We are excited to be able to host the National Conference for School Pastors, Chaplains and ministry workers in our region in 2015. It is great that LEA has supported us and encouraged us to reinstate this important national event.

We have secured an amazing retreat venue in the foothills of the Dandenong ranges, as well as secured Australia’s most prominent spiritual writer, David Tacey. David has been described as someone who challenges our thinking in matters of spirituality.

We encourage every school in Australia to plan to have at least one representative attend this conference. This is a rare professional learning and networking opportunity for School pastors, Congregational based pastors who serve our schools, School Chaplains and other Ministry and Pastoral Care staff to attend a highly relevant PD event that will focus on contemporary spirituality and our ministry to young people and families in the complex world of the 21st century and comes around only once in every three of four years.

Expressions of Interest for the Conference

We urge you to act now and lodge an immediate expression of interest and also consider taking up the challenge of leading an elective session.

Expressions of interest for the conference should be made immediately to Conference Coordinator – Christine Paech via email or sms:

Email: dcpaech@optusnet.com.au or SMS: 0413 299 340

Registration for the “In the Mix” Conference

Conference delegates will be notified as soon as the online system is open for registrations.
KEYNOTE SPEAKER – Thursday
Professor David Tacey

Keynote Topic: The Challenge of relating to contemporary youth spirituality from the perspective of traditional religion.

David will be presenting two Electives on: 1. Youth Spirituality, and 2. Gender differences in Spirituality, as he explores the principle that "Young women’s and men's spirituality are quite different from each other."

Guest Speaker at Dinner: Leunig Cartoons of the Spiritual Life. David has a long-standing relationship with Michael Leunig, and will bring to the audience an engaging light, yet deep, presentation of Leunig's works on Spirituality.

KEYNOTE SPEAKER - Wednesday
Rowan Lewis – NEXT Coordinator, Whitley College

Keynote Topic: Nurturing Faith in Young People through Identity Development

This session will examine the relationship between faith development and identity formation. We will discover the way faith can be affirmed and strengthened when a young person's identity formation process deliberately includes religious or spiritual exploration - whether they are from religious or non-religious backgrounds. The educational practices that help and hinder this formation process will be discussed.

Elective Topic: Faith at the Crossroads

Why do some young people, when faced with a challenge to their faith, grow stronger while others fade away? This workshop explores the mystery of faith development, loss and change in young people, particularly at the moment when faith is at the crossroads, and the ways we can constructively participate in that process.

CONFERANCE COSTS

This conference is a Live-in Conference at the wonderful Foothills Conference Centre. Delegates who live locally are encouraged to reside in for the whole conference. The conference cost includes all conference fees, accommodation, meals and airport transfers (if required).

Twin Share Room - $395.00
Single Room - $495.00

Please take note of the Conference opening and closing times when organising flights. Airport transfers will be available from and to the airport before and after the conference.

FOOTHILLS CONFERENCE CENTRE
48 Edinburgh Rd, Mooroolbark, Victoria.

Wednesday 26 August – Registrations 11.00 am and Lunch 12.00 pm
Friday 26 August – Close 2.00 pm
(More timetable details will be available in the Conference package sent upon registration.)