**GOD GATHERS PEOPLE INTO THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH**

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**FAITH STATEMENT 1: THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH IS THE COMMUNITY OF BELIEVERS CREATED BY THE HOLY SPIRIT**

To help students hear, explore and reflect on this faith statement, teachers will provide opportunities for students to:

1a. explore the Christian understanding that people who believe in Jesus are in God's family, the church

1b. identify churches in the local community

1c. become familiar with the activities of a local church

1a. investigate the Christian church as a community of believers

1b. identify the structures and roles within a local church community

1c. examine the benefits of belonging to a local Christian church.

1a. investigate the Bible's descriptions of the Christian church

1b. explore similarities and differences in local Christian denominations

1c. explore how God's word and the sacraments are central to the life of Christian congregations

1a. investigate the life of the church described in the New Testament

1b. analyse the similarities and differences in Christian denominations and sects

1c. explore how the Holy Spirit works through local Christian communities.

**FAITH STATEMENT 2: GOD HAS GATHERED HIS PEOPLE TOGETHER THROUGHOUT HISTORY**

To help students hear, explore and reflect on this faith statement, teachers will provide opportunities for students to:

2a. explore Bible stories of people in the early Christian church

2b. explore the impact Luther's work had on the Christian church

2c. explore what has been constant and what has changed in the Christian church

2a. become familiar with the life and work of Martin Luther

2b. investigate the history of the Lutheran church in Australia

2c. investigate important events and people in the development and history of Christian denominations

2a. investigate the major historical movements within the Christian church

2b. investigate the contribution of significant leaders in the Christian church
FAITH STATEMENT 3: LUTHERANS IN AUSTRALIA WORK TOGETHER IN MINISTRY AND MISSION*

To help students hear, explore and reflect on this faith statement, teachers will provide opportunities for students to:

| 3a | investigate the ministry and mission of the Lutheran Church of Australia |
| 3b | investigate the ministry and mission of a Lutheran school |
| 3a | identify ways Lutherans in Australia carry out their mission and ministry |
| 3b | investigate the work of an organisation of the Lutheran church in Australia |
| 3a | investigate ways the Lutheran Church of Australia carries out its mission and ministry in the world |
| 3b | investigate the work of an organisation of the Lutheran Church of Australia in the world |
| 3a | investigate the Lutheran church’s contribution to Australian society |
| 3b | investigate ways Lutheran congregations minister to their local community |

* Here we use the Lutheran Church of Australia as an example of a denominational church body.

Items in the LIFE Menus which follow are grouped according to Faith Statements and coded to Band-specific Goals, eg (2a) indicates an item related to Band-specific Goal a, under Faith Statement 2.