

Shaping Mission in 21st Century Australia & NZ

By Zoom

August—September 2025

9.30-11.30pm NZ / 7.30-9.30pm Eastern / 7.00-9.00pm Central / 5.30-7.30pm WA

An Overview

We will see how we fit into God's mission to his world.

Together, we will seek to help each participant finish the course with:

- 1) a better understanding of joining the Spirit in walking with someone on their journey to faith; and*
- 2) the beginnings of a concrete approach to shaping mission in each person's context.*

Each session begins with *Dwelling in the Word*, personal sharing and prayer, and ends with personal reflection on how God is shaping us for participating in his mission.

In between we will work together on issues such as the following:

Thursday 7 August: **God has purposely planted you where you are, and it's the 21st Century!**

What does mission look like in your community today? What is God up to? What do you see and experience?

We will look at how congregations have changed from the time of the Apostles, to Christendom, to today.

Building a robust approach to mission.

Thursday 14 August: **If God has given you a few people, that is all you need!**

What opportunities for mission do you see in your community? Dare to dream!

Six Disruptive Missional Practices: Resisting mission drift and the tendency to Institutionalise.

Dwelling in the Word/Dwelling in the World/Hospitality/Corporate Discernment/Evangelism/Focused Action.

Thursday 21 August: **God invites you to join him in his mission to his world.**

Who can you work with in joining God's mission where you are?

Joining the Spirit as we walk with others on their journey to faith. Practical helps and insights for evangelism.

Thursday 28 August: **Sense-making in our fallen, rebellious, broken world.**

How has our society changed in the last 5-10 years? What do we see, hear and experience?

Cultural factors which impact bringing Jesus to others today.

What difference does that make to how we communicate the good news that is Jesus in our world?

Culture stress while relating cross-culturally in Australia today.

Thursday 4 September: **Called to lead when you don't yet know the road you need to take.**

What makes mission difficult where God has planted you? Sharing our contexts. Each of us has a story to tell!

Leadership in an age where maps fail us and the road ahead is very different from the road behind us.

Gleaning wisdom from those who have walked *The Way* before us.

Engaging with others in a time of great change, also in the Church.

Thursday 11 September: **God is making all things new.**

What is God up to in your community?

Bringing missional change in congregations. What is required for lasting change?

Forming missional community in today's Australia.

Thursday 18 September: **Every Journey begins from where you are.**

What do you hear the Spirit saying to you?

How do we discern the leading of the Spirit?

We workshop each of our contexts and opportunities.

Thursday 25 September: **Bringing it all together—Where to from here?**

Chosen, called and sent with others to blossom where God has planted us.

Helping each of us to take a few more steps in shaping an effective approach to mission in our community.



LUTHERAN CHURCH

OF AUSTRALIA

where love comes to life

The course is led by Dr Steen Olsen (LCANZ emeritus pastor, bishop and mission director) and Pastor Mat von Stanke (Life Way Lutheran, Newcastle NSW).

To find out more about the course content, contact steen.olsen@lca.org.au or mathew.vonstanke@lifeway.net.au
For details about costs, participating and how to register, contact mark.worthing@lca.org.au