

Important dates

Date	Event	Venue
	LAMP Statistics due to be completed and lodged Call Kate at District Office if you need assistance with completion 03 9236 1200	
04 March	Installation of Rev Stan Rudowski 4.00pm	St John's Lutheran Church PoPortland
11 March	Ordination of Specific Ministry Rev Denis Grosser 4.00pm	St Paul's Lutheran Church Swan Hill
16-18 March	Lutheran Men of Victoria Camp	Tandara Lutheran Camp, Halls Gap
23-25 March	500 Camp http://tandara.org.au/bookings-info/	Tandara Lutheran Camp, Halls Gap
29 March — 02 April	Easter Camp More at eastercamp.com.au/	Araluen Lutheran Camp Anglesea
03-06 April	Kids Camp for kids 9-12	Tandara Lutheran Camp, Halls Gap
16 April	District Pastors Conference	Holy Cross Centre Templestowe
17-19 April	Continuing Education for Pastors and Layworkers	Holy Cross Centre Templestowe
22 April	Installation of Rev Boyd Briese Time TBC	Our Redeemer Lutheran Church, North Geelong
05 May	Lutheran Women of Victoria Convention 9.00am	Holy Trinity Lutheran Church Horsham
26-27 May	Lutheran Women of Victoria Retreat Women of Worth	St Peter's Lutheran Church, Hobart

For more information on these events please go to the District website
vic.lca.org.au/news-and-events/coming-events

To subscribe to District eNews go to
www.lca.org.au/enews

and view and 'like' the new LYV facebook page
<https://www.facebook.com/LutheranYouthVIC/>

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District Voices



News from the Vic/Tas District February 2018



Introducing new team member, Denise Muschamp,
Professional Standards Officer, Victorian District

Denise grew up in New Zealand but has lived in Australia all her adult life. She has a background in primary teaching but has also worked previously in the area of Professional Standards for the Vic/Tas District.

Denise is married to Wayne who is the pastor of the Nunawading/Waverley congregation and has three adult children and two grandsons. As a passionate quilter, Denise also runs her own long-arm quilting business. She looks forward to meeting and working with the members of the District. Denise works (mainly) on Wednesday and Fridays.

Empower 2018

The District's annual youth training and enrichment day was hosted at St Phillip's Lutheran Church and Good News Lutheran College on Saturday 17 February. Over 50 people attended this year's event. A mix of future camp leaders, experienced youth leaders and invested congregation members were treated to a keynote presentation focusing on Luther, the Reformation and identity by ALC Principal Pastor James Winderlich.

Attendees said:

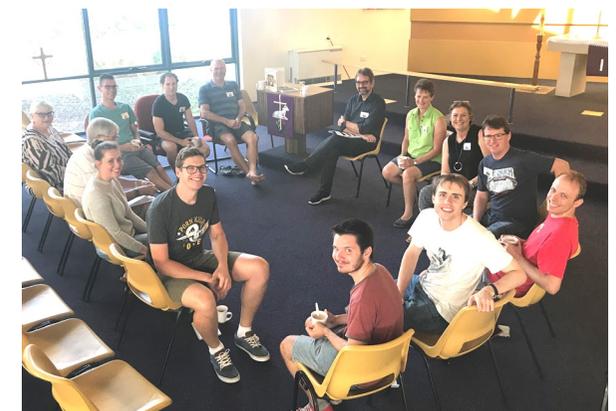
"I always enjoy the learning and networking. A great joy!" – Tim

"It was rewarding and I learned more about myself." – Georgia

"Well run, practical, great sessions and fun." – Matt

For more information about Lutheran Youth of Victoria (LYV), please contact Maya (Youth & Youth Adult Ministry Facilitator) via email Maya.kk@lca.org.au or telephone 9236 1200 (Wed-Fri).

You will find more on Empower in District eNews
Subscribe at www.lca.org.au/enews



From our Bishop...

"Lead us Not into Mistranslation"

I love a clever news headline. Recently I came across this one: "Lead us not into mistranslation: pope wants Lord's Prayer changed." It caught my eye for two reasons. It was clever and it related to the sixth petition of the Lord's Prayer.



As the headline suggests, the pope was not criticizing the prayer itself but the common translation of it. The words, "lead us not into temptation," he said, "can imply that God induces temptation."

"The pontiff told Italian broadcasters he believed the wording should be altered to better reflect that it was not God who led humans to sin." He added: "I am the one who falls; it's not him pushing me into temptation to then see how I have fallen. A father doesn't do that, a father helps you to get up immediately. It's Satan who leads us into temptation, that's his department."

The Lutheran reformers wrote as much in the The Augsburg Confession:

"The cause of sin is located in the will of the wicked; that is, the devil and ungodly people. Without God's help, this will turns itself away from God." (Article XIX)

Luther concurred in his Small Catechism explanation:

"God tempts no one. We pray in this petition that God would guard and keep us so that the devil, the world, and our sinful nature may not deceive us or mislead us into false belief, despair, and other great shame and vice. Although we are attacked by these things, we pray that we may finally overcome them and win the victory."

In the Large Catechism, Luther also wrote:

"Although we have received forgiveness and a clean conscience, and have been fully pardoned, life is such that a person can stand today and fall tomorrow... we have to ask him again not to let us fall and give way to doubts and temptations... That is what 'not leading us into temptation' means: when God gives us the strength to resist, even though temptation is not taken away or stopped."

I write these words during the first week of Lent, when we are encouraged to think about our own temptations in light of Christ's victory. In a world which is inclined to celebrate and glamorize temptation, we need to acknowledge that as sinful human beings, any one of us "can stand today and fall tomorrow." We need to

acknowledge the danger of temptation, as did the writer of a devotion I also read recently:

"Small compromises can lead to devastating defeats. An unrestrained thought, a glance in the wrong place on the internet, a flirting friendship when you're already married – each are steps that take us where we shouldn't go and put distance between us and God."

That's the danger of temptation: It "take[s] us where we shouldn't go and put[s] distance between us and God." But the good news is that our Lenten meditation can help "take us where we should go" and bring us closer to the heart of God. It takes us to the cross of Christ where God overcame sin, death and the power of the devil for us. It takes us to the open tomb which proclaims Christ's victory over the devil, the world and the sinful self. Together, the cross and the open tomb proclaim the good news of God's forgiveness for the times we have fallen back into sin because of temptation. They offer us the certainty that, though we are daily tempted by "the devil, the world, and our sinful nature... we may finally overcome them and win the victory." Whenever we are tempted, the cross of Christ and his open tomb give us the strength to "run to the Our Father and pray... 'Don't let me fall back into sin because of temptation'" (Luther's Large Catechism)

Yours in Christ

Lester Priebbenow

From Pastor Brett...



Pictured above are the worshipping community at Pakenham, a **Church Plant** of the Vic District celebrating at Christmas. A update on Church planting is available in our District eNews

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