**LEA SERVICE AWARD**

Pastor Michael Alfson

**For service to Lutheran education**

**2003 – 2022**

The Lutheran Church of Australia thankfully acknowledges the faithful and committed service of Pastor Michael Alfson to Lutheran education for 20 years.

Pastor Michael started at Trinity Lutheran College in 2003 when he responded to a call to the then Trinity Lutheran Primary School as its school pastor. He brought with him joy and energy to the primary school community through staff formation and student chapels and worship services.

Pastor Michael worked closely with the pastors on the then secondary college to cater to the chaplaincy and pastoral support of the school and college communities. However, in 2009 upon the departure of the senior college pastor in response to a call, and the decline of the amalgamated P to Year 12 college due to the global financial crisis in 2008, Pastor Michael accepted the responsibility of providing chaplaincy support to the whole P to Year 12 college. This was a daunting and huge task for Pastor Michael. He has faithfully and enthusiastically built strong relationships with the older students, staff and parents on a high school campus while maintaining his ministry to the primary school campus.

Pastor Michael worked faithfully to support the students and staff daily by listening to their concerns and providing advice and re-directions to receive help. He has been a great sounding board for the college executive team members and has provided spiritual guidance in recruitment, policies and procedures. We value his input and collaborative and supportive approach to the work at the college.

The college is delighted that Pastor Michael has served the Lord well and is a wonderful and faithful servant to the Lord’s work of the gospel and ministry to His people.

Pastor Michael’s faithful and conscientious service to his Lord and the Lutheran Church of Australia, through his service in Lutheran education, has been outstanding and is humbly recognised through this award.