

A|L|C

Festival of Learning
2023

Holy and dearly loved
-called and clothed

Tuesday 21 February to
Thursday 23 February

About ALC's Festival of Learning

Welcome

Australian Lutheran College welcomes you to the third annual theological *Festival of Learning*. We are once again excited to offer a varied program with something for everyone. We thank our 2023 presenters for their willingness to be part of the festival and acknowledge our supporting partners: the University of Divinity, LCANZ Local Mission and Lutheran Archives. We look forward to learning from and with each other during this year's festival.

Supporting partners

University of Divinity

Based in Melbourne, the [University of Divinity](#) is a national provider of higher education and works in partnership with over thirty churches, religious orders and associated organisations in a unique ecumenical enterprise. The University delivers education and research in theology, philosophy and spirituality and has prepared its graduates for ministry, leadership and community service for over one hundred years. The University is regularly ranked by students as the top university in Australia for student satisfaction and learner engagement, reflecting the high quality of its curriculum and the dedication of staff. Australian Lutheran College is one of 13 member colleges of the University.

LCANZ Local Mission

The [Local Mission](#) department of the Lutheran Church of Australia and New Zealand (LCANZ) provides leadership and support to nurture a growing missional culture in the LCANZ. It promotes, resources and coordinates participation in God's mission of bringing the good news of Jesus Christ to all people. It assists individuals, families and communities to lead people to Christ and to grow people in Christ.

Local Mission supports those who reach out to people who don't yet know God's love and to support those who do, through the following ministries:

- Care Ministries (incorporating the Ageing)
- Cross-Cultural Ministry
- Grow Ministries (Child, Youth & Family Ministry)
- Lutheran Media
- New & Renewing Churches.

Lutheran Archives

[Lutheran Archives](#) gathers and preserves the stories of the congregations, departments and the people of the church from all over Australia and the Pacific. It shares the stories of the LCANZ across the church and in the wider public. It enables others to encounter these stories through research, so they can share their stories and experiences of love coming to life.

A wide variety of people access the records and other materials held in the Archives: congregations, family historians, academic researchers, creative artists and filmmakers. By depositing records at Lutheran Archives, the stories of local ministries can be encountered by members of the church and public, told and disseminated to a myriad of audiences. The Archives are able to turn records into new ministries by providing and enabling access to them. These records help people, fill gaps in family trees, write congregation histories, understand our cultural diversity, further Aboriginal language research, and restore identity. The power of the Archives collection is significant.



General information

The *Festival of Learning* recognises that the Lutheran Church of Australia and New Zealand (LCANZ) has a rich history of gathering in community to learn together. ALC and its predecessors have always been an integral part of this learning culture, and this festival offers an annual opportunity to celebrate and learn together.

In 2023, the festival will be exclusively online to enable access from anywhere. Both full and partial (four-elective pass) registration packages are available. While some sessions have more complex content than others, you can participate in any sessions that interest you. Note that the views expressed at the *Festival of Learning* are those of the presenters and do not necessarily reflect the views of Australian Lutheran College.

Festival participants need to ensure that their computer equipment and internet speed is suitable for accessing live stream video. Online access will be through an attendee website. The link will be provided closer to the event. Sessions generally open five minutes prior to the published start time.

There are two types of sessions: generally included sessions and elective sessions. Access to general sessions, including the keynote presentations, is included in all registration packages. You must select the elective sessions you wish to attend according to the conditions of your chosen package.

Note that all session start times refer to Australian Central Daylight Time (Adelaide, SA).

Generally included sessions

Tuesday 21 February, 9:30 am	Welcome	Rev James Winderlich
Tuesday 21 February, 11:30 am	Devotion	Rev Joel Cramer
Tuesday 21 February, 3:00 pm	Conversation hour	
Wednesday 22 February, 9:30 am	Keynote presentation	Rev Professor Vicky Balabanski
Wednesday 22 February, 11:30 am	Devotion	Rev Jo Bertil R Vaernesbranden
Wednesday 22 February, 3:00 pm	Conversation hour	
Wednesday 22 February, 6:30 pm	Ash Wednesday meditation	Rev Dr Stephen Haar
Thursday 23 February, 11:30 am	Devotion	Rev Richard Fox
Thursday 23 February, 3:00 pm	Conversation hour	
Thursday 23 February, 7:00 pm	ALC Opening Lecture	Rev Paul Smith

Devotion

Devotions will be held each day at 11.30am. They will be recorded for viewing later if you can't attend at the advertised time.

Conversation hour

One of the best things about festivals is chatting to other people. The conversation hour is a space to have some of these conversations within a moderated Zoom setting. If you would like to chat about what you have heard during the day or across the festival, this is the place for you to be.

Electives

Select elective sessions when you register. The elective program and available options in each timeslot are included later in this booklet and also in the online program.

Only one elective can be selected in each elective timeslot, however some are repeated in another timeslot to help you access your topics of interest. If you have other commitments during the festival, most electives will be recorded for viewing later 'on demand' as indicated by the symbol  in the program.

All electives will commence promptly on the hour and conclude 5 minutes prior to the next session to allow time to stretch between sessions.

Timetable

	Tues 21 February	Wed 22 February	Thurs 23 February
9:30 am	Welcome	Keynote session	Elective session 9
10:30 am	Elective session 1	Elective session 6	Elective session 10
11:30 am	Devotion	Devotion	Devotion
12:00 pm	Lunch break		
1:00 pm	Elective session 2	Elective session 7	Elective session 11
2:00 pm	Elective session 3	Elective session 8	Elective session 12
3:00 pm	Conversation Hour	Conversation Hour	Conversation Hour
4:00 pm	Dinner break		
6:30 pm	Elective session 4	Ash Wednesday meditation	ALC Opening Lecture (7pm)
7:30 pm	Elective session 5		

Note that all session start times refer to Australian Central Daylight Time (Adelaide, SA).

Registration costs

Both options include keynote presentations plus access to devotions and conversation hours.

Full registration **\$150.00**

Choose an elective from all timeslots across the festival.

Concession fee: \$100.00 (select concession options during registration)

Four-elective pass **\$80.00**

Choose up to four electives from any timeslot during the festival.

Registration

Registrations open on Tuesday 17 January at <https://alc.edu.au/festival-of-learning> and **close** on Monday 20 February at 12 noon. A late registration fee of \$10 applies after Tuesday 14 February.

When completing your registration, it is important that you provide an email address that you can easily access. We will use this email address to communicate details about the *Festival of Learning*. Note that you will need access to this email address to login during the festival.

Watch for a very important email on **Sunday 19 February** detailing how to access the online attendee hub. A more detailed 'FAQ' will be published closer to the time.

Enquiries

Contact ALC if you require further information about the *Festival of Learning*:

Email: events@alc.edu.au

Telephone: +61 8 7120 8200 or Freecall: 1800 625 193 (within Australia only)

Tuesday program

Tuesday 21 February overview	
9:30 am	Welcome: Called and Clothed. <i>Rev James Winderlich</i>
10:30 am	Elective session 1 A. 'Avoid being caught with your pants down.' Strange Bible stories for the End Times <i>Rev Dr Stephen Haar</i> B. Called and Clothed for God's Mission <i>Dr Tania Nelson and Rev Nathan Hedt</i>
11:30 am	Devotion <i>Rev Joel Cramer</i>
12:00 pm	Lunch break
1:00 pm	Elective session 2 A. Missionary Clamor Schurmann's diary of his years among South Australia's Aborigines, 1838-1845 (Part 1) <i>Rev Dr Greg Lockwood</i> B. Emotions and the rhetoric of clothing in Col 3:1–17 and Paul's letters <i>Dr Anna Nürnberger</i> C. Learn to Live: The Future of Theology in Australia <i>Professor Peter Sherlock</i>
2:00 pm	Elective session 3 A. Missionary Clamor Schurmann's diary of his years among South Australia's Aborigines, 1838-1845 (Part 2) <i>Rev Dr Greg Lockwood</i> B. The Body of Christ—serving God through our Church as women and men called and equipped by God <i>Session cancelled</i> C. In quietness shall be your strength: Contemplative prayer for today's world <i>Dr Alison Short</i>
3:00 pm	Conversation Hour
4:00 pm	Dinner break
6:30 pm	Elective session 4 A. A long, loving look at the real: How the art of Spiritual Direction can help us grow into our God-ordained self <i>Rev Michael Mayer</i> B. Colossians 3 in the Context of Caring for Creation <i>Dr Neil Bergmann</i> C. Holy and dearly loved—called and clothed: Reflections on the theme in the art of Lucas Cranach, The Elder <i>Mrs Pam Zweck</i>
7:30 pm	Elective session 5 A. Martin Luther: an advocate for social justice <i>Session cancelled</i> B. What are you wearing? <i>Dr Michelle Eastwood</i>

Welcome: Called and Clothed.

Rev James Winderlich

This session will open the festival with an acknowledgement that ALC sits on the lands of the Kurna people and pay respects to their elders, past, present and emerging.

Australian Lutheran College (ALC) will model the mission of the Lutheran Church of Australia and New Zealand and the wider church, as it delivers high quality education, training and research programs that are responsive, transformative and sustainable.

[Check my local time: Welcome](#)

Elective session 1

A. 'Avoid being caught with your pants down.' Strange Bible stories for the End Times

Rev Dr Stephen Haar

Moving from text to context, this session considers the invitation and challenge of being clothed and called through a close reading of Mark 14:51–52 and Revelation 16:15.

B. Called and Clothed for God's Mission

Dr Tania Nelson and Rev Nathan Hedt

There are many understandings of 'mission' in the church. This session will explore our calling and privilege to participate with God in his mission to the world. It will help us unfold how we discern where God is at work, and how we join in, particularly in our own local context. It will help us unpack the culture of our own local places, and understand how the gospel speaks good news to the people who live and work around us. We are called and clothed by the Spirit to participate humbly and respectfully in bringing God's love to life through words and actions in Australian society.

This elective is also available on Wednesday in elective session 7.

Elective session 2

A. Missionary Clamor Schurmann's diary of his years among South Australia's Aborigines, 1838-1845 (Part 1)

Rev Dr Greg Lockwood

These two presentations consist mostly of excerpts from the diary, beginning with conversations on board ship with Governor Gawler and in Rio de Janeiro with the resident German pastor, and ending with accounts of the clashes between settlers and Aborigines in the frontier settlement of Port Lincoln, Eyre Peninsula.

This elective can be taken independently of part 2, available in the following elective timeslot.

B. Emotions and the rhetoric of clothing in Col 3:1–17 and Paul's letters

Dr Anna Nürnberger

While body and clothing imagery was employed in the ancient Mediterranean world, the Pauline and Deutero-Pauline concept of putting on a person or a new self (Gal 3:27; Rom 13:14; Col 3:10; Eph 4:24) does not have any clear parallels outside of and prior to early Christianity. Clothing in the bible and human society in general relates to self-presentation, social roles and status, social interaction, empowerment, production of culture, and identity. This presentation will focus on various dimensions associated with the rhetoric of clothing especially in relation to its intersection with emotions. Some of the questions that will be addressed include: How does the Hebrew Bible use clothing to emphasise emotions? In which ways was the 'clothing' metaphor used in Greek thought surrounding emotions in particular? How is the metaphor of 'putting on' a new self or person in (Deutero-)Pauline letters employed, particularly in Col 3? And what can be inferred from (Deutero-)Pauline usage with regard to the underlying psychology?

C. Learn to Live: The Future of Theology in Australia

Professor Peter Sherlock

Christian theological education in Australia is in crisis, with declining numbers of seminarians across the denominations and a turn in public discourse away from traditional forms of theological conversation. This seminar examines the past, present and future of theology in Australia. Traditional Australian approaches to theological education have focussed on the model of 'faith seeking understanding', or of equipping people with the skills for ministry, lay and ordained, using European

and North American models. This lecture suggests the theme of 'learn to live' as a fruitful alternative, centred on education and research that is apostolic, formative, and contextual and grounded in diverse ways of knowing, including Indigenous theologies. Reconceived in this way, theology has the potential to fulfil the rapidly changing needs of its traditional home in the churches and emerging desires in the wider community for spiritual care and the search for truth.

Elective session 3

A. Missionary Clamor Schurmann's diary of his years among South Australia's Aborigines, 1838-1845 (Part 2)

Rev Dr Greg Lockwood

These two presentations consist mostly of excerpts from the diary, beginning with conversations on board ship with Governor Gawler and in Rio de Janeiro with the resident German pastor, and ending with accounts of the clashes between settlers and Aborigines in the frontier settlement of Port Lincoln, Eyre Peninsula.

This elective can be taken independently of part 1, available in the previous elective timeslot.

B. The Body of Christ—serving God through our Church as women and men called and equipped by God [CANCELLED]

This session has been cancelled.

C. In quietness shall be your strength: Contemplative prayer for today's world

Dr Alison Short

Amidst a typically busy and loud world, Peterson advises us to "turn our eyes into ears" in order to "hear" God, and many Bible verses instruct us to listen, meditate and be open to quietness to hear the "still small voice of God." This workshop introduces participants to current ecumenical approaches to contemplative prayer and Christian Meditation, the latter as auspiced by the ecumenical World Community of Christian Meditation (WCCM). It traces origins of contemplative practices from Jesus to the early Church and onwards into today's world, followed by a brief experience of silent meditation as personal prayer. A wide range of prayer types have been broadly identified as *adoration, thanksgiving, supplication, confession, obligatory* and *receptive* prayers. Receptive prayer is described as awaiting "divine wisdom, understanding, or guidance" and is characterised by "a contemplative attitude of openness, receptivity, and surrender." Kleinig speaks broadly about a meditative approach as being similar to daydreaming as a way on paying attention to God and receiving strength, guidance, help and insight as we develop as God's children. Both prayer and meditation work to develop the fruit of the Spirit, which includes a sense of peace and the presence of God. Christian meditation within this ancient and modern tradition typically blesses us with experiences of "the peace that surpasses all understanding", assisting with opening ourselves to the work of the Holy Spirit.

Elective session 4

A. A long, loving look at the real: How the art of Spiritual Direction can help us grow into our God-ordained self

Rev Michael Mayer

Looking at our soul is like trying to see fish in the sunlit water below the jetty. We catch a flash of silver as one turns side on momentarily. Our souls are very shy creatures, and will only emerge when it is safe to do so. Spiritual direction is a monthly conversation between two people, with a welcoming space between, which is the presence of the Holy Spirit. It is a place where your soul can emerge and be honoured. There is nothing forced. The person coming for direction can explore or

reflect on whatever they wish, and does not have to explore anything that is not safe to do so. Experiences, ranging from the very ordinary to profound revelations of God, are gently looked at and explored. The invitations to deeper life are explored and honoured. There may be silence, there may be tears or laughter. There may be Bible verses recalled, or the experience of Biblical people remembered. There may be treasures found and cherished. There may be painful things unpacked and comfort given. This session will explore what spiritual direction can mean, and will help participants work out whether it is something they wish to pursue.

B. Colossians 3 in the Context of Caring for Creation

Dr Neil Bergmann

Colossians 3 describes virtues of a Christian disciple. Today, the discipleship role of environmental steward is poorly practiced given the current ecological crises of climate change, loss of biodiversity and pollution. This presentation explores the virtues and vices described in Colossians 3 in the context of environmental stewardship. Colossians looks first at the old clothes of the earthly kingdom—clothes dirtied by impurity, passion, evil desire, greed, and then by anger, wrath, malice, slander, and abusive language. Many of the causes of the current ecological crisis can be traced back to human greed. Our whole economic system is based on ever increasing consumption. Consuming is equated to happiness, even when we rationally know that this consumption is ecologically unsustainable.

Colossians then suggests what our new clothes as redeemed disciples might look like – compassion, kindness, humility, meekness and patience. In creation care terms, humility and meekness mean that we reject the desires and temptations to have the best, biggest, and newest gadgets. Compassion and kindness extend our concern beyond the well-being of ourselves and our family. We recognise that unsustainable lifestyles disproportionately hurt the world’s poorest and most vulnerable people.

This elective is also available on Wednesday in elective session 7.

C. Holy and dearly loved—called and clothed: Reflections on the theme in the art of Lucas Cranach, The Elder

Mrs Pam Zweck-Silcock

Using two reformational images of the reformational artist, Lucas Cranach the Elder, the presentation will concentrate on the message of Colossians 3:12 with relation to the visual rhetorical elements within these images, that “enable them to speak” the text. The discussion will consider how these signs and symbols assisted Luther’s teaching and how they were understood by the sixteenth century Protestants in Wittenberg.

In keeping with the theme, we will also look at how the people were physically clothed and the role that played in their understanding of the images.

Elective session 5

A. Martin Luther: an advocate for social justice [CANCELLED]

This session has been cancelled, but the elective is still available on Thursday in elective session 9.

B. What are you wearing?

Dr Michelle Eastwood

Liturgical robes are designed to point attention away from the presider's identity, so what happens when they are worn in a Facebook profile picture? Michelle has interviewed people from a range of religious traditions to explore the idea of liturgical robes on Facebook, and their connection to religion in the public square in contemporary Australia. She will discuss some of her findings and pose questions about what this might mean for worship, clergy and the place of religion in society.

Wednesday program

Wednesday 22 February overview	
9:30 am	Keynote presentation 'Chosen, set apart, loved and clothed': Colossians 3:12 in its context <i>Rev Professor Vicky Balabanski</i>
10:30 am	Elective session 6 A. Missionary Christian Gottlob Teichelmann: a life of patient endurance <i>Dr Christine Lockwood</i> B. Called and Clothed for Digital Mission and Ministry <i>Rev Richard Fox</i> C. Clothed with Compassion – can we be over- or under-dressed? <i>Dr Chris Materne</i>
11:30 am	Devotion <i>Rev Jo Bertil R. Vaernesbranden</i>
12:00 pm	Lunch break
1:00 pm	Elective session 7 A. Colossians 3 in the Context of Caring for Creation <i>Dr Neil Bergmann</i> B. Called and Clothed for God's Mission <i>Dr Tania Nelson and Rev Nathan Hedt</i> C. Holy and dearly loved opponent <i>Rev Jo Bertil R. Vaernesbranden</i>
2:00 pm	Elective session 8 A. 'Do you intend to do this?': Theological learning in the LCANZ is a promise kept. <i>Rev James Winderlich</i> B. 'Dear Sisters in the Faith': Letters of Thanks from Post-War Germany <i>Bethany Pietsch</i>
3:00 pm	Conversation Hour
4:00 pm	Dinner break
6:30 pm	Ash Wednesday meditation Clothed for Lent <i>Rev Dr Stephen Haar</i>

Keynote presentation

'Chosen, set apart, loved and clothed': Colossians 3:12 in its context

Rev Professor Vicky Balabanski

In chapter 3 of Colossians, Paul and Timothy set out the distinctive features of 'the new self' we have in Christ, using the image of clothing. In verse 11 we hear that people who looked very different from one another and wore very different clothes—Greeks and Jews, barbarians, Scythians, slaves and free people—are no longer divided along these lines, but wear behaviour and virtues that reflect their unity in Christ. This presentation explores the context of Col. 3:1–17 in the world of Paul's day, the context of this teaching in the letter and asks what significance this has for our context today.

[Check my local time: Keynote presentation](#)

Elective session 6

A. Missionary Christian Gottlob Teichelmann: a life of patient endurance

Dr Christine Lockwood

Christian Gottlob Teichelmann (1807-1888) is mostly remembered today for co-authoring the Kurna language grammar and vocabulary which has been the primary basis for the reclamation of Kurna language and identity in recent times. Teichelmann was a missionary among the Kurna people of the Adelaide Plains from 1838 to 1846. His missiological approach and priorities were formed by his Lutheran theological understanding. Commissioned by the Evangelical Lutheran Mission Society in Dresden to 'testify to the heathen of the Gospel of the grace of God', Teichelmann found a people whose world was shattered by the impact of European colonisation. An insightful man, he became

the foremost authority on the Kurna language, a champion of justice for Aboriginal people and critic of colonial policy and practice. By nature a determined, exacting, forthright man, Teichelmann was to demonstrate compassion, humility and patient endurance as he sought to share the love of God while providing for the needs of Aboriginal people. He was finally forced to admit defeat by a lack of financial support and opposition from the colonial government and European settlers. His subsequent work among German Lutheran migrants called for similar patient endurance.

B. Called and Clothed for Digital Mission and Ministry

Rev Richard Fox

In recent times we have seen a boom in digital mission and ministry. Church doors are open online and people are engaging with online worship, digital evangelism through methods like social media, and digital discipleship through relationships and resources. In this session, we will highlight and unpack recent learnings and explore how to make and develop meaningful relationships in an online world. The Digital Mission and Ministry Forum will provide insights and ideas to help you in your mission and ministry context. There are many possibilities to reach, engage and grow mission and ministry relationships in a digital world. So how can you be involved and be missionaries in a digital world and reach more people than you can imagine with the good news of Jesus Christ and his message of hope? Discover resources and ways to do digital mission and ministry at www.lutheranmedia.org.au, www.messagesofhope.org.au and www.happyland.com.au.

This elective is also available on Thursday in elective session 12.

C. Clothed with Compassion – can we be over- or under-dressed?

Dr Chris Materne

As God's chosen people Paul encourages us to clothe ourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience. Recent evidence gathered in Australia and internationally has highlighted elevated levels of emotional distress amongst the general population and amongst church workers, both ordained and lay. Business and popular psychological writing increasingly includes references to compassion fatigue and points to a relationship with poor mental health outcomes. Equally a body of work around perfectionism and the driven pursuit of achievement and success, coupled with poor self-compassion also points to poor mental health outcomes.

This presentation will explore shadows of compassion. Might doing, and caring too much for others lead to compassion fatigue or burnout? Might too little self-compassion lead to driven perfectionism and unhealthy striving? Might too much self-compassion become unhealthy? How might we seek to model and practice healthy compassion? The Bible shows God's compassion on his people and the world, and we read frequently of his encouragement to us (his chosen people) to be compassionate to each other. Jesus models this compassion for us. Can we develop healthy and life-giving patterns, practices, and rhythms in ministry and life to help ourselves, our families, and those we seek to serve?

This elective is also available on Thursday in elective session 11.

Elective Session 7

A. Colossians 3 in the Context of Caring for Creation

Dr Neil Bergmann

Colossians 3 describes virtues of a Christian disciple. Today, the discipleship role of environmental steward is poorly practiced given the current ecological crises of climate change, loss of biodiversity and pollution. This presentation explores the virtues and vices described in Colossians 3 in the context of environmental stewardship. Colossians looks first at the old clothes of the earthly kingdom—clothes dirtied by impurity, passion, evil desire, greed, and then by anger, wrath, malice, slander, and abusive language. Many of the causes of the current ecological crisis can be traced back to

human greed. Our whole economic system is based on ever increasing consumption. Consuming is equated to happiness, even when we rationally know that this consumption is ecologically unsustainable.

Colossians then suggests what our new clothes as redeemed disciples might look like —compassion, kindness, humility, meekness and patience. In creation-care terms, humility and meekness mean that we reject the desires and temptations to have the best, biggest, and newest gadgets. Compassion and kindness extend our concern beyond the well-being of ourselves and our family. We recognise that unsustainable lifestyles disproportionately hurt the world's poorest and most vulnerable people.

This elective is also available on Tuesday in elective session 4.

B. Called and Clothed for God's Mission

Dr Tania Nelson and Rev Nathan Hedt

There are many understandings of 'mission' in the church. This session will explore our calling and privilege to participate with God in his mission to the world. It will help us unfold how we discern where God is at work, and how we join in, particularly in our own local context. It will help us unpack the culture of our own local places, and understand how the gospel speaks good news to the people who live and work around us. We are called and clothed by the Spirit to participate humbly and respectfully in bringing God's love to life through words and actions in Australian society.

This elective is also available on Tuesday in elective session 1.

C. Holy and dearly loved opponent

Rev Jo Bertil R. Vaernesbranden

This session takes as its point of departure the disagreement within LCANZ over the ordination of women. What to do when our holy and dearly loved sisters and brothers in Christ think differently about an issue which is not only peripheral, but runs deep? In this session the theoretical framework of Optimality Theory will be used to shed light on the issue, with the intent of identifying and appreciating as much as possible about each position. In so doing we will also touch on the biblical models of interpretation with which each position can be associated.

Elective Session 8

A. 'Do you intend to do this?': Theological learning in the LCANZ is a promise kept.

Rev James Winderlich

There are many reasons for maintaining places of spiritual and theological learning in the Lutheran Church of Australia and New Zealand. While they serve practical purposes, particularly for the preparation of Church workers, they also intrinsically connect with the LCANZ's historical and contemporary identity. The LCANZ is and has always been formed by its learning. Providing places of learning—at primary, secondary and tertiary levels—provides a partial fulfilment of the promises that the Church makes at baptism. The Lutheran rite challenges the Church to, 'Teach', and 'Provide for instruction in the faith'. To which the Church responds, 'Yes, I will [do that].' This promise is as equally relevant at all levels of Lutheran education as it is in the family home. In this session we will explore how those baptismal promises inform the continuing provision of theological education and training in the LCANZ through ALC.

B. 'Dear Sisters in the Faith': Letters of Thanks from Post-War Germany

Bethany Pietsch

After the Second World War, many Australian Lutherans sent humanitarian aid to family and friends in war-devasted Europe. One example was the Miller family of Moutajup, Victoria, who sent supplies to several German families in collaboration with the Warrayure Lutheran Women's Guild and the HUMANITAS war relief movement.

The letters of thanks which the recipients sent back, written between 1947 and 1949, express not only their heartfelt gratitude for the worldly relief of food and clothing, but a profound sense of the bond of Christian love between them and their 'dear Australian brothers and sisters in the faith'. The language of these letters shed light on a story of true Christian compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience.

Ash Wednesday meditation

Clothed for Lent

Rev Dr Stephen Haar

Meditation on Joel 2, Psalm 51 and Psalm 35:13–14, that reflects on how our calling as Church to put on *sackcloth* and practise *fasting* is a calling into divine suffering over sin and death in our culture, our nation, our church, and our own lives.

[Check my local time: Ash Wednesday meditation](#)

Thursday program

Thursday 23 February overview	
9:30 am	Elective session 9 A. Martin Luther: an advocate for social justice <i>Mr Thomas Brennen</i> B. Religion and domestic violence: exploring men's perpetration <i>Dr Josephine Clarke and Professor Sarah Wendt</i>
10:30 am	Elective session 10 A. Called and Clothed for Intergenerational Ministry <i>Mrs Jodi Brook</i> B. Clothed with kindness towards our new neighbours <i>Dr Tania Nelson and Mr Craig Heidenreich</i>
11:30 am	Devotion <i>Rev Richard Fox</i>
12:00 pm	Lunch break
1:00 pm	Elective session 11 A. Clothing, Embodiment and Purity Culture <i>Dr Michelle Eastwood</i> B. Clothed with Compassion – can we be over- or under-dressed? <i>Dr Chris Materne</i> C. 'the God of his father': Writing Family Faith in Thomas Shepard's Autobiography <i>Eloise Quinn-Valentine</i>
2:00 pm	Elective session 12 A. 'United for Greater Service': Agnes Dorsch and the beginnings of Lutheran Women's Guilds <i>Dr Lois Zweck</i> B. Called and Clothed for Digital Mission and Ministry <i>Rev Richard Fox</i> C. Touching His hem in a crowded world: Exploring calling and vocation <i>Dr Alison Short</i>
3:00 pm	Conversation Hour
4:00 pm	Dinner break
7:00 pm	ALC Opening Lecture Theological Education as mission <i>Rev Paul Smith</i>

Elective Session 9

A. Martin Luther: an advocate for social justice

Mr Thomas Brennen

A popular refrain claims that the reformer Martin Luther had little interest in his theology reforming anything outside the Church. However, a closer reading of his works highlights a unique social justice lens that gives helpful guidance to the believer as they seek to live lives in service to God and neighbour. This session highlights how Luther's principles may enhance the broader work of the modern Christian church as it engages in social justice work.

This elective is also available on Tuesday in elective session 5.

B. Religion and domestic violence: exploring men's perpetration

Dr Josephine Clarke and Professor Sarah Wendt

Presentation of findings from the 'Religion and domestic violence: exploring men's perpetration' research project. This research was funded by the Australian Research Council and the Lutheran Church of Australia and explores how the church understands and responds to domestic violence. Using qualitative research methods, the research sought new knowledge about men's understandings of domestic violence, ecclesiastical framings, and analysed the perpetration of spiritual abuse as a form of domestic violence.

Elective session 10

A. Called and Clothed for Intergenerational Ministry

Mrs Jodi Brook

What is intergenerational ministry and why is it so important? By joining this workshop, you will develop an understanding of the different generations and the issues and culture each age group brings to the life of your congregation. We will explore the difference between being intergenerational and doing intergenerational ministry. And how Gods Word informs and guides intergenerational practice and culture.

B. Clothed with kindness towards our new neighbours

Dr Tania Nelson and Mr Craig Heidenreich

Many of us are noticing the steady change to the ethnic mix of our neighbourhoods and are seeking the Lord about how to respond to these newcomers. If this is you, join Craig Heidenreich and Dr Tania Nelson from the Local Mission team as they share some insights and tips to boost your confidence to take that first step.

They will address a range of issues like:

- Where are these people coming from?
- What motivates us to show an interest in their welfare?
- How can we approach them with warmth and respect?

This session will include some practical steps.

Elective session 11

A. Clothing, Embodiment and Purity Culture

Dr Michelle Eastwood

It is not uncommon to read a new story about a female politician which includes a description of what she is wearing. This is not true for male politicians.

This talk will explore the interaction between clothes, bodies and cultural expectations through a feminist lens. It will consider the way women's bodies are policed and the links to theological rationales which reinforce and justify this behaviour.

B. Clothed with Compassion – can we be over- or under-dressed?

Dr Chris Materne

As God's chosen people Paul encourages us to clothe ourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience. Recent evidence gathered in Australia and internationally has highlighted elevated levels of emotional distress amongst the general population and amongst church workers, both ordained and lay. Business and popular psychological writing increasingly includes references to compassion fatigue and points to a relationship with poor mental health outcomes. Equally a body of work around perfectionism and the driven pursuit of achievement and success, coupled with poor self-compassion also points to poor mental health outcomes.

This presentation will explore shadows of compassion. Might doing, and caring too much for others lead to compassion fatigue or burnout? Might too little self-compassion lead to driven perfectionism and unhealthy striving? Might too much self-compassion become unhealthy? How might we seek to model and practice healthy compassion? The Bible shows God's compassion on his people and the world, and we read frequently of his encouragement to us (his chosen people) to be compassionate to each other. Jesus models this compassion for us. Can we develop healthy and life-giving patterns, practices, and rhythms in ministry and life to help ourselves, our families, and those we seek to serve?

This elective is also available on Wednesday in elective session 6.

C. 'the God of his father': Writing Family Faith in Thomas Shepard's Autobiography

Eloise Quinn-Valentine

The manuscript which contains the autobiography of early American Puritan minister, Thomas Shepard (1605–1649), can be considered a financial and spiritual account book that memorialises the covenants which bound the Shepard family to their community and to God. Writing to shape and secure his eldest son's spiritual development in particular, Shepard's intimate manuscript autobiography, like a number of his formal theological publications, reflected and responded to the growing concerns over the future of Puritan congregations in New England which would culminate in the Halfway Covenant of 1662. Shepard writes to help his son to recognise and "clothe" himself in his identity as one of God's "dearly loved" and "chosen people", and hence to take his place in the Church.

Elective session 12

A. 'United for Greater Service': Agnes Dorsch and the beginnings of Lutheran Women's Guilds

Dr Lois Zweck

Agnes Heyne / Dorsch was the second female Arts graduate from Adelaide University (the first university in Australia and the second in the world to admit women to degrees) and went on to forge a remarkable career in education, but only after interrupting her teaching career to marry a widowed pastor and bring up a large, blended family. Six months after marrying Pastor Caspar Dorsch at the age of 21, Agnes established the Bethlehem Women's Guild in 1893 to become the pioneer of the movement in the Evangelical Lutheran Synod in Australia.

Given the range of synods and districts in the church at the turn of the 20th century, there are surely many similar stories of the founding of Frauenvereine (women's societies) or the various names by which they have been known—Ladies' /Women's Guild, Sisterhood, Fellowship—and of their service over more than a century. Yet that service is not mentioned in the published histories of the Church, and often receives a scant mention in congregational histories. The women themselves, however, have been exemplary in recording their activities in the many Minute Books held at Lutheran Archives, providing rich material for their story to be told at local, regional and national level as well as the international context they have drawn upon and contributed to in compassionate outreach beyond our borders.

B. Called and Clothed for Digital Mission and Ministry

Rev Richard Fox

In recent times we have seen a boom in digital mission and ministry. Church doors are open online and people are engaging with online worship, digital evangelism through methods like social media, and digital discipleship through relationships and resources. In this session, we will highlight and unpack recent learnings and explore how to make and develop meaningful relationships in an online world. The Digital Mission and Ministry Forum will provide insights and ideas to help you in your mission and ministry context. There are many possibilities to reach, engage and grow mission and ministry relationships in a digital world. So how can you be involved and be missionaries in a digital world and reach more people than you can imagine with the good news of Jesus Christ and his message of hope? Discover resources and ways to do digital mission and ministry at www.lutheranmedia.org.au, www.messagesofhope.org.au and www.happyland.com.au.

This elective is also available on Wednesday in elective session 6.

C. Touching His hem in a crowded world: Exploring calling and vocation

Dr Alison Short

The generous and loving reaction of Jesus to an unwell woman in the midst of a busy crowd (Mark 5:21-34) reminds us that God walks with us in many guises in our ordinary world, making a difference to people who are hurting and in need. Undoubtedly, this includes every single one of us. As Christians, we are called to imitate Christ and to fulfil our vocation in the world. How can such vocation be understood in the current context? Luther's teaching outlines the responsibility of every Christian to exercise our vocational mission in the language of the people around us and in line with the customs and activities of everyday life. For example, Paul has given us the example of working as a tentmaker in the marketplace in Colossi. This presentation further explores vocation and calling, ending with an example of a vocational project designed to address the spiritual needs of university students, with a view to supporting resilience at work in their chosen allied health career.

ALC Opening Lecture

Theological Education as mission

Rev Paul Smith

The tradition of the Welsh and Irish Celtic Church was to establish educational communities with theology as their core purpose. This tradition was expressed missiologically, with these educational communities replicating themselves, often in far-away places. Many of the theological centres across Northern Europe, including those significant in Lutheran history, are located in places established as part of the Irish and Welsh Celtic mission throughout the early middle-ages.

This opening lecture takes up this often-neglected Christian mission history and explores key learnings from this tradition, for the ongoing development of theological education in the Church of the 21st century.

[Check my local time: ALC Opening Lecture](#)

Presenters



Rev Professor Vicky Balabanski

Principal, *Uniting College for Leadership and Theology*

Vicky is a New Testament scholar who is internationally recognised for her work in ecological hermeneutics, receptive ecumenism and feminist studies. She was appointed to the membership of the Society for New Testament Studies in 2017, has recently become the General Editor of the Earth Bible Commentary Series with Bloomsbury T & T Clark, and is editor of a special issue of the Journal for the Study of the New Testament. She is Principal of Uniting College for Leadership and Theology (which is the theological college of the Uniting Church in South Australia), held major leadership roles within the Adelaide College of Divinity and serves in the national leadership of the Uniting Church in Australia. She has been a keynote speaker in ecumenical contexts such as the world Diakonia conference and the Receptive Ecumenism Conference.



Dr Neil Bergmann

Chair, *Lutheran Earth Care Australia and New Zealand*

Neil Bergmann is the volunteer chair of Lutheran Earth Care Australia and New Zealand. He is a retired lecturer in computer engineering, completing a PhD from University of Edinburgh in 1984. He has recently completed some theology study, culminating in a research Master of Theology from Flinders University in 2021 on the topic of 'Virtue Ethics, Eco-theology and Discipleship'. He worships at Our Saviour Lutheran Church, Rochedale Queensland.



Mr Thomas Brennen

Principal, *Lakeside College*

Thomas Brennen is currently serving as Principal of Lakeside College, a Foundation to Year 12 Lutheran school located in Pakenham, Victoria. He has served as a theology and education lecturer and missionary in the Middle East and is passionate about bringing Lutheran theology to bear on social justice issues. As an educator, Thomas is dedicated to ensuring a transformative Lutheran education is accessible to all families across Australia. He is also a PhD candidate at Australian Catholic University, researching the links between Luther's theology, social justice and Australian Lutheran schooling.



Mrs Jodi Brook

Director of Grow Ministries, *Lutheran Church of Australia and New Zealand*

Jodi has been the Director of the Lutheran Church of Australia's Grow Ministries department since its beginning almost 10 years ago. She brings a wealth of knowledge and ministry experience to this role. She regularly shares her expertise with congregations through their Grow Coaching program. Under Jodi's thoughtful leadership Grow Ministries has developed training courses and resources that provide support for congregational leaders doing ministry with children and young people. While Grow Ministries focus is on supporting congregations build effective ministry that supports the first-third of life (0-30 years of age) their overarching methodology is to bring congregational renewal through developing an intergenerational culture. Jodi also enjoys doing ministry alongside her husband Andrew, who is currently serving as lead Pastor at St John's Lutheran Church, Unley, SA. Together they have modelled faith at home to their three (now young adult) children, Henri, Emilia and Tom.



Dr Josephine Clarke

Research Associate, *Flinders University*

Josephine is a Research Associate working in the Social Work Innovation Research Living Space at Flinders University on the 'Religion and domestic violence: exploring men's perpetration' research project. She has a background working and researching in rural and remote communities on a range of issues including family violence, livelihood and industry restructuring, climate change and water reform.



Dr Michelle Eastwood

Director of Research, *Australian Lutheran College*

Michelle has recently finished her PhD through the University of Divinity. She has degrees in psychology, history, education, and theology. Her current research interests include gender and sexuality, Hebrew Bible, and worship and liturgy.

Michelle has been employed as a Research Assistant for Australian Women in Religion (AWR) project. She started at ALC in February 2021 as Research Administrative Officer and in March 2022 she took up the role of co-Director of Research.



Rev Richard Fox

Director of Lutheran Media, *Lutheran Church of Australia and New Zealand*

Richard enjoys family life and sport. After working at Lutheran Community Care, umpiring AFL, and serving as the Waikerie Lutheran Parish pastor, he is currently the Director of Lutheran Media. Lutheran Media produces videos, podcasts, and resources to reach out to millions of people through Messages of Hope, Happyland and other ministries such as online and DVD worship.



Rev Dr Stephen Haar

Vice Principal; Lecturer in Theology, *Australian Lutheran College*

Stephen has been a pastor for 44 years, serving in Queensland and South Australia from 1979 to 2004. After completing his doctorate, from 2005 to 2006 he enjoyed a rich mix of experiences including studies in education, teaching in seminaries of partner churches in Asia, and being a scholar-in-residence in the USA. In 2007 he commenced at ALC as Lecturer in New Testament and Pastoral Studies, was appointed Academic Dean in 2008 and Vice-Principal in 2010 and accredited as Senior Lecturer by the University of Divinity in 2014. He is recognised for strengths in learning and teaching, with significant contributions to student experience and transformative learning at undergraduate level. In 2022 he was conferred with the degree of Doctor of Divinity (*honoris causa*) by the Council of the University of Divinity, in recognition of Stephen's sustained and distinguished contribution to the Church and community in Australia and internationally over many years, through scholarship, educational innovation, and engagement with Church and inter-Church dialogue in myriad ways.



Rev Nathan Hedt

Manager, New & Renewing Churches, *Lutheran Church of Australia and New Zealand*

Nathan is the LCA NZ Pastor for New and Renewing Churches. He has previously been a parish pastor, church planter and tertiary ministry pastor. He has a heart for mission and evangelism in post-Christian Australia, and is delighted to see a growing movement of evangelism and church planting in the LCA NZ. He's married to Yvette and they have three adult daughters. Nathan enjoys driving in his restored 1975 classic Mini, playing cricket, mountain biking and board games.



Mr Craig Heidenreich

Cross-cultural ministry facilitator, *Lutheran Church of Australia and New Zealand*

Craig joined the LCANZ as Cross-cultural ministry facilitator in early 2020 from a couple of decades working among refugees. For much of this time his role was to mentor a wide range of ethnic community leaders from the middle east, Africa and Asia. These years afforded a unique opportunity to hear the heart of these new arrivals and to observe the Lord at work among them.

There are now many coming to Australia and New Zealand from non-European backgrounds and these people tend to be quite open as they transition to a new country.

He is convinced that the harvest is ripe, and the Lord has prepared 'men and women of peace' who are ready to respond when we demonstrate the grace of the gospel. He is also amazed at how God can use us even when we don't feel very competent. If you are up for an adventure – let's talk.



Dr Christine Joy Lockwood

Christine Lockwood completed her PhD at the University of Adelaide in 2014. Her thesis was entitled 'The Two Kingdoms: Lutheran Missionaries and the British Civilizing Mission in Early South Australia'. She has contributed articles, papers and book chapters in her field. Her interest in Christian missions, cultural preservation, change and adaptation, and cross-cultural communications stems from her involvement in mission work in Papua New Guinea for 17 years, initially as a high school teacher, working with foreign students the USA, teaching English as a foreign language, and raising her children in three countries.



Rev Dr Greg Lockwood

Emeritus Lecturer, *Australian Lutheran College*

Dr Greg Lockwood is a lecturer emeritus of Australian Lutheran College. His special areas were New Testament and Missiology. Since his retirement from teaching he has served as a volunteer at Lutheran Archives in Bowden, South Australia. In conjunction with Lutheran Archives, particularly with Dr Lois Zweck OAM, he has been engaged in translating and annotating the diaries of his forebear, Missionary Clamor Schurmann, from the original German script, now submitted to Wakefield Press for publication.



Dr Chris Materne

Manager, Church Worker Support, *Lutheran Church of Australia and New Zealand*

Dr Chris Materne is the Manager for Church Worker Support in the Lutheran Church of Australia and New Zealand. This role sees her, and a small team, working with pastors, employees, volunteers, and congregational leaders to develop practices, resources, and systems to support those serving the church. Chris has also served the church in various volunteer leadership roles as family and work circumstances permitted.

A passionate lifelong learner, her PhD research focused on aspects of memory and cognition and as part of the Flinders Centre for Ageing Studies she was involved in longitudinal studies of ageing and other dementia research. Chris previously worked in human resources management in the hospitality sector. She has also worked in state government in roles supporting learning as well as individual and community development.



Rev Michael Mayer

Pastor, *Trinity Lutheran Church Ashmore, QLD*

Michael Mayer is an LCA pastor who has served in both capital cities (Canberra, Brisbane) and in remote rural WA (Esperance -Kalgoorlie). Currently (to his surprise) he serves on the Gold Coast. He has been interested in spiritual direction since seminary days, is an accredited Spiritual Director, and loves to see how the Holy Spirit works uniquely in each person. He currently accompanies a number of men.



Dr Tania Nelson

Executive Officer, Local Mission, *Lutheran Church of Australia and New Zealand*

Tania is the LCA's Executive Officer for Local Mission. She provides strategic oversight of the work of Care Ministries, Grow Ministries, Lutheran Media, New and Renewing Churches and Cross-Cultural Ministry. Tania is passionate about mission, and how all can join in God's mission in Australia and New Zealand. Being God's hands and feet in mission includes welcoming our new neighbours and Tania sees it as a privilege to share life with her Cambodian friend and her Persian hairdresser. She also loves a chat with taxi drivers.



Dr Anna Nürnberger

Director of Research, *Australian Lutheran College*

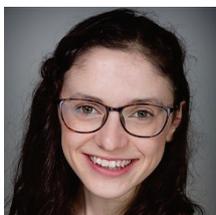
Anna was born and grew up in Nuremberg, Germany. She studied theology, Anglophone literature and English linguistics at the universities of Erlangen and Augsburg in Germany, and at Flinders University and the Adelaide College of Divinity in South Australia. After working as a high school teacher in Bavaria, she obtained her doctoral degree in Biblical Theology in 2017 from Augsburg University. Anna has worked as a Research Assistant and Lecturer at Hamburg University and currently serves ALC as a co-Director of Research, and an editor of the *Lutheran Theological Journal*.



Bethany Pietsch

Reference Archivist, *Lutheran Archives*

Bethany Pietsch studied arts and languages at the University of Adelaide and completed her Honours degree in early-modern European history in 2021. She commenced work at Lutheran Archives in the role of Reference Archivist in 2022, where she enjoys assisting researchers and deepening her own knowledge of the Lutheran story in Australia.



Eloise Quinn-Valentine

Eloise Quinn-Valentine graduated with a Masters of Theology (Theology in History) from the University of Edinburgh in 2021, completing her dissertation on the life-writing and faith of Jane Attwater Blatch, a British nonconformist woman of the eighteenth-century. Eloise is a member of St John's Lutheran Church Unley, and is involved in a number of children and youth, young adult, and women's ministries. She is passionate about faith, storytelling, education, justice, and compassion.



Professor Peter Sherlock

Vice-Chancellor, *University of Divinity*

Professor Peter Sherlock is the Vice-Chancellor of the University of Divinity. He was appointed as inaugural Vice-Chancellor in 2012, and reappointed for five year terms in 2016 and 2021. Professor Sherlock's research examines the cultural history of Renaissance and Reformation Europe, especially the commemoration of the dead and cultures of remembering and forgetting. He also publishes on gender and religion, and on theological education. Forthcoming works include *The Monuments of Westminster Abbey: Power and Memory in Early Modern Britain* (Routledge) and (with Daniel Nellor) a book on the impact of theological study in the careers of prominent Australians. He is the Chair of the Council of Deans of Theology (2015–), the peak body for the theology sector in Australia, and President of ANZATS (2022–). He serves on various governing bodies for the Anglican Church in Australia.



Dr Alison Short

Senior Lecturer, *Western Sydney University*

Dr Alison Short, PhD, is a lifelong Lutheran with a strong sense of community vocation and ministry, currently serving as elected lay delegate for the NSW Ecumenical Council. During the pandemic, Alison completed a Diploma in Theology (ALC/UD, 2022). Previously, Alison engaged with new movements in contemplative prayer since 2009, subsequently practising Christian Meditation within the ecumenical World Community of Christian Meditation (WCCM), where she is trained to lead such groups. Her knowledge and experience of spiritual and meditative practices is informed by qualifications in professional music therapy, specifically the *Bonny Method of Guided Imagery and Music*, where she is an internationally accredited trainer. Alison has published three articles in the *Lutheran Theological Journal* and is a member of the *Religion and Society Research Strand* at Western Sydney University. As Senior Lecturer, Alison continues to write, present and lead research and thinking in many academic fields. [[Western Sydney University](#); [Google Scholar](#)]



Rev Paul Smith

Bishop, *Lutheran Church of Australia and New Zealand*

Bishop Paul grew up in outback and far-north Queensland, the son of a district magistrate and army nurse turned shopkeeper. With minimal experience of church, he was ushered into the Lutheran Church when he became a student boarder at St Peter's Lutheran College, Indooroopilly in Brisbane.

Bishop Paul graduated from Luther Seminary in Adelaide and was ordained in 1988. He has served as pastor in both Lutheran schools and parishes and in 2015 he was elected as Bishop of the Lutheran Church in Queensland. In 2021, he was elected bishop of the Lutheran Church of Australia and New Zealand. In 1997, he gained his Master of Education through the University of South Australia.

Since early Seminary days, he has read and studied the development of the Welsh and Irish Celtic communities, including travel in Wales during his long service leave in 2010. He cherishes the intuitive relationship between theological education and the mission of the Church in Celtic Church life, and believes there is inspiration for the contemporary Church in engagement with this undervalued story in the history of Christianity.

Bishop Paul is also interested in Christian education; rugby union; mission collaboration with Asia Pacific Christian communities; movies; books and reading; ecumenical relations between Churches; languages; and the application of technology to improving life (he drives a Hyundai EV).



Rev Jo Bertil Vaernesbranden

Jo is a PhD Research Fellow in Systematic Theology at MF Norwegian School of Theology, Religion and Society (MF), in Oslo, Norway. He is a Visiting Scholar at ALC until July 2023. During this time he plans to complete his PhD on Luther and Derrida, a project springing out of his interest in the intersection between theology and (continental) philosophy. Jo is an ordained minister in the Church of Norway, and beyond ministering he has done anything from NATO-soldier in Kosovo to stay-home dad (not that different). He has earlier worked with weak theology and John D. Caputo's theology of the event. Beyond church, academics and family life, with his wife Maggie and three children, Jo's interests include music and football ('soccer'!).



Professor Sarah Wendt

Professor of Social Work, *Flinders University*

Sarah is Professor of Social Work and Director of the Social Work Innovation Research Living Space at Flinders University in South Australia. She practised in the field of domestic violence and has published on violence against women and social work practice. Her current research projects explore the impact of domestic violence on women's citizenship, service provision for Aboriginal communities experiencing family violence, and engaging men to address domestic violence. In particular, Sarah has been researching rural women's experiences of domestic violence for over a decade in Australia and more recently how domestic violence work shapes practitioners living and working in rural communities. Professor Wendt is the lead Chief Investigator on the 'Religion and domestic violence: exploring men's perpetration' research project.



Rev James Winderlich

Principal, *Australian Lutheran College*

James has been a pastor of the Lutheran Church of Australia and New Zealand since 1991. During this time he has served in a diverse variety of parish settings, and in other LCANZ roles and beyond. He commenced as ALC Principal in 2014 and has worked with the College community together with the wider Church to develop the College's various programs to meet the growing needs of a constantly changing church.



Dr Lois Zweck OAM

Following a PhD in German Language and Literature from Adelaide University, post-doctoral study at Freiburg (Germany) and a varied teaching career, Lois commenced volunteer work at Lutheran Archives 30 years ago alongside teaching German at Continuing Education and tertiary levels for Adelaide University: transcribing, translating and researching documents from the century when Australian Lutheran churches functioned primarily in German remains a crucial challenge in the Archives' mission to preserve and open up to the people of the church and the community the multitude of unknown stories of their past. Lois' engagement includes decades as a member of the Board/Committee of Lutheran Archives and Friends of Lutheran Archives, which she chaired for 19 years, and over a decade as a founding member of the SA German Heritage Research Group. In 2022 she was awarded an OAM for service to community history.



Mrs Pam Zweck

PhD candidate, *Australian Lutheran College*

Pam Zweck is a PhD candidate under the supervision of Dr Mark Worthing and Dr Josephine Laffin, studying through the University of Divinity and enrolled at Australian Lutheran College. Her PhD topic relates to Lucas Cranach the Elder and involves church history, systematic theology, and religious art. She is retired and prior to this was Acquisitions and Liaison Librarian in ALC's Löhe Memorial Library.

Her research has focussed on the role of Lucas Cranach the Elder in the Wittenberg Reformation and the rhetoric in his religious art. She hopes to engender a greater appreciation of Lucas Cranach's reformational art in general, and to foster its application for educational and liturgical use in Christian churches and schools. Ultimately, she intends to demonstrate that his reformational art proclaims the gospel as taught by Luther and that he can therefore be considered a theologian of the Wittenberg Reformation.