Т

A conference in each region

### LESNW 9-10 May 2019 | LEQ 18-19 July 2019 | LEVNT 25-26 July 2019

Faith Tanunda

**ACU Brisbane** 

#### **Templestowe**

L

# God talk in schools and ECSs

God talk or practical theology is at the heart of Lutheran education. It is what we do. However, with the ever-increasing diversity and complexity of societal issues, Lutheran schools and early childhood services (ECSs) can often feel challenged in knowing how to talk about God or relate theology to practice. Beginning with the topic of human sexuality and in particular gender identification, Prof Wendy Mayer and Rev Dr Stephen Haar will engage participants in a theological action research framework where they will have the opportunity to listen and dialogue with each other as they navigate their way through a number of societal issues. The conference will model ways we can bring together theology, beliefs and values into practice, which are the capabilities ministry personnel and *Connect* (previously *Pathways*) facilitators require to truly engage in meaningful dialogue with the ever-increasing diversity of new staff.

Both days of the conference have been designed to bring a sunergy between ministry in general, accreditation and ongoing formation of staff. Hence the overall conference will provide professional learning for all those involved in doing God talk within schools and ECSs - both ministry personnel and Connect facilitators. The conference will also see the launch of Connect in each region.

## Program outline

[A detailed program will be sent to delegates closer to the event]

- Sessions 9.00am 5.00pm Day 1: Conference dinner 6:00pm
- Day 2: Sessions 8.30am 4.00pm

This conference is for early childhood service directors, school principals, school pastors, chaplains, pastors of congregations (connected to an ECS and/or school), current and future Connect facilitators and all those involved in Lutheran education ministry. If you are unable to attend the conference in your region, you are encouraged to attend the conference in another region.

# Cost

To enable as many people as possible to attend these conferences the registration cost, excluding travel and accommodation has been set at \$250 per person.

Financial assistance towards the cost of registration, travel and accommodation is available for ECSs / schools requiring assistance. Please contact lea@lutheran.edu.au

# **Financial assistance** available



Lutheran Education Australia is pleased to support the LEA national ministry conferences being held in 2019. I encourage ECS directors, school principals, school pastors, chaplains and pastors of congregations connected with an ECS / school to plan to attend. The aim of the conferences is to provide an opportunity for personal and professional growth and also to facilitate reflection on ministry in each participant's ECS / school. I look forward to seeing you at one of these conferences in 2019.

Assoc Prof Lisa Schmidt, LEA Executive Director









#### Registrations

Online registrations are now available at: <u>http://www.lutheran.edu.au/2019-lea-national-ministry-conference-registrations/</u>

South Australia	Queensland	Victoria
Registrations close 26 April 2019	Registrations close 5 July 2019	Registrations close 12 July 2019

#### Venue

#### LESNW:

Venue: Barossa Arts and Convention Centre, Faith Lutheran College, Tanunda Accommodation: Barossa Weintal, 235 Murray Street, Tanunda. Use promo code "0905LFE" to receive a 10% discount for bookings between 8-10 May.

#### LEVNT:

Venue: Holy Cross Centre, Templestowe Accommodation: Templestowe. Please email Josie Muratore (josie.muratore@levnt.edu.au) for room bookings.

#### LEQ:

Venue: Level 3, Cathedral House, 229 Elizabeth Street, Brisbane Accommodation: Holiday Inn Express Brisbane Central is offering Lutheran Education a group rate of \$135 per room per night for the Ministry conference from 17-18 July 2019. To book <u>click here</u> and enter your required dates **Must be booked by 21 June 2019** 

## Speakers



**Rev Dr Stephen Haar** is the Dean / Vice-Principal at Australian Lutheran College. He is the college's Senior Lecturer in Theology.

 $B \land R \circ S \land A$ WEINTAL

Following graduation, he was ordained at St Paul Lutheran Church, Box Hill and served for 26 years as pastor to congregations in Queensland and South Australia. From 2005 to 2006 he enjoyed a rich mix of experiences that involved studies in education, teaching in seminaries of partner churches in Indonesia and Malaysia, and being a scholar-inresidence at Luther Seminary, Minneapolis, USA. In 2007 he commenced work at Australian Lutheran College as Lecturer in New Testament and Pastoral Studies. He was appointed Academic Dean in 2008 and Dean/Vice-Principal in 2010. He is married to Janet and they have four adult children and seven grandchildren.



**Professor Wendy Mayer** came to ALC in 2017 to take up the new full-time position of Associate Dean for Research. She is trained as a classicist (in Greek and Latin language and literature) and gained her doctorate in Studies in Religion at University of Queensland in 1996. Since gaining her doctorate she has mostly been working with a team of researchers as they built the international reputation of the Centre for Early Christian Studies at Australian Catholic University. Her career has been research focused, and fostering and mentoring a research culture that opens up and explores questions of relevance to the contemporary world is her passion. Ask her about why history is relevant and she could talk for hours! Her latest ARC (Australian Research Council) grant (with Prof Bronwen Neil, Macquarie University; Prof Pauline Allen, ACU; and A/Prof Chris de Wet, University of South Africa) is titled: *Memories of Utopia: Destroying the Past to Create the Future (300–650 CE)*