

2018 National Lutheran Principals Conference

The LEA team looks forward to meeting Lutheran principals from across Australia at the upcoming 2018 National Lutheran Principals Conference in Hobart. We acknowledge the LPA Executive in organising this important event and also wish to note the attendance of the following significant guests:

- LCA Bishop, Rev John Henderson
- Former National Director for Lutheran Schools, Rev Tom Reuther and his wife, Una
- ALC Principal, Rev James Winderlich
- ALC Associate Dean for Research, Prof Wendy Mayer
- Former principal, Neville Grieger (2018 Reuther Orator)
- LCA Qld District Bishop, Rev Paul Smith

Apologies have been received from several district bishops.

2018 Reuther Oration: This year's Reuther Oration will be presented by Mr Neville Grieger. Neville concluded his formal duties for Lutheran education last year when he finished as Principal of Navigator College, Port Lincoln SA. He has formerly served in the following positions:

- Teacher at Immanuel College, Maroochydore Qld
- Deputy Principal at Faith Lutheran School (now known as Faith Lutheran College), Tanunda SA
- Principal at Unity College, Murray Bridge SA
- Spiritual Development Facilitator for the Lutheran Schools Association SA/NT/WA
- Assistant Director of Lutheran Education Vic, NSW & Tas
- Principal of Navigator College, Port Lincoln SA

In the national principal conference protocols, it is customary to invite the former National Director for Lutheran Schools (now LEA Executive Director). Rev Tom Reuther has been invited to past conferences but not accepted until this year. It is fitting that Tom will attend this year and be present at the Reuther Oration, named after him and in recognition of his service to Lutheran education.

Past Reuther Orations have been presented by:

2016	Richard Hauser	2003	Loyd Fyffe
2014	Bronwyn Dolling	2000	Robin L Kleinschmidt
2011	Neville Highett	1997	Malcolm I Bartsch
2009	Barry J Kahl	1995	John G Strelan
2007	Ruth Butler	1993	Tom T Reuther
2005	Norm Habel		

Ordination of women and men

As the 2018 LCA General Synod nears, Bishop John Henderson has recently released to delegates and members of the LCA the following communication.

Over the last two and a half years the members of the LCA Commission on Theology and Inter-Church Relations (CTICR) have laboured long and hard to complete the request made of them by the 18th General Convention of Synod in 2015. The General Church Council (GCC) has received the results of their work, and is now ready to release the two documents to the LCA in advance of the July 2018 General Pastors Conference in Hahndorf and the October 2018 19th General Convention of Synod in Sydney.

Along the pathway to completing its work on behalf of the Synod the CTICR consulted widely. It received substantial input from a range of sources. The members of the commission thank everyone who took part in the round of consultations, in which over 1000 people participated, and those who provided additional feedback to the initial draft.

Because of this process, the final version of the Draft Doctrinal Statement is substantially different in structure and content to the consultation draft.

Ordinarily the Synod would receive the work of the CTICR through its report. This would delay the public release of the documents until August 2018. Since, however, 15 May is the closing date for proposals to the next General Convention, the GCC has authorised their earlier release to the LCA.

Principal Documents

[A theological basis for the ordination of women and men](#)

[A theological basis for why the ordination of women and men need not be church divisive](#)

In providing these two principal documents to the church, the CTICR has asked that they be accompanied by two supplementary documents, which it has prepared for the information and benefit of Synod delegates and members of the church.

Supplementary Documents

[A theological basis for the ordination of women and men: background to the Draft Doctrinal Statement](#)

[Engaging with the Draft Doctrinal Statement: reflection arising from the current teaching of the Lutheran Church of Australia](#)

The background paper provides a more comprehensive biblical and theological rationale for the ordination of both women and men than can be provided in the brief draft doctrinal statement that Synod requested.

The other document interacts with the Draft Doctrinal Statement from the viewpoint of the LCA's current teaching. The Draft Doctrinal Statement does not express the opinions of individual commission members. Rather, working together they have faithfully done the task the Synod set them, while internally the commission was engaged in a lively dialogue representing a diversity of opinions and beliefs on the matter.

The CTICR trusts that these supplementary documents will be useful to the church as it prepares for the upcoming Convention of Synod.

Pastor John Henderson

LCA Bishop
on behalf of the General Church Council

2018 LCA General Synod Lutheran principal delegates

LEA acknowledges the commitment of the following principals who have registered to be principal delegates at the 2018 LCA General Synod in Sydney from 2-7 October:

LEQ:

Jodie Hoff: LORDS – Primary
Tanya Crooks: Redeemer Lutheran College, Rochedale – Secondary

LEVNT:

Simon Hughes: Good News Lutheran College, Tarneit – Secondary
Brad Moss: St John's Lutheran School Portland – Primary

LESNW:

Mark Rathjen: St Peters Lutheran School, Blackwood – Primary
Rachel Boyce: Good Shepherd Lutheran College, Palmerston – Secondary

LCA Domestic and Family Violence Campaign

School principals and early childhood service directors will have received a letter signed jointly by Bishop John Henderson and me launching the LCA's 'Hidden hurts : Healing hearts' campaign. Brochures to share with you staff are being posted to you in the coming days.



Your support of this important initiative is sought and appreciate.

ACEL Educational Leadership Medal winner

A highlight each year for the Australian Council for Educational Leaders South Australian Branch (ACEL SA) is the annual presentation of awards. It is through these awards that ACEL SA honours educational leaders who have made a significant contribution to education, educational leadership and the improvement of student and organisational outcomes. This year Robert Hoff, Principal of Immanuel Primary School, Novar Gardens SA, was awarded an ACEL Educational Leadership Medal in recognition of his outstanding leadership and extraordinary service to education.

Congratulations Robert.

Stephen Rudolph
Executive Director
Lutheran Education Australia

LDP

The LDP symposium was held at North Adelaide from April 10-13. Almost thirty new LDP students began their learning journey with Professor Lauren Stephenson, Professor Janeen Lamb and Professor Br David Hall from ACU. LDP students spent time looking at different models of leadership and understanding the development of leadership over time in preparation for their first assignment.

Training of mentors to work with LDP students was a significant part of the symposium and on behalf of all students I would like to thank the mentors for their participation in the program and their support for their mentees. Mentoring is a critical part of the LDP journey and adds valuable insight into leadership for potential new leaders.

EduLead Conference

LEA sponsored six Lutheran principals to attend EduLead in Sydney. In reflection attending the EduLead conference was exciting, affirming and challenging. Thanks to Paul Skinner and Tara Pritchard for the following feedback on their experiences at EduLead.

We are on the cusp of change in education, however, relationships with students, parents and staff are still the key to a growing learning community. Some of the things that matter to a child's education include: learning in the arts; extracurricular activities; promoting curiosity as it is the core of everything; acknowledging student voice; flexible learning plays a part in learning pathways today. The potential for children today is amplified due to technology and the lesson for schools when buying technology is to 'Buy less, use more and gain fluency'. [Paula Skinner]

A highlight was to hear from Ron Clark, an American educator who founded the Ron Clark Academy in Atlanta. Ron shared many stories and experiences from his career. One story likens schools to a bus with the floor cut out. There are runners that do anything to keep the bus moving forward. These are the staff and people in the organisation who show initiative, go beyond what is expected, and have a passion for learning. Others on board are like joggers who think they are runners wanting to be in control, complaining all the time and wanting others to notice their work. Others are walkers who are trying to stop the bus moving forward and are consequently a burden on everyone else. Ron recommended we need to invest time and resources in the runners. [Tara Pritchard]

Women's leadership Summit

A small group of staff from Lutheran schools and offices attended The Australian Schools Women's Leadership Summit in Sydney. It was interesting to hear the role of mentoring in the lives of female leaders as diverse as well-known media trail blazer, Ita Buttrose; CEO of AITSL, Lisa Rodgers; and founding Director of School of Life Foundation, Annabelle Chauncy; amongst others. An overwhelming message was the need for women to value their own skills and abilities and to value their own leadership styles. Ita Buttrose made the point that we live in a rapidly changing world of work where educational leaders are at the forefront to cope with change by equipping schools for change and a changing future.

An analysis of data at LEA shows us that women are underrepresented in leadership positions in our schools. As a result of the summit we are exploring future activities to support women in leadership in Lutheran education.



Pictured (from right) are Kathryn Krieg (St Jakobi, Lyndoch SA), Tara Pritchard (Tarrington Vic), Anton Prinsloo (St Paul's, Caboolture Qld), Francois Pienaar (Crossways, Ceduna SA), Steve Jude (Navigator, Port Lincoln SA), Dianne Eckermann (LEA) and Luke Schoff (St James, Hervey Bay Qld).



Lutheran educators at the recent 'Women in Leadership' conference in Sydney.
Back row: Cheryl Budd (Grace Rothwell Qld), Heather Vogt (Endeavour Mawson Lakes SA), Julie Sampson (Cornerstone, Mt Barker SA)
Front row: Dianne Eckermann (LEA), Anne Dohnt (LEA), Mignon Weckert (LESNW)

Dianne Eckermann
LEA Director of Leadership

Growing deep – School improvement framework

The National leadership team (NLT) is seeking to finalise the *Growing deep* School improvement framework (SIF) and requests the feedback of school leaders who have been working with the SIF in their communities. As Quality Schools and the SIF have been grounded in the Vocational practices of *Growing deep* please also consider sharing any strategies you have been using to explore the Quality Schools data or the *vocational practices*.

Please phone or email Anne Dohnt with your feedback and strategies (anne.dohnt@lutheran.edu.au ph: 08 8267 7318). The School improvement framework can be found at the following link: <https://yps.lca-ict.org.au/~growingdeep/assets/Uploads/School-improvement-framework.pdf>

Accreditation and career pathways project – Pathways reinvigoration

As we work to reinvigorate *Pathways*, we are seeking ideas and resources that *Pathways* facilitators have found helpful and may inform the writers. Please consider what has worked well in your context and email LEA (lea@lutheran.edu.au) or Anne Dohnt (anne.dohnt@lutheran.edu.au) with your ideas and resources (videos, articles, stories, scenarios etc). If you would like to discuss your ideas, please don't hesitate to phone (08 8267 7318).

Service learning

The Service learning taskforce is establishing a *ServinglearningNet*, an email sharing platform, and also Facebook and Twitter for the sharing as well as ongoing development of Service learning in Lutheran schools and early childhood services. Principals are asked to please provide the email address of their Service learning leader who can receive the emails circulated through *ServinglearningNet*. Each region's taskforce members will be responsible for the social media forums on a rotating basis. Please email lea@lutheran.edu.au with the email address and name of your service learning leader.

Anne Dohnt
LEA Director of Formation

Federal matters

Independent review into regional, rural and remote education

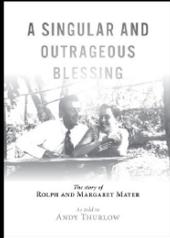
[13 April 2018]

The report on an extensive review to guide efforts to overcome the educational divide between capital cities and regional and rural areas is now available to the public. The Coalition Government today released the final report of the Independent Review into Regional, Rural and Remote Education, led by Emeritus Professor Dr John Halsey. Deputy Prime Minister and Leader of The Nationals Michael McCormack said the Coalition understood the need to bridge the divide between education outcomes in the bush and in the city. Unfortunately, what we see is that country kids aren't always getting the same opportunities as students in our cities, the Deputy Prime Minister said. Thriving regional and rural communities are key to Australia's success and they need a high-performing education system. [Read more.](#)

Education Council communique

[13 April 2018]

The Education Council convened in Adelaide today for its first meeting of 2018. Ministers discussed a range of national issues across the early childhood, school education and higher education portfolios, including: STEM Industry-Schools Partnerships, Review into Regional, Rural and Remote Education, School and early childhood reform, Bullying and Cyberbullying, NAPLAN Online, Review of NAPLAN, Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse, Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability, Supporting Schools to Manage the NDIS Transition, and Early Childhood Education. [Read more.](#)



You are invited to

the launch of

A Singular and Outrageous Blessing

The story of Rolph and Margaret Mayer

by

Pastor Reinhard Mayer

Past President of the LCA Queensland District

on

Thursday 10 May 2018 at 6:00pm

In the Function Room at Immanuel College

32 Morphet Rd, Novar Gardens SA 5040

We are all very excited about the book and the launch. It promises to be a wonderful evening of tribute to Rolph, Marg and their family and a happy get-together. Finger food, wine, fruit juice and water will be available on the night. The evening finishes at 8:30pm.

Please contact Andy Thurlow for details:

amthurlow@bigpond.com

Box 35, Tanunda SA 5352

0422407062

EARLY CHILDHOOD LEADERSHIP SUMMIT



REACHING IN; BRINGING OUT

**20 - 21 - 22 JUNE 2018 | SINGAPORE
CONFERENCE CENTRE, UWCSEA (DOVER)**

PRESENTED BY RETHASIA INTERNATIONAL | +65 6208 1929 | admin@rethasia.com

LEARN MORE AND REGISTER AT
<http://WWW.RETHASIA.COM/ECLS>