



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

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 Lutheran 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? <i>Tom Brennen</i> Cornerstone College, SA		PRESENTATION (30mins): Our Journey: Developing an Education Blueprint inspired by Free to Flourish <i>Darren Altus & Renae McDonald</i> , 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 <i>Georgia Pope</i> St Michael's, Hahndorf, SA	PRESENTATION (30mins): How to embed First Nations perspectives in schools with compassion and purpose. <i>Lauran Quinn</i> 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? <i>Ruth Ellington</i> 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 <i>David Moore</i> 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. <i>Jonathan Krause</i> 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	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 Contemporary Lutheran Schools	WORKSHOP (45mins): Free to Flourish: Engaging Big Questions in Christianity through Socratic Discussion Julia Wright St Peters Lutheran College, QLD	PRESENTATION (30mins): TBC

	PRESENTATION (30mins): Stewardship in Action: Transforming the Built Environment to Foster Impactful Learning <i>Karen Hill</i> St Peters Lutheran College, QLD		PRESENTATION (30mins): Fostering Student and Staff Agency Through the Free to Flourish Initiative at Living Faith OSHC <i>Montahna Lanham-Underwood and Kym Garth</i> Living Faith OSHC, QLD	powerfully complementary <i>Dr Toni Delany-Crowe</i> Australian Education Research Organisation (AERO)	<i>Andrea Blakely</i> Faith Lutheran College Plainland, 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 <i>Sue Kupke</i> LEA2	WORKSHOP (60mins): Free to Flourish – Cultivating Growth Through St Jakobi’s Kitchen Garden Inquiry Program <i>Petrea Booth</i> 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 <i>Graham Maddren</i> Immanuel Lutheran School Gawler, SA PRESENTATION (30mins): Flourishing in a rapidly changing community: living our mission in a purposeful manner <i>Joanne Wegener</i> Good News Lutheran College, VIC	WORKSHOP (60mins): Rowing Together: How Metaphor-Driven Narratives Boost Coherence, Engagement and Commitment <i>Susan Carter</i> Prince of Peace, QLD	PANEL DISCUSSION (60mins): We are Relational: Candid Conversations on the Couch Exploring Restorative Perspectives Across Lutheran Education <i>David Folker</i> St John's Lutheran School, QLD
7.00pm – 11.00pm	Conference Dinner Plaza Ballroom, Brisbane Convention Centre						

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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