



free to flourish

01
to
03
OCTOBER
2025

Australian Conference
on Lutheran Education

BRISBANE
MEANJIN



PROGRAM OVERVIEW

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

WEDNESDAY 1 OCTOBER 2025		
TIME	SESSION	LOCATION
7.30am – 8.30am	Registration and Arrival Tea & Coffee	Main Entrance
8.30am – 9.30am	Opening Welcome to Country	Great Hall
9.30am – 10.30am	Opening Worship	Great Hall
10.30am – 11:15am	Morning Tea Break Poster Session from 11.00am – 11.15am	Exhibition Hall
11.15am – 12.15pm	Keynote Session – Rev. Dr. Sarah Hinlicky Wilson	Great Hall
12.15pm – 1.15pm	Keynote Session – Hugh van Cuylenburg, Resilience Project	Great Hall
1.15pm – 2:15pm	Lunch Poster Session from 1.30pm – 2.15pm	Exhibition Hall
2.15pm – 3.15pm	Free to Flourish Launch Workshop 1	Great Hall
3.15pm – 3.45pm	Afternoon Tea	Exhibition Hall
3.45pm – 4.45pm	Free to Flourish Launch Workshop 2	Great Hall
5.15pm – 7.00pm	Welcome Reception - Networking and Refreshments	Exhibition Hall

THURSDAY 2 OCTOBER 2025

THURSDAY 2 OCTOBER 2025							
TIME	SESSION						LOCATION
8.00am	Registration and Arrival Tea & Coffee						Main Entrance
8.30am	Day 2 Worship						Great Hall
9.00am	Keynote Session: Dr Shyam Barr - Educate to Self-Regulate						Great Hall
9.30am	Movement/Brain Break						Great Hall
	Concurrent Sessions 1						
9.45am – 11.15am	Mezzanine M1	Mezzanine M2	Mezzanine M3	Mezzanine M4	Plaza P1	Plaza P2	Great Hall
	WORKSHOP (90mins): Resilience in Action: Evidence-Based Strategies for Lasting Wellbeing + 30-minute action planning Ryan McMurray The Resilience Project	WORKSHOP (90mins): <i>Title TBC</i> Rev. Dr. Sarah Hinlicky Wilson	PRESENTATION (30mins): Unity and Utju: A Tale of Two Communities Adam Yeager Unity College, SA	WORKSHOP (45mins): Developing Parents as Pedagogical Partners in the Primary Years - Building Flourishing Communities Lisa Challenor St Peters Lutheran College, QLD	PRESENTATION (30mins): Chaplaincy & Faith: Here I Am to Worship; using Free to Flourish to Explore Who We are Called to Be in Christ David Folker St John's Lutheran School, QLD	WORKSHOP (45mins): Leading Through Questions Tim Kotzur St Peters Lutheran College, QLD	PRESENTATION (30mins): 10 Steps to a Safe, Efficient and Cost-Effective Bus Service John Mcdiarmid Trinity Lutheran College, QLD
			PRESENTATION (60mins): A Compassionate Approach to Regenerative Systems Change Mignon Weckert LENSW	WORKSHOP (45mins): Primary Science: Choose Your Own Adventure. Creating space for student agency via purposeful collaboration through experiment design. Alysha Schneider Luther College, VIC	PRESENTATION (30mins): Stealing Past Watchful Dragons: Practices That Promote Student Flourishing in Australian Faith Based Schools Darren Iselin Christian Schools Australia, ACT	WORKSHOP (45mins): Assessing What Matters - Why should assessment cause so much anguish? Sharyn Mullens-Tayler Luther College, VIC	PRESENTATION (30mins): Beyond Outdoor Learning : A Case Study in Adventurous Education Stephanie Kriewaldt Lobethal Lutheran School, SA

					PRESENTATION (30mins): Doing social justice in Lutheran schools - what, why, how? Tom Brennen Cornerstone College, SA		PRESENTATION (30mins): Our Journey: Developing an Education Blueprint inspire by Free to Flourish Darren Altus & Renae McDonald, Good Shepherd, Angaston, SA
11.15am-11:45am	Morning Tea Poster Session from 11.30am – 11.45am						Exhibition Hall
	Concurrent Sessions 2						
11.45am – 1.15pm	Mezzanine M1	Mezzanine M2	Mezzanine M3	Mezzanine M4	Plaza P1	Plaza P2	Great Hall
	WORKSHOP (45mins): Self-Motivated: Techniques to Enhance Students' Motivation. Dr Shyam Barr	WORKSHOP (60mins): Building an Inclusive Culture at St. Michael's Lutheran Primary: Embracing Neurodiversity and Fostering Flourishing Learners Georgia Pope St Michael's, Hahndorf, SA	PRESENTATION (30mins): How to embed First Nations perspectives in schools with compassion and purpose. Lauran Quinn Australians Together	WORKSHOP (45mins): Free to Flourish: A Whole-School Journey of Identity, Growth, and Community Jocelyn Bakker St John's Lutheran Primary School, QLD	PRESENTATION (30mins): Free to Flourish: Compassion, Creation, and Learning - How can art, faith, and education intertwine to cultivate compassionate communities? Ruth Ellington St John's Lutheran Kingaroy, QLD	WORKSHOP (45mins): Break the educational mould! Be adventurous, purposeful and relational by teaching kids what they want to learn and still tick all the educational boxes David Moore Faith Lutheran College Redlands, QLD	PRESENTATION (30mins): AON RISK SERVICES
	WORKSHOP (45mins): Looking After Yourself workshop & 21 day wellbeing journals Wellbeing Workshop Ryan McMurray Resilience Project	PRESENTATION (30mins): TBC	PRESENTATION (30mins): Blue Fingernails and Platform Shoes - Unlock the power of kindness to unleash a world of service. Jonathan Krause ALWS, SA	WORKSHOP (45mins): Service-Learning in the History Classroom Carly Brooks Faith Lutheran College, Redlands, QLD	PRESENTATION (30mins): Compassionate Communities: Prioritising Child Safety in Lutheran Schools Morgan Brookes Cornerstone College, SA	WORKSHOP (45mins): AI & Cyber Security: Enabling Innovation, Managing Risk, and Building Trust Michael Hodson & Phillip Souter, LLL	PRESENTATION (30mins): Implementing a Compliance Shared Services Model in Lutheran Schools Kerryn Simpfendorfer Cornerstone College, SA and Tyna Newman

							Encounter Lutheran College SA
			PRESENTATION (30mins): Lutheran Identity in Lutheran Schools: Is it a Lost Cause? <i>Tim Jarick</i> St Peters Lutheran College, QLD		PRESENTATION (30mins): Immersive Technologies for Adventurous and Compassionate Education <i>Catherine Barnes</i> Endeavour College, SA		PRESENTATION (30 mins) In conversation: religious freedom for faith-based schools landscape <i>Lisa Schmidt</i> Executive Director Lutheran Education Australia and <i>Vanessa Cheng</i> Executive Officer Australian Association of Christian Schools
1.15pm – 2:00pm	Lunch Poster Session from 1.30pm – 2.00pm						Exhibition Hall
	Concurrent Sessions 3						
2.00pm – 3.30pm	Mezzanine M1	Mezzanine M2	Mezzanine M3	Mezzanine M4	Plaza P1	Plaza P2	Great Hall
	WORKSHOP (60mins): Self-Motivated: Techniques to Enhance Students' Motivation. Dr Shyam Barr	WORKSHOP (90mins): Navigating Leadership Sabotage Building Resilience and Strength Tod Bolsinger	PRESENTATION (30mins): Relationships within small teams: a coaching journey Michelle Thygesen St Peters Lutheran College Springfield, QLD	WORKSHOP (45 mins): Looking After Yourself workshop & 21 day wellbeing journals Wellbeing Workshop Ryan McMurray Resilience Project	PRESENTATION (30mins): Thinking at the Forefront: Immanuel College's Cultures of Thinking Journey Martyn Anderson Immanuel College, SA	WORKSHOP (45mins): Cultivating Compassion: A Practical Approach to Service Learning Jodie Hoff Australian Lutheran World Service, LORDS, QLD and Celia Fielke Australian Lutheran World Service, SA	PRESENTATION (30mins): TBC
			PRESENTATION (30mins): A Principals Story Matthew Qualischefski Good Shepherd Lutheran College, NT	WORKSHOP (45mins): Integrating structured inquiry with explicit teaching - two approaches often seen in contrast but, in fact,	PRESENTATION (30mins): Free to Flourish in Worship: Sharing Lutheran Theology Through Song in	WORKSHOP (45mins): Free to Flourish: Engaging Big Questions in Christianity through Socratic Discussion	PRESENTATION (30mins): TBC

	PRESENTATION (30mins): Stewardship in Action: Transforming the Built Environment to Foster Impactful Learning Karen Hill St Peters Lutheran College, QLD		PRESENTATION (30mins): Fostering Student and Staff Agency Through the Free to Flourish Initiative at Living Faith OSHC Montahna Lanham-Underwood and Kym Garth Living Faith OSHC, QLD	powerfully complementary Dr Toni Delany-Crowe Australian Education Research Organisation (AERO)	Contemporary Lutheran Schools Andrea Blakely Faith Lutheran College Plainland, QLD	Julia Wright St Peters Lutheran College, QLD	PRESENTATION (30mins): TBC
	Concurrent Sessions 4						
3.30pm – 4.30pm	Mezzanine M1	Mezzanine M2	Mezzanine M3	Mezzanine M4	Plaza P1	Plaza P2	Great Hall
	WORKSHOP (60mins): Self-Motivated: Techniques to Enhance Students’ Motivation. Dr Shyam Barr	WORKSHOP (60mins): <i>Title TBC</i> Rev. Dr. Sarah Hinlicky Wilson	PANEL DISCUSSION (60mins): A group panel conversation: Stories from Lutheran education communities engaging with Free to Flourish Sue Kupke LEA2	WORKSHOP (60mins): Free to Flourish – Cultivating Growth Through St Jakobi’s Kitchen Garden Inquiry Program Petrea Booth St Jakobi Lutheran School, SA	PRESENTATION (30mins): From Curiosity to Faith: Engaging Primary Students in Christian Studies Through Real-World Connections helping them flourish in their faith journey Graham Maddren Immanuel Lutheran School Gawler, SA PRESENTATION (30mins): Flourishing in a rapidly changing community: living our mission in a purposeful manner Joanne Wegener Good News Lutheran College, VIC	WORKSHOP (60mins): Rowing Together: How Metaphor-Driven Narratives Boost Coherence, Engagement and Commitment Susan Carter Prince of Peace, QLD	PANEL DISCUSSION (60mins): We are Relational: Candid Conversations on the Couch Exploring Restorative Perspectives Across Lutheran Education David Folker St John's Lutheran School, QLD

7.00pm – 11.00pm	Conference Dinner Plaza Ballroom, Brisbane Convention Centre
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FRIDAY 3 OCTOBER 2025		
TIME	SESSION	LOCATION
8.30am – 9.00am	Registration and Arrival Tea & Coffee	Main Entrance
9.00am – 9.50am	Keynote Session: Tod Bolsinger - Leading Through Sabotage: Building Resilience and Strength	Great Hall
9.50am – 10.00am	Movement/Brain Break	Great Hall
10.00am – 10.45am	New Christian Studies Curriculum Framework Update	Great Hall
10.45am – 11:15am	Morning Tea Break Poster Session from 11.00am – 11.15am	Exhibition Hall
11.15am – 12.00pm	Keynote Session: Graham Catt, CEO of Independent Schools Australia Conference Wrap Up	Great Hall
12.00pm – 1.00pm	Closing Worship with Communion	Great Hall

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