening Balance Jan 01, 2017	Receipts 2017	Sub-total	Expenditure 2017	Balance Dec 31, 2017
1	Assets-Lands	19,405,152	0	19,405,152	120,000	19,285,152
2	Christian Education-ELCA SP Grant	3,511,770	63,230	3,575,000	0	3,575,000
3	Christian Education-ELCA Annual Grant	0	349,600	349,600	349,600	0
4	Christian Education-FBS Gifts	122,000	0	122,000	122,000	0
5	Convention Pledge-Ebenezer/Luth Courts Compound	70,000	35,000	105,000	105,000	0
6	Convention Project-Lutheran Home	1,167,600	0	1,167,600	1,167,600	0
7	Convention Project-Furnishings	120,000	0	120,000	0	120,000
8	Gifts from GMN (for Pastors and Deacons)	0	465,750	465,750	465,750	0
9	Gift for Emmanuel Parish	0	20,100	20,100	20,100	0
10	Gift for Redeemer Parish	0	248,400	248,400	248,400	0
11	Gift for National ELCW	0	20,775	20,775	0	20,775
12	Leadership Development Training-ELCA Grant	5,645,027	1,031,074	6,676,101	599,625	6,076,476
13	LWF Refund -Travel	(1,003,820)	1,182,558	178,738	178,738	0
14	Medical/Comm. Outreach	4,737,867	0	4,737,867	0	4,737,867
15	Guyana Lutheran Music Academy	0	746,685	746,685	746,685	0
16	National ELCW- Sp Proj. Luth Home	118,000	0	118,000	118,000	0
17	National Youth Ministry-Living Reformation Project	0	1,917,600	1,917,600	0	1,917,600
18	National Youth Ministry-GMN Gift/Individuals	0	291,050	291,050	291,050	0
19	New Mission-Kuru Kururu	67,725	0	67,725	0	67,725
20	Pension Contribution (FLC)	0	480,000	480,000	480,000	0
21	President's Travel to FBS	0	0	0	96,965	(96,965)
22	Relief Fund (Disaster)	83,720	0	83,720	0	83,720
	Total	34,045,041	6,851,822	40,896,863	5,109,513	35,787,350

Evangelical Lutheran Church in Guyana
Consolidated Parish/Auxiliaries Accounts

Particulars	Opening Balance Jan 01, 2017	Receipts 2017	Expenditure 2017	Net Income 2017	Balance Dec 31, 2017
Emmanuel*	712,934	1,882,548	1,978,568	(96,020)	616,914
St Michael*	234,793	1,250,490	1,243,190	7,300	242,093
St John*	112,307	1,473,510	1,419,590	53,920	166,227
Transfiguration*	2,870,231	5,749,931	3,321,061	2,428,870	5,299,101
Ebenezer*	2,631,924	5,447,917	7,669,329	(2,221,412)	410,512
Reformation	421,822			0	421,822
Good Shepherd*	2,727,461	2,095,150	2,018,324	76,826	2,804,287
Advent*	864,324	2,196,345	1,613,763	582,582	1,446,906
St Matthew*	721,438	1,867,010	2,105,000	(237,990)	483,448
St Andrew	7,510,578	5,276,820	4,662,924	613,896	8,124,474
Redeemer	6,594,913	7,570,377	8,059,658	(489,281)	6,105,632
Calvary*	8,477,026	6,171,215	4,767,990	1,403,225	9,880,251
Ascension*	291,449	974,194	795,078	179,116	470,565
NELCW	829,019	237,220	202,442	34,778	863,797
CED*	473,840	1,848,024	2,214,920	(366,896)	106,944
Youth Commission	931,195	1,605,067	1,555,729	49,338	980,533
Camp & Retreat Ctr.	276,748			0	276,748
Total	34,171,200	41,955,507	39,654,475	2,301,032	36,472,232

* Opening balance differs from closing balance as at Dec 31, 2016

EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN GUYANA
Budget 2019

Line No.	Particulars	A	B	C	D	E
		Actual 2017	Budget 2017	Variance	Budget 2018	Budget 2019
1	Affiliations -LWF	84,881	75,000	(9,881)	75,000	75,000
2	Assets/Capital Expenditure	166,435	250,000	83,565	250,000	450,000
3	Assistance -Parishes	194,000	250,000	56,000	350,000	350,000
4	Audit Fees	57,000	50,000	(7,000)	75,000	75,000
5	Auxilliary- ELCM	0	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000
6	Auxilliary- ELCW	0	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000
7	Auxilliary-Youth Ministry	50,000	50,000	0	50,000	50,000
8	Bank Charges	39,541	50,000	10,459	50,000	75,000
9	Camp & Retreat Centre	0	0	0	850,000	750,000
10	Christian Education Dept.	471,600	0	(471,600)	0	0
11	Cleaning & Supplies	3,173	60,000	56,827	60,000	60,000
12	Committees	300,000	350,000	50,000	350,000	450,000
13	Convention Expenses	1,023,171	975,000	(48,171)	1,200,000	1,300,000
14	Convention project	0	0	0	0	0
15	Gifts/Bonuses/Donations	1,024,550	150,000	(874,550)	150,000	150,000
16	Insurance -Fire	195,500	250,000	54,500	250,000	250,000
17	Insurance -NIS (Employer)	55,440	75,000	19,560	90,000	90,000
18	Insurance -Motor Vehicle	10,400	25,000	14,600	0	0
19	Maintenance -Equipment/Vehicles	0	350,000	350,000	250,000	100,000
20	Maintenance -Property	1,098,468	800,000	(298,468)	1,200,000	1,200,000
21	Meals and Accommodation	321,044	375,000	53,956	475,000	500,000
22	Miscellaneous	57,964	200,000	142,036	250,000	250,000
23	Missions -Overseas Partners	746,685	150,000	(596,685)	150,000	150,000
24	Office Supplies	48,052	150,000	101,948	150,000	150,000
25	Pension	480,000	480,000	0	960,000	0
26	Rates and Taxes	56,751	50,000	(6,751)	50,000	125,000
27	Salary & Allowances -Admin Secretary	701,250	720,000	18,750	720,000	780,000
28	Salary & Allowances -President	420,000	480,000	60,000	520,000	600,000
29	Salary & Allowances -Administrator	0	480,000	480,000	600,000	600,000
30	Salary -Deacons (Stipend)	0	480,000	480,000	480,000	480,000
31	Special Services	668,137	500,000	(168,137)	500,000	250,000
32	Training/Workshops	599,625	600,000	375	650,000	800,000
33	Travel -Overseas	306,421	500,000	193,579	550,000	250,000
34	Travel-Local	294,600	325,000	30,400	475,000	475,000
35	TV/Radio Broadcast/Advertising	302,834	250,000	(52,834)	250,000	250,000
36	Utility- Tel./Fax/Internet	205,000	175,000	(30,000)	250,000	350,000
37	Utility-Electricity	60,000	200,000	140,000	225,000	450,000
38	Utility-Water	25,217	100,000	74,783	100,000	100,000
39	Website Hosting/Maintenance	0	175,000	175,000	175,000	225,000
	Total Expenses	10,067,739	10,250,000	182,261	12,880,000	12,310,000

EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN GUYANA
Schedule of Parish Apportionment

Parish	Approved 2017	Approved 2018	No. of Active Members	Apportionment per Member	Budget 2019	% Contribution
Emmanuel	142,000	196,800	72	2,500	180,000	7%
St Michael	120,000	124,800	52	2,500	130,000	5%
St John	92,000	110,400	43	2,500	107,500	4%
Transfiguration	196,000	199,200	72	2,500	180,000	7%
Ebenezer	474,000	444,000	146	2,500	365,000	15%
Reformation	0	0	0	2,500	0	0%
Good Shepherd	186,000	172,800	69	2,500	172,500	7%
Advent	228,000	266,400	137	2,500	342,500	14%
St Matthew	218,000	223,200	103	2,500	257,500	10%
St Andrew	214,000	208,800	83	2,500	207,500	8%
Redeemer	204,000	240,000	115	2,500	287,500	12%
Calvary	150,000	189,600	62	2,500	155,000	6%
Ascension	124,000	120,000	32	2,500	80,000	3%
Total	2,348,000	2,496,000	986		2,465,000	100%

Projected Source of Income 2019

Income	Amount
Apportionment	2,465,000
Rental of Buildings	5,376,000
Interest	450,000
Convention Income	1,000,000
Special Services	100,000
Training/Workshops	300,000
Sub-total	9,691,000
Surplus/ (Deficit)	(2,619,000)
2019 Budget Total	12,310,000

Evangelical Lutheran Church in Guyana
75th Annual Convention

Notes

Evangelical Lutheran Church in Guyana
75th Annual Convention

Convention Resolutions