

Saints Alive

News from Australian Lutheran College

Issue 2, 2011

Called to Serve
Pastoral graduates
prepare for ordination

Serving in Mission
— at home
— overseas

 **Australian Lutheran College**

From the Principal

Australian Lutheran College is of the church, for the church, by the church ...

Who is this church that ALC serves?

It is you, the saints of God on earth: baptised; believing; serving; hoping ... Saints Alive!

We serve in a small corner of God's backyard called the Lutheran Church of Australia/New Zealand. It's a remarkable corner full of gifted people and a life giving message of hope. We are free people in Jesus Christ! Freedom is a catch cry for so many people in this complicated world. We have it as a gift to share without fear or favour.

ALC wants to be your partner in this gift. Through learning more about our faith, and getting to know Jesus better through God's Word, we can be more confident and caring people. Our community can grow in faith, love and doing good things.

Have you ever thought of getting deeper into your faith? Do you want to test your sense of vocation or just learn more about God? ALC, including Grassroots Training, has many opportunities for people like you – and if what we have doesn't suit you, tell us what we could do that would help you most.

John Henderson
Principal



I want to support ALC through my prayers and gift!

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Tangara

1968-2009



Tangara was the magazine produced by the students of Luther Seminary, now Australian Lutheran College, for more than 40 years.

It was sent out to all congregations of the Lutheran Church of Australia to let the people who supported these students know who they were and what they were doing.

Tangara means 'GO' in an unspecified Aboriginal language. This name was chosen for the magazine in a 'keenly fought contest', according to the editor of the first issue Greg Lockwood. (The word does not come, as I had thought, from the local Karna language.)

The first issue of Tangara was published in the first year of the new seminary.

The graduating class that year, which included John Kleinig, have all now passed retirement age. This means that every pastor who is working in the LCA was profiled as a student in this magazine, apart from the 2010 graduates and those who have come from overseas.

The changes in the culture and life of the Seminary/College can be seen in the changing look of the magazine.

At the beginning, Tangara represented an all-male tertiary institution and the only females appeared toward the back of the magazine where domestic staff and laundry staff were pictured.

Women began to appear more frequently as the years progressed as wives of seminarians and then as students in their own right.

In the final issue, women are integral to the life of the institution as lecturers, students, staff, boarders and 'Sem Wives'.

A bit of history: ALC incorporates two former tertiary institutions of the LCA: Luther Seminary and Lutheran Teachers College, which came onsite in 1990.

LTC had its own magazine for a number of years, known as Rara Avis, or 'Rare Bird'. Copies of this magazine really are rare these days, but there is a collection in the library, published from 1968 to 1973.

Saints Alive, the magazine you are now reading, will now take the place of Tangara in informing people within the church about student life at ALC.

Trevor Schaefer
Löhe Memorial Library

Presenting ... Pastoral Theology candidates for ordination 2011

Greg Page

My name is Greg Page. After five years of full-time study at ALC, the question has been asked, 'How has it changed and equipped you?'

Well, academically, I now have a much better knowledge of the bible and its history, new techniques for reading and interpreting what God says to us through his holy Word, and a firm grounding in our Lutheran doctrine and history.

In a practical sense, I have been equipped with skills to add to my own experiences that I can use to nurture and counsel God's people.

I can't wait to commence my ministry, wherever God may place us. I look forward to getting to know my congregations: their successes and their ongoing challenges; their history, their present, and their plans and hopes for the future.

In this context, I look forward to sharing the love and the peace of



God with them through his Word, and helping them to see Jesus, face to face.

Jade Bauer

ALC has been a place for discovery and growth, a time of challenge and joy, and has fostered the maturing of my faith in many and various ways.

During my time here I have faced serious trials and challenges which have deepened my understanding of vocation and given more meaning to the Gospel in my life.

I have been equipped through study, field education placements and vicarage to handle God's word in both preaching and teaching and to apply the various knowledge, skills and attitudes that I have learnt in both concrete and practical ways.

ALC has helped to strengthen my own particular gifts and abilities for ministry and I look forward to preaching and teaching God's Word, applying pastoral care grounded in the love of God, forming lasting relationships with people and communicating the forgiveness, comfort and peace of the Gospel to people from all walks of life.



Presenting ... Pastoral Theology candidates for ordination 2011



Wing Wah Tso

In 2009, after 13 years working as a Chinese pastor in Australia, I thought it was good to have some rest and studies.

Through some help from pastor friends and Lutheran connections, I attended my first Specific Ministry Pastor (SMP) course at ALC in the same year.

During the course I had a conversion-like experience and a re-defined sense of call.

In 2010 I came to ALC to complete a two-year transition course. It has consolidated my previous studies and also broadened my understanding of the Reformation faith and tradition.

I have been incredibly blessed by this second call and my studies at ALC. In the coming years I will spend the rest of my life to grow in spiritual formation, vocational identity and fruitfulness in the ministry.

I am a Chinese pastor who can understand and cope with the unique context among Chinese parishes. I have sufficient knowledge, experience and skills

to start any kind of ministry readily. It is all by the grace and mercy of God.

Steve Hibbard

It seems like yesterday, but also a lifetime ago, that after 25 years of employment in the finance industry, I was writing my first ALC assignment paper.

My darling wife Cathy and our son Josh had gone to visit Gran so that I could concentrate; they returned some eight hours later to find me slumped in my chair among a sea of

discarded paper and despair. I had only 'successfully achieved' completing the heading.

Now after five challenging and wonderful years our time at ALC is drawing to an end.

Over these years our family has met so many wonderful, supportive and loving people who will remain in our hearts forever. Not the least being my Vicar Father and friend Keith McNichol, his wife Trudy and their great family.

No words can describe our thanks to them and the welcoming people in the Dernancourt parish for their support, or to the congregations where we have worshipped.

We thank all the ALC lecturers and staff, fellow students and their families for being part of this journey. As has been the story of my life, yet again, I thank God that He placed me before the right people at the right time.

Now we wait in nervous excitement to find out how God has chosen us to serve Him, in the sure knowledge that wherever that may be, it will be the right place.



Presenting ... Pastoral Theology candidates for ordination 2011

Harry Pickett

It's easy to pick out those classes with a pastoral focus i.e. Parish Administration, which have shaped us for ministry, but what is important is that all classes, field education and vicarage have a pastoral direction natively built into them.

Largely I suspect this is because our teachers are pastors first and foremost. For us students, each subject beats with a pastoral heart.

This allows us to boldly question 'How does this class relate to the real world of life in the church?' I have never been told that the connection between subject and pastoral context is irrelevant.

So every subject, every opportunity has formed and shaped me for ministry.



Our God even continued to prepare me to be His servant in hospital, where I learned the true meaning of service and servanthood.

To the credit of ALC, they saw that transformative action of the Holy Spirit at work in my sickness and the way it changed me, pushing

me further into readiness for ministry.

I believe that patience, listening and being a person of prayer and the Word are my strengths. Even my sense of humour is fantastic! Unfortunately I seem to be the only one that realises it!

Sean McMaughan and Wayne George

The graduating Pastoral Theology class welcomed two new members earlier this year: Sean McMaughan and Wayne George joined them in preparation for ordination and parish ministry.

As profiled in the last edition of Saints Alive, Sean arrived from Texas in January and Wayne from South Africa via New Zealand in April – and they have followed differing paths into service in the Lutheran Church of Australia.

'ALC has given me a good confessional Lutheran base and also an idea of what ministry is like in an Australian context rather than the way things are back home,' Sean said.

'Being in a congregation will allow me to put this into practice, but

it's been a heads-up on what to expect.

'I'm looking forward to getting to know parishioners and to building relationships with them,' he said.

Wayne sees his months at ALC as a time of ongoing moulding:

'Ongoing because I sincerely believe that learning is an ongoing process from the cradle to the grave,' he said.

'It has served to further hone the tools acquired during my seminary years back in Cape Town and my subsequent years of ministry.

'I love witnessing God at work in people's lives, as they go through valley experiences and emerge on the other side singing with the Psalmist: "If the Lord had not been on our side..." (Psalm 124:2),' Wayne said.



Overseas students and visitors bless ALC

Students and visitors from overseas greatly enrich the life of the community at Australian Lutheran College.

Their presence is a constant reminder of our partnership in the gospel with sister churches beyond our shores. They come to us with different traditions and different experiences of what it means to be church, in countries and cultures very different from our own.

Every year we have a small number of overseas pastors sent to us by their churches on short-term scholarships provided by the Lutheran Church of Australia through its Board for Mission.

Dr Jontor Situmorang, Principal of Abdi Sabda Seminary at Medan in North Sumatra, was here earlier in the year on sabbatical leave, studying and writing on how Luther interpreted the Old Testament.

Pastor Jonathan Kua, a lecturer at Balob Teachers College in Papua New Guinea, is doing a doctorate in Old Testament and came to ALC to improve his understanding of Hebrew and do thesis research and writing.

Pastor Pandila Santa came to ALC from a poor and remote area in the south of India. His study was sponsored by the mission arm of the North-Elbian Evangelical Lutheran Church (a successor to the old Leipzig Mission). His story of faithfulness and courage in a difficult situation inspired and encouraged ALC students in their journeys.

Pastor Samuel Wang was sent here by his church to write a major paper in preparation for ordination.

Presently there are two Indonesian pastors at ALC on scholarship.

Pastor Abraham Hutasoit was Bishop of the Angkola church in North Sumatra (GKPA) until recently, and he is here preparing to take up a lectureship in pastoral theology at Abdi Sabda Seminary. A young pastor from the Simalungun church (GKPS), Dendy Sidauruk, is at ALC for three months initially, but hopefully for longer. He is working at improving his English to get into ALC's Master of Theology program, and while here he is also serving as part-time pastor of the fledgling Indonesian congregation based at Trinity, Pasadena.

ALC also has a few overseas students who have already studied theology elsewhere and are now preparing for ministry in the Lutheran Church of Australia.

From the United States there is Sean McMaughan, from South Africa via New Zealand there is Wayne George, and from India via New Zealand there is Jaswanth



Dr Dean Zweck (centre) introduces Pastor Samuel Wang (left) and Pastor Jonathan Kua to the finer points of life at ALC.

Kukatlapalli. Each year two part-time doctoral candidates come from the United States for an intensive period of study and research, which also includes giving presentations at the graduate forum.

Besides those who come to study, there are quite a few overseas people who visit more briefly at ALC. For example, from time to time missionaries from Germany en route to Papua New Guinea visit and attend lectures as part of their orientation.

ALC is truly blessed and enriched by the presence of students and visitors from overseas, and for its part ALC strives to provide theological input that will equip them well for their ministry and mission in the places they came from.

Dean Zweck
Overseas Student Supervisor

Growing at Grassroots Training

Grassroots Training – ALC's Vocational Education and Training arm – delivers a broad range of training to people within the Lutheran Church and beyond, often in unrecognised ways.

Since 2010 many people have used Grassroots Training workshops and materials as part of their professional development or to improve their skills for ministry.

Grassroots Training has been delivering a core training component of the Twenty20 Vision program for the Lutheran Church of Australia in 2011 with those 20 leaders aiming to graduate with a Diploma of Management by the end of 2012.

A growing number of students are furthering their ministries as pastors, chaplains, lay workers or volunteers involved in ministry programs by enrolling in the Diploma of Management or the Certificate IV and Diploma in Christian Ministry and Theology.

Many students are also auditing Grassroots Training programs – taking part in workshops and group studies for their own enjoyment, interest and equipping without opting for the assessment programs that would result in formal accreditation.

'Every workshop and every study can be done for credit or it can be done for enjoyment, it's up to the individual,' VET Director Shannon Hood said.

'That fits with our philosophy – Growing everyday people for every day ministry,' he said.

Grassroots Training was the result of a merger between ALC and Delta Ministries in 2010.

ALC recognised the need to broaden its offering to include



VET Director Shannon Hood and Workshop and Seminar Co-ordinator Colleen Andretzke.

Vocational Education and Training – and Church leadership enthusiastically supported this move, offering some financial backing.

Delta Ministries was formed in 2007 as a ministry of the Aberfoyle Park congregation, with an emphasis on healing, training and mobilising people in congregations to use their own gifts for God's purpose.

Its Certificate IV in Christian Ministry and Theology was widely recognised.

In 2008 Delta Ministries also became the training provider for the national Vetamorphus program in South Australia, Western Australia and the Northern Territory, an agency agreement which has continued with Grassroots Training until the end of 2011.

While Shannon and Workshop and Seminar Co-ordinator Colleen Andretzke are now leaving, a little earlier than they had anticipated, they remain confident of God's will and way forward for them.

Timing of the transition was still uncertain at time of going to press, but everyone is keen to ensure a smooth transition so that Grassroots students will experience minimal disruption.

"ALC will continue to develop vocational training programs that will benefit the church as a whole and Lutheran congregations and ministries in particular. We are grateful to those who helped us begin this work and Grassroots Training will continue as an important part of our service to the church," ALC principal John Henderson said.

Two more Small Group Studies available now

The second and third books in the Grassroots Training small group study series are now available.

'Bible' was released in the second half of this year, while production of 'Gracious' has just been completed.

'Bible' is an eight-session overview of the Old and New Testaments, designed to help participants explore God's word, ask questions and share their discoveries with other group members.

'Gracious' is a study of Christian growth, presenting spiritual disciplines to guide and nurture participants into a life reflective of Jesus' perfect character.

All of the small group studies are also subjects which can be utilised by participants to complete a Certificate IV or Diploma in Christian Ministry and Theology through Grassroots Training. Study booklets cost \$20 each.

For more information about the series contact ALC. To order copies for your study group, contact Australian Church Resources on 1300 36 75 75 or visit the website www.acresources.com.au



VETAMORPHUS

The national Vetamorphus program is an ecumenically-based Vocational Education and Training program which enables students in Years 11 or 12 to achieve a nationally accredited Certificate III in Christian Ministry and Theology as part of their secondary certificate.

This year 102 students were enrolled in Vetamorphus through Grassroots Training in South Australia and Western Australia, a legacy of the merger of Delta Ministries into ALC.

With the departure of co-ordinator Travis Doecke at the end of this year, the delivery rights for Vetamorphus will transfer to another organisation and the program will continue uninterrupted.

'We are happy to have hosted Vetamorphus for the past two years and are sorry to see it go,' ALC Principal John Henderson said.

'It has been a blessing to many young people, opening them up

to new possibilities of ministry and we know that it will continue to do so, regardless of who hosts the program,' he said.

Vetamorphus will continue to have a special relationship with ALC, encouraging its graduates to consider ALC programs beyond their secondary schooling, with ALC giving due recognition to their prior learning.

For more information on Vetamorphus, which can be undertaken in any secondary school – private or state – visit the website: www.vetamorphus.com

Experiencing Learning

ALC is not confined by state borders: the School of Educational Theology has a Brisbane presence, through educational theology lecturer Andrew Jaensch, based at Australian Catholic University (ACU). This is an interview with one of the many Queensland students preparing for service in Lutheran schools.

Nima Rajni Baran, 20, is a fourth year education student at ACU. She graduated from Grace Lutheran College and also attended the primary school. Nima came straight from high school into university studies.

What made you decide you want to be a teacher?

I decided to become a teacher because I wanted to do something I love. I wanted to work with kids and teach them about Jesus. I am a very energetic and happy person and I wanted share that with children.

Are you a city person or a country person – and why?

I thought I was a city person until I went to Kingaroy and fell in love with the town. I enjoy being close to my family, friends and Church but there is so much more the country has to offer. I loved how simple life was there and that the students there were 'young' and more interested in helping on the family farm than playing video games. I found the students completely different in the country and I felt the school had a lot of support and encouragement for the pre-service teachers visiting.

Where did you go on your prac?

I went to St John's Lutheran Primary School in Kingaroy with (class) 5KM.

Why did you choose that area/school?

I chose the school because Helen Folker had spoken to Lutheran strand students when we were in second year. I liked what I heard and I was itching for a change. I also wanted to spread my wings more as an individual and make myself more employable. I had no idea when I was organising my prac that I would now be dreaming of a job in a country Lutheran school.

What was the best thing that happened to you on your prac?

I was offered to come back for my Internship! The best thing for me was getting to know the students the staff and the school. I really got on my feet as a teacher and I surprised myself with my confidence

and delivery of my lessons. My associate teacher was fantastic and always giving me feedback, and I was also reflecting a lot. After growing so much in four weeks, knowing I'd be coming back in a year was a dream.



Worst thing?

Getting a tummy bug the day before Andrew Jaensch was coming to watch me teach. And also missing family at home.

Favourite moment or highlights?

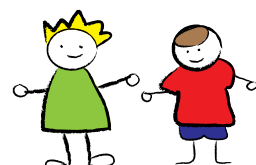
Teaching entire Maths units. I was really able to make it my own and set up my own rules and rewards during my lessons. I loved when the students learned how to make 3D shapes in my maths lesson and then decided to use those skills in their integrated studies to make a board game. That's when I knew that I had taught them something they could use.

Have you enjoyed doing the Lutheran Strand?

I have loved doing the Lutheran strand. We're only a small class so there is a real sense of community and we've been sharing this wonderful journey as we grow as individuals and as teachers I have found the Lutheran strand a great way to deepen my knowledge of theology and to connect with other students.

Do you want to teach in a Lutheran school?

I want to teach in a Lutheran school because I get to share my faith with my co-workers and my class. I believe it is such a privilege to teach young children Christian studies because that is the foundation that they will hold on to as they grow up.



New program reflects changing status

Sometimes change is initiated from the groundswell of public opinion. Sometimes it is imposed from above or by circumstances.

Whatever the impetus, it's not always bad, and sometimes it is even good! From 2012 Melbourne College of Divinity (MCD) and hence ALC, will become a specialist university.

I can't help but be excited that our little institution is to be the Adelaide presence of the MCD University of Divinity and that our awards will have university status in future.

The university world has regulations we haven't had to worry about before, and with that comes the need to change. Caught up in this necessity is the ALC Master of Education.

It's a long story, but the bottom line is that ALC will not be able to offer this award after the existing cohort of students finishes.

This was a blow, as I believe that the way this award is conceptualised and operated as a means for sustained reflection on the connections between education and theology, is probably unique. However, ALC has a brief to provide quality theological education for pre-service and in-service teachers – and we have several hundred education students on our books,



Left: ALC Master of Education candidate Bonnie Juers of Immanuel Primary School, prepares to present her research findings to a Hot Topics session at ALC.

so if we can't do it one way, we find another: enter, the Master of Arts (Education and Theology).

I suggested earlier that sometimes change is good. I am actually rather pleased with the direction that the Master of Arts (Education and Theology) is taking.

We have been able to retain all that was good about the old Master of Education, but use the MA structure to achieve some outcomes which the faculty of the School of Educational Theology has long since deemed desirable.

We are still sorting out the minor details, but I believe that the

core product is good - in fact I am confident that it is very good, and will serve the next generation of teacher students well.

As the name suggests, the new award continues to allow educators and theologians to consider education and theology in tandem and to think deeply about how the two disciplines relate to each other in the real world of schools.

The MA coursework structure allows us to do this in greater depth and with more emphasis on research and research skill.

This will allow ALC to better assist Lutheran Education Australia to move towards our joint goal of increasing our understanding of Lutheran schools and Lutheran schooling.

Obviously it is change, but we're ready to embrace it – so bring it on!

Dr Merryn Ruwoldt
Head of School,
Educational Theology

Australian Lutheran College 2012

Orientation week for new on-campus students begins **Monday, 13 February, 2012.**

The **opening service** will be held at **9am** in the college chapel on **Monday, 27 February, 2012.**

The **opening lecture** will follow in the Refectory at **9.30am** and will be presented by Lecturer in Education, Ruth Zimmermann. All are welcome to attend.

Semester 1: 27 February to 22 June Enrolments for Semester 1 close 24 February 2012

Semester 2: 23 July to 23 November Enrolments for Semester 2 close 21 July 2012

If you would like to enrol in 2012 please complete the Expression of interest form located on the ALC website www.alc.edu.au Enquiries regarding enrolments are welcome all year round.



Workshop brings Specific Ministry Pastors together

The first workshop for Specific Ministry Pastors (SMP) this year was held at Australian Lutheran College from July 25 to July 29 and proved a resounding success.

With the topic concentrated on Leading Church Rites, Dr Andrew Pfeiffer (Head of the School of Pastoral Theology) led the seminars, supported by other ALC staff members.

The workshop was well attended, with participants travelling from as far afield as Kalgoorlie, Townsville and Auckland.

The experience of joining the ALC community for the week was extremely positive for the group who all deemed the time spent in Adelaide very valuable during their debrief session.

They agreed the workshop proved to be one of the most professional and informative times of training and instruction they have attended.

Outside the workshop seminars they embraced the fellowship which the time at ALC afforded them.

In addition to the camaraderie developed between the SMPs attending the course, they all truly enjoyed the opportunity to interact with the other students on campus and see their insights from a different perspective.

They genuinely appreciated the interaction with other ALC and LCA staff members and the general community care provided on campus.

(It was noted that the cooked breakfasts and other refectory meals were greatly appreciated – thanks to all the staff for their hard work and continued hospitality).

Feedback proved the importance of these workshops as the SMPs realised that they are embraced by the Lutheran Church of Australia and the wider community of the college: often they feel quite isolated in their regions.

(Above): Specific Ministry Pastors from around Australia and New Zealand at the first workshop in July.

Dr Pfeiffer conducted most of the workshops which focussed mainly on baptism, confirmation, marriage and funeral rites.

The SMP visitors had an opportunity to sit in on other lectures, be informed by other members of the ALC community including library staff, and shared an informal session with Larissa Helbig from the LCA's National Office and Rachel Wilhelm (ALC) in relation to future contact or assistance.

All agreed it was a positive experience and were looking forward to the October workshop's focus on the preaching from Mark.

Rachel Wilhelm
School of Pastoral Theology
administrator

Longest Lunch a piece of cake

Lunch for 130? Piece of cake. German theme? Fantastich!

When LCA business manager Debbie Venz started scouting for somewhere to host a launch for the first ever Longest Lutheran Lunch, the answer was obvious – hold it at the ALC Refectory.

It was close by for the College of Presidents and General Church Council, it has a lovely large dining room – and, as it always is during semester, lunch was already being served.

Catering primarily to the 75 boarders on campus, the Refectory serves three meals a day, seven days per week during semester, so cooking for another 60 or so was not a particularly difficult problem for Refectory Manager Monika Wegner and colleagues.

‘The German theme was easy – right up my alley,’ Monika (who was born in Germany) said.

So guests enjoyed roasts of pork and chicken with gravy, accompanied by potatoes, pumpkin, broccoli and sauerkraut, followed by a dessert of Streuselkuchen and coffee.

On the day, Monika was joined by Carolyn Sander and Kirby Wotton for the

morning shift, with Diane Bihet and student staff member Jonathan Heath joining them before lunch service began.

‘It was a bit unusual for us being at lunchtime, but a long way from being the largest event we ever cater for,’ Monika said.

‘At ordination events we regularly cater for between 300 and 400 people, and we have also catered for weddings and 21st birthdays.

‘We can always expect around 200 people for morning tea after the opening service and the Christmas staff dinner is another large event with between 50 and 60 attending.

‘We also look forward to catering for the Lutheran Women of South Australia’s annual retreat, held here at ALC every year in January – they are always very appreciative of our cooking!’ she said.

The core team of Monika, Carolyn, Diane, Roz Richmond and Kirby prepare lunches and dinners with



Carolyn Sander removes freshly baked rolls from the oven in time for lunch.

menu options to cater for food preferences, seven days a week.

Food is prepared fresh, while the staff bake enough dinner rolls, cakes, scones, desserts and biscuits to keep a small army on the move.

A cooked breakfast is normally served on Friday mornings, with cereals, fruit and toast offered on other days. Boarders have the option to pack their own lunch if their timetable requires it.



*Jonathan Krause (standing, centre) thanks Refectory staff Carolyn Sander (left), Jonathan Heath, Diane Bihet, Monika Wegner and Kirby Wotton (back to camera) for their efforts at the launch for the Longest Lutheran Lunch.
Cover: Refectory Manager Monika Wegner*



Boarders look back at an eventful year

Living at Australian Lutheran College has given me many great opportunities to enrich myself academically and socially and form strong lifelong friendships with those living at the college.

Not only is the college full of young vibrant people with likeminded Christian values, but it is also a place with a strong sense of community. Young adults from all walks of life live at ALC and all bring different experiences and personalities to the college.

ALC made my transition from a rural community to the city a smooth and enjoyable process. From my first day to the present, I have been welcomed with open arms. Everyone made me feel so welcome and at home. As our college is one of the smaller colleges, I have been able to make friends with everyone and I have felt a strong sense of support from those going through the same transitions as myself.

Living at ALC has made life so easy. Not only do we have all our meals provided for us, but we also have our cleaning done as well as internet and phone connection, and much more. Living in the centre of North Adelaide is very convenient as we are only a minute away from the shopping precinct of O'Connell St and a short walk away from universities and the CBD.

ALC has provided me with a thriving social life. We have many social events organised for us, such as the popular 'Main Event', as well as social netball games and the always exhilarating orientation week. Weekly social get togethers are also an excellent way to get to know your peers, have a great time and have a break from study.

The college provides their boarders with access to the library as well as ample desk space in our rooms and speedy internet connection. When needing a break from study, you can always enjoy a workout in the newly renovated gym or play a social game of squash, tennis or netball on our courts.

Overall my experience of living at the Australian Lutheran College has been one that I will never forget. Not only have I made many great friends, but I have had the chance to grow in myself through the opportunities that have been presented to me by this home away from home. I would definitely recommend the Australian Lutheran College to anyone that wants to have an experience as enriching and life changing as I have.

Olivia Rose

My name is Carl and I am a boarder at Australian Lutheran College studying an undergraduate degree in Commerce at Adelaide University.

"The Sem", as it is affectionately known by the boarders, has been a great facility to base myself from whilst undertaking my university studies.

A 20 minute walk or an even shorter bike ride is all it takes to arrive for classes at either the UniSA or Adelaide University campuses.

The Sem is an ideal stepping stone for young adults who feel ready to move out for the first time as with full catering, room cleaning and linen service, it offers greater independence while still maintaining a few of the home comforts.

Undoubtedly the greatest part of the college environment is the people who make it.

Almost invariably the boarders come from a country background - and having so many likeminded people who share similar values and interests creates a really friendly community environment.

This is illustrated by the numerous social events that scatter the semester calendar, be it weekly social mixed netball games, trips to the beach, the famous Thursday Pub Nights or the Sem Formal. There is always something to look forward to as a much-deserved break from study.

In contemplation of my time spent here, I can honestly attest that it has been a great period in my life and that I have developed friendships and memories that will be with me for the rest of my life.

Reaching out in mission to Cambodia

Last year Dr William Chang of the Lutheran Church Singapore came to Australia promoting an opportunity for a team to go to their mission field in the village of Phum Krus, Kampong Chhnang Province, Cambodia and assist in running a youth camp for the local teenagers.

ALC Maintenance Officer Roger Jenke was one who responded to this appeal, together with five members of the Para Vista and Salisbury Lutheran churches.

Our group raised funds to cover the costs of transporting the young people to the camp, food for four days, 46kg of art and craft supplies, sporting goods, and tee-shirts for all camp participants (sourced in Phnom Penh from a business which uses fair work practices).

The group flew from Adelaide to Singapore on August 6, where Bishop Terry Kee briefed us on our mission before flying with us into Phnom Penh.

There we met Pastor Vibol and his wife, house parents at the Lutheran University Hostel.

On Wednesday, August 10 the team travelled north by bus to Kampong Chhnang, a 90km trip taking over two hours, to meet village pastors Daniel and Moses and prepare for the youth camp.

When we arrived we looked at each other and – I don't know about the other team members – I thought 'What have I got myself into?'

But God knows best and used our various talents and abilities to support and help each other regardless of the tasks we had before us.



Roger Jenke assists one of the campers at Kampong Chhnang.

The Youth Camp theme was 'You are very Special' and attracted 100 young people: 70 from the village and surrounding areas and 30 who joined us from the Uni Hostel.

Everyone enjoyed making team banners, key rings, friendship bands and brightly coloured pop stick boxes, even the adults! Camp activities included a worship and teaching service, morning exercise, sports or games, craft sessions and impromptu singing and dancing each day.

Repairs were made to the road and rubbish was collected as community projects.

Before camp some of the uni students wanted to do something for the younger village children, so they collected money to buy hair shampoo and head lice treatment. This was carried out over two days just after lunch. The children loved it!

After Bishop Terry and team leader Dean Eaton preached the young people were given

an opportunity to respond to God's gift of love and forgiveness for them. Eight young people responded and prayed to accept Jesus in their lives.

After the camp was over Pastor Daniel's father also prayed for Jesus to enter his life.

Irene and I were able to stay in Cambodia for two more weeks and we took the wonderful opportunity to return to the uni hostel for the Thursday evening devotion, where I was asked to speak to the students.

I loved the way the youth were so excited for the whole time of the camp and how they loved to sing and praise the Lord with enthusiasm.

Spontaneous singing and dance happened many times in the four days of the camp which I am sure tested our hearing as they played their music and sang so loud that the whole village could hear their praises to their Lord and Saviour.

Roger Jenke
Maintenance Coordinator

Remembering a life of love



A special memorial service was held at ALC on Thursday 29 September to commemorate the life of former student, Mrs Margaret Hampel, who was suddenly called home to her heavenly Father on Thursday, 15 September.

Staff, students and members of Margaret's family gathered together to reflect and to thank God for Margaret's contribution as a member of the college community.

The service was officiated by Acting Principal, Rev Dr Dean Zweck, and the Dean of Chapel, Rev Linards Jansons.

First year pastoral student Matthew Bishop paid homage to Margaret on behalf of the students, reading from 1 Thessalonians 5:11 'Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing' (NRSV) and saying 'This text describes what our dear late sister Margaret brought to the ALC student community and why we will miss her so much.

'Margaret always showed an interest in us. She would work out where we fit in, who we know, why we are here, what we like about it, what we find hard, but especially, and something that perhaps reflected her own life of devotion supporting her husband and family, how our wives and children are finding the challenges of their husband's study.

'It was easy to be honest with Margaret, because we never felt like she judged us; she just encouraged and built us up,' he said.

Margaret, who was in her late seventies at the time of her death, had been studying towards a Diploma in Theology.

As her husband Neil said, 'There was no earthly need for her to study ... she did it to learn more of the love of God for her ... and for the opportunities to meet more people and give them Christian encouragement'.

Matthew concluded his tribute 'We know that our path of faith is life-long'.

'Life-long learning is a part of this, which Margaret's attendance at ALC exemplified.

'She was an inspiration because tertiary study is hard. To think that she was prepared to put herself through the difficulties at her age, all while keeping the happiest of dispositions, was an inspiration to us'.

Without a doubt, Margaret was an inspiration to us all.

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