

Summary Report (June 14, 2016)

LUCSA Book 5 - Living Together in Christ

A Christian Education Resource for Youth and Young Adults

The rationale for the project: The Lutheran Communion in Southern Africa (LUCSA) approved the writing of 6 books as Christian education resources by and for LUCSA member churches. Books 1 to 3 are for Sunday School, Book 4 is for Confirmation, Book 5 is for Youth and Young Adults and Book 6 is an Adult education resource for Lay Leaders and Clergy. The Sunday school books were first published in 2007 and the last book in the 6 book series in 2016. Funding support for the project was provided by LUCSA, ELM, ELCA and VELKD.

An initial workshop for book 5 was held in November 2014. Youth contributors from several LUCSA member churches were then given topics to work on in the interim. Participants List: Mr. Noko Mapotse South Africa (ELCSA), Mr. Howard Maujo, Malawi (ELCM), Mr. Tshepang Motlogelwa Botswana (ELCB), Ms. Whitney Mogashoa South Africa (ELCSA – N/T), Mr. David Daniels South Africa (MCSA), Rev. Iyaloo Nuuyuni Namibia (ELCRN), Ms. Allison Westerhoff USA/South Africa (ELCA & LUCSA Communications Desk), Rev. Dr. Philip Knutson USA/South Africa (ELCA & LUCSA Christian Education Desk)

A second workshop was held in May 2015 with the same participants. Following the second workshop Rev. Knutson prepared a rough draft of the book and circulated this among the contributors for input during July and August.

Rev. Knutson edited the final draft which was presented to the LUCSA Executive Director Dr. D. Tswaedi for comment and the writing of the foreword. 300 copies of the book were printed in January 2016 by the Printman Printers in Cape Town at a cost of R85 (about \$6) per copy.

Fourteen member churches of LUCSA were invited to send two active youth representatives to participate in the launch and training workshop for book 5 in Johannesburg May 13-17, 2016. A total of 26 people from 8 member churches and 6 dioceses including youth, youth pastors and presenters participated in the workshop.

Following the workshop each participant is expected to promote book 5 and with the support of the leadership of their respective churches train members of the youth and young adult organizations at national and local level.

LUCSA member churches and organizations are encouraged to obtain extra copies of LUCSA Book 5 for their youth ministry and also to use the other LUCSA Christian education resource Books 1-3 for Sunday School, Book 4 for Confirmation and Book 6 for adults. The 6 books are interrelated and form part of the overall LUCSA Christian education strategy for life-long learning and teaching for disciples of all ages.

LUCSA also encourages translation of the books where possible and the sharing of best practices and resources for Christian education between member churches.

The LUCSA resource books can also be used by member churches and others as they prepare for the 500th anniversary of the Reformation in 2017 and in the ensuing years as they seek to strengthen disciples of all ages to participate in God's mission of transformation, reconciliation and empowerment for the sake of the world.

Compiled by: Rev. Dr. Philip J. Knutson (For the LUCSA Christian Education Desk)