



LEADING FORWARD

CCCNZ ANNUAL REPORT 2024



LEADING FORWARD: RUNNING THE RACE, PASSING THE BATON

AMBASSADOR'S REPORT | MARK GRACE

At the 2008 Beijing Olympics, both the USA men's and women's 4x100m relay teams were unexpectedly eliminated—not because they weren't fast enough, but because they dropped the baton. In the relay, just speed isn't enough. The race is won or lost in the handover. Runners must match pace, run together, and pass the baton with trust and care.

It's a striking image of Christian leadership. Ministry is not an individual sprint, but a relay, a shared race across generations. To lead well is to run faithfully with what we've been given. But to lead *forward* is to draw alongside the next runner, match pace, and pass it on.

The apostle Paul understood this. "Run in such a way as to get the prize," he urged the Corinthians (1 Cor. 9:24). At the close of his life, he wrote to Timothy: "I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith" (2 Tim. 4:7). Paul never ran alone. His eyes were always on the next generation—Timothy, Titus, Silas—and on entrusting them with the gospel. His coaching of them as leaders is as practical as it is spiritual, with instructions about church life alongside encouragement to pursue righteousness and to hold on tightly to the truth. He draws them into the race, running beside them.

That's the heart of the Annual Report for 2024: leading forward. Across Aotearoa New Zealand, many church leaders are completing their leg of the race. The challenge before us is not only to finish well, but to ensure those coming after us are equipped, encouraged, and running with us before we let go.

As you read this report, we invite you to see what God is doing—not just in individual lives or isolated churches, but in a movement of churches learning to run together, because we know the future of the Church in New Zealand will not be shaped by solo runners, but by those who master the handover and lead forward with faith.

RUNNING TOGETHER

At its heart, CCCNZ is a movement of local churches (and the regional campsites, and national support ministries that serve them) working together to point people to Jesus, through the gospel, from the Bible, *from generation to generation*. That's what makes every baton handoff, every deepening relationship, and every growing leader so important.



Lunchtime at the 2024 Canterbury Regional Summit at Rutland Street Church, Christchurch.

In 2024, we continued to work toward this vision. The seven Regional Summits brought together 588 people from 101 churches, a significant increase in numbers from previous years. These summits weren't just events; they were starting lines, exchanges, and finish lines all at once. They were moments where we were reminded that we run better together.

Our Children and Family Ministries Enabler, Youth and Young Adult Enabler, National Advisor, and Camping Enabler drew 540 leaders into regional gatherings and trainings to talk about the unique challenges and opportunities faced in these areas of church life and ministry.

The national PastorLink Retreat made it possible for 37 pastoral leaders and spouses to pause, unwind, and be refreshed together. These retreats help bear the weight of pastoral ministry in the long haul. Three First Training retreats helped 79 young people take further steps into leadership alongside their youth leaders and pastors. The First Training model begins equipping 16–18-year-olds with a biblical understanding of the character, conviction, and competency required of those in Christian leadership.

The national NextGen Summit (now called Lead Well), saw 28 leaders who work with children, youth, and young adults invest three days together at Willow Park to learn how to better pass on the baton of the gospel to those with whom they are working.

At the four-day Langham Preaching train-the-trainer course with Dr. Paul Windsor last June, 25 preaching leaders from across the country spent time learning how to train other preachers more effectively and pass the baton well. It has been a delight to see developing preachers being trained in Whanganui, Christchurch, Nelson, Wellington, Waikato and Whangārei as a result. We are seeing leaders run together and pass on a passion for preaching God's Word.

The CCCNZ Pastoral Theologians Fellowship engaged 109 participants through workshops, dinners, and book clubs. These moments were less about speed and more about stamina—sustaining pastors and thinkers as they lead their people through Scripture in an increasingly complex world.

The CCCNZ Prayer Enabler and CCCNZ Children and Family Ministries Enabler invested in 20 leaders through online E-QUIP courses, a series of regular Zoom meetings which involved a mixture of reading, conversation, accountability and coaching.

In total, CCCNZ hosted over 50 events with more than 1,279 registrants in 2024—significantly more than 2023, which had more than 20 events and 754 registrants. Each of these events in 2024 focused on strengthening those already running the race and encouraging them to pass the gospel baton with clarity, courage, and care.

Paul's ministry gives us a vivid example of what that looks like. He didn't run alone. He brought others alongside him: Timothy, Titus, Silas, Priscilla and Aquila, Epaphroditus, Phoebe, and many more. He invested in them, travelled with them, wrote to them, and entrusted them with real responsibility. For Paul, running the race well meant drawing others into it, matching pace, and helping them carry the gospel forward.

In 2024, we saw glimpses of that same legacy continuing across Aotearoa. New volunteer leaders are stepping up in churches—preachers, elders, youth leaders, children and families workers, and camp leaders joining the race alongside those who have gone before them, supported and encouraged to take the baton and run.

THE RELAY TEAM

It has been deeply encouraging to see more churches intentionally run alongside each other. In 2024, the number of churches that have formally linked in to CCCNZ grew to 99. This is not just a number, but a picture of trust, of partnership in a shared race.

In 2024, Church@109 (Taupō), Heretaunga Community Church (Upper Hutt), Emmett Street Community Church (Christchurch), Lighthouse Church (Northland), and Kaipaki Bible Church (Waikato), Mascot Bible Chapel / Au uso Kerisiano Māngere (Auckland), Halswell Community Church (Christchurch), and Gore Christian Fellowship (Southland) linked in. Each of them is carrying the baton forward in their region, and we are thrilled to cheer them on.

Behind the scenes, CCCNZ helped churches manage the renewal process for 159 organisational

marriage celebrants. We also supported 54 churches through copyright licensing, helping them legally use copyrighted Christian music, videos, and songs as part of their church gatherings, both online and in person.

RUNNING IN NEW WAYS

This year also brought change. As a cost-saving measure and in response to how people now engage with information, we focused on our digital reach and publications, printing only the Homeworkers Guides with a reduced print run (from 1,250 copies in 2023 to 615 in 2024). Our digital impact continued to grow. 107 email campaigns were sent to over 2,400 subscribers, resulting in over 61,000 newsletter opens. Leaders who are engaged in ministry-role specific Facebook groups climbed to 743. Our website saw 41,973 sessions (up 17.8% on 2023), with 27,000 total users (up 19.6% from 2023).

INVESTING IN THE TEAM

We are immensely grateful for the way the Lichfield Lands funding trust invests into the CCCNZ movement of churches, camps and support ministries. In 2024, Lichfield Lands enabled CCCNZ to provide \$24,600 for 20 pastors from the



Enjoying the 2024 Auckland Regional Summit.



The inaugural Nelson Regional Summit held at Grace Church, Richmond, 2024.

Pastoral Support Fund. \$9,400 was distributed from the Church-School-Camp Fund distributed to four churches. \$9,825 was distributed from the Ian Elliott Governance Fund. The CCCNZ 3Trusts Scholarship Enabler distributed \$370,703 from the Lichfield Lands JH Baldwin Scholarship and Internship Support to 87 people from 39 churches and campsites.

LOOKING AHEAD

In Galatians 5, Paul writes, “You were running a good race. Who cut in on you...?” It’s a reminder that in ministry there are moments when things can go wrong—when focus wavers, when momentum is lost, when sin clouds our judgement, when the baton is fumbled. We all feel it at times: the weight of discouragement, the pull of distraction, the uncertainty of what lies ahead.

The writer of Hebrews reminds us of where our focus ought to be, from chapter 12: “Let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, fixing our eyes on Jesus.” Jesus is the one who runs before us. He is the one who carried the baton all the way to the cross. He did not falter, but ran a perfect and complete race. It is because of the work and person of our Lord Jesus Christ that we can pick up the baton and run. It is because of Jesus that

we invite others to join us and focus on running together and leading forward.

That’s what this work has always been about. Not just running hard, but running together. Learning to match pace. Making space for others to join in. Passing on what we’ve received with faith and care. For me, this 2024 report carries personal weight. It marks the end of a leg in the race as my final time writing as CCCNZ Ambassador, and the handing-over of the baton.

In this Annual Report you’ll find a collection of stories from 2024 that exemplify what it means to run the race well, leading forward as we match pace and focus on passing on the baton. I pray you are as encouraged to recall God’s faithfulness as you read each of these stories, remembering that he is at work and will continue to be until the day of completion.

As a Service Trust and a movement, we will keep running with perseverance. We will keep raising up others. We will keep our eyes on Jesus. And we will keep pointing people to him—through the gospel, from the Scriptures.



Mark Grace

Ambassador, Christian Community Churches of New Zealand

THE CHAIR'S REPORT

CHRIS BROADBENT | CCCNZ CHAIR

As we mark the completion of the first decade of the Christian Community Churches of New Zealand Trust, I am grateful for God's faithfulness in sustaining this work.

Established to serve as a support entity for autonomous assemblies of God's people rooted in the Open Brethren heritage, CCCNZ exists not to govern but to serve, equipping churches with resources, support, encouragement, and fellowship. As detailed in the Ambassador's Report and the stories of God's work among us, this past year reflects a season of growing collaboration—gathering leaders, equipping the next generation, and strengthening the body of Christ across New Zealand. On behalf of the Board, I extend heartfelt thanks to the dedicated staff, tireless volunteers, and generous funding agencies and individuals whose contributions of time, resources, and enthusiasm make this work possible.

Yet, as we reflect on these ten years, we do not dwell in nostalgia for what has passed. Instead, we press forward (Philippians 3:13-14), continuing to align with the foundational intent of the Open Brethren movement: to uphold the orthodoxy of the early church by proclaiming Jesus Christ is Lord and Saviour, anchoring our faith in the sole

authority of the Bible, fostering fellowship not membership (save in His body, Romans 12:4-8), embracing the priesthood of all believers, and standing firmly against theological innovation and heresy wherever and however it emerges. In an age of shifting cultural winds, this commitment remains our anchor, ensuring that the Gospel we proclaim is pure, unadulterated, and grounded in the eternal truth of the Bible.

Looking to the decade ahead and beyond, we continue to live in eager anticipation of our Lord's return, allowing that glorious hope to shape every Gospel initiative, event, partnership, and act of obedience and service. Our calling is clear: to declare Jesus Christ as Lord (Philippians 2:11), to trust in His resurrection (Romans 10:9), to be reconciled to God through the Son (1 Peter 3:18), and to live out the Father's will (Matthew 7:21; 1 John 2:3-4). May this truth spur us on to run the race with endurance, pass the baton faithfully, and support one another as we lead forward for His glory.

Maranatha—come, Lord Jesus!



Chris Broadbent
*Chair, Christian Community
Churches of New Zealand Trust*

"I extend heartfelt thanks to the dedicated staff, tireless volunteers, and generous funding agencies and individuals whose contributions of time, resources, and enthusiasm make this work possible."



PREACHERS PUTTING THEIR THEOLOGICAL STUDIES INTO PRACTICE

“This is exactly what the scholarships are aiming to do: to see men and women equipped for service in and through the local church, through teaching, pastoral, and preaching ministries.”

Each Sunday morning over the summer months of January and February 2024, Lincoln Road Bible Chapel in Auckland worked through a sermon series called Story of the Bible.

Seven different preachers worked together, with each focusing on a different aspect of the theme. Beginning preachers Lauren Palmer, Susannah Olive, Janai Randall, Jeremy Tattersall and Isaac MacKenzie worked alongside more experienced preachers Kyla Scrimgeour and Thomas Scrimgeour.

Pastor Catherine Perich says that the series has been beneficial in many ways, especially for the individuals giving the message as they spent time together and separately wrestling with their texts and seeking feedback before and after delivering their sermons. Catherine has also had tremendously positive feedback from the church family who have been blown away by the teaching over the summer.

Kyla Scrimgeour, Thomas Scrimgeour, Lauren Palmer, Susannah Olive, Janai Randall and Jeremy Tattersall are all JH Baldwin Scholarship recipients.

Preaching in the series has led to members of the group continuing to pursue and take up teaching opportunities across church life.

CCCNZ Scholarships Enabler Liz Hodge writes, “This is exactly what the scholarships are aiming to do: to see men and women equipped for service in and through the local church, through teaching, pastoral, and preaching ministries.”

BEING EQUIPPED FOR GOSPEL MINISTRY THROUGH THEOLOGICAL STUDY



JH Baldwin Scholarship recipient Simon Sim.

Simon Sim works with Tertiary Students Christian Fellowship (TSCF) as Otago Team Leader, helping university students learn more about the Bible and grow in their faith. He is part of Cornerstone International Bible Church in Dunedin, along with his wife Rosie and daughters Nadia and Danielle.

Born in Hamilton, Simon spent most of his childhood growing up in Malaysia, where he and his family were part of an Open Brethren assembly in Kuala Lumpur. Rosie grew up in Dunedin as part of Cornerstone International Bible Church. Simon and Rosie met when Simon moved to Dunedin at age 18 to study.

He says, “University years were particularly significant for my own personal growth as a Christian and I am grateful for the discipleship I experienced through TSCF. That was a major reason why I wanted to serve in full-time ministry with TSCF.”

Coming full circle, Simon and Rosie now have the opportunity to disciple students who come from all over the world to study in New Zealand, passing forward the support, care and discipleship he experienced as a student. “The campus has become a place of rich diversity and multiculturalism. In our work with international student ministry it really has been a gift to us to have so many cultures and nations represented in our churches and Christian groups—especially when they want to share their stories and cultures with us!”

In 2024, Simon received a JH Baldwin Scholarship, kindly provided by Lichfield Lands, and a Matt Alexander Scholarship, kindly provided by Longview Trust. Until now, Simon has been doing part-time study remotely with Regent College in Vancouver. In 2025 Simon and his family travelled over to Canada to complete his MA in Christian Studies on-campus.

The Sims plan to return to New Zealand further equipped for gospel ministry with TSCF and the church for the long haul. “I love to see students from all over the world coming to know Jesus in a real and life-changing way. God is at work in universities through student work, reaching students with the good news and changing their lives for his glorious purposes and plans. Pray with us for the work God is doing on campus.”



Elders at the Central, South, and East 2024 Elder's Workshop.

EQUIPPING ELDERSHIPS TO GROW AND DEVELOP NEW ELDERS: A SHARED VISION FOR THE CHURCH

Healthy eldership is at the heart of a healthy local church. In Scripture, elders are called to shepherd the flock by knowing, leading, feeding, and protecting God's people. Yet many churches face the challenge of finding and developing new elders—leaders who are biblically grounded, spiritually mature, and able to guide God's people into the future.

In October 2024, church leaders across Auckland gathered at two workshops focused on equipping elderships to grow and develop new elders. These events were an opportunity for elders, emerging leaders, and potential future elders to learn, share, and be encouraged together.

27 leaders from 13 churches in Auckland's Central, South, and East regions came together at Eden Church for an Elders' Workshop on "growing leaders, finding elders." CCCNZ Auckland Enabler Richard Fountain described the day as a blessing for "experienced elders, new elders and potential elders" to hear from Kerry Rickard (Kingston Community Church), who shared on the theme of developing leaders into eldership.

“Prayer is vital but we can often be about business and things like prayer can be pushed aside. The pyramid needs to be turned upside down, making more time for prayer than business.”

Churches represented included Au uso Kerisiano Church Papakura, Auckland Bible Church, Auckland Japanese Christian Church, Eden Church, LifeChurch South—Manurewa, LifeChurch West—Avondale, Mt Wellington Community Church, Orewa Community Church, Pakuranga Christian Fellowship, Rossgrove Chapel, Tāmaki Community Church, Terry Street Bible Chapel, and Wiremu Street Bible Chapel.

One participant, Saiyad Irshad from Mt Wellington Community Church, says he came away both encouraged and challenged. Saiyad appreciated “the simplicity of elders being called to know, lead, feed, and protect the flock.” He reflected on the priority of prayer within eldership:

“Prayer is vital but we can often be about business and things like prayer can be pushed aside. The pyramid needs to be turned upside down, making more time for prayer than business.”

For Saiyad, this emphasis on spiritual dependence was a timely reminder of the foundational practices that sustain healthy church leadership.

Bruce Carr, an elder from Pakuranga Christian Fellowship, echoed this sense of encouragement: “I was blessed, encouraged, and inspired by the morning.”

Earlier that same month, a group of ten leaders from six churches in Auckland’s North and West regions gathered at Lincoln Road Bible Chapel. Churches represented included Kelston Community Church, Terry Street Bible Chapel, Lincoln Road Bible Chapel, Dargaville Gospel Church, Takapuna Bible Church, and Orewa Community Church. Together these churches explored how to develop leaders into eldership, with speaker Kerry Rickard offering both practical guidance and biblical wisdom.

The shared desire across these gatherings was clear: to see new elders raised up who are equipped to lead, disciple, and shepherd God’s people for years to come.

ADDRESSING THE ELEPHANT IN THE ROOM

Many churches have strong current leadership but lack a clear pathway for younger or emerging leaders to grow into eldership roles. Without intentional investment, churches risk a leadership gap in future generations, or they are currently experiencing the painful challenge of a generational gap in leadership.

These workshops addressed this challenge directly, encouraging churches to see eldership as a dynamic and ongoing process of training, mentoring, and entrusting leadership to faithful people.

At both workshops, participants explored what it means to identify, invite, and nurture future elders within their own church contexts. Rather than searching externally for leaders, the focus was on developing those God has already placed within the congregation—people who are growing in character, competence, and conviction.

Elders are not simply administrators or managers, but shepherds who model Christlike service and sacrificial care. As one leader shared, the call to eldership involves knowing the flock personally, leading them toward Christ, feeding them through the Word, and protecting them from error and harm.

HOW A PARENTING COURSE HELPED SHAPE CHURCH PRAYER LIFE



"The church was able to pray aloud together, with children participating alongside their parents and other adults."

In 2024, Hillcrest Chapel in Hamilton ran a *Parenting For Faith* course for their church.

Parents and caregivers were given an opportunity to learn some new tools to equip them in being intentional about building faith in their children.

One parent said: "the course helped create connection with the other participants. It encouraged me in my own faith and gave me confidence to try things with my kids."

Another parent commented: "I realise now I need a bit more intentionality in talking through the everyday activities of faith. I can't assume my child will pick up faith by osmosis."

A mum of preschoolers said the course had given her ideas to teach them to pray: "I was able to show our children they can talk to God whenever they want, and I don't need to be the go between."

A dad reported how wonderful it was to see faith come alive for his daughter: "I knew God could speak to my kids and had no doubt that he would. It just never occurred to me to create space for it from such a young age. This course has opened my eyes to think about my children's faith now, not just later when they are older." Soon after the course, Hillcrest Chapel had a church-wide week of prayer.

Many parents used the tools they had learnt in the course to engage their children with the prayer activities and events during the week.

This culminated in a wonderful sharing time during the Sunday service at the end of prayer week. Several children and families shared stories of how they had encountered God through prayer during the week and how God had answered their prayers.

The church was able to pray aloud together, with children participating alongside their parents and other adults.

A church member commented: "It was great to hear from the children as they prayed aloud with us and shared their experiences of prayer with us."

What an encouragement to see parents empowered and equipped to help their children on their journey of faith, and to hear that the church played a key role in encouraging and delighting in how God is at work in the lives of children and their families.

INVESTING IN GOSPEL LEADERS ACROSS GENERATIONS

“We loved hearing how other people do things at their church, new ideas that have been tried and tested in a similar context, and new perspectives”



At the 2024 NextGen Summit (now called Lead Well).

Ministry isn't meant to be done alone. In Exodus 18, Moses is reminded that leadership must be shared, for his own sake and for the people he serves.

In the life of a church leader, the demands can be constant and draining. Between the weekly rhythms of services, small groups, pastoral care, and community outreach, it's all too easy to get stuck in a cycle of doing without pausing to be refreshed, encouraged, and equipped for the long haul. This is why events like CCCNZ Lead Well are so vital.

Formerly known as 'NextGen Summit', Lead Well is a three-day event designed intentionally for leaders who want to grow and sustain gospel leadership across generations.

For Andrea Legg (Youth and Young Adults Leader at The Anchor Church) and Christine Leadbeater (Children and Families Leader at The Anchor Church), Lead Well has become a non-negotiable highlight on their annual calendar. When asked what they value most about it, they pointed to three key areas: content, connection, and church unity.

CONTENT AND PROGRAMME

“Personal and professional development is so important. Often we get so busy in the doing of ministry that we don't allow time to learn, grow, share and reflect, and there are not always many available opportunities during the year,” Andrea and Christine explain.

Andrea and Christine also emphasise the unique balance Lead Well strikes: “Time to rest and be with God outside of the busyness, investing in the time to travel and be away from ministry is sometimes costly but definitely worth it. Many other training events tend to feel very full-on and tiring, while Lead Well balances learning, sharing, rest and reflection time.”

Finally, the content itself is a major draw: “Content is relevant, tailored, and so useful to our ministries. In fact, we often struggle to choose a workshop and wish we could do them all!”



Leaders of 'next generation' ministries.

CONNECTION

Another defining feature of Lead Well is the community it fosters among leaders. Ministry can be lonely at times, especially when few people in your daily life truly understand the unique joys and challenges you face.

“Getting together with like-minded people was valuable, because there aren’t many people in your day-to-day life that ‘get’ what it is like to work in ministry,” they share.

“We loved hearing how other people do things at their church, new ideas that have been tried and tested in a similar context, and new perspectives on issues, and receiving encouragement from others as you get the opportunity to discuss and work through ministry frustrations and concerns.”

CHURCH UNITY

A unique strength of Lead Well is its ability to strengthen ministry teams and church unity. Andrea and Christine have seen firsthand how attending together impacts their own church community:

“We have loved being able to go to Lead Well together, as it helps our ministries work together

better long term, as well as making it easier to implement real change back in our church context.”

IS IT WORTH IT?

“It is definitely worth the time and dollar investment. The cost of being away for three days is by far outweighed by the refilling of energy, enthusiasm and refocus we receive at this event. We now put this on our calendars and in our budgets for each new year.”

They also highlight a powerful trend they have noticed: “One thing that has stood out to us for the past couple of years has been the number of pastors and senior leaders attending this kids and youth leaders event as an investment into their people. This has made a big impact on us both.”

“We have both made some strong connections with people from other CCCNZ churches. For churches in our regions this has meant we have the ability to get together outside of CCCNZ training events. For people outside our regions we love that CCCNZ have other ways of keeping leaders in touch with each other.”

Lead Well is more than a conference; it is an investment in the health and future of gospel ministry. It is a space to grow, connect, and realign for those who lead and for the generations to come.

CHURCH-BASED INTERNSHIP AT FENTON PARK BIBLE CHURCH



Fenton Bible Church Intern Caleb Mills teaching children as part of his internship.

"I want to serve with the same passion and focus as the Apostle Paul, who said, 'Whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God'."

Caleb Mills is an intern at Fenton Park Bible Church where he serves in their Kids Rally, church holiday programmes, the youth group, doing street evangelism and personal discipleship, and as a deacon—all while doing some theological study under the guidance of pastoral staff and elders.

Pastor Tony Nuñez commented that the elders are delighted that Caleb has chosen to serve the church in these areas, and the more he has been freed up to serve, the more the church has seen the Lord's hand is on his life.

Caleb says that the holiday programme weeks are usually the highlight of each term for him. Caleb was also assigned the task of coming alongside the young men in the church to help in their discipleship.

Caleb says,

"I wrestled a lot with working out a programme that would suit the few individuals in our small church and one that would encourage the fathers to continue to invest in their sons' growth. This has recently taken form and last term we started a fortnightly/monthly Sunday-afternoon Bible study.

"This has been very successful, and we have already doubled in size. We have started by teaching through a little gospel primer written by our main teaching pastor."

Caleb wants to continue developing character, doctrine, and skills to serve God faithfully. He says, "I want to serve with the same passion and focus as the Apostle Paul, who said, 'Whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God.'"

Fenton Park Bible Church was offered an internship support gift by Lichfield Lands in 2024 to support Caleb's internship.

Over the past year Fenton Park has continued to support Caleb's responsibility as an intern by expanding practical opportunities to apply his theological study within the local church context.



THE ONGOING FRUIT OF THE CCCNZ LANGHAM PREACHING LAB 2024

When a church invests in developing preachers, the ripple effects can be felt across every ministry, every Sunday gathering, and every person who sits under God's Word.

In June 2024, key preaching leaders from across New Zealand gathered for the CCCNZ Langham Preaching Lab—a focused time to grow in preaching and to equip others to handle Scripture with clarity and faithfulness.

Months later, the fruit of this investment is already becoming visible in local churches, shaping not just the preaching leaders themselves but in congregations and new generations of teachers.

"This initiative reflects a courageous and gospel-centred approach by inviting new preachers to explore deep theological connections and share them with the whole church family."

For West Pastor and Teaching Pastor Jerram Watts from The Street Church in Wellington, the impact on his own preaching has been immediate.

"Since we gathered I have seen a change in my personal preaching development — especially the writing process. Having the country-provinces-cities scaffolding has made the writing process much more efficient. I have also used the 'prevailing image' in my messages, which has received the most positive feedback from people."

These new frameworks are not only helping preachers prepare more effectively; they are also resonating deeply with listeners. Jerram describes how these tools have been invaluable as he works with developing preachers at The Street Church:

"I have also been able to sit down with some of our developing preachers and go through the 'observing the passage' part with them, to help them get underway with understanding the text. They have all had the eye-opening 'wow' moments when Scripture comes alive to them!"

Meanwhile, at LifeSwitch in Wellington, the Lab's emphasis on raising up new voices has taken shape in a preaching series. Clint Craig explains:

"We ran a four-week series called Manhunt: Looking for Jesus in the Old Testament. Each week there two preachers who had never preached at LifeSwitch before (so eight in total), spoke on an Old Testament passage that points to, foreshadows, or prophesies Jesus. It was great to see so many different people stepping up and using the gifts God has given them."

This initiative reflects a courageous and gospel-centred approach by inviting new preachers to explore deep theological connections and share them with the whole church family. Clint is encouraged not just by the courage of these new preachers but by what it means for the church's future:

"It has been great seeing so many new faces step up and I am sure all will feature again in the future."

Further north in Whangārei, Andrew Clemow at Clark Road Chapel has also been inspired to create local opportunities for preacher development.

"I've been running a series of three preaching workshops to develop potential (as well as some existing) preachers at Clark Rd Chapel. Around 12 men have been attending. The last one will be on this Sunday evening. I've used some of the Langham material and approach for this. It has been well received."

What stands out across these stories is a shared commitment to see God's Word preached faithfully, clearly, and relevantly—not just by one or two leaders but by a growing network of trained, supported, and encouraged preachers. The CCCNZ Langham Preaching Lab is not merely a one-off event but a catalyst, sparking ongoing training, and new initiatives.

The work of equipping preachers is slow, deliberate, and deeply relational. It requires time, patience, and a willingness to invest in others. Yet as these leaders' experiences show, the fruit of that investment is already evident: new voices stepping into the pulpit, greater clarity and joy in sermon preparation, and congregations encountering Jesus through his Word.

“I personally felt more confident having some good exegetical tools to both prepare and present the sermon and received considerable positive feedback on both the clarity and applicability of the sermon.”

DISCIPLING NEW PREACHERS



Pati Leiataua at the Lower North Island Regional Summit.

On Sunday 1 October 2023, elders Keegan Easton and Doug Benn at Church on Ingestre (Whanganui) had the joy of baptising Pati Leiataua.

Pati's hunger for God's Word and his desire to serve stood out, and in January 2024 Church on Ingestre supported Pati to go to the Lake Learning course at MiCamp in Taupō, where he came back with a greater hunger to read, understand, and apply the Scriptures.

Shortly afterwards, Doug and Pati began meeting together weekly to read the Bible and discuss how it applies to life.

In June 2024, Doug and fellow Church on Ingestre leader Brett Campbell were part of the week-long preaching training event run by CCCNZ and Langham Preaching.

Later that same month, when Doug was asked to preach on Ephesians 6 it seemed a natural opportunity for him to disciple Pati towards preaching. Pati enthusiastically accepted the challenge and preached his first sermon as part of a 'sermon share'.

“Sermon-sharing is something we have done on occasion over the years to introduce a young person to preaching for about 7-10 minutes,” says Doug, “with support from a more experienced mentor completing the message.”

Doug and Brett continue to develop their preaching team by running a preaching training course based on what they had learned through the Langham Preaching Week.

Pati was one of the nine participants who took part in two afternoon sessions in September.

The training involved teaching the material and having a practice run through a short Bible



passage. They were given a week with another short Bible passage to observe the details and consider its context. They came back together the following Saturday morning to share their findings and assemble the bones of a sermon from the passage.

Doug preached on the Sunday morning and invited critique and comment from the course participants on the Sunday afternoon session. One participant said it was helpful for their learning to see things in the sermon that reflected what they had been learning the day before.

Doug says, “I personally felt more confident having some good exegetical tools to both prepare

and present the sermon and received considerable positive feedback on both the clarity and applicability of the sermon.”

Doug and the Church on Ingestre elders have been talking over recent months and years about the need to invest in people—particularly the next generation—through discipleship, and the preaching training is an active example of how they are doing this. “We saw this as one way to not only benefit those who are preaching but also those who are hearing the messages.”

Doug encourages other churches “to also invest in your people through training, equipping, and discipling so that they grow in their God-given roles of service for his kingdom.”

YOUNG PEOPLE EQUIPPED TO GROW AND LEAD

“We’ve been so encouraged by the fruit in our youth ministry, with a steady stream of baptisms. This is the result of a long-term, intentional investment from an amazing team of parents, volunteer leaders, and others from the church family over a long period of time.”

In December 2024, the youth of Hope Community Church (Nelson) led an entire Sunday service—a result of intentional discipleship and equipping from the wider church community.

The service was followed by the baptisms of David, Carter, Helena, Pieter, and James, and a picnic lunch at Aniseed Valley in the Tasman/Nelson region.

Pastor Daryl Bay writes:

“We’ve been so encouraged by the fruit in our youth ministry, with a steady stream of baptisms. This is the result of a long-term, intentional investment from an amazing team of parents, volunteer leaders, and others from the church family over a long period of time.

“In 2024 some parents attended Rutland Street Church in Christchurch where they witnessed a youth-led service, with young people doing all the active serving roles from preaching to greeting people at the door. They loved it and suggested we could look at doing something similar at Hope.”

Daryl and the team worked with a group of senior youth to equip them and support them to grow. This included an intentional discipleship trip over to the West Coast where they taught through the key passage, then at youth group camp they were taught the text again.

Three or four young people make up the teaching team on a youth Sunday, Daryl says:

“I work with these young people on reading the text, drawing out observation, explanation and application—we keep it super simple. We have a couple of practices ahead of time so they are comfortable up on the stage, and they also have a chance to give and receive feedback. They give one thing that the speaker can improve on, and one thing they appreciated. By the time they get up to deliver their talks I’m sitting there in the congregation absolutely beaming.”

And the wider church loves it:

“The youth absolutely knocked it out of the park, the church loves seeing our youth lead like this. They’re getting the opportunity to serve and lead in a range of ways—from greeting and welcoming, as musicians and singers, and as Bible teachers. As a church we were so encouraged to see faith being expressed so well with strong biblical foundations and application to life.”



Hope Community Church baptisms after the December 2024 Youth Service.

Daryl says they are aiming for two of these youth-led services a year, but that they are really the result of a wider church commitment to intergenerational ministry.

“It’s an intentional spillover of encouraging our youth to not just attend things but to lead them—at a recent prayer night we had 15 teens there, and a number helped lead. This is a ripple effect out of that youth space. We’ve really emphasised the intergenerational language and vision—where teenagers and children are not just present in gathered worship but known, active in serving, engaged in learning and being learned from.”

After being without a full time youth pastor, a number of parents and people within the church have stepped up, including Allen Carbon who took on a part-time role as the Youth Coordinator. Daryl and others have stepped into more active teaching and discipleship roles within the youth ministry, and so youth ministry has become a whole-church focus—one that’s bearing fruit.

“We’ve had over 30 baptisms in 18 months. There have been a number of explicit steps of faith and clear expressions of the gospel among young people, including inviting their non-Christian friends to church.”

“Children come along to Rally Kids Quest, the midweek kids’ ministry, or iCare, an after-school programme run by the church. These connections help build long-term relationships with children and families, creating pathways for ongoing discipleship and care.”

GROWING LEADERS, REACHING COMMUNITIES: THE ORCHARD CHURCH’S HOLIDAY PROGRAMME

During the first week of the 2024 July school holidays, The Orchard Church ran a kids’ programme with 190 children attending from Monday to Friday, and around 35 volunteers.

Children’s Pastor Mikayla Crawford comments:

“We had lessons, games, small groups, bouncy castles, dancing and lots more fun! The week ran smoothly, was so much fun, and we got the privilege of seeing kids respond to the gospel.”

In the past, these programmes were run at The Orchard by the Word of Life (WOL) team from Hamilton, with the long-term goal to establish and run the programme out of the church. Mikayla highlighted that in 2024 the church took the lead in planning and running, with just a little help from WOL.

“We were able to also invest into our youth group by developing them as leaders as they helped at the programme.”

Now, in 2025, the team at The Orchard runs the programme independently and continues to prioritise the leadership development of their youth. Each year, the whole team of leaders stays together at nearby campsite Pacific Park Christian Camp after the daytime holiday programme wraps up. Invited speakers come in to teach and invest in the young leaders and grow their leadership skills.

The holiday programme has continued to grow in numbers with more than 200 children taking part in the most recent event. The programme is closely connected to the life of the church. Children come along to Rally Kids Quest, the midweek kids’ ministry, or iCare, an after-school programme run by the church. These connections help build long-term relationships with children and families, creating pathways for ongoing discipleship and care.

GOD'S TIMING AND A NEW DIRECTION



*Orewa Community Church Next Generation Ministries
Pastor Carli Hay.*

"Carli has availed herself to us as a resource and has been an incredible wealth of information."

In 2024 Carli Hay took on the role of Church Administrator at Orewa Community Church, which she says was a steep learning curve after spending the last 20 years working in the field of occupational therapy in the UK and New Zealand. Carli says she took on the role because she was keen to work in the church environment, to align with where God was leading her.

Carli writes, "Leaving a health profession after investing so many years in it and with it becoming a part of your very identity was difficult—even though I knew within myself that I was ready to move on. But it all happened in God's timing, and looking back it is very encouraging to see that he has a plan."

Before becoming part of the team at OCC, Carli served in various areas such as worship, helping to facilitate Alpha courses, and leading a ladies' small group. She always had an interest in Scripture and Christian doctrine, and so in 2022 decided to engage in some formal theological study.

In 2024 Carli completed a Graduate Diploma in Theology at Laidlaw College, appreciating the opportunity to study theology, formation and pastoral care. Carli's fees were supported by a JH Baldwin Scholarship kindly provided by Lichfield Lands.

Youth Pastor at OCC Marina Shannon says,

"We have been blessed by Carli's theological knowledge and passion, and especially by her wisdom when it comes to engaging in some of today's complex conversations around gender and sexuality. Carli has availed herself to us as a resource and has been an incredible wealth of information. Her willingness to learn and engage in such conversations is a real testament to her character and passion to see the church equipped to make disciples".

At the end of 2024 Carli applied for a ministry coordinator role at OCC and was subsequently invited to join the pastoral team, with the elders acknowledging her gifts and expertise. Since the beginning of 2025 Carli has been serving the OCC family as Next Generation Ministries Pastor, working alongside leaders who are serving in the children and family ministries space.

“It was encouraging and exciting to see these young men and women of God growing in their leadership understanding and practice, as well as in their relationship with God.”

WHERE ARE THE LEADERS OF TOMORROW?



Young people at the 2024 First Training retreat.

“Where are the leaders of tomorrow?” is a question we hear often from church leaders.

We’d like to share a glimpse of an answer to this question. Waikato-Bay of Plenty Regional Enabler Grant Birks was one of several youth leaders who attended First Training with a group of young people at Willow Park in 2024.

Grant Birks was there serving as a youth leader with young people from Lifezone Church in Tauranga, where he is also an elder:

“First Training is all about developing the leaders of tomorrow. One important aspect was solo time, where the young people had an opportunity to spend time alone with God.”

“Eden Brown (Lifezone) mentioned that she ‘enjoyed the solo time’ with God, something that was new for many. Hayden Birks (Lifezone) told me that he ‘really liked the messages, especially the one on the responsibilities of Christian leaders.’

“For me (Grant), it was encouraging and exciting to see these young men and women of God growing in their leadership understanding and practice, as well as in their relationship with God.”

“One thing that impresses me is the quality of these young leaders. God is certainly raising up amazing people for his Church of the future. The challenge for us is to allow them to grow into the leadership roles God has for them.”

First Training is a regional team effort run in different locations across New Zealand. Coordinated by CCCNZ, local youth leaders and pastors teach different topics while mentoring and walking alongside young people.

LEADING FORWARD: INVESTING IN THE FUTURE

FINANCIAL REPORT

In every generation, the call remains the same: to run the race marked out for us with faithfulness and perseverance, fixing our eyes on Jesus (Hebrews 12:1-2).

As we look over the 2024 financial year, we're reminded we're in this race together. The story these numbers tell is not just one of income and expenses, but of strategic investment in people, events, and relationships that are helping us run as a team. We're committed to passing the baton well by strengthening the church now and preparing the next generation to lead forward with confidence.

CONNECTING PEOPLE

We continued our focus on building relational connections with elders and ministry leaders in the regions. This initiative was supported by the filling of three key roles in 2023 and the further filling of two long-standing vacancies early in the 2024 financial year: the Youth & Young Adults Enabler role, and the National Advisor role.

The annualisation impact of the five appointments during the year in review is included in staff costs of \$1,175,283 or 67% of our total expenses. In 2023 the comparative amount was \$938,086 or 59%. These roles have made a significant impact on our ability to effectively support churches to be leading forward in these important areas of ministry.

BRINGING PEOPLE TOGETHER

The focus on gathering people together regionally in 2024 resulted in CCCNZ hosting more than 50 events, with 1,279 registrants at these events (compared to 2023 where there were more than 20 events and 754 registrants).

Increased events have resulted in stronger relationships and a greater awareness of the need to be working together on leadership development across the CCCNZ-Open Brethren Heritage movement. We also continued support for our churches to come together to host Easter Camps.

Although the focus remains on face-to-face gatherings and engagement, we also made the most of opportunities to connect people via online events, such as prayer gatherings, Zoom catch-ups, and E-QUIP online training.

The total net investment relating to events was \$72,731 for the year (compared to 2023 where it was \$142,427).

SHARING STORIES TO BUILD CONNECTION

Providing churches with regular updates about events, gatherings, and regional news has become a key part of our strategy to strengthen relationships and build familiarity across the movement.

“We are thankful for the individuals and churches who responded to the invitation to not only work together but also to support financially by giving one-off and regular donations.”

Our communications continue to show God’s work among our churches, campsites, and support ministries. These stories encourage leaders to persevere, to grow and to pass the baton on to the next generation. Contributing to these updates remains a key focus for the CCCNZ staff team as we acknowledge the role these stories play in modelling effective leadership, bringing people together, and emphasising the unity of the movement.

The CCCNZ website and ministry-specific private Facebook communities provide a platform for these connections. There has also been a significant increase in ministry leaders receiving and engaging with newsletters, with 61,620 unique opens across the year (2023: 39,302). We continue to focus on digital publications, including website-related items, resulting in a reduction in these costs to \$22,555 for the year (2023: \$31,852).

WORKING TOGETHER WITH GOSPEL PARTNERS

We are very grateful for the ongoing partnership and support from Lichfield Lands Inc., Hillview Trust, Soul Purpose Trust, Longview Trust, and GPH Charitable Trust. Together they provided funding support of \$1,305,669 in 2024 (2023: \$784,000).

We are thankful for the individuals and churches who responded to the invitation to not only work together but also to support financially by giving one-off and regular donations. During 2024 we received \$31,764 (2023: \$19,713). In 2023 we initiated a strategy to broaden our funding base and strengthen relationships between churches through the provision of finances. This initiative was launched to both mitigate some of the risks relating to our existing funding base and raise additional funds to enable us to further grow the level of support to our churches.

One intention of this change in strategy was to be operating at a lower level of reserves. We ended the 2024 year with a deficit of \$258,323 (2023: deficit of \$661,575). These deficits bring us to a more appropriate level of reserves as reflected in our annual accounts.

INVESTING WISELY IN THE FUTURE

The Apostle Paul knew that running well meant drawing others into the race, equipping, encouraging, and entrusting them with what matters most. This vision continues to shape how we steward the resources God provides.

The financial picture reflects a deepening commitment to gospel partnership, practical generosity, and strategic risk, all for the sake of making sure we are investing wisely for the future. As we look to the year ahead, may we continue to invest in what lasts, run with perseverance, and pass the baton with courage and joy.

Once audited, our full accounts will be available at the Charities Commission (CC54332) or by request from our Operations Manager, JC Marais, jcmarais@cccnz.nz or 027303 2914



JC Marais
Operations Manager
jcmarais@cccnz.nz



Bruce Stormer
Chair of Finance Committee
Bruce.Stormer@markhams.co.nz

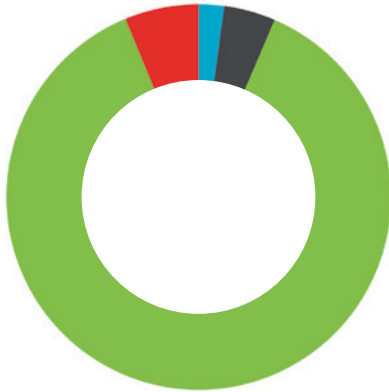
2024 REVENUE

DONATIONS \$31,764

EVENTS \$64,765

GRANTS \$1,305,669

OTHER \$93,128



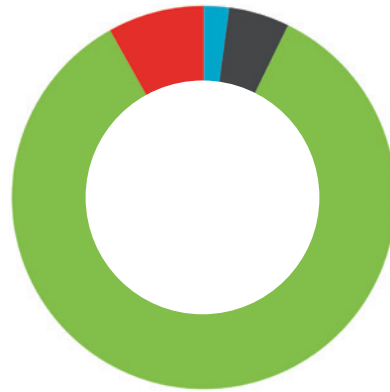
2023 REVENUE

DONATIONS \$19,713

EVENTS \$47,218

GRANTS \$784,000

OTHER \$75,295



2024 EXPENSES

STAFF \$1,175,283

TRAVEL \$89,006

EVENTS \$137,496

PUBLICATIONS \$22,555

OFFICE \$217,775

OTHER \$111,534



2023 EXPENSES

STAFF \$938,086

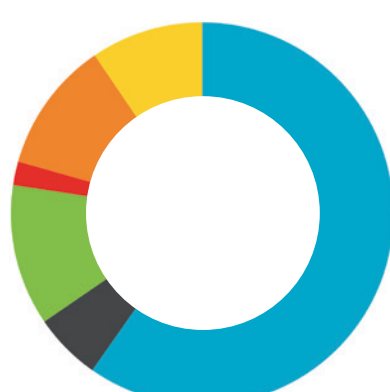
TRAVEL \$90,468

EVENTS \$189,645

PUBLICATIONS \$31,852

OFFICE \$186,920

OTHER \$150,830





THE RELAY TEAM

ALL STAFF AND LINKED IN CHURCHES CURRENT AS OF 4 AUGUST 2025

LINKED-IN CHURCHES

Northland

Clark Road Chapel
Raumati Crescent Chapel
Lighthouse Church Tutukaka

Auckland

Amatakiloa Gospel Church
Auckland Bible Church
Auckland Japanese Christian Church
Au Uso Kerisiano Māngere / Mascot Bible Chapel
Birkenhead Community Church
Eden Church
Franklin Bible Church
Howick Community Church
Kelston Community Church
LifeChurch Manurewa
Lincoln Road Bible Chapel
Manurewa Bible Church
Massey Community Church
Mt Wellington Community Church
New Lynn Community Church
Northcross Church
Orewa Community Church
Ōtara Brethren Christian Fellowship
Pakuranga Christian Fellowship
Papatoetoe Bible Chapel
Rossgrove Chapel
Samoan Open Brethren, Ranui
Takapuna Bible Church

Tāmaki Community Church

Terry Street Bible Chapel
Wiremu Street Bible Chapel

Waikato

Agora Church
Chapel Hill Community Church
Church @ 109
Hillcrest Chapel
Hukanui Bible Church
Kaipaki Combined Church
Kaipaki Bible Church
Manawarū Bible Chapel
Matamata Bible Church
Northgate Community Church
Paeroa Bible Chapel
Putaruru Gospel Chapel
Raleigh Street Christian Centre
Tauwhare Gospel Chapel
Te Awamutu Bible Chapel
Whitiora Bible Church

Bay of Plenty

Fenton Park Bible Church
Greerton Bible Church
Kawerau Bible Chapel
Lifezone Church
Lakes Church (Rotorua)
Mount Bible Chapel
Paengaroa Bible Chapel
Redeemer Church
Roosevelt Road Chapel
The Orchard Church

Taranaki

New Plymouth Community Church

Hawke's Bay

Heretaunga Community Church
Onekawa Bible Church
Riverbend Bible Church

Manawatū-Whanganui

Church on Ingestre
Church on Vogel
Crossroads Church
Feilding Bible Chapel
Kingston Community Church
Queen Street Gospel Chapel – Levin
York Street Chapel – Levin

Wairarapa

The Lighthouse Church

Wellington

Church @ Cedarwood
Coast Community Church
Onslow Community Church
Heretaunga Community Church (formerly Heretaunga Christian Centre)
Pathway Christian Centre
Porirua Gospel Chapel
The Anchor Church
Titahi Bay Community Church
Wainuiomata Gospel Church

REGIONAL CAMPSITES

Nelson-Tasman

Grace Church, Richmond
Hope Community Church
Tasman Church

Canterbury

Bryndwr Chapel
Christchurch Korean Church
Church Street Bible Chapel
EAUKS (Ekalesia Au Uso
Kerisiano Samoa)
Emmett Street Community
Church
Glentunnel Chapel
Halswell Community Church
Redemption Church
Christchurch
Riccarton Community Church
Rowley Bible Church
Rutland Street Church
The Embassy @ North Beach
Wairakei Road Bible Church

Otago

Anchorage Church
Caversham Community Church
Cornerstone International Bible
Church
Orwell Street Church
Riverside Chapel

Southland

Rosedale Bible Chapel
Gore Christian Fellowship

Northland

Coopers Beach Youth Camp
Marsden Bay Christian Camp
Moirs Point Christian Camp

Bay of Plenty

Lakes Ranch Christian Camp
Pacific Park Christian Holiday
Camp

Manawatū-Whanganui

Foxton Bible Camp
Highland Home Christian Camp

Auckland

Chosen Valley Christian Camp
Sonshine Ranch Adventure
Centre
Willow Park Christian Camp

Wellington

Forest Lakes Camp
Silverstream Retreat

Nelson-Tasman

Teapot Valley Christian Camp

Canterbury

Woodend Christian Camp

Waikato

Karakariki Christian Camp
Kauaeranga Valley Christian
Camp
MiCamp Ruapehu
MiCamp Taupō
MiCamp Whakamaru
Tōtara Springs Christian Centre

Marlborough

Curious Cove

Otago

Lakeland Park



LEADING FORWARD TOGETHER

We'd love to connect with you and keep you up to date with prayer requests, stories, and news from our movement.

Join us on Facebook: @ChristianCommunityChurchesofNZ

We have a number of email newsletters available—from our Weekly Wrap (a roundup of stories and encouragement) through to specific Auckland, Waikato/Bay of Plenty, and South Island Community newsletters, and ministry role-specific newsletters for leaders in Youth & Young Adults, Children & Families, and Admin.

Email sophiasinclair@cccnz.nz to sign up.

Visit our website for the latest stories and news: www.cccnz.nz