

J U N E 2 0 2 2

SAINTSalive

NEWS FROM AUSTRALIAN LUTHERAN COLLEGE



May our Lord Jesus Christ
encourage your hearts.

2 THESSALONIANS 2:16,17

Λ | L | C

GUIDED BY OUR *new song*, GROUNDED IN FAITH

*'Sing to the Lord a new song ...
proclaim his salvation day after day.'*

PSALM 96:1-3



Pastor James Winderlich
PRINCIPAL

Our cover: 'Encouragement
brings students to ALC'
is the theme for ALC's
2022 annual appeal.

Cover photo: iStock.com

SAINTS*alive*

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A|L|C

Australian Lutheran College
is the provider of tertiary
theological education for the
Lutheran Church of Australia
and is a college of the University
of Divinity and an associated
college of the Adelaide
College of Divinity.



It's almost 20 years since the vision for Australian Lutheran College (ALC) was launched at the 2003 LCA Convention of General Synod. I remember that the proposal was rigorously tested and debated. Points of view were passionately presented from diverse perspectives.

While seeking to honour the past, the Synod was prepared to 'sing a new song' and embrace the future. The proposal adopted to establish ALC was supported by a vision for 'one institution with an emerging nationwide multi-presence'. ALC would need to be flexible in its learning delivery and engagement with people preparing to be LCANZ pastors, teachers and church workers.

Now, almost 20 years later, that churchwide vision – our 'new song' – continues to shape ALC's identity and actions. Faced with the COVID-19 pandemic,

ALC's leaders reviewed the college's strategic direction to guide it toward 2028. This involved consulting LCANZ leaders and members. We received overwhelmingly helpful responses to last year's survey which told us the 2003 resolution remained valued and that the college was on the right track developing a distributed learning model to support diverse learners in diverse locations.

The revitalised ALC Strategic Direction can be viewed and downloaded at www.alc.edu.au/about/strategic-direction. It begins by honouring ALC's Lutheran identity. Far more

than corporate or cultural, our identity is our confession of faith – the reason we exist. From that confession, the strategic direction expresses what will guide the college's learning, teaching and research activities within the church's and ALC's diverse, contemporary contexts: our 'new song'.

Those guiding principles are: Connect with people, Shape for transformation, Lead with influence, Strengthen ALC's future, and Be ecumenical. The principles are the result of consultation in which members of the LCANZ spoke into ALC's life of service and witness.

The pandemic reminds us how uncertain and complex our lives can be. Most of all it reveals our total dependence on God. Christian communities everywhere have learnt to be flexible and adaptive – to sing their own 'new song'. ALC's experience

is no different. If anything, the college has been blessed during this time as we have recommitted to our relationship with the LCANZ to worship, witness, serve and suffer with the church.

God gifts us to each other. In that, we have what we need. In our shared lives, God weaves past and future together, so that we can proclaim his salvation daily as we remember his marvellous deeds.

Let's commit to encouraging each other in our words and actions. All praise be to God alone.

The strategic
direction expresses
what will *guide* the
college's activities
within *diverse*,
contemporary contexts:
our 'new song'.

CHANGING FACES *of leadership and governance*



There have been several changes at ALC at both governance and leadership levels in early 2022, including new Board members and a new Academic Dean.

Following appointments made by the Lutheran Church of Australia and New Zealand's (LCANZ) General Church Board (GCB), the college's new Board of Directors was constituted on 7 March. New to the ALC Board are human resources and business support leader Sharryn Cook from Queensland, health services manager and former aged-care services CEO Phillip Schmaal from South Australia and LCANZ Bishop Paul Smith, the latter of whom holds an ex-officio position on the Board. Continuing their service for another synodical term are Cheryl Bartel (vice-chair), Peter Miller (secretary), Greg Pietsch and Andrew Long. ALC thanks Glenine Hamlyn, David Prenzler and LCANZ Emeritus Bishop John Henderson, whose service as directors and ex-officio member respectively ended when the new Board was constituted.

The next few years
promise to be both
challenging
and *exciting* for
the new ALC Board.

Board members, who are also directors of Australian Lutheran College Ltd, serve voluntarily and are responsible for governance oversight of ALC, which includes closely monitoring the progress of the college in the achievement of its strategic goals. 'The college has recently launched a new strategic direction, *Towards 2028*, and the next few years promise to be both challenging and exciting for the new ALC Board', says Principal James Winderlich.

In a further change at ALC, Dr Stephen Haar, who has served as the college's Academic Dean for 14 years, has relinquished the full-time role to begin a transition toward retirement. Lecturer in Education Dr Merryn Ruwoldt, also ALC's former Associate Dean for Learning and Teaching, succeeds Stephen. He will continue to serve ALC as a part-time lecturer and will remain as its vice-principal.

Merryn, who has a teaching background, completed her secondary teacher training in Adelaide at Lutheran Teachers College, one of the three training institutions which merged to form ALC in 2004. Her interest in the history of the relationship between the LCA and its schools and the impact of Lutheran theology on Lutheran schools, led to postgraduate study exploring the dialogue between theology and education. She joined ALC as a lecturer in education in 2011.

In recent years, Merryn has become more fully and formally involved in broader learning and teaching discussions at the University of Divinity. This focus on adult learning has led to an increased interest in and passion for creating ways ALC can provide theological education to those pursuing it for interest's sake. ALC's *Festival of Learning*, which offers learning to members and friends of the church that is accessible and affordable, is just one example of Merryn's ideas coming to fruition.



Top: Dr Stephen Haar, left, who has served as ALC's Academic Dean for 14 years, has relinquished the full-time role to begin a transition toward retirement. He has been succeeded by Dr Merryn Ruwoldt, right.

Headshots, from top: Sharryn Cook from Queensland, Phillip Schmaal from South Australia and LCANZ Bishop Paul Smith (ex-officio) are the new members of the ALC Board.

Forming God's people FOR PASTORAL MINISTRY

As the tertiary education provider of the LCANZ, ALC prepares people for specific opportunities to serve in our church and our schools, in a range of roles and specialist ministry areas. ALC offers this through accredited and non-accredited learning opportunities. You can study on campus or externally through workshops, intensives and online learning. Some of these ministry training opportunities include:

General Ministry Pastors

ALC's *Discover* program (www.alc.edu.au/discover) has been developed to assist with discerning God's call and combines academic study, practical ministry and personal reflection in a congregational setting. Completing Discover is the first step for anyone thinking of serving as a General Ministry Pastor (GMP) in the LCANZ. All classes are live-streamed. After completing Discover, interested candidates start the application process for the Pastoral Studies Stream. This stream incorporates three-and-a-half years of face-to-face academic study. Students participate in fieldwork, formational reviews, reflection and community worship. They also complete a seven-month full-time vicarage placement, under the supervision of a pastor in an LCANZ congregation.

Ask now about enrolling in *Discover* for Semester 2, 2022: email enquiries@alc.edu.au, phone 1800 625 193 or submit a query (www.alc.edu.au/study/enquire).

Specific Ministry Pastors

Twice a year, ALC delivers week-long training workshops for those serving or being trained to serve as a Specific Ministry Pastor (SMP). SMPs are ordained pastors who serve in parish ministry in the LCANZ – either where a GMP requires assistance or in parishes that are remote and/or unable to call and support a full-time pastor. SMPs are ordained for ministry in one location only. Some SMPs are paid, while others are volunteers. Some are retired, while others juggle other employment with serving as an SMP. To register your interest, contact your district bishop.

Lay Preachers

ALC provides an online Lay Preacher Training module to support congregational lay preachers – current and future. This module provides those interested in lay preaching an opportunity to discern their call, but without any expectation that they must become a lay preacher at the end of the training. Anyone can undertake the training, but lay preachers are approved and appointed by district bishops, following consultation between the bishops, local congregations and lay preaching candidates who are usually locally identified. To discuss any queries about lay preacher training, email training@alc.edu.au. To register for the training, visit www.alc.edu.au/training/professional-development/lpt-enrolment.



Study
with
ALC
AUSTRALIAN LUTHERAN COLLEGE

Have you heard the whisper of the Holy Spirit calling you, but don't know what steps to take next? Do you long to share your love of Christ and his life-changing word to inspire the faith journey in others?

Discover how studying at ALC can help you to grow and become equipped for ministry and service as a pastor, teacher, church leader or lay worker. Or perhaps you are at a stage in your life where you just want to study for interest's sake. With undergraduate and postgraduate courses, vocational education and training, professional development workshops and online learning, ALC has options to suit everyone, and our courses are available to study from anywhere.

Find just the right course for you by visiting our website at alc.edu.au

Learn | Grow | Serve

For course advice, make an online inquiry at www.alc.edu.au/study/enquire/ or email enquiries@alc.edu.au
ENROLMENTS ARE NOW OPEN FOR SEMESTER 2.

STUDENT STORIES



Thomas Krahling

Tom grew up in South Australia's Barossa Valley and attended both St Petri Lutheran Church Nuriootpa and Immanuel Lutheran Church, Kadina. During his formative years, pastors Andy Kowald, Peter Kriewaldt, Michael Lockwood and Adrian Kitson encouraged Tom in his faith and life in the church. Following year 12, he started mechanical engineering studies before God's call brought him to ALC, where he enrolled in Discover in 2020. Since his initial studies, Tom has been accepted into ALC's pastoral ministry stream. 'I have thoroughly enjoyed my studies. They have pushed me deeper into God's word. I look forward to continuing to grow in my love for God and love for others through my studies. I am learning to use the gifts God has given me to serve the church. As I learn more deeply what Christ has done for me, I hope to encourage others by proclaiming what he has done for them, too.'

Music is Gill's lifelong passion, and she has studied it at the tertiary level, most recently completing a post-graduate degree in Music Studies. She has been trained in both classical and contemporary voice techniques and has spent the past 18 years teaching singing in secondary schools. Gill experienced several denominational settings growing up, excluding the Lutheran church, and a few years ago decided she wanted to explore her faith again. Thanks to the inspiration of her good friend, Pastor Noel Due, Gill, a member of St Michael's congregation Hahndorf, enrolled in part-time studies at ALC. 'My studies at ALC have been very rich and have helped me to grow in my faith. Where these studies will take me, I really don't know, but as a musician, I have found studying theology helpful in relation to the place of music in worship.'



Gillian Webb



Neville Doecke

Neville grew up on a sheep farm near Eudunda, in country South Australia and felt drawn towards becoming a pastor. Instead, he decided to become a teacher and spent 32 years teaching in Queensland Lutheran primary schools. God next called him to Central Australia, where he became chaplain at Yirara College. After seven years and an extra sabbatical year, he headed to Hermannsburg as a support pastor among the Western Arrarnta people. Following a six-month initial placement, Neville was asked to stay on and serve as a Specific Ministry Pastor (SMP). Each year, he looks forward to two week-long training sessions at ALC, specifically run for SMPs, and says they are 'excellent for building a deeper scriptural basis from which to share God's promises in worship, Bible training and visitation ministry in a different cultural setting'. 'The training enables me to grow both personally and professionally as a Christian and also provides SMPs the opportunity to share their experiences.'

Jordan originates from Melbourne, where she attended St Pauls Lutheran Church in Box Hill. After finishing school, Jordan took a gap year and then began university studies, before being offered the role of coordinator for Youth and Family Ministry at St Pauls. She served there for three years, before getting married and moving to the US. 'My whole life I have wanted to serve God by working in the church. The first encouragement I remember receiving towards theological study and ministry was during high school.' She began studying at ALC in 2017 and since moving overseas greatly appreciates ALC's remote study options. 'I've appreciated being able to livestream classes so I can participate and get to know my classmates. More than anything I hope that my studies will better equip me to serve God and the church. My sense of call to the ordained ministry is still there too, and I pray that that opportunity will be open to me and other women in the near future.'



Jordan Moore



TANGARA 2022 is on its way!

The *Tangara* committee has begun production on the 2022 edition of the ever-popular magazine! This year's theme verse is 1 Corinthians 12:20: 'There are many parts yet one body'. This verse describes how everyone in the church plays their part in the body of Christ, whether that is as a teacher, pastor, lay worker, or volunteer in their congregation. In *Tangara* 2022 you will find a snapshot of those studying at ALC, both online and on campus. You'll also get a look at what life is like for those studying. This year marks 100 years since the Lutheran church purchased the North Adelaide site – so we'll take a walk down memory lane, too. *Tangara* is a wonderful way to connect with ALC students – when you meet them serving in the church, you'll feel that you already know them. This edition is expected to be out in August, and you can buy a copy for \$10, including postage. Pre-order yours now by emailing tangara@alc.edu.au



Leadership and learning *go hand in hand*

The intentional development of those called to be leaders is of deep significance to the future of the Lutheran education system in Australia.

The link between school leadership and student outcomes is well established. In terms of school-based factors, leadership is second only to classroom instruction in its influence on student learning.

A system focused on student outcomes will also be focused on developing leaders. In a Lutheran context, these leaders hold the uniquely Lutheran approach to education in their hands.

Lutheran Education Australia partners with the professional and executive education arm of Queensland University of Technology and ALC to provide a Leadership Development Program for aspiring leaders in Lutheran schools and Early Childhood Services.

As part of this program, Dr Merryn Ruwoldt and Dr Stephen Haar recently led a mixed-mode workshop for 36 educators gathered online and in Adelaide.

The primary topic of conversation was how the theological worldview of Lutheran sites of education

shapes their identities and informs what is appropriate leadership. Further workshops will take place next month.

ALC also offers a variety of courses designed for the professional development of teachers. These include: Graduate Certificate in Leadership – for teachers with at least three years' experience who are in, or seeking to be in, middle and senior leadership roles in schools;

Graduate Certificate in Education and Theology – especially for teachers and other school personnel who wish to deepen their understanding of theology within an education context; Graduate Certificate in Divinity – for teachers wishing to go deeper into the theology which underpins the Christian Studies Curriculum Framework in Lutheran schools, or who just wish to pursue theological interests; and a Masters of Education and Theology – for teachers with at least two years' experience who wish to deepen and/or broaden their

understanding of theology within an education context.

Service Learning and Community Engagement workshops are offered throughout the year, too (see *the adjacent page for some upcoming opportunities*).

For more information, visit the ALC website at: www.alc.edu.au/study/courses-for-in-service-teachers.

**A system focused on
student outcomes will
also be focused on
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in their hands.**

EDUCATION *meets* THEOLOGY

'It is a joy to have studied the Graduate Certificate in Leadership at ALC over the past two years, examining the interrelationship between education and theology, the importance and nature of spiritual leadership, and the manner in which these can be applied through all that we do in schools and in life', says William Wallace, principal of Golden Grove Lutheran Primary School in South Australia.

He explains his journey to study at ALC:

I had been a school leader in independent Christian schools in NSW for close to two decades and became involved with a local Lutheran congregation over that time which has proven to be a delightful faith journey. This led me to the principal's role at Golden Grove Lutheran Primary School where I'm enjoying some amazing experiences.

'The opportunity to study with ALC has definitely enriched my faith journey and capacity as the spiritual leader in a Lutheran school in a multitude of ways and I would highly recommend the course to fellow principals. The sense of community and support while studying with ALC online has been wonderful, the experience as a student has been positive and very supportive and encouraging, and it has been a privilege to build some great connections with fellow students.'

- William Wallace



Remote reading in an online world

This time of pandemic – and even the time before it – has changed the way we access resources. While still offering physical access to a wonderful collection of books and paperbacks (which can be posted out upon request Australia-wide) and a wide variety of contemporary periodicals, ALC Library has been growing its collection of ebooks.

Our online catalogue is a rich resource – one click on a link and the book is before you. The library produces a regular bulletin, containing the titles of ebooks added to the catalogue and if you are a registered patron, we can arrange for you to receive this bulletin.

You will need a library barcode to access most but registration is possible online through our website www.alc.edu.au/library/using-the-library/apply-online and is free to pastors, lay workers, staff of congregations, and teachers in schools of the LCANZ.

To gain access to this valuable resource, apply online to become a member today. Contact us at library@alc.edu.au or phone the library on 08 7120 8270 for any help you may need.

SERVICE LEARNING FOR TEACHERS

Educators interested in enhancing their knowledge and understanding of service-learning are invited to join our learning intensives offered in Semester 2, 2022.

FOUNDATIONAL UNIT: Term 3

**Service-Learning and Community Engagement:
Who is My Neighbour? (OE8041L)**

Topics include:

- Neighbouring voices (personal, school, local, overseas)
- Reciprocity: the heart of vocational service
- Partnerships: investigate different types of partnerships, tools to grow effective sustainable school/community partnerships

ENROL BY FRIDAY 12 AUGUST 2022

Dates: Sat 20 & Sun 21 August (3.5 hrs online each day)
Offered as a 12-point or 4-point accredited unit
Cost: \$1366 (12 pts) OR \$455 (4 pts)

MICRO-UNIT: Term 4

**Professional Development – Creation Care & Stewardship:
Service-Learning & Community Engagement's
Building Blocks**

Topics include:

- Creation care as a 'way of thinking'
- Expanding the concept of Stewardship
- Critiquing practical implications of stewardship & creation care

ENROL BY FRIDAY 23 SEPTEMBER 2022

Dates: Fri 30 Sept & Sat 1 Oct (3.5 hrs online each day)
Offered as a 4-point accredited unit | Cost: \$455 (4 pts)

ALC

**Lutheran
Education**
AUSTRALIA

For more information,
including how to enrol,
email ALC Enquiries:
enquiries@alc.edu.au

For study content
information,
contact Jodie Hoff
principal@lords.gld.edu.au
or Meg Noack
megnoack32@gmail.com

ALC STUDENTS *awarded and rewarded*



Staff and students from the colleges of the University of Divinity (UD), including ALC, gathered at Melbourne's St Paul's Cathedral on 25 March to celebrate the accomplishments of 375 graduates from the class of 2021.

UD graduates currently have a choice of graduating at an Adelaide ceremony in early December of the year in which they complete their studies or in Melbourne in March of the following year.

In Melbourne, ALC graduates were presented by Professor Wendy Mayer and included students from the initial intake of the *Discover* program. Among those graduating in absentia was Lutheran Education Australia Executive Director Associate Professor Lisa Schmidt.

As part of the proceedings, two of ALC's post-doctoral graduates, Rev Dr Roger Whittall and Dr Katherin Papadopoulos, were awarded the University Medal for their research efforts. The University Medal is awarded by the academic board of the university to a student who has completed a doctoral thesis of exceptional quality. Katherin was also one of two graduates who gave a valedictory address.

Roger's thesis, *Martin Luther's 'Common priesthood' Its Boundaries and Horizons: A Study in Luther's Ecclesiology*, comprehensively traces the concept of the priesthood of all believers through a range of Luther's writings, contributing to the contemporary debate on

the relationship of the priesthood for the baptised and the calling to public ministry.

Katherin's thesis, *Patterning the past: Memory Studies and Late Antique Syriac Martyrologies*, applies various sociological theories of memory to the practices of remembering the past as presented by Syriac martyrologies (calendars of saints). This is in order to uncover the values and master narratives about the past that were important to the groups that compiled the calendars, how they changed, and the socio-cultural currents that may have shaped them.

Also receiving a doctorate at the Melbourne ceremony was ALC faculty member Michelle Eastwood. ALC students Daniel Nordbrock, who graduated at the Melbourne ceremony, and Jeremy Smith, who graduated at the Adelaide ceremony, were both named as Vice Chancellor's Scholars in recognition for demonstrating excellence in their studies.

Congratulations to all of our graduates!

Festival of Learning



Following the positive feedback that came out of this year's *Festival of Learning* event, plans are now underway for the next one, so save the dates:

Tuesday 21 February – Thursday 23 February 2023

Theme: Honour the past; embrace the future

This three-day event will include day sessions, as well as an evening program for those who work regular office hours. While two of the days will be held solely online, a third will cater for those who prefer to gather in person – whether it be at ALC or at any alternative venue interstate. Sessions offered on this day may be organised to reflect the interests of the local audience.

**SAVE THE
DATES
NOW!**

MORE INFORMATION WILL BE AVAILABLE IN ALC'S NOVEMBER ENEWS, WITH REGISTRATIONS OPENING IN DECEMBER.

Diving into Luther late

Finally! When I was reaching retirement age, I decided it was time to complete the doctoral studies I'd contemplated and toyed with for more than 20 years. Some of us just can't keep away from books, libraries and a blank computer screen with an ever-blinking cursor.

With the prompting and wisdom of Rev Dr Jeff Silcock at Australian Lutheran College, I formulated a proposal that was accepted by the University of Divinity, Melbourne. Eventually I completed a first chapter that scoped and outlined my thesis with a methodology and a working bibliography. Approved by the confirmation panel, I was off and running (limping, part-time, mostly), reading and researching, and eventually completing – six years later – nine chapters and 100,000 words. And now, I am finally graduated and doctored!

How did I decide on my topic? I knew I wanted to study Luther in depth. I also had the idea that my research should have some relevance for the church today, reflecting my years of pastoral experience. 'Luther's Common Priesthood' ticked the boxes for me, and you can be the judge for yourself (read the December 2021 *Lutheran Theological Journal* article for a summary or wait for the book).

As an older student, there were no work pressures or financial constraints for me. In any case, the government still covers the course fees for approved doctoral candidates (even in theology). But retirement has its own demands and challenges, and sometimes the journey can seem never-ending and the goal a bit nebulous. But by God's grace, and our loved one's indulgence, we get there.

ALC provides a welcoming, supportive and responsive environment for all of its students, with fellow students offering the opportunity for encouraging discussions



and motivational supervisors to keep you on track. Through the University of Divinity, there are conferences to attend, together with ALC's network of seminars and presentations. There is guidance, too, from a professional research department in Melbourne and I benefitted from Professor Wendy Mayer's invaluable involvement. There is also the Löhe Library, with unequalled resources and ever-helpful staff.

Would I do it all again? Well, wave your wand for me, and give me back the past 20 or so years – and there I'd be, staring once more at that ever-blinking cursor on its (temporarily) blank screen.

- Rev Dr Roger Whittall

Have you considered a career as a church worker?

Designed as a foundational qualification for church and ministry workers in a range of fields, the Certificate IV in Christian Ministry and Theology (10742NAT) provides opportunities to gain both theological knowledge and a broad range of practical, personal ministry skills.

Graduates with the qualification may find employment as lay workers, youth workers, chaplains or mission support personnel. Within the Lutheran Church of Australia, the Certificate IV forms part of the foundational qualification for lay worker accreditation.

Students are able to further their study through ALC's undergraduate courses accredited through the University of Divinity.





IMMANUEL SEMINARY FRIENDS' ASSOCIATION

The object of this Association is, annually to give financial support towards the training of future pastors for our Church.

LOOKING BACK *with thanksgiving*

This year marks an important milestone for ALC and in the life of Lutheran theological education in Australia – it is 100 years since the North Adelaide campus was purchased for this purpose.

In 1921, five Lutheran synods joined to form the United Evangelical Lutheran Church in Australia (UELCA). The following year, the UELCA Seminary Committee bought the current North Adelaide campus for £13,500 – £4,500 more than the Synod had approved.

While the property was grander than originally envisaged and the church did not have enough money to cover the deposit, the UELCA went ahead with the purchase. Their reasoning was the triple needs of providing missionaries for Papua New Guinea, training pastors locally, and having a large enough home for Immanuel College which was outgrowing its Point Pass Barossa Valley site.

The deposit was sourced, and the purchase was endorsed by Synod. The committee then launched a churchwide appeal through *The Lutheran Herald* to cover the expense. Immanuel College and Immanuel Seminary opened in February 1923 and remained co-located on site until March 1942, when the 1882 building now known as Hebart Hall was temporarily commandeered by the Royal Australian Air Force.

Immanuel Seminary continued to operate from the original campus after World War II, until 1966 when the Lutheran Church of Australia came into being and Immanuel and Concordia seminaries merged to form Luther Seminary. Buildings were added to the campus and there were plans

for a major project that would demolish the 1882 building, but this was never completed. In 1986 the building was heritage listed.

Luther Seminary later became Luther Campus, with the seminary, Lutheran Teachers College and the Lutheran School of Theology occupying the site.

In 2000 the LCA set up a taskforce to consider a new name for Luther Seminary to encapsulate the full scope of the seminary's role as the LCA's tertiary institution.

A proposal was put to General Synod in 2003 and Australian Lutheran College (ALC) came into being on 1 January 2004.

While the college is thankful for the foresight of those who bought the property in 1922 and that it is leased from the LCA for a 'peppercorn' rent, ALC has struggled with the cost of maintaining the campus, particularly over the past decade.

Now with a majority of ALC students studying online rather than on campus, the site's suitability is in question. Maintaining heritage-listed buildings is costly and there is decreasing financial support for ALC from the LCA. Also, the property does not support efficient work practices and buildings once associated with tertiary boarding are mostly unused.

Nevertheless we celebrate and give thanks for the good things God has done through this property and the training that has taken place here over the past 100 years. We also understand the deep connections many people have to the property. But is maintaining a costly campus that exceeds the needs of the college the best use of limited resources? What is ALC's future? God will show us.

The college is
Thankful for the
foresight of those
who bought the
property in 1922.



AUSTRALIAN LUTHERAN COLLEGE

L E A R N I N G F O R L I F E

Dear Gospel Partner,

What if Ananias didn't have **THE** conversation with Saul (Acts 9:17)? You could argue that it would have been wiser and safer to avoid **THE** conversation about Saul's call from Jesus to be his apostle. Saul was terrorising Jesus' followers. Ananias was one of those followers, so why on earth would he put himself at risk and lay his hands on Saul as God instructed him to? It would be easier to look away. But, Ananias did have **THE** conversation and Jesus' followers, you and me, are eternally blessed because of it.

Each year ALC appeals to the members of the LCA NZ for your financial support. (Appeal packs are available in your congregation or you can donate online at www.alc.edu.au/donate or by using the donation slip in this edition of *Saints Alive*.) We need to do that because the LCA NZ does not provide full financial support to the college from its churchwide budget. It is, in fact, our students who provide the greatest proportion of our income (often, by going into significant debt) and so we appeal to you to help us to make ends meet. This year I want to expand our appeal.

Your financial support for ALC is incredibly important, but encouraging people to serve the LCA NZ as pastors, teachers and other church workers is even more important. The LCA NZ needs people to serve in its congregations, schools, aged and community care facilities and mission fields now more than ever. That means having **THE** conversation. It means seeing the people in your own families and communities who are formed 'after [God's] own heart' (Jeremiah 3:15, John 21:15-17) and telling them what you see and where it might lead.

By writing to you, I am challenging you to follow Ananias' example. Have **THE conversation. Church workers are God's gifts to our congregations, schools, missions and care facilities. Let's honour God's gifts by encouraging, even urging, the people from our own families and communities to explore and respond to what God might be calling them to.**

Ananias' conversation was grounded in God's revelation and in prayer. That grounding is also ours. Listen to the scriptures and, in prayer, hear God's promises to provide shepherds. God still calls. Are we listening, seeing, challenging and encouraging (1 Timothy 4:12)? Other church workers can help you with **THE** conversation. Take this up with your local pastors and bishops, principals and teachers, chaplains and lay workers.

God bless you as you do that.

Pastor James Winderlich

PRINCIPAL



My donation to Australian Lutheran College is:

\$

All donations \$2.00 and over are fully tax-deductible and gratefully received!

I give my ministry donation by:

☐ Cheque / Money order (payable to ALC)

☐ MasterCard ☐ Visa

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BSB: 704 942 | Account no: 100654290

*(To ensure that you receive a receipt from ALC, please email
accounts@alc.edu.au to advise of your direct transfer.)*

Donate online at alc.edu.au/donate

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ALC in my will

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Invest in the future – LEAVE A LEGACY

None of us can know what lies in the future. The coronavirus pandemic reminds us of that. We, therefore, prepare by wisely and lovingly using our gifts and resources. How, with what we now have, will we care for those who come after us? What legacy do we want to leave?

We live by faith. While we don't know *what* our futures hold, we do know with complete certainty *who* is our future. The God whom we now thank, praise, serve and obey is also the God of our certain future. The writer of 1 Peter reminds us that we have a living inheritance 'that can never perish, spoil or fade' (1 Peter 1:4).

How has God provided for you? Is it time to consider your legacy – one that will continue to support and equip people to serve?

Legacies enable ALC to provide quality training for church workers now and into the future and to support students as they pursue their call to ministry – preparing to proclaim and teach the gospel of Jesus Christ.

You can contribute to this vision by including ALC in your will. You may like to support a specific project at ALC. Alternatively, you can dedicate your bequest for general purposes, which means we will direct it to the most crucial area of need. Through your bequest, your partnership with ALC will continue long into the future.

To find out more about including ALC in your will, contact the Business Manager, Judy Baker, on freecall 1800 625 193, email business@alc.edu.au or write to Judy at Australian Lutheran College, 104 Jeffcott Street, North Adelaide SA 5006.