How do we embrace what is good and useful from Positive Education while guarding ourselves against that which is contrary to the Gospel?

Thursday & Friday  
30 April - 1 May  

Positive Education (Psychology) in Lutheran Schools  

The Suaviter  
Concordia College  
45 Cheltenham Street  
Highgate  
South Australia  

Cost – $190

For more information please contact:  

Stuart Traeger  
Spiritual Development Leader  
stuart.traeger@lsa.lutheran.edu.au  
M: 0437 421 558  
P: 8267 8420 (direct line)
Positive Education is a growing wave in education.

At the same time, Positive Education is not without its critics. The development of wellbeing based on scientific research appears to be in conflict with a gospel based approach.

As Lutheran schools the question is, ‘How do we embrace what is good and useful from Positive Education while guarding ourselves against that which is contrary to the gospel?’ This conference aims to address this very question.

As a result of engaging with the conference, participants will:

- gain an understanding of Seligman’s Positive Psychology and the science behind it
- appreciate a Lutheran perspective of Positive Psychology and see practical examples of what this means
- learn from the St Andrews (Gold Coast) story of embedding Positive Psychology into an R-12 Lutheran College
- have opportunity to begin networking with other Lutheran schools who are exploring Positive Psychology
- Begin to embed practices and principles of Positive Psychology in their own lives

This conference will be of benefit to principals, deputies, pastors/chaplains, wellbeing leaders, leadership teams, and anyone interested in authentically embedding positive education within their own lives and the life of a Lutheran school.

Stuart Traeger
Spiritual Development Leader
Lutheran Schools Association (SA, NT, WA)

Keynote Presentations by:

Dr Matthew White
St Peter’s College, Adelaide

Dr Mark Worthing
Australian Lutheran College

Rev Joshua Miller
St John’s Lutheran Church/School, Eudunda

Tim Kotzur
St Andrews Lutheran College, Gold Coast

James Nelson
St Andrews Lutheran College, Gold Coast

Stephanie Noon
Live Life Coaching, Adelaide

Maria Roberto
Salutegenics Psychology, Melbourne
Keynote Speakers

Dr Mathew White
Director of Wellbeing & Positive Education, St Peter’s College, Adelaide.
Mathew White PhD is Director of Wellbeing & Positive Education at St Peter’s College, Adelaide, where he serves on the school’s Senior Leadership Team. He is a Senior Fellow in the Melbourne’s Graduate School of Education at The University of Melbourne, Affiliate in the Wellbeing Institute at Cambridge University, and an Adjunct Lecturer at the University of Adelaide.

Rev Dr Mark Worthing
Senior Researcher, Australian Lutheran Institute for Theology and Ethics, Adelaide
Mark Worthing is senior researcher at the Australian Lutheran Institute for Theology and Ethics and has a primary focus on issues relating to Lutheran Education. Mark is an ordained Lutheran pastor and holds a PhD from the University of Regensburg in the history and philosophy of science and a Dr.Theol from the University of Munich in ecumenical theology. Mark has an interest in the positive psychology movement in general and specific interest in the relationship between spiritual well-being and psychological well-being.

Rev Joshua Muller
Parish and School Pastor, St John’s Lutheran School, Eudunda
Josh Muller is the pastor at St John’s Lutheran School and parish. St. Johns has recently started embedding Positive Education philosophy and practices. Josh has been instrumental in leading the St John’s staff in an understanding wellbeing from a gospel perspective while using language and practices from Positive Psychology.

Tim Kotzur
Principal, St Andrews Lutheran College, Gold Coast
Tim has been the Principal of St Andrews Lutheran College, a P-12 Coeducational College of 1150 students located on the southern end of Queensland’s Gold Coast since 2010. Prior to this he was Deputy Head of College, at Trinity Lutheran College, also on the Gold Coast. Tim's interest in Positive Psychology stems from the links he sees between proactively building student well-being and resilience, and improved student learning outcomes. St Andrews has been on its Positive Education journey since the beginning of 2011. Tim holds two Masters Degrees - in Educational Administration and Business, and as a Lifelong Learner is currently studying a Graduate Certificate in NonProfits. In his spare time he enjoys following the fortunes of the Reds and the Wallabies.
Keynote Speakers cont ...

James Nelson  
**Director of Student Development, St Andrews Lutheran College, Gold Coast**  
James’ passions include creating links between Chapels and Positive Education; working to promote Teachers as Learners and Leaders; encouraging student leadership; and building skills and awareness of a life lived with renewed focus on truth, hope and joy. He is currently involved in Action Research on Explicit Teaching and its impact on High Achieving Students, and the broad and positive outcomes of Practices of Stillness in the classroom.

At Trinity Lutheran College, James was involved in encouraging student engagement and teacher passion for Christian Studies. At St Peters Lutheran College he served as Senior Resident in the Boarding House and Year Level Coordinator where his passion for pastoral care was honed. James holds a Masters Degree in Education and most recently a Graduate Certificate in Educational Leadership. He is involved heavily with his local community and Church, which are a natural outlet for someone with strengths in Spirituality, Relationships, Action and Optimism.

Stephanie Noon  
**Founder and Director, Live Life Coaching**  
Stephanie is one of South Australia’s most experienced coaches in the field of Positive Psychology. She holds a Diploma in Positive Psychology and Wellbeing (completing Positive Education as her Elective subject), she also obtained a distinction in Teaching Character and Creating Positive Classrooms from the Relay Graduate School of Education, and an Honor Code Certificate from the Berkeley University EdX program – The Science of Happiness.

Stephanie has years of experience as a Senior Leader in a Lutheran College, so is very familiar with the challenges faced by teaching staff and has a genuine passion and energy for teacher and student wellbeing.

Maria Roberto  
**Founder and Director, Salutegenics Psychology, Melbourne**  
Salutegenics Psychology is a strengths-based practise that moves people in personal and professional coaching toward mental fitness and life - health. Maria’s work is heavily influenced by Positive Psychology theory.

The core mission of her work is to transition people towards a state of flourishing, embedding respect, resilience and resolve along the way.
8:15am  Registration
8:30am  Welcome
8:35am  An introduction to Positive Psychology and the science behind it, followed by Q and A
        Dr Matthew White
10:30am Morning Tea

11:00am A Lutheran critique of Positive Psychology
        Dr Mark Worthing
        Examples of maintaining the centrality of the gospel in positive education
        Rev Josh Muller
12:00pm Opportunities and Challenges of Embedding Positive Psychology in a Lutheran School, Part 1
        Tim Kotzur & James Nelson
12:45pm Lunch

1:30pm Opportunities and Challenges of Embedding Positive Psychology in a Lutheran School, Part 2
        Tim Kotzur & James Nelson
3:00pm Afternoon Tea
3:30pm Snapshot of the LSA Landscape
        Stephanie Noon
4:30pm Close
## Conference Programme

### Day 2

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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8:45am</td>
<td>Opening Devotion</td>
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<td>8:35am</td>
<td>You have to live! Part 1</td>
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<td><strong>Maria Roberto</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>10:30am</td>
<td>Morning Tea</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:00am</td>
<td>You have to live! Part 2</td>
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<td><strong>Maria Roberto</strong></td>
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<td>12:45pm</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
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<td><strong>Maria Roberto</strong></td>
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<td>3:00pm</td>
<td>Afternoon Tea</td>
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<td><strong>Maria Roberto</strong></td>
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<td>4:30pm</td>
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## General Information

**Conference Venue**
The Suaviter, Concordia College, Adelaide
Enter via Cheltenham Street. Follow the signs to ‘Suaviter’, or ask for directions at reception.

**Parking**
There is no parking available at the College. Parking is available in the streets nearby the college.

**Dress Code** - Smart casual

**Dietary requirements**
Please include any special dietary requirements you may have in your registration form. We ask that you make yourself known to the catering staff if you have special dietary needs.

**Cost** - $190.00
Once registered, LSA will invoice your school.

**Registration**
Please register online - [http://www.lsa.lutheran.edu.au/events](http://www.lsa.lutheran.edu.au/events)