

September 2011



From the  
President:



### A Fitting Way To Celebrate

We celebrate lots of things. We celebrate birthdays, engagements, births, passing exams, getting a job, getting married, anniversaries, winning the footy – in fact any achievement at all that

we feel good about – we celebrate.

And we celebrate not only for different reasons, but also in lots of different ways. We celebrate with others – sometimes with a lot of people, sometimes with just a few. We celebrate in homes, in halls, in restaurants, in gardens. We can celebrate with food and drink and music.

We can also celebrate by going to the theatre, or by visiting a friend, or by going away for the weekend. We can celebrate

### Gifts from the LLL

In celebration of 90 years of service to the Lutheran Church and in thanks to God for the wonderful blessings that he has showered on the Lutheran Laypeople's League (LLL) and the Church over those 90 years, the LLL has given \$25,000 to the NSW District to assist with the implementation of the LCA Strategic Initiatives. They have also provided a \$20,000 'Mission Stimulus Grant' to be awarded to a nominated congregational project in the NSW District.

Details of this grant and how to apply will soon be sent to congregations and pastors.

The NSW District has benefited greatly from the various initiatives of the LLL over the years, including the 5% grants from depositors' non-interest-bearing deposits. See back page on how you can support the District and District projects through the LLL. A very sincere thank you to the LLL for their continued support of our District.

Lutheran Church of Australia  
New South Wales District

# Contact

NEWSLETTER

[www.lcansw.org.au](http://www.lcansw.org.au)

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quietly without many people knowing about it, or we can do it by putting an advertisement in the paper and telling the world about our joy.

The way we celebrate depends on the kind of person we are, what we're celebrating, and how big a celebration we want. We determine what is fitting for the occasion and plan accordingly.

*God is the centre of  
our celebrations*

Celebration isn't restricted to secular events though. We Christians celebrate too. We can celebrate just about anything that anyone else does, and we've got a few more things that we can add to the list too.

In a very general way we could say that we celebrate our being with God, our relationship with him. We celebrate his coming to us and his promises and blessings for us.

We celebrate God being with us and in us and for us. We celebrate the fact that we're part of his body, his family, and that we have the assurance of the forgiveness of sins and the promise of eternal life.

But how do we do this? How do we celebrate? Well, the very fact that we call our worship a time of celebration ought to be a bit of a clue as to what we can do. Worship is celebration. It's a time in which we come before God to receive from him, to hear from him, to be declared forgiven by him, to be fed by him, to be strengthened and enriched and renewed and refreshed through his Word and Sacraments.

The centre of our Christian celebration then, is not our action; it's not our giving thanks; it's not even our

prayer or praise of God. Those things are important – in fact they're vital. If we didn't respond in prayer, praise and thanksgiving, there wouldn't be much of a celebration.

But they're not number one. In fact we can only be involved in doing these things after we've heard and experienced God's Word – God in action, coming to us to empower us to respond.

The most important part of our celebrating as Christians then, involves us listening to what God has to say to us and receiving what he has to offer. We need to hear him saying: "This is what I've done for you in the past. This is what I'm continuing to do for you now. And this is what I plan to do in you and through you in the future."

We hear him saying those things to us when we read his Word. His Word is central. And it's much more than us just hearing stories about God – its God himself coming to each of us. It's much more than us hearing about the forgiveness Jesus won for us on the cross – it's Jesus again declaring we are forgiven. And it's much more than us hearing about the

*(Continued on page 2)*

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## A Fitting Way to Celebrate

(Continued from page 1)

Holy Spirit's desire to work in us – it's the Spirit actively stirring us up and equipping us for ministry and service.

God is the centre of our celebrations. If that isn't the case, our celebrations will centre on us and on our achievements. And that creates all kinds of problems. When we ignore God, we focus on individuals and on their efforts. We acknowledge some and miss out on others. We remember the big and noticeable contributions, but may not acknowledge the behind the scenes work that many others do.

When our actions come to the forefront, there can be rivalry and jealousy. We can look for opportunities to do one better than the next person. Instead of encouraging and supporting each other, there can be coldness and a spirit of individuality. And all this does nothing but hinder and even destroy the work of the Gospel.

God is the centre of our celebrations. All Christian celebrations centre on God's actions, his gifts, his blessings.

We celebrate God with us, God in us, God for us.

That's the first step for us having a good celebration in the church. But there's also a part that we play. There's a reaction that we give to all that God has done. It's secondary. It can only come after what God has done. But it comes, and needs to come for the celebration to be complete.

Being part of a celebration means that we respond to what God does. God has given us so much that when we come to appreciate his gifts, we can't help but show our gratitude and praise. We respond, we react, in prayer, praise and thanksgiving.

And this goes much further than our response in our corporate worship times. Our prayer, praise and thanksgiving is also our response in our daily devotional times, as we serve our families, as we carry out our daily work, as we interact with those around us and as we face the challenges and struggles of life.

God, in and through his son, Jesus, comes to us and enables us to reflect his love and grace in our lives – in

## Calls

- Pastor Rob Paech, Everton Hills, Qld, has declined the call to the Immanuel, Woden Valley congregation.
- Pastor Tim Koch, Murray Bridge, SA, has declined the call to the Gilgandra/Dubbo Parish.
- Pastor Andrew Koehler has received the call to the Gilgandra/Dubbo Parish.
- Pastor Adrian Kitson, Bunbury has declined the call to Good Shepherd Congregation, Tuggeranong.

## Installation

- Pastor Janne Pekkarinen was installed at the Holy Cross Finnish Congregation, Canberra on Sunday 4 September.

whatever situation we find ourselves in. His initiative in establishing a relationship with us, his ongoing action in our lives, his commitment to continue to work in us and through us gives us what we need to live, serve and grow as his people.

Pr Mark Lieschke

## 'Free to be Christ-Like' (from NSW District President, Pr Mark Lieschke, Synod Sermon)

'We've been rescued so that we can use our freedom to serve the people about us. We are freed from having to worry about ourselves and our future, so that we can concentrate on and be concerned about the needs and welfare of others.'

'God has rescued us through Christ, so that we can use our freedom, so that we can serve others. We're free to be able to make decisions and select choices with the best interests of other people in mind.'

'When we're not sure how to use our Christian freedom, when we don't know what's best for ourselves or others around us, when we don't know the best way to respond in every situation we face, when we don't have all the right answers, God in Christ comes to us with his counsel and direction. He remains committed to us.'

## Safe Church

As we approach the 'season' of Annual General meetings in congregations, I would remind congregational leaders that the implementation of the application and screening process for volunteers is required.

Required forms are available on the NSW District website: [www.lcansw.org.au/childsaf](http://www.lcansw.org.au/childsaf)

The first two forms: 'Working with Children/Youth application form' and 'NSW Government Volunteer/Student Declaration' are essential for **ALL** people who are involved with any ministries to children/young people.

Congregations are also encouraged to be using the other forms in their planning of programs, including registration of participants. These forms can be used as guidelines for ministry programs other than children/youth programs as

the same principles apply to all groups within congregational life.

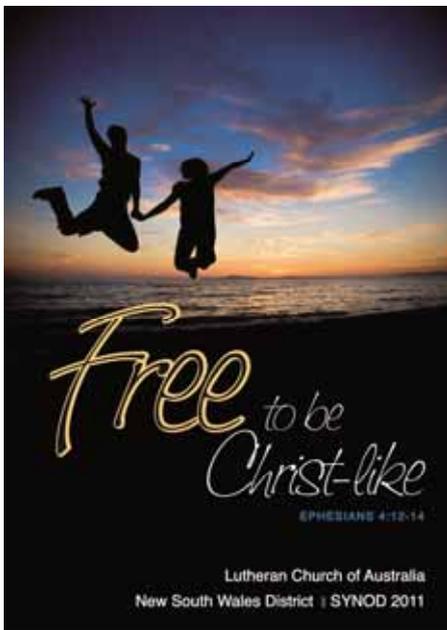
Congregations that have not yet undertaken Safe Church training are encouraged to make contact with the District office to organise a workshop.

It is important that congregation/parish leaders attend the training also, it is not just for those working with children.

May God continue to bless the many ministries that are carried out in this District and that all of you who serve your congregations are blessed in your service. May we together undertake to provide a Safe Church for all, spiritually, emotionally and physically.

In His Service,

**Carolyn Kiss**, NSW District Safe Place Manager.



# Small doesn't mean powerless: NSW Synod challenged to embrace freedom in Christ

by Joanne Knobel

'If Christ is alive in us, so what?', 'What will I do with my freedom?', 'Will I choose to live a life of Christ-likeness?', 'How can I do that?'

Probably the youngest-ever keynote speaker at a District Convention, 25-year-old Jim noted that he had heard the word 'small' used frequently at the New South Wales Pastors Conference and at Convention. 'I've heard people saying, "We're only small; the LCA is a small church; we're a small District ...". Christ has made each one of you free, and each one of you is no bigger and no smaller than anyone else. You can do whatever Christ has called you to do.

'Therefore, with respect to mission, it makes no difference how large or small your church or district is. The only question you have to ask yourself, ever, is "What are the gifts God has given to me?"'

For the past six months Jim has prayed the Lord's Prayer every morning and night, and at the end of each day he records how God has answered his prayer. 'Jesus teaches us how to pray about the essential things. Jesus' prayer is the true model of what we are to ask for, and how to centre our worship', he said.

Pastor Lieschke shared, 'We are not only freed **from** something, we are also freed **for** something. We are freed to serve. We are free so that we can be obedient to the Great Commission, free to be faithful to God's call on our lives, free to be generous with our

love, free to grow as disciples, free to be challenged to do new things, free to be able to commit ourselves to do the hard yards in ministry and free to be open to accountability. We are free to be Christlike.'

Delegate Colin Bahr from Milbrulong was inspired by the speakers. 'They are really great. We're not doing a lot of business, which I think is a good change from the past. Our table discussions are wonderful; it's great to be around



Pastor Don Schiemann President, Alberta-British Columbia District Lutheran Church Canada and NSW District President, Pr Mark Lieschke

**'It would be quite inspiring if the leaders of our LCA could illustrate our Convention theme by imitating the actions of the two people on the logo', who were jumping into the air, arms reaching for the sky.**

This is how New South Wales District President Pr Mark Lieschke commenced his opening remarks at the Convention of Synod held 12-14 August in Henty. The next day, visiting LCA guests did exactly that - and there's a photo to prove it! What a demonstration of Christian freedom!



"Leap of Faith": EOC, Trevor Ruthenberg; LCA President, Pastor Mike Semmler; LLL CEO, Allen Kupke; Board for Mission Project Officer, Glenice Hartwich.

Developing the Convention theme 'Free to be Christlike', Pastor Lieschke and subsequent speakers challenged delegates to see that their freedom as God's people sits right at the heart of Christian life.

Synod guest Pastor Don Schiemann (President of the Alberta British Columbia District of Lutheran Church-Canada) and Brisbane school chaplain Jim Schirmer encouraged Synod to consider the difference freedom in Christ makes:

other inspired people, so we can spread the good news.

'I am very inspired. The challenge is to not lose it when you walk out the door.'

Debbie Wenke from Walla Walla, attending her first Synod, added 'This is nothing like what I expected. I wish more people would have come. I have met people who live near me whom I never knew. It's also fantastic to see that we are partners in a big organisation [the LCA] that's doing awesome things.'

As the business of Synod took place, motions were discussed, LCA and District ministries presented their work and people talked among themselves, there was an air of excitement and expectation.

'The NSW District faces some challenges - declining membership, an aging population and some financial burdens', Gerogery delegate Simon Wilksch noted. 'But it has become clear that if we work together, live in God's grace and abide in His freedom, then as people of the church we will be empowered to further God's kingdom.'



Table discussions at synod

# More Synod Photos



One of the many beautiful flower arrangements at synod.



People at synod session



St Paul's, Henty



Three Presidents: Pastor Mike Semmler, LCA President; Pastor Mark Lieschke, NSW District President; and Pastor Don Schiemann, President, Alberta-British Columbia District Lutheran Church Canada



The 'five Marks' at synod - Doecke, Schultz, Lieschke, Welke & Simpfendorfer

## Synod farewells Brian Elliott - by Joanne Knobel

**Guiding people through the process of resolving end-of-life issues sits at the heart of Brian Elliott, recently retired chief executive officer of Lutheran Aged Care Albury.**

'Spirituality is where all things flow from', he told NSW Convention of Synod delegates, meeting in Henty, 12-14 August. 'Many people that come to our facility don't realise that, but through good pastoral support we see people coming to a better understanding, and that's what sets us apart from other institutions.'

Delegates took time during the Convention dinner to formally thank and farewell the much-loved and respected CEO, who retired in December last year. They also formally welcomed new CEO Wendy Rocks to the position.

'People are afraid of ageing', Brian said. 'Most people fight it, but if they were more accepting that it's just part of the circle of life and embrace the many resources available, they wouldn't be so worried.'

Brian joined Lutheran Aged Care Albury 16 years ago. Coming from edu-

cation and senior administration positions, he already knew how to manage people. In his role as CEO at any one time he was responsible for around 300 staff.

'It took me a long time to settle into the position', he reflected. 'A lot of growth and development of programs was happening at that time, as the industry realised they needed to look towards the growing aging population. But it was an exciting time.'

Brian believes that if you set up a culture to 'come to work to work', as well as provide them with support and understanding, your staff will be very loyal.

'Yes it is all about team. Running an organisation of that size with many different staff dynamics, you need to understand your people. But at the helm of every team is a driver and that's what I liked the most: steering people and projects to the very best they could be.'

Brian said that the most important lesson he learnt during his time at Lutheran Aged Care Albury was humility. 'It's not all about you. We need to see things through the eyes of



Brian Elliott, former CEO of Albury Aged Care (with wife, Sue) was thanked for his 16 years of faithful service.

Jesus and understand that we are only where we are because of Him.'

Since his retirement Brian and his wife Sue have taken several trips, enjoying a more relaxed time together. However, Brian adds, 'I still have so much more to give and now I work part-time as an aged care consultant.'

God has blessed me and directed my path. He has opened up doors and grown me beyond what I ever dreamt possible.'

## Pastor Janne Pekkarinen

Sunday 4 September was a special day for the Holy Trinity Finnish Lutheran Church in Canberra. The congregation welcomed Pastor Janne and Helena Pekkarinen and their children, Simeon, Hildamari and Liinakaisa into their church family. Pastor Janne was installed as their pastor.

Before Pastor Janne was ordained he studied economics and worked in business and marketing. He studied theology at the University of Helsinki, graduated in 2000, and served as pastor of the Munkkivuori congregation in Helsinki – mostly working with children and families.

The family moved to Canberra in August and are looking forward to settling into what will be a very different environment from what they were used to.

Pastors Tommi Vuorinen (Brisbane) and Jorma Jormakka (Melbourne) assisted at the installation service, at which Pastor Mark Lieschke preached and conducted the rite of installation. He said that Pastor Janne would have

the privilege of announcing the good news of Jesus to his congregation each week. Because of Jesus serving them, loving them, forgiving them, coming to them and sharing his body and blood with them, they will be released from the burden of their sin and find real peace and rest in him.



## Pastor Fred Veerhuis

Pastor Fred Veerhuis was installed at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Campbelltown on Sunday 26 June. The congregation members and visitors present thanked God for bringing pastor and people together in a relationship that had begun some months before.



Pastor Fred had been serving in the congregation during the vacancy that had come about after Pastor Andrew Schultz had accepted a call from there late in 2010. Pastor Fred had been on Leave of Absence and was considering a return to pastoral ministry in a congregation. Members of Good Shepherd congregation were very happy that he worked with them during their vacancy.

After a time of looking for God's direction, they called Pastor Fred and, after a time of looking for God's direction, Pastor Fred accepted the call.

Pastor Fred and Rose have now moved to Campbelltown and are continuing to build relationships with the people there so that the body of Christ in that place can be an ongoing positive influence to the people in that community.

In his sermon at the installation service, Pastor Mark Lieschke said that God's way of communication went beyond words. It extended to his incarnation – the Word becoming flesh: Jesus Christ, true God becoming a human being.

"At the heart of the Gospel and its communication, is the incarnation" he said; "and that's the key to our effective communication of God's love today – our putting flesh on the words we speak".

Because of God's commitment to his people through Jesus, we can have confidence that the ministry of pastor and people working together in Campbelltown will be one of "words in action".

## ALWS - Life in a Refugee Camp



The worst drought in 60 years has put millions at risk. Families are walking 1000kms from Somalia to seek safety at refugee camps in Kenya. Already the world's largest refugee camp, Dadaab Camp is now home to over 400,000 people with hundreds more arriving every day.



Images: Paul Jeffrey/actalliance  
Words: Paul Jeffrey/actalliance & ALWS

At the camp's reception centre, a newly arrived Somali boy gets a wrist band placed on his arm. The wrist band identifies his status as a refugee who has been received but not yet officially recognized.



Members of a newly arrived Somali family carry a bag of corn provided as part of the fortnightly rations they receive.



Anne Wangari (left), the Dadaab refugee assistance project coordinator for the Lutheran World Federation escorts a Somali family to their new tent. Dadaab Camp is managed by a Lutheran team (Lutheran World Federation). They must think of everything from food, water and shelter, to healthcare, education, and security.

**Good news: More than \$350,000 has been donated to the ALWS appeal in just three weeks. Thank you!**

# Warrambui NEWS

Retreat & Conference Centre

322 Greenwood Road Murrumbateman NSW 2582

P: 02 6220 1000 F: 02 62201001 E: office@warrambui.com.au



**Russell Veerhuis**, Director

## Warrambui Evolving & Supported

As Warrambui evolves, we now have three solid independent facilities. The Village Conference Centre, The Dome and The Retreat Hut. We now have 189 beds onsite.

The Retreat Hut is an incredible resource for those who need timeout from the busy demands of life and especially ministry. There have been many improvements added to make staying here more cosy and comfortable. We are currently looking to add solar power for the lighting and fridge. Please encourage your pastors and those in ministry at your church to take the opportunity to have time out and reflect. The Retreat Hut still operates by donation only.

The Village Conference Centre continues to surprise us with its usage. We are running more and more groups looking for retreats for 130-180 students. This has been a huge growth area for Warrambui and one that was not catered for in any initial marketing plans. Presently we are adding a playground and implementing family pricing to make it more family friendly.

The Dome & Cube - our new teachers accommodation has been named "The Cube". It is already opening up many new markets Thank you for so many donations and prayer support. Please continue to pray and or donate.

At Synod Graham Lieschke, Dale Cunningham and Pastor Tom Peitsch stepped down from serving on the board. Graham Lieschke has faithfully served for over 32 years in which time he has held just about every position on the board. Dale Cunningham retires after 6 years of service as our board secretary. Pastor Tom Peitsch brought a lot of wisdom and experience to the Warrambui board from his experience in similar roles in Victoria. We thank God for the efforts of these men, their service and for the support of their families that allowed them to serve.

We are currently advertising for 2012 Interns. If you know someone who might benefit from a Warrambui internship please talk with and encourage them, to contact Dallan Lieschke, the Intern Coordinator, at the Warrambui office. Alternatively, contact our office and pass the information on to them yourself.

One of my key passions at Warrambui is seeing young people get passionate about their God and also seeing the interns dig in and get passionate about their faith so that they can impact their world and their communities.

Warrambui and NSW are unique with the overwhelmingly full support of the entire district and everyone in it. Other campsites from varying denominations are either backed by one or a few churches or a school and I am not aware of any other similar facility having support as we do. Much of this is because so many of us have had some tangible interest and experience at Warrambui. We wish to say a huge thank you to all those who uphold this place and the ministry here in prayer. The encouragement, work camps or projects, youth camps and especially your prayers are very much felt. Further to this a huge amount of people are also donating their interest from their LLL accounts. The LLL is offering an extra quarter percent interest if people donate their interest to a particular ministry. Please keep Warrambui in mind as you consider your options.



**Dallan Lieschke**, Intern Coordinator

**Check It  
Out !!!**

If you grew up in (Australia), it's no wonder you'd have a hard time getting comfortable with identifying your purpose.

In our schools, we emphasize getting a well rounded education and having a lot of interesting experiences...

The mantra of culture seems to be: prepare for everything to improve your odds of finding something.

Rather than stating a clear mission, it encourages us simply to wear clean underwear and keep our fingers crossed. You never know when opportunity may knock.

Catalyst Groupzine  
Volume 1

Finding Your Purpose and Calling  
by Ben Ortlip.

In our country we have so many options and possibilities available to us in life.

We can easily find ourselves fumbling through life...

In work, relationships, with God...especially as school leavers and young adults discovering the big wide world.

Part of Warrambui Internships is including time for Interns to seek God's unique purpose on their life. But the year in itself is also time to build the firm foundation of that purpose - our relationship with Jesus!

**An opportunity  
like no other !!!**

Whoever serves me must follow me; and where I am, my servant also will be.  
My Father will honour the one who serves me - John 12:26

**Warrambui  
Internships**

**2012**



**Applications close Friday 30th September**

**Warrambui Internships** are offered each year for 12 months, for up to six young people to come and serve, grow, and be disciplined, at Warrambui Retreat & Conference Centre just outside of Canberra.

The Internship Program is all about creating a movement of young people who are committed to following Jesus and serving him with their whole lives!



SO... If you're **aged 18-24**, and want to know more, contact **Dallan Lieschke (Intern Coordinator)** for an information pack.  
Phone: (02) 6220 1000 Fax (02) 6220 1001 or Email: [internship@warrambui.com.au](mailto:internship@warrambui.com.au)

# Intern Interests

## Retreats 2011

Each year the Interns along with Dallan have the opportunity to take three retreats. Our first retreat at Kangaroo Valley focused on getting to know each other through talking about our hopes and expectations for the year.

Since then we've entered the difficult and frustrating stages of understanding each other's differences. Whilst this was a more trying time of the year, we've come out accepting and loving each other – individual creations of God.

Our second retreat in July, at Katoomba, really helped to seal us as a team and work out the few remaining kinks in our abilities as a team. Friday night saw us learning about worship from Louie Giglio followed by an intense worship session. Here we experienced different forms of worship through reading the Bible, prayer and confession. We spent Saturday morning studying patience, the Prince of Peace and stress. Saturday afternoon we 'digested': reviewing and brainstorming ways to be practical with what we had heard during Hillsong Conference. (NB: Dallan was a little bit sick Saturday night, but was REALLY sick on Sunday. We felt for our fearless leader trapped in bed but continued on with the program regardless). Hence, on Sunday we spent time together as just interns – firstly completing mid-year review forms and secondly immersing ourselves in a vigorous four hour Killer Bunnies game.

My personal highlight of retreat was the Sunday night activity where we critically analysed the year so far, answered tough questions that took us below surface level and personally affirmed each other. Dallan, still riddled with fever left us once again which allowed us to be more forthcoming and open with our opinions.

Since retreat we have continued to grow in strength as a team and individual perspectives.

Peace, Brianna Beach



BB, 2011 Intern

## Hillsong 2011

Hi everyone!

During the first week of July, the interns and Dallan travelled up to Sydney for the annual Hillsong Conference.

Each early morning we took the 20 min train trip into Central Station and walked to Darling Harbour where the Conference was being held. There was excitement and new things to learn each day as we listened to a variety of well-known speakers such as Jentzen Franklin, John Maxwell, Priscilla Shirer, Nicky Gumble, and the founders of Hillsong, Brian and Bobbie Houston.

The worship team was spectacular and it was an amazing experience to be able to worship with literally hundreds of other people.

As it was also the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary, the Conference ended with a trip down memory lane, playing all our old favourites, thanking Brian and Bobbie for all they've done, but mostly praising God for the work He has done through Hillsong.

Overall, it was an unforgettable trip and we all came back to Bui up lifted and stimulated to continue God's call in our lives.



Kerri, 2011 Intern

# "The Cube"



5 en-suited rooms

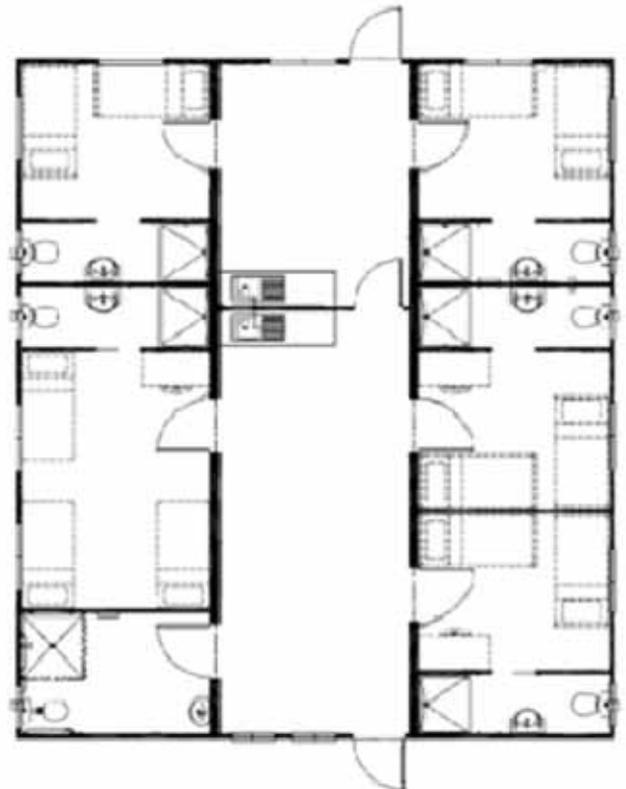
2 lounge rooms

11 beds

Able to be separated into front and back halves - allowing Staff to operate comfortably without pushing the limits of duty of care.

We have raised over \$196,000 towards The Dome improvement.

Final costs are looking to be \$217,000.



See TPM pages for more information !!!

## YOUTH & FAMILY MINISTRY NEWS

### Board Member Profile



Hello, My name is Jason Sander and I am the chairperson of the TPM board. I am married to Jenni and have two children with another on the way. I currently live in Belrose on the Northern Beaches of Sydney and I am the pastor of Redeemer Narraweena

(Sydney's Northern Beaches) and St Paul's Sydney (in the CBD). I have been in Sydney for about 4 months after living in Tuggeranong (ACT) for 4 years.

I have been involved in youth programs ever since I was old enough to go to youth. Since having children I have also started to take more interest in children's family ministry. I also have a passion for music ministry and I play guitar.

I grew up in South Australia in a town named Gawler which is about 40 km's north of Adelaide. In 2002 I started at ALC and was ordained in 2006.

As I look back on my faith development as a child and teenager there were many people who were pivotal in my faith journey; foremost my family, including my grandparents, secondly people from my local congregation (including my pastors) and thirdly friends I made in wider Lutheran youth circles.

For me it was the relationships I had with people who displayed a faith in Jesus that nurtured my faith. So don't be afraid to encourage young people in their faith!

Many Blessings, *Jason Sander*



It is not what you and I do...  
It is what God is doing, and he is creating something totally new, a free life! All who walk by this standard are his chosen people.  
Peace and mercy on them!  
Galatians 6:15-16

### Spring Blessing

### CONTACT US!!

**We would love to hear from you!  
No matter what age you are.**

**Please email us:  
Past or Future news  
Faith Five Stories?**

**What's going on in your  
congregations.**

**Prayer points.**

**What you would love to hear  
about?**

**Your stories - Favourite Books,  
Music or Movie Reviews**

**[tpmnews@nsw.lca.org.au](mailto:tpmnews@nsw.lca.org.au)**

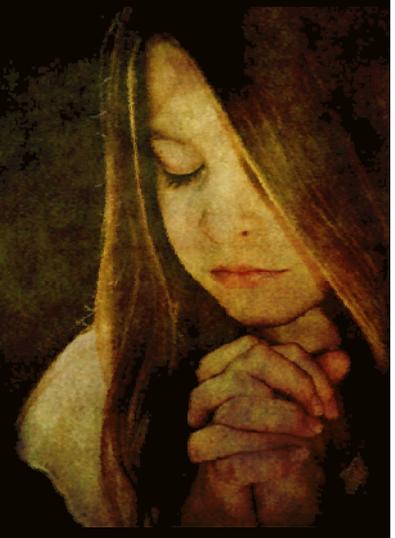
### Please pray for:

#### PRAISE:

- For the blessings that God continues to pour into his churches in the world - finance, amazing people...
- That the Better Blokes and Sisterhood weekend went so well and that many lives were changed and reignited.

#### PRAY:

- The congregations struggling without a pastor and to provide a peace about God's timing.
- For the up coming camps - Crave, New Heights and Back2Base.
- That God continues to grow and support all our church families in all their different shapes.



**Life changing and rewarding.**

**Inspiring, challenging, grace led.**

**Multiple challenges from God, multiple blessings helped me to find the tools to come to terms and deal with many of my issues.**

Better Blokes 2011. One might say that "what happens at camp, stays at camp," but I think it only fair to let you know a little of what you were missing out on. June long weekend. Warrambui. This year we were blessed to welcome back Ian "Watto" Watson, a mighty son of the King and champion with a big heart and a bigger passion for seeing God's power transform and work in the lives of men.

Joining his brother in arms, Peter Janetzki entered the fray all guns blazing, holding nothing back. Brutal efficiency and frank honesty ensured conversation went real deep real fast, getting to the real heart of men and allowing God to do His work. Over the course of the weekend there was plenty of time to work, rest and play. God gives us the gift of work, and we were blessed to be given the opportunity to serve, to get outside, get dirty, get stuff done, and rub shoulders with the young and young at heart, and spend time with old friends and friends not yet met.

As usual, the venue, service and victuals at Warrambui were of the highest quality. To all the girls - thank-you so much for being a blessing! As packed as it was, there was still some time to relax over a glass (or two!) of port, an epic game of Catan and a few hands of 500 and fire.

In short, words cannot do justice, so I strongly suggest that you come and see for yourself what goes down at Better Blokes 2012.  
*Sam Marshman*



**The atmosphere of acceptance and trust I have never experienced before. It's been exactly what I needed. A safe and challenging environment. The worship was awesome - great music and singing I came here to learn, and I did just that, and a whole lot more.**

**Very inspiring and uplifting.**



## St Marks Lutheran Church Epping, Sydney

2011 has seen the relaunch of Live Sparks from a Friday afternoon kids club to a cross-generational ministry for families with pre-schoolers to Year 6 kids and anyone else who wants to join in. Highs have included recreating cartoon scenes from "The Birth of Jesus", air guitar dancing competitions and seeing families share the Faith 5 together. Lows have included the challenges of adapting Bible Song to a wide age range, especially pre-readers.

Fire Starters was launched in Term 2 using the Head to the Heart system, for Year 7 to Year 10s. Highs have included Finkmania battles between young people and their parents to see who can win the most lollies, watching young people take responsibility for their own faith and hearing young people pray for each other. Lows have been not having enough time to fit in all the cool stuff.

A bunch of babies and their parents got to know each other over the Raising A Healthy Baby Faith Stepping Stone with insight and wisdom shared by parents who have been through it all before.

We went "Fishing for People" at Kids Church on 29th May with a replica boat from the Dr He Qi painting for our puppets, nets and seagulls.

Term 3 promises to be challenging but exciting as our Live Sparks continue to explore The Good News, our Fire Starters tackle The Ten Commandments, our parents of toddlers cross the next Faith Stepping Stone and God continues to grow disciples at St Marks.



**Joanne Brownnett**

Growing Ministries Coordinator

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**St Mark's**  
Lutheran Church

## FAITH FIVE



Try every night with your family:



**1** SHARE—

**Highs & lows:** Think about one good thing (high) and one not so good thing (low) to share about your day.



**2** READ—

**A bible verse:** A piece of scripture, this could be from family devotion series, the church bulletin, etc



**3** TALK—

**About the verse:** Discuss how what you've read relates to your highs and lows



**4** PRAY—

**For each other:** About the passage, and for each other's highs and lows



**5** BLESS —

**One another -** Have each family member bless one another by making the sign of the cross on each other's forehead or hand.

## LOCK IN THE DATES

## NEW HEIGHTS



For 17-21 year olds.

**8pm Friday 30th of Sept - 1pm Sunday 2nd of Oct 2011.**

A weekend at the beach (10 minutes from Batemans Bay)

You won't want to miss!!

Rego's Close: **9th Sept 2011**

## Back2Base

For 10-16 year olds.

**2pm 4th - 2pm 7th of Oct 2011. (12pm Monday 3rd of Oct for leaders).**

This year, the theme 'Going against the tide', explores how to resist your inner pirate. Back2Base is a great opportunity to deepen your relationship with God while having bucket loads of swashbuckling fun!

Rego's Close: **16th Sept 2011**



Go to <http://www.lcansw.org.au/tpm> for forms and more details  
or contact Heidi Lieschke (Weppner) - Ph. 6220 1000 or  
E. [heidi@warrambui.com.au](mailto:heidi@warrambui.com.au)



# ST. PAUL'S COLLEGE

## Tree Planting Day at St Paul's College



This initiative of Planet Ark was celebrated at St Paul's on Friday 29 July (Tree Planting Day is officially Sunday 31 July). Our Equine, Primary Industries, and Year 7 students undertook this task with boundless enthusiasm. A big thank you to all students and staff! Special thanks to Debra Brown and Cheryl Paech for organising and running the tree planting.

**Pastor Mark Doecke**



## Taste and See Day at St Paul's College

On the 7th June 2011, our Year 7 students for next year (who are in Year 6 at present), came for an orientation day at our College called the "Taste and See Day." We did all types of activities – which allowed the students to have a taste of what College life could be like and they also saw quite a lot of the school. The students from the primary schools were organised in groups. I had Group 2. First we started off the day in the Chapel with an introduction for the students to Pastor Doecke and Marney and Caroline singing or playing a musical instrument. We all enjoyed a lovely devotion with Pastor Doecke. The students watched a puppet show, which was very funny. We went over to the Food Tech Centre for morning tea, before the activities started. I think the students enjoyed the food most. At the bell, we went over to the Chapel for drama with Miss Hannon, the drama teacher. We played a few games such as, (my favourite), "Honey I love you." This is a focus game to try to make you not laugh. When drama was over we went to the Food Tech Centre again to make delicious pizzas, not so good for me though because I didn't get to eat them.....

**By Nathan Neagle**

## Congratulations to Years 7 & 8 Eisteddfod Debating

On Monday July 25, a team of four Year 8 students and two Year 7 students competed in the Years 7&8 Eisteddfod Debating. The team needed to prepare for four debates so two groups of three were each given responsibility for two debates. Georgie Schulz, Rochelle Scoff and Julia Ronnfeldt successfully debated "that we should forgive and forget" against Billabong High School, using the team line "unforgiveness equates to bitterness. Forgiveness leads to peace." They then won on forfeit over James Fallon, but were well prepared for the negative case of the topic "that fame is the spur." Ryan Lavery, Melanie Wettern and Victoria Ellis successfully argued the negative case of the topic "that we are rewarded by hard work" against The Scots School, with the team line "there is much unrewarded hard work and many gain rewards without hard work". Next they successfully debated "that ritual is ridiculous" against Xavier High School, with their case built around the lengthy team line of "ritual is ridiculous because others will see people's unusual actions as odd or worthless, and ritual may even have adverse effects on individuals' lives." These young debaters are to be commended for their good preparation, particularly as their coach was away for a few days leading up to competition day. In his absence, Mrs Leigh Caldwell accompanied the students to the debates.

## NSWCIS Netball Championships



Three St Paul's girls were in a squad of ten netballers from the Riverina Associated Schools (RAS) to compete against four other associations in the 15 & Under NSWCIS Championships in Sydney on Monday, July 25. Sophie Howard played mostly as Goal Attack and a few quarters as Goal Shooter, Emma Schulz played as Centre and Wing Attack; and India Ross played Wing Defence. The team were competitive and even though they didn't win any games, they won at least one quarter against each of the other teams and were level at half-time with the eventual winner. All team members gave their best for every game and enjoyed the high level of competition

**Mr Terry Caldwell** (Sports & Activities Co-ordinator)

*"A Christ-centred Community Valuing People and Learning"*

## Lutheran Singles Connect (formerly Lutheran Contact Service): Different name ... Same Helpful Service

Are you single or single-again and hoping to meet someone special to share your life? You might be feeling lonely, or a little shy, or just overwhelmed by the 'singles' scene. Perhaps you've been widowed or divorced and are looking for companionship. There could be many reasons why expanding your circle of Christian friends isn't easy for you. Here is one person's story: *'When I found myself single again after years of unhappy marriage, the freedom from anxiety that accompanies a deteriorating relationship was a huge relief. An advertisement in The Lutheran inviting single or single-again people to join Lutheran Contact Service (as it was then called) caught my attention and within a week I had registered. I am so thankful for the happiness I found.'*

Lutheran Singles Connect (LSC) provided the opportunity that helped bring about this happy outcome - and others like it. Whether you're hoping to meet your future marriage partner or simply seeking friendship, LSC can help you to discover new connections.

Lutheran Singles Connect - helping single and single-again Christians to get in touch  
 197 Archer St, North Adelaide SA 5006  
 Ph: 08 8267 7300 Email: lsc@lca.org.au  
 website: www.lca.org.au/contactservice

## Lutheran Principals Conference in Canberra

Lutheran principals gather outside the War Memorial in Canberra (Parliament House in the background)



Principals from Lutheran schools across Australia met in Canberra in August for a conference under the theme: *A Brilliant Blend*. This theme not only highlighted the diversity of schools within our system, but also the diversity of gifts and talents that our leaders and staff bring to, and contribute to, the education provided in our schools.

*A Brilliant Blend* was explored in a number of ways during the three days of conference, but always focusing on the importance and value of principals working together and in a collegial environment, supporting each other, learning and growing together, and then working with the team of teachers and support staff in each individual school.

Our principals, together with their staff, create the education environment that we know as 'Lutheran education' in each school. Working together, they are educa-

tors who blend together, creating a learning environment that not only meets state educational requirements, but also an environment in which the good news of the Gospel is shared daily and work of the Holy Spirit is enabled.

Lutheran schools are indeed *A Brilliant Blend!*

Elizabeth A Kloeden, Director



Lutheran principals gather for a wreath-laying ceremony at the War Memorial

## District Prayer Calendar



1 Timothy 2:1-6

I urge, then, first of all, that requests, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for everyone—for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness. This is good and pleases God our Saviour, who wants all people to be saved and to come to knowledge of the truth. For there is one God and one mediator between God and people, the man Christ Jesus, who gave himself as a ransom for all - the testimony given in its proper time.

September	4	Henty Lutheran School	Bev McFarland, Principal	St Paul's Lutheran School
	11	Jindera Lutheran School	Sharon Kotzur, Principal	St John's Lutheran School
	18	Lavington	Joel Cramer - <i>Rachel</i>	St Andrew's Corowa; St Peter's, Lavington
	25	Leeton/Griffith	Vacant	St Paul's, Griffith; St John's, Leeton
October	2	Temora	Mathew Ker - <i>Sonja</i>	Trinity, Temora; Zion, Trungley Hall; Chapel on the Hill
	9	Wagga Wagga	John Guilfoyle - <i>Leonie</i> Albert Gast - <i>Johanna</i>	Bethlehem Wagga Wagga; Bethlehem, Milbrulong
	16	Wagga Wagga Lutheran School	James Heyne Principal - <i>Sharon</i>	Lutheran primary School
	23	Walla Walla	Darren Kupke - <i>Lee-Anne</i>	Salem, Alma Park; Zion, Walla Walla
	30	St Paul's College	John Borchert chaplain - <i>Charmaine</i> Mark Doecke Principal	St Paul's College
November	6	Retired Pastors	Contact District office for list of retired pastors	
	13	Military Chaplains	David Grulke (Wodonga) - <i>Ruth</i> ; Darren Jaensch (Canberra) - <i>Julie</i> ; Ken Schmidt (Singleton) - <i>Carolyn</i>	
	20	District Committees	Lutheran Women; District Church Council; all other District Committees	
	27	NSW District Office	Mark Lieschke - <i>Meredith</i> ; Kaye Simpfendorfer - <i>Mark</i> ; Gaidis Zids - <i>Marja</i>	

# NSW District Calendar

Established in 1921, the prime purpose of the LLL (Lutheran Laypeople's League of Australia



Finance with a mission

Incorporated) is to assist the Lutheran Church of Australia in its mission and ministry of spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ. The LLL serves the LCA in numerous ways but especially in aspects of business and finance. It operates savings accounts for LCA members and supporters who wish to assist LCA organisations. Funds deposited enable the LLL to provide financial assistance to the LCA, particularly by way of low interest loans to LCA projects for building and equipping churches, schools, and care facilities.

**Personal Savings Accounts:** A Personal Savings Account earns you 4.75% interest while also enabling you to support your church, school, or any other LCA project. Your funds are 'at call' so you always have access to your money when you need it. You can open an account for any purpose, including children's education, retirement or holiday.

**Support a project or church:** Account holders can provide additional support to a particular project or department of the LCA by nominating their account to be non interest-bearing. The LLL is then able to provide an additional 5% benefit to a project of your choice. Simply complete the "Non interest-bearing account Instructions" section on the account application form.

The NSW District, Warrambui, and other District organisations already receive considerable funds from this scheme each year and your support in this way is very much appreciated.

**Matching Deposits:** Matching deposits are unique to the LLL. They are a way for you to ensure that your LLL deposit account helps support a particular project of the Lutheran Church of Australia, be that a congregation, school or care organisation etc. Your funds are still available at any time, but while at the LLL they help your favourite project/s to obtain low interest loans from the LLL.

**Legacies:** After making provision for your loved ones, you may wish to leave some of your estate to the Permanent Funds of the LLL. By naming the Lutheran Laypeople's League of Australia Incorporated in your Will, your gift will continue to provide support for the mission of the Church beyond your lifetime. Legacies can be nominated to support a particular project of the Church.

For more information see the LLL web site

[www.lll.org.au](http://www.lll.org.au)

or call the LLL toll-free on 1800 556 457

**9 September 2011**  
 2-4 'Crave' young adult retreat 21yr+  
 17 Coastal Women's fellowship day - W'Gong  
 30-Oct 2 'New Heights' Camp 17-21 yrs

**10 October 2011**  
 4-7 'Back to Base' camp at Warrambui 10-16 yrs  
 15 Canberra Women's Fellowship day - Reid  
 15 LCA Finance workshop at Wagga Wagga  
 28-29 LCA Governance course at Woden Valley  
 30 Longest Lutheran Lunch

**11 November 2011**  
 11 District Church Council at Concord House  
 12 LCA Finance workshop at Concord House

**12 December 2011**  
 24-2 Jan District Office closed

**1 January 2012**  
 3 District Office reopens

**MICROSOFT SOFTWARE**  
 Available to pastors, teachers, parishes and also to lay members who use the software for the church.  
 ♦ Office 2010 Professional Plus Edition \$110 (plus \$20 for the CD).  
 ♦ Windows 7 Professional Upgrade \$100 (plus \$20 for the CD).  
 email [admin@nsw.lca.org.au](mailto:admin@nsw.lca.org.au) or call 02 9736 2366  
 Note: software for lay people must be purchased and paid for by the congregation.

**Responding to Sexual Abuse Complaints**  
 A confidential service for responding to complaints of sexual abuse/harassment by church employees has been set up. Trained advisers are available to help.  
 Write to: The Supervisor, PO Box 519 Marden SA 5070; use the freecall number 1800 644 628; or email [report.abuse@safespace.lca.org.au](mailto:report.abuse@safespace.lca.org.au)

**September issue out now!**  
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 When making a beautiful picture there's going to be some mess  
**BRINGING BACK BACH**  
 Wellington woos lovers of classics  
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 Lutherans quick to respond

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