



LEA MINISTRY CONFERENCE

The below times are in ACST



Monday, 24 May 2021



Opening and Devotion
08:30 - 09:00



Spiritual formation in the contemporary context with Dr Phil Daughtry
09:00 - 10:00

📍 Zoom



Keynote debrief
10:00 - 10:30



What it means to be in mission in the contemporary Australian context with Michael Frost
10:30 - 11:30



Keynote debrief
11:30 - 12:00



Lunchbreak - networking
12:00 - 13:00



The distinctiveness of faith-based education: implications for formation with Professor Br David Hall
13:00 - 14:00

📍 Zoom



Keynote debrief
14:00 - 14:30



How overseas school partnerships can strengthen your student's love for Jesus, Explore how international school partnerships open up conversations of faith, love and service with students in Lutheran schools.
14:30 - 15:30



The Faith of the Next Generation with Chris Podlich
14:30 - 15:30



Why Jesus failed Christian Studies with Jonathan Krause and Julie Krause
14:30 - 15:30



Day One Wrap Up
15:40 - 16:30





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The below times are in ACST



Tuesday, 25 May 2021



Opening, Devotion and Natasha Moore
08:30 - 10:00



Keynote debrief
10:00 - 10:30



How Young People Develop their Engagement in Faith: Unpacking the Mechanics of Spirituality, Religion and Belief with Rowan Lewis
10:30 - 11:30



Keynote debrief
11:30 - 12:00



Lunchbreak - networking
12:00 - 13:00



Alpha in the School Community Alpha Australia with Leah and Paul 'Skip' Smith
13:00 - 14:00



Church planting and Lutheran Schools – is there a mission match? with Pastor Nathan Hedt
13:00 - 14:00

📍 Zoom



Afternoon break
14:00 - 14:30



Messages of Hope with Rev Richard Fox
14:30 - 15:30



Rethinking Faith Formation
14:30 - 15:30



Day Two Wrap Up
15:40 - 16:30



Tuesday 25th May Evening TBC
19:00 - 20:00





LEA MINISTRY CONFERENCE

The below times are in ACST



Wednesday, 26 May 2021



Opening, Devotion and Spiritual Discipline and Well-being with Dr Katherine Thompson
08:30 - 10:00



Keynote debrief
10:00 - 10:30



Sex Education in Lutheran Schools with Adam Yeager
10:30 - 11:30



Simple Prayer for Complex Times: The Gift of Christian Meditation with Margaret Trevethan
10:30 - 11:30



Lunchbreak - networking
11:30 - 13:00



How faith and spirituality in all its forms influences the way we learn, serve and nurture the well-being of self & others ALWS with Celia Fielke and Vicki Gollasch
13:00 - 14:00



Well-being/Pastoral Care the Pacific Way
13:00 - 14:00



Wellbeing & self-care... from a soul perspective! with Dr Paul Whetham
14:10 - 15:10



Reflection workshop and conference close
15:30 - 17:00



Keynotes

Dr Katherine Thompson

Wednesday 26th May 9am ACST, 9.30am AEST

Spiritual Discipline and Wellbeing

Discuss the place of spiritual discipline, including Christ-Centred Mindfulness in supporting wellbeing.

Dr Katherine Thompson is a Mental Health Social Worker, Clinical Researcher and Academic. She works in private practice providing mental health treatment to young people aged 12-25 years, and supports mission organisations and their staff. She has researched mental disorders in young people for more than 20 years. She is Head of Teaching for the Centre of Theology and Psychology at Melbourne School of Theology. She is author of Christ-Centred Mindfulness and Christ-Centred Mindfulness for Young People.

Dr Rowan Lewis

Tuesday 25th May 10.30 ACST, 11.00am AEST

How Young People Develop their Engagement in Faith: Unpacking the Mechanics of Spirituality, Religion and Belief

What are the mechanisms by which young people develop their engagement in faith? And how can a school positively and constructively influence these processes? In this session, we will look at the insights that religious psychology offer to these questions.

Dr Rowan Lewis (BCom (Hons), MCS, PhD) Over the last 15 years Rowan has created and led formation programs for youth and young adults as well as specialised in accompanying young people amidst times of doubt and spiritual transition. His PhD research focused on the dynamics of a faith crisis. He currently serves as the Academic Coordinator for Pastoral Theology at ACOM (Australian College of Ministry). Together with his wife Kirra, Rowan lives in Melbourne with three energetic teenagers who keep life suitably animated.

Professor Br David Hall FMS

Monday 24th May 1.00pm ACST, 1.30pm AEST

The distinctiveness of faith-based education: implications for formation

All education is transformational and faith-based education seeks to engage in this endeavour in a particular way. Integral to our effectiveness in this space is how we understand what we are trying to do in the task of formation.

Professor Br David Hall FMS has been a principal of several Catholic schools; primary and secondary, co-educational and single-sex. Br David is involved in the governance of independent Catholic schools as a member of boards and councils and also conducts workshops and other professional learning activities in the areas of spiritual formation and leadership. He is leading an extensive professional development program for Catholic school leaders across 22 countries in Africa.

Dr Phil Daughtry

Monday 24th May 9.00am ACST 9.30am AEST

Spiritual formation in the contemporary context

A brief introduction to spirituality as a human phenomenon and its nuances in the Australian social context.

Participatory engagement with simple conversational and reflective exercises that assist spiritual awareness and connections to the Christian story.

Phil Daughtry is a scholar/practitioner in the field of spirituality studies and practical formation. His gift is the curation of conversational and reflective spaces that allow people to find their own spiritual voice and to pay attention to the movements of the sacred in their experience and story. He engages public spiritual conversation from the perspective of the Christian contemplative tradition and a keen sensitivity to the contemporary and Australian context. He is passionate about the facilitation of common spiritual vocabulary and inclusive opportunity.

He serves as Dean of Humanities and Social Sciences, and Dean of Students, with Tabor College. He is an active member of the International Network for the Study of Spirituality and the Society for the Study of Christian Spirituality. Phil's devotional writings, academic papers and publications can be accessed via his blog: <https://contemplativecorner429865032.wordpress.com/>

Electives

Julie Krause and Jonathan Krause

Monday 24th May 2.30pm ACST 3.00pm AEST

Why Jesus failed Christian Studies

These days, it seems people like Jesus. But don't like the church.

(Perhaps this is why only 5 in 12 young people born since 2005 are Christian, and only 2 in 12 go to church.)

Yet as Lutheran churches and schools, it can still be a struggle to go to where young people are at, and find ways to show them the revolutionary extraordinary lives Jesus offers.

One of the ways we can cut through is to show WWJD in how we bring love to life in practical action caring for others, through things like ALWS, Walk My Way and Gifts of Grace.

Behind that though is the way we share these stories and actions, and how we link it in authentic, no BS way to Christian faith.

We can also learn from the faith we see in those who have lost everything. That's the kind of stuff we'll talk about with you.

Raw and real.

Julie and Jonathan have two teenage sons, with 12 years of experience in Lutheran schools between them! Therefore, we know first-hand the wrestle with faith and Christian studies, alongside cars and girls and KFC and all the other challenges teens confront 😊

Julie is a trained Early Learning and Primary teacher, and also has a Diploma in Theology. She has worked as a chaplain, librarian, teacher in remote Aboriginal communities, and now with ALWS presenting in schools and churches.

Jonathan has worked as a Writer / Fundraiser / Strategist for aid agencies for 30+ years, and currently leads the Community Action team of ALWS. He is the author of 8 books, most of which seek to talk about God and faith in everyday language, through stories.

Chris Podlich

Monday 24th May 2.30pm ACST 3.00pm AEST

The Faith of the Next Generation

What's the faith of the next generation worth? The response we want to give to this question is, "everything" but is this the case? In this session we'll engage in a conversation around some key learnings from a church plant in a state school and explore practical steps your organisation can take to ensure that the faith of the next generation is your highest priority.

Chris leads Beyond Church, a church plant in the northern suburbs of Brisbane, which has a vision to 'create churches that unchurched people love to engage with'.

Chris has a passion for sharing the life-changing message of Jesus in a way that connects with unchurched and de-churched people. He is married to his beautiful wife Emma, and is what some people would refer to as a coffee snob.

Adam Yeager

Sex Education in Lutheran Schools

Given the recent public instances of sexual assault and harassment in government as well as in private schools around Australia, Lutheran education need to wrestle with how and why we teach our students about sex and sexuality. This presentation will review some of the current research around sexual activity of young people and effective forms of sex education as well as the Lutheran theology and history related to sex and education. This presentation will explore three main questions related to sex education:

- 1) Why should we provide Sex Education in Lutheran Schools?
- 2) What is the goal of Sex Education in Lutheran Schools?
- 3) What is needed to effectively teach Sex Education in Lutheran Schools?

This presentation will look at sex education from a Pastoral Care, Christian Studies and a Ministry and Worship perspective. [Please note that this presentation will primarily refer to a middle and senior school context but some of the philosophical underpinnings will be useful to a primary/junior school context as well. Also, this presentation will involve candid conversations around various forms of sexual activity as we review some of the data relevant to the topic at hand.]

Adam has served as a Chaplain and Senior Chaplain in Lutheran Schools for over 10 years. Currently the Senior Chaplain at Unity College, Adam's focus has been on establishing a wholistic approach to Lutheran Education that attempts to merge ministry and worship, pastoral care and Christian studies in order to provide a student-centric approach to faith-based education. Originally from Alaska, he lives in the Adelaide Hills with his Wife, Elischa and two sons Bryce and Tobias.

Nevin Nitschke, Erin Kerber, Jamie Fewster

Monday 24th May 2.30pm ACST 3.00pm AEST

How overseas school partnerships can strengthen your student's love for Jesus

Explore how international school partnerships open up conversations of faith, love and service with students in Lutheran schools.

Nevin Nitschke and Erin Kerber serve as Program Officers for LCA International Mission, supporting partnerships with Lutheran schools in Australia and Lutheran churches and schools overseas. Jamie Fewster facilitates the school partnership between Navigator College and SMA GKPS1 Pematangraya, Indonesia.

Pastor Richard Fox

Tuesday 25th May 2.30pm ACST 3.00pm AEST

Messages of Hope

Looking for content to inspire and encourage people? Maybe for chapel, devotions, and pastoral care? Pastor Richard Fox will present Messages of Hope and how the videos, podcasts, social media posts, scripts and articles can be used in your context to meet people where they are at with Jesus' message of hope.

Pastor Richard Fox presents weekly Messages of Hope interviews and conversations on hundreds of radio stations and social media including by videos, podcasts and text. He enjoys family life and watching sports. After working at Lutheran Care in SA and umpiring AFL, he now enjoys reaching millions of people with hope and seeing them be encouraged and inspired.

Pastor Nathan Hedt

Tuesday 25th May 1.00pm ACST 1.30pm AEST

Church planting and Lutheran Schools – is there a mission match?

In the last few years church planting has emerged as a key strategy in the LCANZ's mission. Many Lutheran schools have shown an interest in church planting and the specific mission of the gospel in Lutheran schools. But is there a match between the mission of school and church planting? Can a fruitful way forward be found to partner between schools and church plants? Pastor Nathan Hedt explores this question with reference to his own and others' experiences of church plants co located in Lutheran schools. This session is designed to help you think through the possible synergies, barriers, and fruitfulness of such partnerships.

Nathan Hedt is the LCANZ Pastor for New and Renewing Churches. Previously he was church planting pastor and College Pastor at Lakeside College Pakenham, in Melbourne's south east. He has a great interest in exploring possible connections and synergies between the mission of church planting and the missional opportunities of Lutheran Schools.

Ben Ryan, Leigh Finter, Annie Williams and Tim Jarick

Wednesday 26th May 1.00pm ACST 1.30pm AEST

Wellbeing/Pastoral Care the Pacific Way

To learn and explore one school's story of pastoral care and wellbeing systems and practices.

Ben Ryan, the Director of Students at Pacific Lutheran College has been involved in education and school leadership for twenty years in the UK and Australia. His vision is for schools to develop students social and emotional capacities so that they may navigate through and flourish within an increasingly globalised world.

Leigh Finter, has been Head of House at Pacific for six years and is responsible for the pastoral care of secondary students. Her main interest and strength is integrating Restorative Practice into the everyday teaching and care for students and leading Pastoral Care staff in Circle Time to connect and develop students' sense of belonging and purpose.

Annie Williams, has been the counsellor at Pacific for ten years and is focused on enhancing educational outcomes for students as was helping their parents and families in the counselling process.

Tim Jarick, the college pastor at Pacific has worked in Lutheran schools in Victoria and Queensland and has an interest in positive psychology, mindfulness, meditation, and the theological and spiritual formation of staff.

Margaret Trevethan

Simple Prayer for Complex Times: The Gift of Christian Meditation

"It is important that even the smallest children learn to be still and not just to be quiet. It is in their stillness that God can speak to their hearts and they can discover the love of God...." Most Rev Michael E Putney Bishop of Townsville 2014

This session will explore Christian meditation as a form of prayer, its place in the Christian tradition, the importance of prayer and contemplation for our times. It will offer practical helps for getting started or deepening your own the practice, and also for introducing it to your students and staff.

Margaret is a catholic lay woman, married with children and grandchildren who has been a secondary school teacher, Parish Pastoral Associate, Adult Faith Educator and Campus Minister. She is a

trained Spiritual Director and currently leads retreats and formation experiences mostly in the Townsville Diocese in North Queensland. Marg has a Grad Dip Arts (Christian Leadership), a Master of Theology and a Master of Conflict Resolution and Management. She was a member of the pilot group that first introduced Christian Meditation into Townsville Diocese Catholic Schools in 2005.

Jodi Brook – LCA Grow Ministries

Tuesday 25th May 2.30pm ACST 3.00pm AEST

Rethinking Faith Formation

For many congregations and families (and perhaps Lutheran schools), sharing the Christian faith is an area of challenge. Culture and society have changed so much, raising many new questions, issues, and pressures. This is not about a new program or ideology, but instead remembering the ways God showed us to incorporate ministry into our everyday lives. We invite you to join us in rethinking faith formation ministry for a new age by exploring how we can develop healthy communities that help to create a culture that nurtures faith.

ALWS – Celia Fielke and Vicki Gollasch

Wednesday 26th May 1.00pm ACST 1.30pm AEST

How faith and spirituality in all its forms influences the way we learn, serve and nurture the well-being of self & others

Leah and Paul ‘Skip’ Smith

Tuesday 25th May 1.00pm ACST 1.30pm AEST

Alpha in the School Community

Equipping you to engage in transformative conversations about life, faith & meaning with your school community

Leah has been involved in education for almost 30 years. From classroom teacher to school leadership roles, she is currently the National Schools Director for Alpha

Skip is a National Church Engagement Specialist for Alpha with over 25 years of ministry experience

Dr Paul Whetham

Well-being & self-care... from a soul perspective!

Believe it or not psychology means 'study of the soul'! The aim of this workshop is to understand our challenging helping role in a post-Christian society and learn about burnout, impairment and self-care issues; explore mental health and wellbeing from a soul perspective; and, discover practical ways to set up soul support in your workplace and access relevant wellbeing materials through *Soul Food Café* (online mind & soul toolbox, books, workshops, skills training and soul support. For more information, visit www.soulfood.cafe).

*Dr Paul Whetham has over 30 years of clinical psychology experience and is passionate about the soul, burnout prevention and peer support. He is co-founder of Soul Food Café (www.soulfood.cafe) and The Soul Support Project which aims to set up intentional peer support in organisations and the community. Paul's research includes loneliness, sexual abuse and burnout prevention. He is a Fellow of the Australian Psychological Society's Clinical College and was previously the Director of the Masters in Counselling Program at UniSA. His books include: *The Soul Support Project* (2021); *Hard to be Holy* (Royal Commission Edition 2020); *Mind & Soul Travel Guides* (2018); *Year 11 and 12 Psychology Textbooks for South Australian and International Secondary Schools*.*