



# free to flourish

01  
to  
03  
OCTOBER  
2025

Australian Conference  
on Lutheran Education

BRISBANE  
MEANJIN



## PROGRAM OVERVIEW

WEDNESDAY 1 OCTOBER 2025

7.30am	<b>Registration and Arrival Tea &amp; Coffee</b>
8.30am	<b>Opening Welcome to Country</b>
9.30am	<b>Opening Worship</b>
10.30am – 11:15am	<b>Morning Tea Break</b> Exhibition Hall
11:00am	<b>Poster Session</b>
11.15am	<b>Keynote Session – Rev. Dr. Sarah Hinlicky Wilson</b> Great Hall
12.15pm	<b>Movement/Brain Break</b> Great Hall
12.30pm	<b>Keynote Session – TBC</b> Great Hall
1.15pm – 2:15pm	<b>Lunch</b> Exhibition Hall
1:30pm	<b>Poster Session</b>
2.15pm	<b>Free to Flourish Launch Workshop 1</b> Great Hall
3.15pm	<b>Afternoon Tea</b> Exhibition Hall
3.45pm	<b>Free to Flourish Launch Workshop 2</b> Great Hall
5.15pm – 7.00pm	<b>Welcome Reception - Networking and Refreshments</b> Exhibition Hall

## THURSDAY 2 OCTOBER 2025

8.00am	<b>Registration and Arrival Tea &amp; Coffee</b>						
8.30am	<b>Day 2 Worship</b> Great Hall						
9.00am	<b>Keynote Session: Dr Shyam Barr - Educate to Self-Regulate</b> Great Hall						
9.30am	<b>Movement/Brain Break</b> Great Hall						
9.45am – 11.15am	<b>Concurrent Sessions 1</b>						
	<b>Mezzanine M1</b>	<b>Mezzanine M2</b>	<b>Mezzanine M3</b>	<b>Mezzanine M4</b>	<b>Plaza P1</b>	<b>Plaza P2</b>	<b>Great Hall</b>
	<b>WORKSHOP (60mins):</b> Building an Inclusive Culture at St. Michael's Lutheran Primary: Embracing Neurodiversity and Fostering Flourishing Learners <b>Georgia Pope</b> St Michael's, Hahndorf, SA	<b>WORKSHOP (90mins):</b> Rev. Dr. Sarah Hinlicky Wilson	<b>PRESENTATION (30mins):</b> Unity and Utju: A Tale of Two Communities <b>Adam Yeager</b> Unity College, SA	<b>WORKSHOP (45mins):</b> Developing Parents as Pedagogical Partners in the Primary Years - Building Flourishing Communities <b>Lisa Challenor</b> St Peters Lutheran College, QLD	<b>PRESENTATION (30mins):</b> Chaplaincy & Faith: Here I Am to Worship; using Free to Flourish to Explore Who We are Called to Be in Christ <b>David Folker</b> St John's Lutheran School, QLD	<b>WORKSHOP (45mins):</b> Leading Through Questions <b>Tim Kotzur</b> St Peters Lutheran College, QLD	<b>PRESENTATION (30mins):</b> 10 Steps to a Safe, Efficient and Cost-Effective Bus Service <b>John Mcdiarmid</b> Trinity Lutheran College, QLD
			<b>PRESENTATION (60mins):</b> A Compassionate Approach to Regenerative Systems Change <b>Mignon Weckert</b> LENSW	<b>WORKSHOP (45mins):</b> Primary Science: Choose Your Own Adventure. Creating space for student agency via purposeful collaboration through experiment design.	<b>PRESENTATION (30mins):</b> Stealing Past Watchful Dragons: Practices That Promote Student Flourishing in Australian Faith Based Schools <b>Darren Iselin</b> Christian Schools Australia, ACT	<b>WORKSHOP (45mins):</b> Assessing What Matters - Why should assessment cause so much anguish? <b>Sharyn Mullens-Taylor</b> Lutheran College, VIC	<b>PRESENTATION (30mins):</b> Beyond Outdoor Learning : A Case Study in Adventurous Education <b>Stephanie Kriewaldt</b> Lobethal Lutheran School, SA

				<b>Alysha Schneider</b> Luther College, VIC	<b>PRESENTATION (30mins):</b> Doing social justice in Lutheran schools - what, why, how? <b>Tom Brennen</b> Cornerstone College, SA		<b>PRESENTATION (30mins):</b> Our Journey: Developing an Education Blueprint inspired by Free to Flourish <b>Darren Altus &amp; Renae McDonald,</b> Good Shepherd, Angaston, SA
11.15am-11:45am	<b>Morning Tea</b> Exhibition Hall						
11.30am	<b>Poster Session</b>						
	<b>Concurrent Sessions 2</b>						
11.45am – 1.15pm	<b>Mezzanine M1</b>	<b>Mezzanine M2</b>	<b>Mezzanine M3</b>	<b>Mezzanine M4</b>	<b>Plaza P1</b>	<b>Plaza P2</b>	<b>Great Hall</b>
	<b>WORKSHOP (60mins):</b> Self-Motivated: Techniques to Enhance Students' Motivation. <b>Dr Shyam Barr</b>	<b>WORKSHOP (60mins):</b> Rev. Dr. Sarah Hinlicky Wilson	<b>WORKSHOP (45mins):</b> Free to Flourish: A Whole-School Journey of Identity, Growth, and Community <b>Jocelyn Bakker</b> St John's Lutheran Primary School, QLD	<b>PRESENTATION (30mins):</b> How to embed First Nations perspectives in schools with compassion and purpose. <b>Liam Glover</b> Australians Together	<b>PRESENTATION (30mins):</b> Free to Flourish: Compassion, Creation, and Learning - How can art, faith, and education intertwine to cultivate compassionate communities? <b>Ruth Ellington</b> St John's Lutheran Kingaroy, QLD	<b>PRESENTATION (30mins):</b> Relationships within small teams: a coaching journey <b>Michelle Thygesen</b> St Peters Lutheran College Springfield, QLD	<b>WORKSHOP (60mins):</b> Finance Sustainability LLL
		<b>WORKSHOP (45mins):</b> Service-Learning in the History Classroom	<b>PRESENTATION (30mins):</b> Blue Fingernails and Platform Shoes - Unlock the power of kindness	<b>PRESENTATION (30mins):</b> Compassionate Communities: Prioritising Child	<b>PRESENTATION (30mins):</b> A Principals Story <b>Matthew Qualischefski</b>		

			<p><b>Carly Brooks</b> Faith Lutheran College, Redlands, QLD</p>	<p>to unleash a world of service. <b>Jonathan Krause</b> ALWS, SA</p>	<p>Safety in Lutheran Schools <b>Morgan Brookes</b> Cornerstone College, SA</p>	<p><b>Good Shepherd Lutheran College,</b> NT</p>		
			<p><b>PRESENTATION (30mins):</b> Lutheran Identity in Lutheran Schools: Is it a Lost Cause? <b>Tim Jarick</b> St Peters Lutheran College, QLD</p>					
1.15pm – 2:00pm	<b>Lunch</b> Exhibition Hall							
1.30pm	<b>Poster Session</b>							
	<b>Concurrent Sessions 3</b>							
2.00pm – 3.30pm	<p><b>WORKSHOP (60mins):</b> Self-Motivated: Techniques to Enhance Students' Motivation. <b>Dr Shyam Barr</b></p>	<p><b>WORKSHOP (60mins):</b> Navigating Leadership Sabotage Building Resilience and Strength <b>Tod Bolsinger</b></p>	<p><b>WORKSHOP (60mins):</b> Break the educational mould! Be adventurous, purposeful and relational by teaching kids what they want to learn and still tick all the educational boxes <b>David Moore</b> Faith Lutheran College Redlands, QLD</p>	<p><b>PRESENTATION (30mins):</b> Thinking at the Forefront: Immanuel College's Cultures of Thinking Journey <b>Martyn Anderson</b> Immanuel College, SA</p>	<p><b>PRESENTATION (30mins):</b> Lutheran Schools as Agencies of the Gospel: Mission Challenge and Opportunities in the Australian Lutheran Church <b>Mark Vainikka</b> LCAQD</p>	<p><b>WORKSHOP (45mins):</b> Cultivating Compassion: A Practical Approach to Service Learning <b>Jodie Hoff</b> Australian Lutheran World Service, LORDS, QLD</p>	<p><b>PRESENTATION (30mins):</b> AON RISK SERVICES</p>	
				<p><b>PRESENTATION (30mins):</b> Stewardship in Action: Transforming the Built Environment to Foster Impactful Learning <b>Karen Hill</b></p>	<p><b>PRESENTATION (30mins):</b> The Purpose and Adventure of Student Spiritual Leadership <b>Chris Mann</b> Endeavour College, SA</p>	<p><b>WORKSHOP (45mins):</b> Free to Flourish: Engaging Big Questions in Christianity through Socratic Discussion</p>	<p><b>PRESENTATION (30mins):</b> Implementing a Compliance Shared Services Model in Lutheran Schools <b>Kerryn Simpfendorfer</b></p>	

				St Peters Lutheran College, QLD		Julia Wright St Peters Lutheran College, QLD	Cornerstone College, SA
				<b>PRESENTATION (30mins):</b> Fostering Student and Staff Agency Through the Free to Flourish Initiative at Living Faith OSHC <b>Katherine Shea</b> Living Faith OSCH, QLD	<b>PRESENTATION (30mins):</b> Free to Flourish in Worship: Sharing Lutheran Theology Through Song in Contemporary Lutheran Schools <b>Andrea Blakely</b> Faith Lutheran College Plainland, QLD	<b>PRESENTATION (30mins):</b> Immersive Technologies for Adventurous and Compassionate Education <b>Catherine Barnes</b> Endeavour College, SA	
<b>Concurrent Sessions 4</b>							
3.30pm – 4.30pm	<b>PRESENTATION (60mins):</b> TBC	<b>WORKSHOP (60mins):</b> Navigating Leadership Sabotage Building Resilience and Strength <b>Todd Bolsinger</b>	<b>PANEL DISCUSSION (60mins):</b> A group panel conversation: Stories from Lutheran education communities engaging with Free to Flourish <b>Sue Kupke</b> LEA	<b>PANEL DISCUSSION (60mins):</b> We are Relational: Candid Conversations on the Couch Exploring Restorative Perspectives Across Lutheran Education <b>David Folker</b> St John's Lutheran School, QLD	<b>PRESENTATION (30mins):</b> From Curiosity to Faith: Engaging Primary Students in Christian Studies Through Real-World Connections helping them flourish in their faith journey <b>Graham Maddren</b> Immanuel Lutheran School Gawler, SA	<b>WORKSHOP (60mins):</b> Rowing Together: How Metaphor-Driven Narratives Boost Coherence, Engagement and Commitment <b>Susan Carter</b> Prince of Peace, QLD	<b>WORKSHOP (60mins):</b> Free to Flourish – Cultivating Growth Through St Jakobi's Kitchen Garden Inquiry Program <b>Petrea Booth</b> St Jakobi Lutheran School, SA
				<b>PRESENTATION (30mins):</b> Flourishing in a rapidly changing community: living			

					our mission in a purposeful manner <b>Joanne Wegener</b> <b>Good News</b> <b>Lutheran College,</b> <b>VIC</b>		
<b>7.00pm – 11.00pm</b>	<b>Conference Dinner</b> Plaza Ballroom, Brisbane Convention Centre						

<b>FRIDAY 3 OCTOBER 2025</b>	
<b>8.30am</b>	<b>Registration and Arrival Tea &amp; Coffee</b>
<b>9.00am</b>	<b>Keynote Session: Todd Bolsinger - Leading Through Sabotage: Building Resilience and Strength</b> Great Hall
<b>9.50am</b>	<b>Movement/Brain Break</b> Great Hall
<b>10.00am</b>	<b>New Christian Studies Curriculum Framework Update</b> Great Hall
<b>10.45am – 11:15am</b>	<b>Morning Tea Break</b> Exhibition Hall
<b>11:00am</b>	<b>Poster Session</b>
<b>11.15am</b>	<b>Keynote Session: Graham Catt, CEO of Independent Schools Australia</b> <b>Conference Wrap Up</b> Great Hall
<b>12.00pm – 1.00pm</b>	<b>Closing Worship with Communion</b>

*\*Please note this is a draft program outline and is subject to change at the discretion of the organising committee.*