

## 2016 M & M FEST

By Karen Crouch

On Friday 4 March church family from around the state gathered around the theme "Grow and Go".

Hosted by the Rockingham Mandurah Lutheran Church we grew together as we got to know each other better on Friday night with games, music and dancing at the Halls Head campus.

On Saturday we were back at the Halls Head campus for an opening address from Pastor Steven Liersch titled "I am not Jesus!" reminding us that God has chosen ordinary people for extraordinary tasks. See Colossians 2:6-15.

We then learnt from Pastor Steen Olsen, Director of Mission in SA, NT and occasionally WA as he built on the theme and pointed out that sometimes it can be turned around to be "Go and Grow" or maybe it is a cycle where we grow, go and grow some more.

Pastor John Henderson, Bishop of the LCA, shared with us his reflections on the church. See page 2 for an extract and a link to download the entire document.

Saturday night we gathered at the Rockingham campus for dinner prepared and served by the school canteen staff and helpers from the congregation.

Some of us enjoyed a very informative tour of the campus before dinner.

Sunday morning we were back in Halls Head for an uplifting church service and communion.

Photos are available by downloading:  
[www.esbconsult.com/lcawaneews/mmfest.ppt](http://www.esbconsult.com/lcawaneews/mmfest.ppt)

## PASTORS CONFERENCE

By Karen Crouch

Prior to the M & M Fest, the Pastors of WA meet together at a lovely little retreat in Mundaring called "Nathanael's Rest". Together they meditated in the peaceful surroundings and were led in studies by Pastor Steen Olsen and discussed what was happening in the wider LCA with Bishop John Henderson.

The location, food and a million other things were organised by Pastor Richard Schulze and everyone pitched in to prepare and clean up lunches and dinners.

It was also a good opportunity for the new pastors in the district to meet the "old" ones.

New Pastors are Steve Liersch at RMLC and Matthew Bishop at Morley. Mike Fulwood has returned to WA this year.



Front L-R: Dieter Dell'Antonio, Greg Pfeiffer, Glenn Crouch, Steve Liersch, Pastor Ku, Charles Choy  
Mid L-R: Andre Mayer, Richard Schulze, Tony Traeger, Mike Fulwood  
Back L-R: Milo Velebir, Rodney Witmitz, Matthew Bishop, John Henderson



What makes a church Christian? There might be many answers to that question. Firstly, of course, it must confess Jesus as Lord. We would expect it to believe in God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit and to preach the message of the Scriptures. And then, of course, we would want to know whether it practises what it preaches.

Is the Lutheran Church Christian? That might seem like a strange question since most of us are familiar with our church and what it believes. But if you've ever mentioned our church to people who don't know us, you might have heard them ask, "And what's that?"

*The paper then goes on to discuss the Nicene creed and other creeds that help us identify what a Christian is.*

*Bishop John then goes on to discuss; Ordination, how we call Pastors, Australian Lutheran College, the office of the Bishop, public theology, aboriginal ministry, the role and voice of women, domestic violence, renewal, and Lutherans serving in the defence forces.*

*He concludes with the following section:*

## The way of Love

'There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. We love because he first loved us' (1 John 4:18-19).

Fear is a constant companion we know all too well. It lurks in dark places, pounces when our guard is down, feeds on our doubts and erodes our confidence when we most need it. Fear robs us of joy and paints life in dark, horrible hues. To give in to fear is to give up on God.

Our joy is that God has posted the antidote to fear, which is love—specifically his love in Jesus Christ. Love is more powerful than fear because no matter how destructive it might seem fear is only a phantom, and love is a Person, a real Person. Relationships are the most powerful and transformative influence in life and Christ is God's personal saving relationship with us.

Over four years now the LCA has used the tagline *Where love comes to life*. We are gradually coming to appreciate and act by this tagline. At first some people criticised it as being too human centred, as if love comes to life by what we do.

If Lutherans know anything, it is that we are sinners and our love is imperfect at best. We must always look to God's love, not ours. Now, some years on, the theme is beginning to mature and we are seeing how true it is. God's love brings life and we are its ambassadors. Like all ambassadors we carry the message but we ourselves are not the message. The message of God's love, then, is carried in our actions and words as individuals and as church. His message has always been, and always will be, our mission to the world.

The entire 7 pages of this paper can be downloaded from:

[www.esbconsult.com/lcawnews/LCABishopReflections.pdf](http://www.esbconsult.com/lcawnews/LCABishopReflections.pdf)

## BLESSED ARE THE PEACEMAKERS SEMINAR

A Bible study seminar presented by LCA Reconciliation Ministry

### Why Should I Come?

Jesus says, 'Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God' (Matt. 5:9). Yet, our lives are often anything but peaceful.

*Blessed Are the Peacemakers* gives practical ways for Christians to live out their faith, even in the face of conflict.

### What You Will Learn

- ✓ How God empowers you for doing what you cannot do on your own
- ✓ How to admit your wrongs with godly sorrow
- ✓ How to forgive and experience healing from the deepest hurts
- ✓ How to model reconciliation with your children
- ✓ How to be a peacemaker in your church, home, and work-place

Saturday April 2nd at St Luke's Lutheran Church, Nicol St, Parkwood

All day event for only \$10 plus lunch for a gold coin.

Call Pastor Mike Fulwood for more info 0417 179 093. You can also download registration form from:

[www.esbconsult.com/lcawnews/PeacemakersRegistration.pdf](http://www.esbconsult.com/lcawnews/PeacemakersRegistration.pdf)

## GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH PERTH.

by Graeme Lienert

The Chinese / Asian Congregation has been meeting at St Johns in Northbridge for many years, bringing Christ to the Nations.

This month words were changed into deeds when Grace Lutheran Church Perth, at St John's Court, 'Northbridge' was formally admitted into the LCA of Australia (WA District) after a signing ceremony on 13 March 2016.

Bishop Pfeiffer and Pastor Ku gathered together with representatives from WA District Church Council, Grace Lutheran Church, St John's, and LCA Asian Ministry Pastor Brian Shek to formally admit 'Grace Lutheran Church Perth' as a Congregation of the LCA WA District.

This was an historic signing for the LCA (WA District) and Grace Lutheran Church Perth, as 'Grace' became the first Chinese Asian congregation to be admitted into Membership of the LCA in Western Australia.

To God Be The Glory

## NEW PASTOR FOR RMLC

By Tracy Adams (chair of RMLC)

It is with thankfulness to God that our prayers were answered as we prepared the installation service for Pastor Steve Liersch into Rockingham Mandurah Lutheran Church. We were given the opportunity to discover our strengths in the 2 years we were without a Pastor and we patiently waited one more week (so as to be able to include our youth who were at Jan camp) for the opportunity to install Pastor Steve on the last weekend in January 2016. It was a wonderful service filled with joy and thanksgiving as we welcomed all the Liersch family into our church family. Pastor Steve, Angelyn, Samuel, Jackson and Keziah have all joined us and we feel very blessed and delighted as they are looking very much at home as part of the Rockingham Mandurah Community. We look forward to strengthening our relationships with this beautiful family and to celebrating together all that God has in store for us as we learn and grow and achieve all things through Him. It is wonderful to have a full complement of Pastors in WA and we praise our Lord for the wonderful giftedness of those who answered the call to "go west... (young man)".



### Signing Ceremony

Seated Row L to R: Pastor Andre Meyer (St Johns Lutheran Church Perth (SJLCP)), Bishop Greg Pfeiffer (WA District), Pastor Ku (Chairman of Grace Lutheran Church (GLCP)), Volker Hopfmuehler (Chairman of WA DCC), Pastor Charles Choy (newly called Lay Worker),

Standing from L to R: Graeme Lienert (member of WA DCC), Lester Dreckow (Secretary of WA DCC), Timothy Sim (Treasurer - GLCP), Peter Xian Ching Lee (Secretary - GLCP), Richard Yeo (Pastoral advisor), Dean Solmundson (Chairman - SJLCP), Zhijun Chen (Vice-Chairman GLCP), Hock Fu Chua (pastoral advisor - GLCP), Pastor Brian Shek (LCA Asian Ministry Coordinator)

## ST LUKE'S PARKWOOD WELCOME FULWOOD RETURN TO WA

By Simon Pfitzner (Chair of St Luke's)

Pastor Mike and Narelle Fulwood have returned to WA. On Sunday 21st February 2016 they were installed at St Luke's Parkwood in an Interim Ministry Pastorate - Reconciliation Ministry.

Pastors Milo Velebir, Dieter Dell'Antonio and Glenn Crouch provided pastorate support during the installation which was officiated by Bishop Greg Pfeiffer. Also attending was Pastor Allen Su from the Hope Methodist Church.

The services of an interim reconciliation Ministry Pastorate include regular pastoral services along with teaching, coaching, mediations (assisted conversations) and training regarding biblical peacemaking. St Luke's welcomes and gives thanks to the provision for the return to full-time ministry, the first for 18 years. God's work and answer to prayers is truly evident with the assignment of Pastor Mike and Narelle.



L-R: Dieter Dell'Antonio, Greg Pfeiffer, Milo Velebir, Allen Su, Glenn Crouch  
Back view of Mike & Narelle Fulwood

## BLESSING OF GOLDFIELDS ROADS

By Karen Crouch

Pastor Glenn Crouch was invited for the 2nd year to conduct a blessing of the roads as part of the Kalgoorlie-Boulder RoadWise Committee's launch of the Share Our Roads campaign which is launched leading up to the busy Easter long-weekend.

The blessing in recognition of the police, emergency services personnel and volunteers, all coincided with the Kalgoorlie Triathlon Club's March event and the star of National Bike week.



### HOLY SPIRIT CONFERENCE

**Friday April 1 – Sunday April 3**

*With guest speakers*

**Dr Edgar Mayer & Tatjana Mayer  
and Pastor Peter Steicke**

**We invite you to be our guest!**  
Registration is FREE, however to assist us  
with catering please register early.  
Billeting is available.

*Register online at:*

[concordia.duncraig.wa@lca.org.au](mailto:concordia.duncraig.wa@lca.org.au)

*Or phone us at the office on 08 9246 3376*



Travel Brochures Available

Information about the next Holy Land tour:

[www.esbconsult.com/lcawanews/HolyLandOct2016.pdf](http://www.esbconsult.com/lcawanews/HolyLandOct2016.pdf)

Information about the Reformation 500 tours:

[www.esbconsult.com/lcawanews/Reformation500May\\_June2017.pdf](http://www.esbconsult.com/lcawanews/Reformation500May_June2017.pdf)

[www.esbconsult.com/lcawanews/Reformation500Oct\\_Nov2017.pdf](http://www.esbconsult.com/lcawanews/Reformation500Oct_Nov2017.pdf)



## GODLY PLAY CORE TRAINING 2016

**23-25 April 2016**

**(Anzac Long Weekend)**

**St Cuthbert's Church, Darlington**

Godly Play is a Montessori method of telling Bible stories, developed by Jerome Berryman, using parables, sacred stories and liturgical lessons about religious traditions using simple materials. It is used extensively with adults and children in many settings, from schools to hospitals, churches to aged care facilities. Godly Play can be a way of preparing children to join the worship life of their congregations as they experience sacred stories, symbols and rites and encounter the religious language associated with worship within the context of our faith tradition.

Registrations for Godly Play Core Training will open in late January. In the meantime, please 'claim the date' and forward information to people who may be interested. It is possible that Enrichment Training will also be offered.

To express interest in Core Training or Enrichment Training, please email Chris Bedding at

[rector.darlington@live.com.au](mailto:rector.darlington@live.com.au).

## HOME NEWS!

### LUTHERAN HOMES (WA) INCORPORATED Special General Meeting and Annual General Meeting

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At Bethlehem Lutheran Church Morley

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Date to be announced.

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In 2014 the four Lutheran Homes Units at Weld Square, Morley were sold. The decision to sell was the core of a future investment strategy that the Management Committee believed would better enable Lutheran Homes (LH) to carry out its objects. This decision was supported by the LCA WA District Church Council.

Following the sale, a loan of \$1.2m was made to the Faith For the Future Project (St Johns Court). Interest from this loan will enable LH to continue its work in assisting the disadvantaged and building this asset with which God has blessed our Church.

An obvious outcome of the sale is that LH will no longer offer below market rental housing which necessitates changes to the "Rules for Lutheran Homes (WA) Incorporated" in other words the Constitution.

The Management Committee has obtained legal advice from Mallesons Stephen Jaques on this matter and has carefully documented and agreed on these changes at a meeting on 17 June 2015 and 9 March 2016. The changes involve:

- ✓ changing some existing rules, and
- ✓ a name change from Lutheran Homes (WA) Incorporated to Lutheran Homes Foundation (WA) Incorporated.

These changes to the LH Rules are defined as a "Special Resolution" and the Commissioner for Consumer Protection requires this to be passed at a Special General Meeting of the Association which will take place in conjunction with the Annual General Meeting; the date of which will be announced shortly. The meeting will be limited to about 1 hour.

Copies of the special Resolution are available from Volker Hopfmueller (Chair) or Janny Thomas (Secretary).

You are hereby invited and encouraged to attend the meeting. As members of a Lutheran congregation you can join the LH Association through payment of a \$2.00 annual membership fee when you arrive at the meeting and be eligible to vote.

Jannny Thomas  
Secretary Lutheran Homes (WA) Incorporated

#### **Meditation:**

We know that the whole creation has been groaning as in the pains of childbirth right up to the present time. Not only so, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for our adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies. For in this hope we were saved. But hope that is seen is no hope at all. Who hopes for what he already has? But if we hope for what we do not yet have, we wait for it patiently.

--Romans 8:22-25 (NIV)

#### **Quotation:**

From subtle love of softening things,  
From easy choices, weakenings,  
(Not thus are spirits fortified;  
Not this way went the Crucified;)  
From all that dims Thy Calvary,  
O Lamb of God, deliver me.

Give me the love that leads the way,  
The faith that nothing can dismay,  
The hope no disappointments tire,  
The passion that will burn like fire;  
Let me not sink to be a clod:  
Make me Thy fuel, Flame of God!

*Amy Carmichael (1867-1951), written in India, 1912,  
Gold Cord: the story of a fellowship, Society for Promoting  
Christian Knowledge, 1952,*

#### **Reflection:**

Lord, implant in me and all those around me a zeal that burns to Your glory.



### 2016 PUBLICATION SCHEDULE

Article Deadline	Publication Date
20 June	24 June
27 September	30 September
5 December	9 December

Please email your items to: [wanews@wa.lca.org.au](mailto:wanews@wa.lca.org.au)  
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Karen Crouch. Editor, WA Lutheran News