Final LEA news for 2016

Dear principals

This is the final edition of LEA news for 2016. While there are a number of significant matters to share, the LEA team wishes to initially acknowledge the commitment, courage and professionalism of all Lutheran early childhood service, school and college staff during this year. In particular, LEA thanks ECS directors and principals for your service, leadership and for making a difference in the lives of so many young people.

May God grant us all peace and light at this Christmas time and bless us wherever we may be in the future.

Stephen Rudolph

NAPLAN

On behalf of NLT, LEA has engaged Dr Juhani Tuovinen to prepare for each Lutheran school a NAPLAN longitudinal report (2008-2016). It is expected that each principal will receive their school’s NAPLAN report during March 2017. Reports will include your school’s longitudinal data in all NAPLAN categories together with a data comparison to:

- all Australian schools
- all LEA schools
- all state/territory schools (relevant to your school)

The report will also provide principals with the potential priority areas for focus. Please share this data with your staff and council as you deem appropriate. Regions will receive all school NAPLAN reports relevant to their region.

LEA National Ministry Conferences 2017

Theme: Relationships, Relationships, Relationships

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<tr>
<th>Conference</th>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Venue</th>
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<tr>
<td>LEQ</td>
<td>13-14 Feb 2017</td>
<td>Maroochy Waterfront, Sunshine Coast</td>
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<td>LSA</td>
<td>23-24 Feb 2017</td>
<td>St Michael’s Lutheran Church, Hahndorf</td>
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<td>LEVNT</td>
<td>04-05 May 2017</td>
<td>Holy Cross Centre, Templestowe</td>
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Principals, ECS, school and congregational pastors, chaplains, bishops, ALC and LCA leaders, district and local ministry coordinators and numerous other ministry personnel have been invited to attend one of these ministry conferences.

Financial support is available. Please access the conference details on the LEA website (www.lutheran.edu.au – follow the link on the front page) and bring your school and congregational ministry teams along.

Registrations are now open – click on the link below

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
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<tr>
<td>Queensland</td>
<td>13 Jan</td>
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<tr>
<td>South Australia</td>
<td>10 Feb</td>
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<td>Victoria</td>
<td>21 Apr</td>
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LEA tours

In discussions with LPA leadership it has been decided to proceed with the following tours for 2017 and 2018, subject to numbers.

2017: LEA / LCA International Mission tour to Indonesia
26-31 March 2017

This tour is for a variety of Lutheran school staff (eg, principals, community service leaders, pastors / chaplains, teachers of Indonesian) who will visit a number of Indonesian Lutheran schools. Tour leaders will include Ridwin Purba (LWF National...
Committee, Indonesia), Dr Neville Highett, Ms Kaye Mathwin-Cox and Nevin Nitschke (LCA International Mission).

LEA is seeking registrations of interest from between 5-10 people for this tour to proceed. Please email lea@lutheran.edu.au with details of your school’s nominee/s. **Financial assistance will be available to tour participants of up to $1500 per person.** There will be opportunities to find out about and see Australian – Indonesian Lutheran schools in partnership during the tour.

### 2018: LEA /LPA Lutherlands Germany Study Tour

**Arrive Neuendettelsau, Germany Saturday 23 June 2018**  
**Depart Thursday 5 July 2018 (tbc)**

This tour, having been successfully run in 2011 and 2014, will be led by Rev Dr Traugott Farnbacher as well as Rev Werner and Mrs Leisel Strauss, together with LEA / LPA tour leaders. The tour focusses on the history and locations of the Protestant Reformation, where Martin Luther lived, studied and preached, as well as numerous German cities, cathedrals and highlights. Costs for the 2014 tour were $1860 per participant plus travel. Registrations of interest will be sought after ACLE5 has concluded in July 2017. Numerous principals have participated in this tour – please speak to them about this experience.

### GCC / LEA Lutheran education governance and administration review

On behalf of General Church Council (GCC), the Dialogue Group, Dr Maureen Cleary (review facilitator) and Peter Schirmer (LCA Executive Officer) have circulated a full report and an overview report (which is a stand-alone summary of the full report) which summarise the results of the schools surveys sent out for completion by:

- chairs of congregation councils that have a school, chairs of school boards, and principals of schools  
- regional school councils

In 2017 there will be three GCC / LEA Dialogue events as follows:

- **Saturday 22 April 2017:** Mercure Melbourne Treasury Gardens  
- **Saturday 29 April 2017:** Mercure Brisbane  
- **Saturday 6 May 2017:** Mercure Grosvenor Hotel Adelaide

BLEA, LEA and NLT warmly encourages your attendance.

### LEA office

The LEA office will close for the Christmas / new year break on Friday 16 December 2017, and open in the new year on Monday 16 January 2018. For people requiring assistance with transfers / removalists due to shifting between Lutheran schools, please contact Stephen Kroker (0438 856 441) for support over this time.

### LEA acknowledgement

LEA wishes to thank the following principals who have led in Lutheran schools and who are concluding or have concluded their service as principal in 2017:

- Ruth Butler  
- David Spike  
- Jeff Gork  
- Anthony Mueller  
- Adrian Wiles  
- Andrew Messenger  
- Andrew Boesch  
- Julian Denholm  
- Mark Doecke  
- Steven Seidel

### LEA service retirement awards

Thank you to the many principals and Lutheran schools for forwarding to LEA your 2016 LEA service retirement award nominees. At various end-of-year ceremonies, these have been or will be presented to the following 29 people who have served Lutheran for 20 years or more (totalling 802 years):
LEA wishes to congratulate:

- **Don Walkley**, LEVNT Interim Assistant Director, on his appointment as Principal, St Paul’s College, Walla Walla NSW, from 2017.
- **Paul Familari** on his appointment as Principal, Sunshine Christian School, Sunshine Vic, from 2017.

**Schools 500 Reformation**

The final planning meeting of the Schools500Reformation will be held in Amsterdam from 14-17 December 2016. The LEA Executive Director is the Australian representative at this meeting with representatives of Lutheran education from across the world in attendance. Two previous meetings have been held. Dr Bronwyn Dolling, Principal, Pacific Lutheran College Qld, attended an earlier conference in 2015 with Stephen.

The final meeting of the Schools500Reformation group will endeavour to send out a communique outlining ways in which Lutheran (and Protestant) schools plan to celebrate the 500th Jubilee Anniversary of the Reformation during 2017.

The Australian celebration for Lutheran ECSs and schools will culminate at ACLE5 in July 2017 in the Adelaide Convention Centre. It is planned that a Lutheran earthcare charter will be available to ACLE5 delegates and all in Australian Lutheran education at this time.

Rev Dr Norm Habel and Stephen will be providing opportunities in early 2017 for interested principals and school staff to have input into the earthcare charter. Each region will host A day with Norm in term 1 2017. More information early in 2017.

**ACLE 5 registrations now open**

The Australian Conference on Lutheran Education (ACLE) is rapidly approaching.

We are wanting to establish a database of representatives from each school that can be sent information on the ACLE Conference and disperse it to your staff.

If you have not already done so, can you please nominate a representative (or two) from your school who can added to the database. Please email these names to lisa.beckham@aomevents.com

**Staff devotion project 2017**

Lutheran education is blessed with creative staff across Australia who inspire their communities each week through staff devotions. In 2017, LEA would like to invite schools and early childhood services to participate in a staff devotion project which would involve 40 schools or early childhood services in providing staff devotions that will be made available to schools or early childhood services through the LEA website (one school or early childhood service provides for each week of the school year).

Ideally it would be great if the devotions could be linked to an aspect of Growing deep but don’t let this prevent you from volunteering. The devotions would only need to be submitted two weeks in advance of your nominated week in 2017. Please volunteer.
your creative devotion leaders today at anne.dohnt@lutheran.edu.au and indicate which week in 2017 your school or early childhood service will be providing devotions, eg, Redeemer Lutheran College, Biloela Qld, will provide devotions for term 1 week 3. Let’s collaborate on a Lutheran education devotion calendar, sharing your community’s creativity and faith to inspire others. Please don’t hesitate to ring if you have any questions. (Anne Dohnt 08 8267 7318)

**Growing deep grants**

The *Growing deep* grants was the idea of Vicki Schilling in LEVNT and is designed to enable the development of resources and applications for *Growing deep* by schools for schools. The following schools have been given grants for the development of resources and applications for *Growing deep*.

- Trinity Lutheran College, Ashmore Qld: Professional renewal document drawing upon *Growing deep* and AITSL
- Pacific Lutheran College, Caloundra Qld: Development of a range of documentation around teaching and learning and role statements, series of devotions based on *Growing deep*
- Navigator College, Port Lincoln SA: Develop survey tools to collect data to improve professional learning
- Barossa and region Lutheran education: teacher appraisal tool

The resources and applications developed with the use of the grant money will be made available to all schools and early childhood services through the *Growing deep* website. We still have some grant money available should you wish to put in an application. Perhaps a couple of teachers could be released to write a retreat day to begin the school year on an aspect of *Growing deep*. This retreat plan could be used by other schools or early childhood services. Please visit the link below:

http://host2.lca.org.au/~growingdeep/home/grant-application/

**Growing deep resourcing**

At the end of this week there will be new videos on the *Growing deep* website. The videos feature LEQ leaders sharing their perspectives about the ways *Growing deep* could be used in their community. Don’t forget to visit the site regularly to view the latest resources.

http://host2.lca.org.au/~growingdeep/

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**LEA Director of Research and Development**

[Kaye Mathwin-Cox]

**GIF (Growing and Improving Framework)**

The second GIF (Growing and Improving Framework) writing days have taken place and the first draft of the GIF will be ready to send to interested schools for consultation shortly. It is hoped that the initial draft document will enable ‘pilot’ schools to work with their staff and leadership teams and give feedback on the document before the next phase of writing occurs. These ‘pilot’ schools will, in the first instance, be the writing teams and their prospective schools, however, if any other school is interested in engaging with the document (knowing this is a draft document only) please contact LEA. We are keen to gain feedback from schools interested in using such a document throughout the process.

LEA wishes to thank the GIF writing teams, consisting of Cheryl Bartel, Peter Weier, Julian Denholm, Jenni Krenske, Dennis Mulherin, Phil Hulland, Thomas Brennan, Rachel Boyce, Paula Skinner and Anne Dohnt for participating in phase one of the writing process, as well as Michael Kleidon and Shane Jurecky for offering support and feedback. It is very important that Lutheran leaders are engaged in the writing and feedback process in order to meet the needs of our schools.

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**LEA Business Manager**

[Stephen Kroker]

**LEA Transfer Fund**

If your school is a member of the Transfer Fund and have appointed staff who will need to move to take up their position, please contact the LEA national office by Friday, 9 December 2016 to ensure their removal is arranged in a timely manner.

**LEA Sick Leave Emergency Fund (SLEF)**

School business managers and bursars please note: The payout rate has been declared for claims for schools that are members of the Sick Leave Emergency Fund.
Claims for 2016 will be paid at $360 per day. The claim form is now available on the LEA website. Click here to access

LEA news

2016 student attendance data published on My School
[23 November 2016]
Today ACARA has updated the My School website with 2016 Semester 1 student attendance data. The update includes the measure introduced in 2015: the proportion of students attending school 90 per cent or more of the time. Attendance data is reported for each school as ‘all students’, ‘Indigenous students’ and ‘non-Indigenous students’. Data will be suppressed where student numbers are less than, or equal to, five students.

Attendance data reporting is a COAG (Council of Australian Governments) initiative to help improve learning outcomes for all students by monitoring their attendance. ACARA reports student attendance data on My School twice a year, first for Semester 1 (Term 1 and 2), and then for Term 3. Student attendance rates for Term 3 will be released in a separate update on 14 December 2016.

Also being updated today are 2015 data for senior secondary outcomes and VET in schools. Find these data on the sidebar menu on each school's page of the My School website. These data are being released earlier than in previous years in a move towards the progressive publication of data; we are publishing this information once it becomes available rather than waiting until March next year.

Game changing resource helps reduce maths anxiety for Aussie kids: Primary school students show 34% improvement in maths scores
[21 November 2016]
A recent research report has found Matific, a new mathematics resource that is aligned to the Australian Curriculum, helped increase Australian students’ maths test results by 34 per cent, reduce maths anxiety and make learning maths fun for primary schoolers. The report was completed by leading researcher, Associate Professor Catherine Attard, Centre for Educational Research from Western Sydney University, who studied eight different schools to understand the effect an e-learning tool such as Matific could have on maths learning and engagement in primary schools. Further information is available at: https://www.matific.com/us/en-us

AITSL eNews
[November 2016]
The latest AITSL eNews includes information on:

• New induction resources for school leaders
• Partnership with Evidence for Learning
• My Induction app for beginning teachers
• Preparing to lead
• Leadership scenarios
• Reading list: collaborative leadership in schools

Read the full newsletter

ACLE 5
Australian Conference on Lutheran Education
5-7 July 2017

People Planet Purpose
Reformation starts with us