



# Media Matters



Lutheran Media - Connecting people to Christ

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Check out the  
LCA website  
[www.lca.org.au](http://www.lca.org.au)

## Please pray...

- That God will bless children through *Happyland* website.
- That listeners and viewers will be blessed.
- For writers as they prepare messages.
- For donations to share God's love with many more.
- That booklets might help connect people to Jesus.
- Thank God for blessings of the past 63 years.

When you can – **Pray**  
When you can't – **Pray**

Your prayers are powerful

## Pathway to peace

*These days we can talk anywhere and at anytime on the phone- saying hello, listening to what's happening to other people, seeking advice, sharing our highs and lows and asking for help.*

So if you suddenly receive fewer and fewer calls from your fiancée then you know that his or her affection is beginning to wane. Just imagine your reaction if they said, 'I'm not calling you. You know that I love you.' So imagine God's reaction if we were to say, "I don't have to talk to God. He knows that I love him." Love demands that we stop for a while and take the time to love. In the same way we need to stop for a while to talk to God. We need to give him some of our time, every day, every week."

As a teenager I was inspired by several books which Michel Quoist a Catholic Priest wrote on prayer. In



"Prayers" he says, "If we knew how to listen to God we would hear him speaking to us. For God does speak. He speaks in his Gospels. He also speaks through life – that new gospel to which we ourselves add a page each day. But we are rarely open to God's message, because our faith is too weak and our life too earthbound."

So as we take time out to listen to what God says to us in The Bible and in our lives he gives us the faith which we need to talk to God in prayer. Through Jesus, God has given us his direct line and it's never engaged! But how often do we make use of this great privilege?

We know how important prayer was to Jesus. He was always talking to his Father in Heaven. He prayed before he made important decisions. He understood that God's reply whether it be Yes, No or wait, would be according to his Father's will, not his own. He often took time out in a quiet place to pray. He gave us the model prayer – *The Lord's Prayer*.

As Jesus prayed God directed his power through him. When we pray in faith, believing Jesus' words to us, then God's power is directed through us to achieve His will in the lives of other people.

Lutheran Media is about connecting people to Jesus Christ. Through Him we can talk to our powerful, loving and listening Father, Creator of the Universe and find peace – a peace which is beyond human understanding, which comes from knowing that we are his dearly loved children.

Pastor Richard Mau  
Director

**'With thankful hearts offer up your prayers and requests to God.'**

Philippians 4:6

Little Darlene surprised her mother with this postscript to her bedtime prayer: 'And dear Lord, please send the beautiful snow to keep the flowers warm through the winter.'

Then she climbed into bed and said to her mother, 'That time I fooled God. I want snow so I can go sliding on my new sled!'

**...God knows us better than we know ourselves and, despite our failings, loves us still. Isn't it liberating to realise that we can be nothing but our true selves before God!**

From: Meditations To Make You Smile

by Martha J Beckmann Copyright 1995 Dimensions For Living, Nashville

## Face to Face Up close & personal

Over the years, interviews have been part of *Face to Face* programs, usually as a segment after the message. Whilst it can be difficult finding people to talk about their experiences, it's a powerful way to communicate real life issues and how God has helped them in their situations.

So we've introduced full length interviews on our *Face to Face* programs once a month. In June this year we aired interviews with Pastor Bob Turnbull in which he spoke with Pastor Richard Mau about Living with Multiple Sclerosis. Bob's wife Betty has been a long term sufferer. He spoke about the impact it has had on both of their lives and shared some of their joys and struggles from both practical and spiritual perspectives. The programs drew a number of enquiries- people wishing to have copies of the programs and requests for the booklets 'Prayers And Thoughts For Care-givers' and 'Where's God In All This?'

An interview is more than the re-telling of a story. It has the power to draw the listener in. They have the chance to identify with what is said and become part of something intimate and personal. They hear of the struggles, triumphs and how God's loving care for people shines through.

Many listeners find the conversations engaging, and are challenged or reassured that they are not alone in their circumstances and discover new hope.

We pray that, as they hear other people's life journeys, they are encouraged and directed to God's unconditional love and hope through his Son Jesus.

### Coming interviews will feature:

- Mark Doecke on Fatherhood
- Mark and Ellen Modra on Depression that led to the suicide of their teenage daughter
- Trevor Keller on Trust
- Gay Lees on Coping with Cancer

We look forward to you joining us on radio or on [www.facetoface.org.au](http://www.facetoface.org.au)

To find out if a radio station in your area is playing *Face To Face*, please go to [www.facetoface.org.au](http://www.facetoface.org.au) or call us on FREECALL 1800 353 350.

**'My aim has always been to proclaim the Good News in places where Christ has not been heard of.'**  
Romans 15:20

## Face to Face with *Face to Face* Introducing Pastor Bob Turnbull



I am pastor at Immanuel Lutheran Church, Kadina, SA. My wife Betty, a truly wonderful person, has Multiple Sclerosis. Our son Chris works in the ANZ bank in Melbourne, and other son Ben is a Physio in Geelong.

I enjoy writing and presenting messages on '*Face to Face*' programmes. It gives me an opportunity to reach out to people who have little or no contact with our Church, and to talk to people in the intimacy of their homes, or as they drive in their cars. Perhaps the good news that people hear is just what they need; perhaps they hear something that motivates them to reach out to someone else. Sometimes it may make them

laugh or cry. But, one way or another, I know that God speaks to them through me.

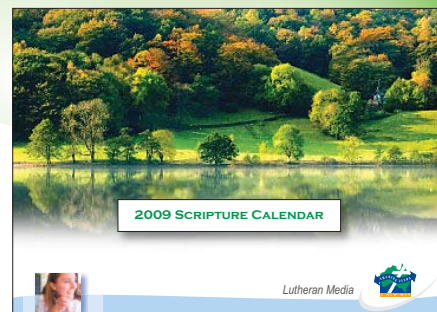
I comment on world issues, and have been interviewed about how Betty and I cope with MS. In one programme I talked about God's love, and how we can show our love for people by being organ donors. The song 'He aint heavy, he's my brother' triggered off thoughts about helping our neighbours. Although an insipid song, 'I would die for you' brought to mind the incredible love of the one who did die for us, and gave us life. And the story of the 'Lost Son' triggered off thoughts about doing things my way - and being forgiven.

*One thing I really care about is the urgent need for the Church to take Jesus' 'Great Commission' seriously. There are so many people for whom our way of doing things, and how we say and do them, is a foreign culture. How can we reach out to people who believe in nothing, and have never seen a Bible? I thank God for the opportunity to connect them to Jesus through Face to Face.*

## Want to give someone a special gift?

### What about a 2009 Scripture Calendar!

During the last three years *Lutheran Media* has produced a Scripture Calendar to encourage listeners and viewers of our radio, television and internet programs to read the Bible on a daily basis. They have been received with great enthusiasm.



### Our Scripture Calendar for 2009 includes

- A daily Bible reading
- A list of holidays-Public & School
- Religious Festivals and Saints dates
- Phases of the moon
- Large space to write appointments
- Full colour gloss paper
- A4 size, stapled, ready to hang

If you would like a calendar then let us know and we will be happy to send one to you. A donation to help cover the cost would be appreciated. Your support for this project will assist us to reach many listeners and viewers, helping to connect them to Christ through regular Bible reading.

## Good news for children

# www.happyland.com.au is here

Over the years our own Sunday School by Mail and animated Christmas and Easter films from Lutheran Hour Ministries in the USA shown on national TV have helped many children come to a positive relationship with Jesus. We thank God for that.

In recent years, as technology and values have changed, we've looked at new ways to introduce children to Jesus. As a result we've spent the last 18 months researching, producing content, building and testing our new website for children 4-7 years.

The name happyland grew out of the Good News translation of the beatitudes which uses the word happy instead of blessed.

We pray that many children will be blessed as they play and create a world in which they hear, through different activities, the messages Jesus has for them.

These messages are: 'You are special. God loves you.' 'When you say sorry and mean it God forgives you' and 'Loving others means helping them'

So www.happyland.com.au is now up and running and available for children to play. Please pray for this new outreach ministry for children and make sure you share happyland with every child you know!

A donation in support of this new ministry will help us build more games and activities based on other messages from Jesus. Fill in the coupon on the back page or phone FREECALL 1800 353350.

*Introducing children to Jesus through media is an important part of our mission.*

*We know that many of them won't have the opportunity to meet Jesus unless we help them.*



## Resources for you

### Talking with God

The booklet 'Talking with God' encourages us to speak with absolute candour to the One who loves us beyond measure, without fear of rejection.

Some congregations are using this booklet as a support resource for their members. Other popular titles are Take Heart In Your Grief, Surviving A Loved One's Suicide, Dealing With Depression, Forgiveness, Alzheimers, Unlocking The Prison Of Guilt, and Anger Management. A number of congregations are purchasing a selection of our booklets to keep on hand.

**For a list of titles  
phone FREECALL 1800 353350**

### Like a guest speaker for a special occasion?

No matter where you are in Australia we'd like to share what we are doing with you.

Just give us a call on FREECALL 1800 353350 and we'll try to arrange for someone to share with you the exciting story of how God is touching people through Media Ministry.

## In Memoriam

We acknowledge with deep appreciation the ongoing gifts from

**Freda Berndt  
Friedrich Wilhelm Heinrich  
I. V. Pietsch**

and the bequests received from the estates of

**Myrtle Noll  
Oswald Huf  
Ernst Rohrlach.**

"Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his saints"

**Psalms 116:15**

