

# GOSPEL GROWING STORY UNLEASHING & LOSS

CCCNZ ANNUAL REPORT 2019-2020

# GOSPEL GROWTH: NEW LIFE FROM UNLEASHING & LOSS

AMBASSADOR'S REPORT, MARK GRACE

Throughout Scripture, there is a consistent pattern of God unleashing his people, of them experiencing something of this as loss, and of unleashing and loss leading to the new life of gospel growth under God's good hand.

God unleashes his people from slavery in Egypt through the exodus, and yet the sense of loss for some is palpable (Exodus 16:3). At the same time, unleashing and loss leads to the promised land and, many years later, the promised King.

God unleashes his people from Babylonian captivity, and they are able to rebuild the temple, yet the sense of loss and grief is heart-breaking (Ezra 3:12). Unleashing and loss leads to a rebuilt Jerusalem and, many years later, the coming of Jesus.

Ultimately, God unleashes his people through the death and resurrection of the Lord Jesus. We are unleashed and set free from sin and death through the loss and grief of Christ at the cross. God's unleashing and Jesus' loss on the cross ultimately leads to our salvation and the renewal of all things.

God unleashes his people through the coming of the Spirit and the proclamation of Christ crucified. At the same time, the consequences are persecution and lives lost (Acts 8:1-4). Unleashing and loss leads to the spread of the gospel and the growth of the Church.

### UNLEASHING, LOSS AND NEW LIFE IN 2020

We are a movement of like-minded local churches, and the regional camps and national ministries that support them, predominantly from an Open Brethren heritage, who have united together in a common cause.

Our common cause is pointing New Zealanders of all ages and ethnicities to Jesus, through the gospel from the Scriptures. We do this through church planting, developing leaders and working together.

This year has been influenced significantly by the COVID-19 Pandemic. In the midst of this we, too, are in the middle of experiencing God's unleashing and the loss it involves.

We've been unleashed to be the Church in an incredible array of ways; online and in smaller groups, in our homes and families, in our 'bubbles'. But we've also experienced loss; the loss of physical proximity, the loss of

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singing together, the loss of hospitality, and, for some, greater losses; of jobs, businesses and opportunity, of precious loved ones.

In the midst of the turbulent, changing times, as we grieve loss, as we experience the unfamiliar freedom of God's hand at work in unleashing, we are seeing new life emerge, shoots of gospel growth.

As God has been unleashing his Church into family groups, home groups, and online communities, we've seen the harvest in a new light; we're seeing new and unexpected people connecting with churches online.

As God has been unleashing his Church, we've seen the beauty and dynamism of the priesthood of all believers in fresh and delightful ways. People of all ages and stages have been stepping up to serve and actively contribute to church life; to read the Scriptures, to shepherd others, and pray together.

As God has been unleashing his Church online, we've seen growing connection between children's and family ministry leaders around the movement, we've seen a growing collaboration between youth leaders and a greater community developing between pastoral leaders.

As God has been unleashing his Church, we've seen the sufficiency and power of the Scriptures working in and through ordinary people.

For the managers of our movement's regional camps, much of this season is bittersweet. It's heart-breaking having to cancel or postpone ministry camps. At the same time, the strengthening of relationships between camps, the increasing prayer for camps from local church leaders, and the increasing partnerships between camps, churches and support ministries have all been encouraging.

Our national support ministries know this season as one of both opportunities and challenges.

GC3 is operating in an entirely new global environment as every country has been impacted by COVID-19. In some places it has severely impacted team ministries, while in others, opportunities for online initiatives have meant that partnerships with local believers are flourishing.

With an established online learning platform, Pathways College of Bible and Mission has continued to resource and equip Christians for ministry during this crisis. CCCNZ is a service trust seeking to serve a movement of like-minded local churches, regional camps, and national ministries that support them. It is our prayer that each independent church and ministry—under the headship of Jesus Christ—will see God's unleashing, will recognise the loss, and sense the leading of the Spirit into the challenges and opportunities that face us as we experience gospel growth.

It's our prayer that we, as a movement of ordinary people, will take the Scriptures with us into our homes, workplaces and communities and communicate them in fresh and creative ways.

This is what we did after World War I and the 1918 Flu Pandemic. We got more involved in the civil society. We found innovative ways to care for children in need. We went to the nations in greater numbers.

This is what we did after World War II. We found new ways to communicate through publishing and media. We innovated around children's evangelism and church planting, and again we went to the nations.

It's what we will do now.

This is a season of God's unleashing.

It is a season of loss.

Under God's good hand, this can be a season of new gospel growth.



Mark Grace
CCCNZ Ambassador
markgrace@cccnz.nz



Youth Enabler Murray Brown praying with young leaders after FIRST Training Upper North Island 2019.

# GROWING IN THE GOSPEL TOGETHER

THE CHAIR'S REPORT, GORDON FOUNTAIN

We are a movement of like-minded local churches, with regional camps and national ministries that support them, predominantly from an Open Brethren heritage, who have united together in a common purpose. We are delighted to report another year of serving this movement as together we seek to point every New Zealander, of every age and ethnicity to Jesus, through the gospel from the Scriptures.

## WELCOME TO RECENTLY LINKED-IN CHURCHES

Over the last 12 months we welcomed the following churches who Linked-In to CCCNZ:

- Howick Community Church
- Mt Wellington Community Church
- · Papatoetoe Bible Chapel
- · Samoan Open Brethren, Ranui
- Wiremu Street Bible Chapel
- Lifezone Church
- Redemption Church Christchurch
- Queen Street Gospel Chapel
- York Street Chapel
- Rosedale Bible Chapel
- Paeroa Bible Chapel
- Porirua Gospel Chapel

We record, and give thanks, that 63 churches are now Linked-In at the time of preparing this report. We continue to engage in Linking-In conversations with Open Brethren heritage churches, regional campsites, and national ministries. As the finance report notes, our operations have grown to support the expanding reach nationally. We are particularly encouraged by growth in donations from \$13,390 in 2018, to \$30,875 in 2019.

We are grateful for the partnership in the gospel, and financial support, from individual churches, personal trusts, funders and individuals that makes this possible. Your contributions have enabled our reach throughout New Zealand to expand and enable us all to feel a sense of connectedness. We are realising more than ever—especially in these days—how important that is.

As a board, we are extremely grateful for the way Mark Grace and the staff team have continued to graciously and humbly serve our network. The CCCNZ Staff Team exists to serve this movement of churches, campsites and national ministries. The team is made up of 15 full-time, part-time, and contracted staff.

## STAFF CHANGES IN THE PAST 12 MONTHS

At the end of 2018, Dave Giesbers, our Church Planting Enabler, concluded to take on a pastoral "As the finance report notes, our operations have grown to support the expanding reach nationally. We are particularly encouraged by growth in donations from \$13,390 in 2018, to \$30,875 in 2019."

training role. Jeremy Suisted concluded as the Coaching Co-ordinator, to focus on a new season of ministry. We have really appreciated the contribution both Dave and Jeremy made to the team, and the impact of their time on the wider movement.

In 2019, Julie McKinnon joined the staff team as National Children and Families Ministry Enabler, supporting local churches to see their Children and Family ministries flourish. In 2020 we welcomed Yvonne Heng to the team on a part-time contract as Worship Enabler, seeking to encourage and support churches in their music and worship ministries. Alongside his 3TRUSTS Scholarships role, Rob Morton has taken on a Training role two days per week, enabling individuals and churches to develop cultures of ministry training and equipping in a variety of contexts.

#### **CCCNZ BOARD**

The CCCNZ Board remains committed to the vision of servicing our network of churches and support ministries.

During 2019, Stuart Bay was re-elected unopposed. Bruce Stormer and I were reappointed for further terms. Graham Ashby concluded his term on the CCCNZ Board and chose not to stand for re-election. We are grateful for the contribution of Graham as a founding CCCNZ Board Member, and appreciate his ongoing interest and support of CCCNZ.

Replenishment and retention of board members is mandated in our deed. The board currently numbers 10 members from various parts of the country, and our website provides a profile on each board member. Bringing our regional appreciation of matters to a national perspective is both a privilege and responsibility. I am grateful for each board member's input and perspective to our discussions.

#### **GROWING TOGETHER**

As the Lord was building his Church, by the Holy Spirit, following his ascension, Luke records that there was a commitment to the teaching of the apostles, life together, communion and prayer (Acts 2:42). The ascension gave absolute proof that Jesus was the Lord of all who committed to his followers the task of mission, community and service with the Spirit.

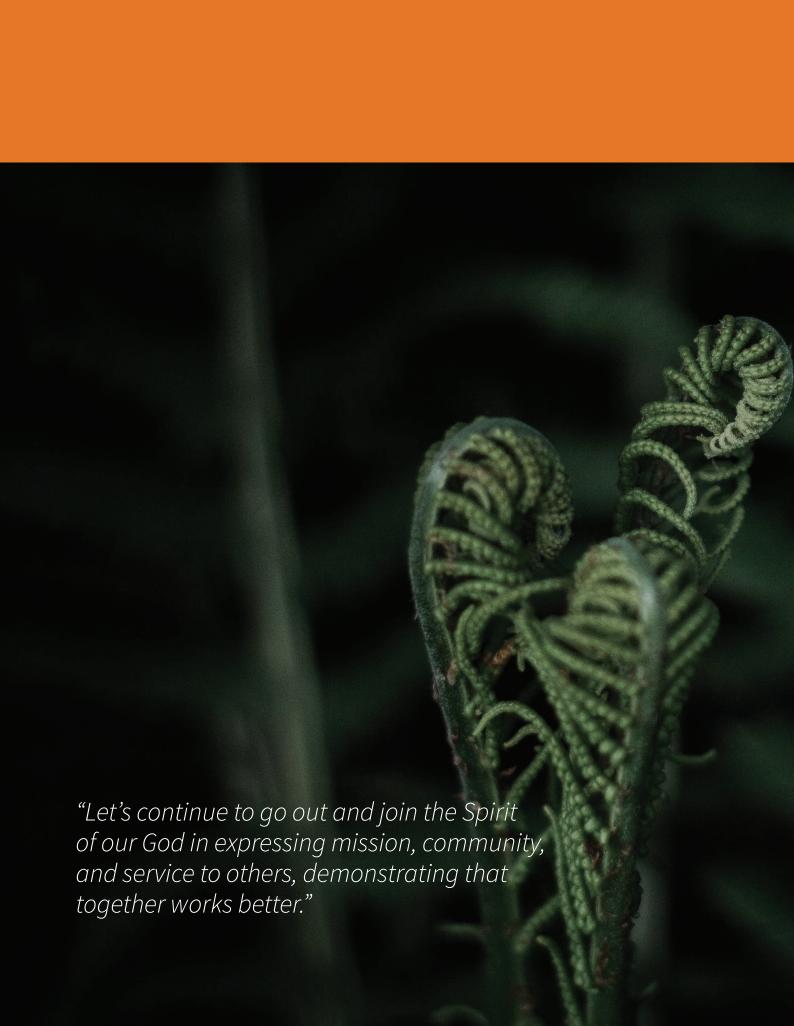
It is a profound privilege, especially at this unprecedented time, to be serving together in this great task of proclaiming Christ crucified. Let's continue to go out and join the Spirit of our God in expressing mission, community, and service to others, demonstrating that together works better.

La Yourdain

Gordon Fountain

CCCNZ Chair

GordonF@butland.co.nz



# RESOURCED FOR GOSPEL GROWTH

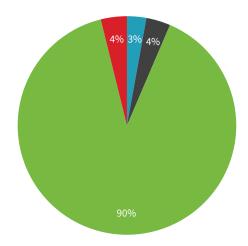
FINANCIAL REPORT

#### **REVENUE**

2019

**DONATIONS** \$30,875 **GRANTS** \$970,583

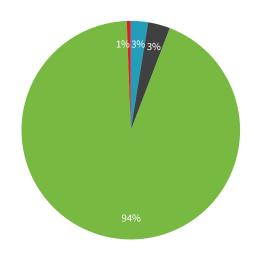
**EVENTS** \$38,782 **OTHER** \$41,771



#### 2018

**DONATIONS** \$13,930 **GRANTS** \$510,583

**EVENTS** \$17,741 **OTHER** \$3,197

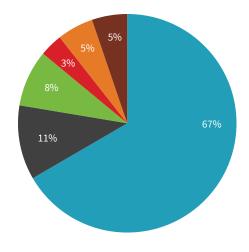


#### **EXPENSES**

2019

**STAFF** \$476,939 **EVENTS** \$59,892 **OFFICE** \$38,479

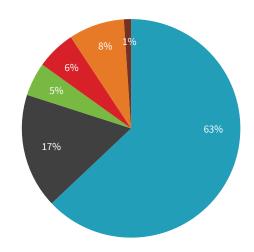
TRAVEL \$78,831
PUBLICATIONS \$24,363
OTHER \$37,408



#### 2018

**STAFF** \$247,388 **EVENTS** \$19,471 **OFFICE** \$32,360

**TRAVEL** \$66,809 **PUBLICATIONS** \$22,791 **OTHER** \$4,159



"We have already had a glimpse into the tumultuous journey before us in 2020 and beyond, but as we move deeper into this season ahead we remember God's goodness in community and his provisions."

As 2019 came to an end we found ourselves in a place of thanksgiving for what God has enabled us to do in serving you as churches, campsites and support ministries.

In serving you to see the gospel flourish across New Zealand we recognise the importance of the staff team, our events, publications and partnerships.

The staff team investment has grown over the year to \$476,939 which makes up 67% of our total expenses (2018: \$247,388). This investment in our staff is important as they seek to work amongst you as churches, campsites and support ministries, serving and supporting your gospel initiatives.

Events for 2019 were significant as they created environments where many of you from our churches could connect, especially in the areas of pastoral leadership, youth, prayer, health and safety, finance and church planting. The net cost after income on events for the year was \$21,110 (2018:\$1,730) which reflects the importance the board placed on investing in this area.

Publications are another significant area where we use stories to help tell the wider movement what God is doing in and through you. This expenditure stabilised this year and allowed us to continue to invest in this vital part of ministry to the level of \$24,363 (2018: \$22,791).

We are continually grateful for the many individuals and churches who have committed to supporting the growth of the gospel through us by one off and regular donations. In 2019 these donations were \$30,875 (2018: \$13,390) and have been a reflection of continued support and relationships from across the country.

Our grants base has continued to grow in 2019 to \$970,583 (2018: \$510,583) which has been a real blessing as we continue to step into what God allows us to. We are grateful for the partnership with our grant funders and would like to acknowledge the ongoing support of Lichfield Lands, Hillview Trust, Soul Purpose Trust, Longview Trust, GPH Charitable Trust and Stewards Trust.

Taking all this into account we ended 2019 with a cash surplus of \$366,099 as reflected in the audited accounts. Of this \$266,668 was prepaid grant income for the 2020 year. A place of thankfulness which we do not take for granted.

As we write this, we have already had a glimpse into the tumultuous journey before us in 2020 and beyond, but as we move deeper into this season ahead we remember God's goodness in community and his provisions as we seek to be in step with the journey he is leading us all on.

Our full audited accounts are available at the Charities Commission (CC54332) or by request from our National Administrator, Danielle Diprose daniellediprose@cccnz.nz or 027 354 4172



Danielle Diprose
National Administrator
daniellediprose@cccnz.nz



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

## PARTNERS IN GOSPEL GROWTH

#### **LINKED-IN CHURCHES**

#### **Northland**

Clark Road Chapel Raumati Crescent Chapel

#### **Auckland**

Auckland Bible Church **Eden Community Church Howick Community Church** LifeChurch Manurewa Lincoln Road Bible Chapel Manurewa Bible Church Massey Community Church Mt Wellington Community Church

New Lynn Bible Chapel Ngaire Avenue Bible Church **Northcross Community Church** Orewa Community Church Papatoetoe Bible Chapel Samoan Open Brethren, Ranui Tāmaki Community Church Wiremu Street Bible Chapel

#### Waikato

Chapel Hill Community Church Putaruru Gospel Chapel Raleigh Street Christian Centre

Hillcrest Chapel Hukanui Bible Church Manawarū Bible Chapel Matamata Bible Church Northgate Community Church Paeroa Bible Chapel Te Awamutu Bible Chapel

Whitiora Bible Church

#### **Bay of Plenty**

Lifezone Church Roosevelt Road Chapel The Orchard Church Lakes Church Rotorua Paengaroa Bible Chapel Redeemer Church

#### **Taranaki**

New Plymouth Bible Chapel

#### Hawke's Bay

Onekawa Bible Church Riverbend Bible Church

#### Manawatū-Whanganui

Ingestre Street Bible Chapel Feilding Bible Chapel Kingston Community Church Queen Street Gospel Chapel York Street Chapel

#### Wellington

**Onslow Community Church** Porirua Gospel Chapel The Anchor Church

#### **Nelson-Tasman**

Grace Church **Hope Community Church** Tasman Bible Church

#### Canterbury

EAUKS (Ekalesia Au Uso Kerisiano Samoa) Bryndwr Chapel Church Street Bible Chapel **Redemption Church** Christchurch

Rowley Avenue Bible Chapel **Rutland Street Church** Wairakei Road Bible Church

#### Otago

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

#### Southland

Rosedale Bible Chapel

#### **BOARD MEMBERS**

Stuart Bay (Waikato)

Graham Fletcher (Southland)

Murray Frost (Canterbury)

Debbie Bosse (Auckland)

Rick Iles (Auckland)

Bruce Stormer (Wellington)

Gordon Fountain (Auckland)

Shannon Samuels (Auckland)

Mark Grace (Manawatū)

Ane Ponifasio (Auckland)

Graham Ashby
Concluded November 2019

#### **REGIONAL ENABLERS**

Andrew Clemow (Northland)

APA, led by Rod Edwards with CCCNZ Auckland Mission Enabler Lui Ponifasio (Auckland)

Nick Goodwin (Waikato)

Lawson Scott (Canterbury)

#### **2020 STAFF TEAM**

Mark Grace CCCNZ Ambassador Three and a half days per week.

Danielle Diprose National Administrator Four days per week.

Sharron Taunton
PA to Ambassador and
Office Support
Four and a half days per week.

Murray Brown National Youth Enabler Five days per week.

Hannah Munro Events & Promotions Manager Four days per week.

Jackie Millar Prayer Coordinator Two days per week.

Sophia Sinclair Communications Manager Two and a half days per week.

Rob Morton Training and Scholarship Coordinator Three and a half days per week. Kerry Rickard PastorLINK Enabler Two days per week.

Lui Ponifasio Auckland Mission Enabler One day per week.

Yvonne Heng Worship Enabler Four hours per week.

Julie McKinnon National Children and Family Ministries Enabler Three days per week.

#### **NATIONAL MINISTRIES**

We would like to acknowledge the many ministries and regional camps supporting the wider movement.

We would particularly like to acknowledge Stewards Trust, GC3—Global Connections in Mission, and Pathways College of Bible and Mission.

For a wider list of support ministries, campsites, and other agencies, see the CCCNZ website: <a href="https://www.cccnz.nz">www.cccnz.nz</a>

#### **JOIN US IN GROWING IN THE GOSPEL**

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
  Te Harinui, our general newsletter, to specific updates
  on pastoral support, leadership, youth ministry, prayer
  ministry, children and families ministry, and church
  administration. Email sophiasinclair@cccnz.nz to sign up.
- Receive Rongopai, our quarterly magazine, by emailing your mailing address to: <a href="mailto:office@cccnz.nz">office@cccnz.nz</a>
- Visit our website: <u>www.cccnz.nz</u>

