

## THE POWER OF PRAYER NEVER TOO YOUNG TO LEARN

By Graeme Lienert

A buzz of spiritual excitement and fellowship flowed through the 1,250 who attended the 26th Governor's Annual Prayer breakfast held at the Crown Ballroom Perth, according to some of the 'Lutherans' in attendance. These included Chaplain Milo Velebir (Royal Australian Navy), Dr George O'Neill (Fresh Start clinic and founder of treatment program for drug dependency), and Graeme Lienert, APM CF, member of St Johns and LCA (WA District).

Key note speakers included the Governor of Western Australia, Hon Kim Beazley, AC, who spoke of his exposure to the growth of National Prayer breakfasts in Washington DC, when he was Australian Ambassador to the US of A, and Dr John Dickson (PhD) author and lecturer on Historical Jesus at the University of Sydney NSW.

John, the keynote speaker, spoke of his conviction to be a public advocate for the Christian faith after the loss of his father in a major air crash (92 people died) when John was aged 9. His father's death had a major impact on his early life, and although not brought up in the traditions of the Christian faith, he suddenly began reciting the Lord's prayer. He marvelled at this sudden learning and understanding - was it a miracle! John believed this for a few years, until his grandmother told him, that it was not a miracle, as she would recite the Lord's prayer to him as she nursed him to sleep as a baby and young child (never too young to learn).

The next Governor's prayer breakfast in WA will be held in September 2019.



L-R: Dr George O'Neill (Fresh Start clinic and founder of treatment program for drug dependency), Graeme Lienert, APM CF, St John's Lutheran Church Perth, Chaplain Milo Velebir (Royal Australian Navy)

## HOT OFF THE (WINE) PRESS

The LCA WA District Church Council is seeking your support in promoting our fundraising project to provide premium wines to our members, friends and their families. Two premium wines have been selected this year for the "Bishop's Reserve" - a Shiraz and a Chenin Blanc along with a Liqueur Shiraz.

All the information you need is on the order form. We are mindful of the harm that has been caused by the misuse of alcohol and ask that you read our Bishop's Tasting Notes on the front of the form.

### Funds raised will go towards supporting the role of the WA Bishop.

Order forms can be downloaded from:

[www.esbconsult.com/lcawanews/  
WineOrderForm2018.pdf](http://www.esbconsult.com/lcawanews/WineOrderForm2018.pdf)

**PRAY DAILY.  
NOT WEAKLY.**



**Here are some prayer  
points for you.**

- ✚ For God to guide the Call process and lead the right pastor to Living Waters Lutheran College, Warnbro during the coming months.
- ✚ Thank God for placing a Christian leader as Prime Minister of Australia.
- ✚ Ask God for a thankful heart for his mercies which are new every morning.
- ✚ For the Rockingham Mandurah Lutheran Church as it seeks God's direction for the worshipping community at Mandurah who lost their permanent worship site when the Halls Head campus of Living Waters College was sold in 2017.

'We will tell the next generation the praiseworthy deeds of the Lord, His power and the wonders He has done' (Psalm 78:4b)

Bringing Christ's Gospel to our children and their families is a joy. As we all know, it's also hard work and can leave us feeling discouraged and drained. With this in mind, the LYWA Management Committee identified the need to gather our district's Children's Ministry workers, for a day of networking, resourcing and encouragement.

After receiving a ministry grant from LCA Grow Ministries, LYWA (on behalf of the LCAWA District) set about organising a day of bringing our congregations together to learn and experience what makes for effective ministry to children and their families. It was also envisaged that this would be a wonderful opportunity to network and encourage each other, with a practical focus on resourcing and equipping all attendees, regardless of their congregation's current Children's Ministry status. LYWA was blessed to have Pastor Matt Bishop (Bethlehem Morley) take an active role in shaping the direction and focus of this event. LYWA is thankful for all the time and effort Matt put in.

As a result of this planning, around 50 attendees from all over the LCAWA district, came together for the event, ***Equipping for Effective Child & Family Ministry***, which took place on Saturday, August 11<sup>th</sup>, at Bethlehem Morley. We were very blessed to be led on the day, by Jodi Brook and Christine Matthias from LCA Grow Ministries (as well as their husbands, Pastor Andrew Brook and Pastor Reid Matthias). Jodi and Christine presented from Grow Ministries' extensive range of resources, including GIFT (Generations in Faith Together), Growing Faith at Home, Faith Trail and Grow Coaching. These resources are underpinned by Grow Ministries'

Ten Guiding Principles, which have been developed to assist the congregations of the LCA to understand the most effective practices for child, youth and family ministry.

Other highlights of the day included the opportunity for attendees to ask questions of the expert panel regarding some of the challenges associated with child and family ministry and the opportunity for congregations to spend time with a Grow representative, discussing their individual circumstances.

Pastor Matt Bishop led us in uplifting opening and closing worship times, focussing on the theme verse. The closing worship concluded with all attendees standing together, facing each other and blessing one another, through the singing of 'The Christmas Blessing'.

As part of the original grant that was received, LYWA was able to purchase a sample of Grow Ministries' resources, as a gift to each of the LCAWA congregations. We pray that this will be an encouragement to all congregations of the LCAWA district.

LYWA would like to thank Jodi and Christine for their willingness to work with us and for their flexibility throughout the planning process. We also extend a special thanks to the Bethlehem Morley congregation for generously hosting this event, which included providing incredible morning and afternoon teas and endless coffee all day!

LYWA has been extremely pleased with the feedback we have received from attendees (see page 3). The LYWA Management Committee have been overwhelmed with the level of support for an event like this within our district and we are hopeful that this will become a regular event in the LCAWA District's calendar.





## FEEDBACK FROM EQUIPPING EFFECTIVE CHILD & MINISTRY DAY

'I liked the atmosphere of enthusiasm and willingness to explore something different. A fresh approach, from a Kingdom perspective. Thanks to all the team's hard work and planning for the day and for the wonderful hospitality all day from Morley Congregation. Thank you!'

*Louise Hampel (Children's Ministry Helper, Concordia Duncraig)*

'I appreciated the flexibility of the Grow team who worked with us to design a tailored-agenda that best served our district's needs. As we wanted to focus on equipping our congregations with the GROW resources and breaking down barriers to using them, we made sure there was lots of time built in to experience and practise the concepts Grow were presenting. Already this day is bearing much fruit at Bethlehem Morley.'

*Matt Bishop (Pastor, Bethlehem Morley)*

'I really appreciated being able to apply the head knowledge that was learnt practically with our peers on our table groups. I am so thankful for the day as this is so important not only for the ministry areas that I'm serving in but also for the wider church; our future church. Thank you for the learning opportunity and also thank you for making this day free - that is a true gift from God.'

*Manuela Scharlach (Church Council Member, St Luke's Parkwood)*

'What an amazing day of learning and worshiping. I am really impressed at the level of resources that Grow are providing to the LCA. It makes my job as a Sunday School Coordinator so much easier to have everything in one neat little package that I can pass on to all my Sunday School teachers. Well done LYWA and Grow, on a fantastic day. Thank you!'

*Elissa Farr (Sunday School Coordinator, Bethlehem Morley)*



'The information was given in a way that was engaging and fun, I enjoyed interacting with everyone throughout the day while learning great material to use in Kid's Church. I especially had fun when we had to pretend to be children and parents and I liked how we could address a panel with our concerns. Oh and just had to mention how good the food was. Well done!'

*Chantelle Hall (Children's Ministry Helper, Rockingham Mandurah)*

'The day ran smoothly with lots of information and opportunity for participation. I am amazed at the innovative resources Grow Ministries has produced. I hope that we as a congregation can learn from the experience. Blessings and thanks for everything LYWA does in promoting the gospel, particularly among the younger people.'

*Keith Kowald (Church Council Member, Bethlehem Morley)*



## WANT A WAY TO SUPPORT THE MISSION AND MINISTRY OF THE WA DISTRICT DIRECTLY?

### **REG is the answer (Regular Electronic Giving)**

REG is a safe, convenient, flexible and confidential way for individuals to financially support the mission and ministry of the WA District. REG is facilitated by using the LLL direct debit system.

Through REG you authorise a regular offering from your bank, credit union or LLL account to the LCAWA's REG account. Your REG offering can be made fortnightly, monthly, quarterly or even half yearly. Your offering amount can be changed at any time by notifying the LLL in writing.

#### ***Using REG keeps things confidential***

Confidentiality is assured, as the LCAWA doesn't receive any information regarding the identity of the person making the offering and the amount of the offering.

The LLL administers REG as a service to the Congregations and Districts of the Lutheran Church of Australia (LCA).

### **There are lots of advantages!**

- † The LLL pays the transfer fee on this facility and makes no charges
- † You can change your REG offering at any time

In order to give the LLL authority to deduct the amount you specify from your LLL account or your account with another financial institution, and transfer it to an LLL REG account held by the LCAWA District you will need to complete an **LLL Direct Debit Request Form** and lodge it with the LLL.

Visit [https://www.lll.org.au/giving\\_through\\_the\\_lla/regular\\_electronic\\_giving\\_reg](https://www.lll.org.au/giving_through_the_lla/regular_electronic_giving_reg) to get the form and read the **Service Agreement**.

The LCAWA REG account details you need for the Debit Request Form are:

Account Name: LCA WA DISTRICT REG

BSB: 704-942 Account: 100955746

#### ***What if you want to support a specific ministry or project in the WA District?***

Because no information is sent with a REG contribution, you can't earmark it for a specific purpose. This could be to support the role of the Bishop or other staff employed by the District, LYWA or LCA Budget contribution as examples.

If you want to support a specific project, you can still make a one-off deposit into the above account and use the Description field to specify where the gift is to be used. Your details will be kept confidential.

#### ***Want to use a Credit Card to make a donation to the WA District?***

Sure can – through the [LCA WA District Online Donations](https://donation.lca.org.au/project?id=P26001) secure website! (<https://donation.lca.org.au/project?id=P26001>)

You can select from a list of specific funds to contribute to, with the option of making it anonymous. The WA District pays the transaction fees through this system administered by the LLL.

Thank you for your generous support of the mission and ministry of the LCAWA District – as an individual and through your congregation, not only financially but also with your prayers and the gift of your time.

Fred Kroeger – Treasurer, LCAWA District Email: [admin.wa@lca.org.au](mailto:admin.wa@lca.org.au)



## A WEEKEND IN THE OUTBACK

By Marg Welke & Val Scheer

“Are we there yet?” The question was answered for Val and Marj as the red dust caused by a passing 4 trailer road train cleared, and we saw the turn-off to Laverton Downs indicated by bright pink tape streamers and the distinctive sign at the road side. Several kilometres of bone shattering gravel road and we arrived at the homestead.

And what a welcome! It looked just like a homestead should, caravans everywhere, people in summery clothes, not a cloud in the sky, and the sun shining brightly.

Marie Schutz (our hostess) accompanied by her faithful kelpie, Jim, warmly welcomed us. Trevor arrived very late that night back from the USA.

Hugs and “Hellos” all round as we met old friends and made new ones. There were people from everywhere, well, nearly everywhere. Katanning, Kalgoorlie-Boulder and Esperance and places in-between. 38 plus were there part and full time.

Pastor Jason and Bishop Mike were there to keep us on track. However, the Bishop was busy taking photos (each better than the one before) he really did not seem to notice what we did!

The walk to the historic wool shed occupied us for a couple hours, investigating the ancient wool press and table etc. Tales from long ago were revived. Some even ventured a look over the rubbish tip, an absolute must when visiting the outback. We did find some treasures, but could not equal the gold nuggets found at Kambalda the same weekend.

No gold was reported to have been found by the prospectors in our midst either! Good question though, if found, to whom would the gold belong? Trevor and Marie OWN the station. Maybe that is why no gold was reported to have been found!!!

By dinner that night we had all found somewhere to sleep. While the privileged caravan dwellers settled in, the ones with swags

and the rest of us found comfortable beds in the old homestead and cabins.

Several tag-a-long tours were led by Trevor exploring a small part of Laverton Downs Station. A radio linkup allowed everyone to hear the commentary as we viewed old mining sites and the improvements he has undertaken, flash new cattle yards, improved watering points complete with solar power. WOW!

The homestead court yard featured a huge open fire, around which we all gathered to cook, chat and to eat. The gums trees overhead giving us shade when needed. The egg and bacon

breakfasts were fabulous, lunches great too, but all was climaxed

by a magnificent camp-oven pork and camel roast on

Saturday night; served in the dinner room of the old historic homestead, where a lot of memorabilia is displayed. The Quiz that followed was enjoyed by all –

Chocolate prizes were prolific-even the losers ate abundantly. Pastor Jason

rounded off a wonderful evening with a short meditation on the first line of the Lord’s Prayer – “Our Father who art in Heaven”

Sunday morning the Service was held in the courtyard. The altar, an ancient bench (propped up on one end with an old pipe and two bricks to level it), two rusty buckets held arrangements of lovely wildflowers and the Cross was provided by the Esperance Congregation.

Despite a slight breeze blowing, no organ, or even “overheads” the Service proceeded admirably with Pastor Jason and Bishop Mike (without a mitre but wearing a baseball cap) leading the liturgy and concluding with the Lord’s Supper. Sunday afternoon found many of us wearily heading home after a wonderful weekend.

We thank Trevor and Marie for their wonderful hospitality.

We thank and praise our Heavenly Father for blessing us so abundantly at Laverton Downs Station.







2019



## 2018 Events in WA

### Jan Camp 2019

25-28 January  
Bickley Outdoor Rec Camp

### Dads & Kids Camp 2019

17-19 May  
Manjedal Activities Centre

### YAC 2019

2-7 July  
Manjedal Activities Centre

Please email your items to: [wanews@wa.lca.org.au](mailto:wanews@wa.lca.org.au)  
Current and old WA Lutheran News are available for download from the new website and also from:  
<http://www.esbconsult.com/lcawanews/>  
On the website you can also sign up to get an email informing you of when there is a new newsletter ready for download.  
Karen Crouch, Editor, WA Lutheran News  
**Thank you for your patience when there are delays**

Date	Event
21 October	60th Anniversary St Paul's Lutheran Church, Albany
16 November	Wine Order form deadline

### APPROXIMATE 2018 PUBLICATION SCHEDULE

Article Deadline	Publication Date
5 December	9 December

Outback fun at Laverton Downs Station





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(wine festival), Oberammergau,  
Ludwig's fairytale castle, Lake  
Constance, Salzburg, and Christian  
Rome, the Eternal City, including the  
Vatican and Colosseum

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\* Price is subject to a minimum of 25 full-paying adults, currency fluctuation, and increase in airline ticket/departure taxes – conditions apply. Please note if you are not traveling with a companion and a suitable same-gender roommate is not available, you will need to pay the single room supplement.

\* Itinerary is subject to change due to logistical reasons.