

The Lutheran Church of Australia

1838 –

Other Names: • Evangelical Lutheran Church of Australia

URL: <http://www.lca.org.au/>

Details

The Lutheran Church is a branch of the Protestant church, and was founded in Germany in the 16th Century by Reformationist Martin Luther. The Lutheran Church was first established in Australia by German Lutherans arriving in South Australia in 1838. Separate Lutheran churches were founded in Victoria from the 1840s, and Queensland from the 1850s. A smaller number of German Lutherans moved to Tasmania, New South Wales and Western Australia.

In 1921 efforts were made to unify the various Lutheran Church synods across the country, leading to the formation of the United Evangelical Lutheran Church of Australia (UELCA). In 1966 the UELCA combined with the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Australia (which had formed in 1874 as the Evangelical Lutheran Synod of Australia), to become the Lutheran Church of Australia.

Initially, German was the primary language of the Lutheran Church in Australia, used and taught in their worship, business, missions, and schools. From the early 1900s the English language was introduced into the church, and by the end of World War Two, pushed by anti-German sentiment in Australia, German was no longer used by the church.

The Lutheran Church has a history as a care provider through the establishment of Aboriginal Missions, including the Finke River and Hermannsburg Missions in the Northern Territory, the Hope Vale, Hope Valley, Bloomfield River, Cape Bedford, and Wujal Wujal Missions in Queensland, and the Koonibba, Killalpaninna, and Yalata Missions in South Australia. The Lutheran Church also ran several children's Homes, including Luther Lodge in Queensland, Lutheran Children's Homes in Victoria, and the Lutheran Emergency Home for Children and Lutheran Girls' Hostel in South Australia.

More info

Related Entries

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- [Wujal Wujal Mission \(1980 - 1987\)](#)
- [Lutheran Girls' Hostel, College Park \(1959 - 1982?\)](#)
- [Yirara College \(1973 - current\)](#)
Date: 1991 -
- [Hermannsburg Mission \(1877 - 1982\)](#)
- [Bloomfield River Mission \(1887 - 1902\)](#)

- [Cape Bedford Mission \(1886 - c. 1896\)](#)
- [Hope Valley Mission \(c. 1896 - May 1942\)](#)
Date: 1896 - 1942
- [Yalata Mission \(1954 - 1974\)](#)
- [Hope Vale Mission \(c. 1950 - 1986\)](#)
Date: 1950 - 1986
- [Bloomfield River Mission \(1957 - 1980\)](#)
- [Koonibba Children's Home \(1913 - 1963\)](#)
Koonibba Children's Home was run by the Lutheran Church of Australia as part of the Koonibba Mission Station.
Date: 1913 - 1963
- [Lutheran Emergency Home for Children \(1966 - 1984\)](#)
Date: 1966 - 1984
- [Killalpaninna Mission \(1867 - 1915\)](#)
- [Koonibba Mission \(1901 - 1975\)](#)
Date: 1901 - 1963
- [Lutheran Children's Home \(1950 - 1973\)](#)
- [Lutheran Children's Homes \(c. 1973 - 2002\)](#)
- [Luther Lodge \(1982 - 1996\)](#)
- [Lutheran Mission Block, Alice Springs \(1963 - 1982\)](#)

Related Organisations

- [Areyonga Native Settlement \(1920s - 1990\)](#)
The Lutheran Church of Australia sent resident missionaries to Areyonga Native Settlement
- [Lutheran Archives \(1838? - current\)](#)
- [Haasts Bluff Native Settlement \(1940s - 1959\)](#)
The Lutheran Church sent resident missionaries to Haast's Bluff Native Settlement
- [Papunya Native Settlement \(1958 - 1978\)](#)
The Lutheran Church of Australia sent resident missionaries to Papunya Native Settlement

Related Places

- [Finke River Mission \(1877 - c. 1982\)](#)
The Lutheran Church of Australia retrospectively refers to all Lutheran missionary activity in the Northern Territory as the Finke River Mission.

You can view this page online by visiting <https://www.findandconnect.gov.au/entity/the-lutheran-church-of-australia/>