



LCA Pastoral Care Nurse **NOTES & NEWS**

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Liturgical Masks

Dr Jamie Spikes is a Parish Nurse at St Luke's Lutheran Church in Manhattan, Kansas, USA. Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic she has been making face masks for herself and for others.



She has also made a set in liturgical colours for her pas-



tor, Michael Schmidt, to use when leading worship. These include a red one made for confirmation in May, a blue one to match his stole for Advent, a pink one for the Joy/Rejoice third Sunday in Advent, a white for Christmas, and a green one, and finally a purple one for Lent.

Shirley Klinge back at *Tabeel*, Laidley

In September, when Rosie Boughen resigned as chaplain at *Tabeel*, the Lutheran aged-care facility in Laidley, Queensland (pictured), Shirley Klinge again came out of retirement to serve as acting chaplain until December. She had previously been the Director of Nursing there.



Tabeel went into complete lock-down when a neighbouring aged-care home had a case of COVID-19. Staff and residents at *Tabeel* were all tested, but results came back negative.

Isolation takes toll on mental health

Last November, *Uniting Communities SA* released the results of research that showed that more than one in two South Australians feel lonely.

The not-for-profit body surveyed 1600 South Australians four times between March and the end of September. It found that more than 50 per cent felt lonely 'often' or 'some of the time'. Women aged 18-24 and 75+, and men and women aged 50-54, felt lonely most often.

The report also says that research worldwide has found that the health impacts of loneliness

are greater than obesity, or smoking up to 15 cigarettes per day, and have significant social and economic costs.

In many parts of the world – including Australia – Pastoral Care/Parish Nurses have been in the forefront in maintaining contact with home-bound parishioners by phone, Skype or Zoom during COVID-19 lockdown.

As lockdown restrictions ease, they will be in a good position to develop post-COVID recovery plans and programs that will help bring people together again.



US course graduate installed



On Reformation Sunday, Kathryn McNeal (Kate) officially became a Parish Nurse at St Luke's Lutheran Church in Manhattan, Kansas, USA. The dedication service was conduc-

ted by Pastor Michael Schmidt who presented the Certificate of Completion of the *Introduction to Parish Nursing Distance Education* course taught by Dr Marcy Schnorr, using the LNAA course. Mary Hume (right), Kansas District Parish Nurse Representative and Dr Jamie Spikes (left), Parish Nurse at St Luke's, both participated in the Blessing of Hands.

Kathryn is one of eight nurses who have completed the course. Three others are currently enrolled. Pictured, from left: Jamie Spikes, Rev Michael Schmidt, Kate McNeal, and Mary Hume.

LPNI Study Tours

The 2021 Lutheran Parish Nurses International study tour will take participants to Williamsburg and Washington DC in the United States on 15-21 September.

Participants will begin their tour at the Embassy Suites in Crystal City. They will stay in the Washington area for three days, to visit the Bible museum and national cathedral, and tour the city and other sites of national interest.

They will go on to visit Colonial Williamsburg, Jamestown and Yorktown, and to worship at King of Glory church, and participate in a service project at a local Christian Outreach Centre before travelling back to the DC area for a final night at Crystal City.

Registration forms are available at lpni.org, or from robert.wiebusch@lca.org.au.

A combined tour to Alice Springs in Central Australia and Madang in Papua New Guinea is being planned for 2022.

Tourists will visit the historic Hermannsburg

mission, scenic Simpson's Gap, and other sites of interest in and around Alice Springs.

In Madang, tourists will visit the museum, the Lutheran School of Nursing and a village hospital.



It is expected that details will be available shortly. Participants will be able to register for either or both sectors of this tour.