

COMING HOME

CCCNZ ANNUAL REPORT 2021–2022

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COMING HOME

AMBASSADOR'S REPORT | MARK GRACE

When you leave home as a young adult, ready to make your way in the world, you assume 'home' will remain a static and familiar place to return to.

But people grow and circumstances change. When you return to the family home as an adult everything looks the same, but it feels different. Maybe you've changed? Maybe home has changed?

As the restrictions of the Traffic Light Protection Framework lifted in March-April 2022 we've experienced the feeling of 'coming home' after months of upheaval, restrictions, and tension.

Coming home is complicated. It's the same, but different.

We've returned to our church buildings on Sundays. We've 'come home' to the same place, but we are different people. We've come home to the same place, but we're *with* different people. We've come home to worship at the same place, but the *world* is different.

HOW DID WE GET HERE?

We were scattered.

In the second half of 2021, various regions of New Zealand moved in and out of Level 3 and Level 4 Lockdowns. By the end of the year, the 'Traffic Light' COVID-19 Protection Framework was introduced.

The Traffic Lights revealed deep disagreement and debate among some elderships and churches as people tried to find a way forward. Other churches saw and took significant opportunities to send

their people out. Either way our gatherings were scattered across our towns, cities, and villages. More churches moved to multiple meetings in more places, and in smaller groups.

This 'scattering' exposed theological and ideological differences in some churches that had been developing for months—maybe even years. Friendships and families felt these fractures.

As complicated as 'coming home' is, I'm quietly hopeful, because—in the scattering—God has been sowing in us.

GOD HAS SOWN IN US A FRESH HEART FOR RELATIONSHIPS

Before the 2021 Delta Lockdown, connections between churches, campsites and support ministries were building and flourishing.

The 2021 CCCNZ Summit in May brought 120 of us from 45 churches and ministries across Aotearoa, New Zealand together for connection, worship, teaching, and relationship. It was a joy to watch as leaders from nine churches participated in the church planting conversation together.

Churches in Canterbury came together to pray at a Regional Prayer Gathering. Canterbury churches also joined each other online during lockdown and partnered with each other to support their community through CAP. Together, several Christchurch churches formed a reference board to support a new church plant—Springs Community Church, which has recently opted to link in with CCCNZ.



PastorLINK Retreat 2021

We celebrate God's goodness to us as a movement with eight churches choosing to link in to CCCNZ since our last Annual Report publication.

Since our last Annual Report we farewelled Sharron Taunton, Danielle Diprose, and Lui Ponifasio from the staff team. We thank each of them for their key contribution to the work and ministry of CCCNZ at an important time, and we pray that God will bless them as they focus their time on other ministry.

We're delighted to announce the appointment of Lizzy Hodge as Scholarships Enabler, taking up the scholarships aspect of Rob Morton's role, while he continues to focus on Training.

During lockdowns and shifting levels we saw churches and campsites come together to provide meals for their communities; and other churches pushed through the awkwardness of Zoom to pray together for their local area.

29 chairpersons and leaders of campsites in the movement where encouraged by the online governance training provided over the past year.

In Auckland, 115 key leaders participated in face-to-face and online gatherings designed to support each other on how to reach and care for people while being socially distant.

78 leaders from Prayer Ministries, and Children and Family Ministries across Aotearoa participated in three E-QUIP series of forums and workshops online.

52 pastoral leaders and spouses attended the CCCNZ PastorLINK Retreat at MiCamp Taupō in August.

In 2022 we look forward to continuing these connections at Regional Summits—more localised events for ministry leaders, elders, and key volunteers to come together for a day of great Bible teaching and connection with one another.

GOD HAS SOWN A HEART FOR THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE SIMPLE

Every generation is offered a smorgasbord of products, programmes, strategies, and structures as the key to 'growth' and 'impact' in ministry. Over the last six months, we've had to cancel most of it. This has helped leaders see the significance of the simple.

The significant power and influence of opening the Bible with people; of investing in a few people with a longer view of what discipleship might mean over decades; of hospitality; of meeting together more simply; of a church calendar that gives church families space to breathe, live, and grow together in an unhurried way.

When lockdown and restrictions hit later in 2021, churches, campsites, and ministries began to connect in different ways.

Across the year, churches met in smaller groups, often in homes, or local community halls—instead of large auditoriums. In the messiness, vulnerability, and simplicity of these gatherings, people have met with God through his Word, by his Spirit, in deeper ways.

So much 'normal' church activity was cancelled. As a result, people have encountered God more richly—not in the midst of 'the programme'—but in the presence of people. In the presence of others.

GOD HAS SOWN IN US A HEART TO KNOW MORE ABOUT HOW HE IS AT WORK ACROSS THE MOVEMENT

1600 of you have opened an email newsletter about what God is doing in the movement more than 27,000 times in the 2021 year. 16,000 people visited the website over 20,000 times. Over 589 of you are participating in private Facebook community groups for key ministry leaders. 1000 of you keep up to date via our Facebook page and many of you receive the Rongopai magazine, with a print run of 6900 across the year.

"I see a quiet confidence. A confidence in the refining work of the Triune God. A confidence that trusts that God will grow the seeds he has sown. A quiet confidence that God is at work in and through his Church, pointing people to Jesus, through the gospel from the Scriptures"

GOD HAS SOWN A PASSION TO BE ROBUST MORE THAN RELEVANT

Watching much-loved church family members tune out family and friends and tune into conspiracies has been heartbreaking for many leaders as they've sought to hold people together in unity.

The result I've seen is a renewed focus on robustness more than relevancy from church leaders. This results in discipling more slowly and more deeply. The slow work of conforming our inner desires and outward dreams to the Lord Jesus, through the gospel from the Scriptures.

GOD HAS SOWN A DESIRE TO EQUIP THE SAINTS FOR THE WORK OF THE MINISTRY

With our churches meeting in smaller groups, more of our church families have had to step up and serve. Larger churches have had to be equipping and training as more people took on responsibilities previously held by smaller teams. We've had the thrill of watching people flourish serving, leading, speaking and preaching for the first time.

It has been a privilege to serve and support 150 of you who are celebrants in getting licensed, as you continue to bring people together in marriage. It has been a privilege to serve over 40 churches in simplifying their music licensing and reporting through CCLI.

GOD HAS SOWN A HEART FOR PRAYER

Across the country, more leaders are seeking the Father's face in prayer. Not because they 'have to' but because they 'want to'! It has been an ongoing

privilege to serve and support 40 home workers through the printing of 1200 home workers prayer guides.

In the uncertainty and complexity of the scattering, we've been taken to the edge of ourselves. We've recognised that we have grown too dependent on our own abilities and influence. We've heard the Spirit calling us to seek Jesus and to trust him as our great shepherd. He has sown a fresh desire and confidence to point people to Jesus, through the gospel, from the Bible.

In the scattering, and amongst the sowing, it has been a privilege to serve you. It has been a privilege for the staff team to visit hundreds of you around the country and to hear what God is doing in and through you.

Over the last year society has fundamentally changed, and so has the Church. More of us have deepened our devotion to Jesus.

So, we come home.

I suspect there may be fewer of us than pre-pandemic. Our emotions are mixed, relationships have changed, elderships are tired, and pastors exhausted.

Amid this I see a quiet confidence. A confidence in the refining work of the Triune God. A confidence that trusts that God will grow the seeds he has sown. A quiet confidence that God is at work in and through his Church, pointing people to Jesus, through the gospel from the Scriptures.



Mark Grace
CCCNZ Ambassador
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COMING HOME TO WORK TOGETHER



THE CHAIR’S REPORT | GORDON FOUNTAIN

In May 2021, CCCNZ held its Ministry Summit at Willow Park—attended by over 120 key ministry leaders, elders and pastors. We gathered, hopeful of seeing out the pandemic, only to have another lockdown in August for a COVID variant that was more infectious, and severely limited the numbers that could gather indoors.

This had a profound effect in the major centres, where our churches are larger, and a curtailment of camp bookings as another lockdown and ‘red’ limitations ensued.

This year we are emerging again, and becoming familiar with being out and about, and gathering again. We’re ‘coming home’, as we have entitled this year’s report. It feels similar, yet different. There is hope for a better outlook, although also a sense of caution as we saw things revert back quickly again last year.

Jesus spoke to the disciples and the crowd of things that were familiar, yet different (Matthew 5-7). We know these chapters as ‘the Sermon on the Mount’, and the Lord invites his hearers to understand new

insights with a familiar understanding—by repeating the phrase, “you have heard it said, but I say to you...”

The Lord takes the familiar of the Old Testament Law and Ten Commandments to his first century hearers and amplifies these into a mode of Christian living that is not merely keeping the rules (as the Pharisees sought to). The Lord invites his hearers to embody the spirit of the Law which can only come from transformation and work of the Holy Spirit.

So, as you return to your places of worship, what does the Lord invite you into? What new opportunities do you have to live out your faith before others so that as Peter writes, “they may see your good deeds and [come to] glorify God on the day he visits us. (1 Peter 2:12)”.

LINKED IN CHURCHES

Since our last Annual Report we have welcomed in eight churches that have chosen to formally link in to CCCNZ. They are:

Church @ Cedarwood	Jul	2021	Waikanae
Pakuranga Christian Fellowship	Jul	2021	Auckland
Mount Bible Chapel	Sep	2021	Mt Maunganui
Auckland Japanese Christian Church	Sep	2021	Auckland
Terry Street Bible Chapel	Sep	2021	Auckland
Amatakiloa Gospel Church	Sep	2021	Auckland
Church on Vogel	Nov	2021	Palmerston North
Springs Community Church	Apr	2022	Christchurch

We record that 79 churches have now formally linked in at the time of preparing this report. Thank you for your fellowship with us, and we trust this report encourages you.

BOARD

Debbie Bosse from Northcross Community Church (Auckland) completed her term on the CCCNZ Board, and Gillian Guptill from Mt Wellington Community Church (Auckland) and Alan Aitken from Riccarton Community Church (Christchurch) were duly elected to the CCCNZ Board last November. We are grateful for Debbie’s input into our board processes, and we welcome Gillian and Alan as they take up their roles on the CCCNZ Board. Rick Iles’ elected term also ended alongside Debbie, and we were pleased to appoint Rick onto the Board as he is our delegate on the international network of the movement for CCCNZ.

I thank the CCCNZ Board for their engagement in the work, despite the need for extended Zoom calls as in-person meetings were not possible. It is great working with you.

THANK YOU

Our thanks to Mark and the team who have coped well with the COVID disruption. Your passion and desire to serve the Lord in this ministry is a blessing to all. Lockdown has taught us to value what we have in team ministry and support of one another. We know the coming months will open up new possibilities to support our churches, camps, and support ministries.

The CCCNZ Board and staff team continue to be grateful for the support of our donors who enable the ministry of CCCNZ to flourish. Our donor support has encouraged us immensely to await a better future in which to operate. We all have a sense of that again and look forward to supporting our churches, camps and support ministries—pointing New Zealanders of every age and ethnicity to Jesus, through the gospel, from the Scriptures.

Together works better.



Gordon Fountain
CCCNZ Board Chairperson



COMING HOME ACROSS THE MOTU

We asked 23 leaders from across the CCCNZ movement to share the things they've learnt over the past year as churches have been forced to be adaptable to a changing ministry context.

Now, as we focus on coming home, how will we be putting into practice what God has been teaching us?



MATT MEEK

Riccarton Community
Church Youth Pastor & CCCNZ
Canterbury Youth Enabler

"I've learnt that relationally deep programmes are comparatively easy to adapt. Throughout the pandemic, youth ministries have often been one part of the church that has suffered less from drop off in numbers as they have had to adapt.

"Going forward this is leading us to invest even more heavily in developing deep relational connections amongst our groups. We are taking focus away from providing fun and entertainment; instead focusing deliberately on running activities that develop depth of relationship.

"Over the past few years, we've found creative alternatives that we really like but wouldn't have thought of trying. Several youth ministries, including our own, met in smaller groups in homes at different times during lockdowns because of number restrictions.

"The past year has taught us that people are longing to be contributors, not consumers! It was those who were only consumers who were first to leave our ministries and they'll most likely be the last to come back, but those who have a part to play have remained committed. A crisis makes you ask for help more boldly than you might otherwise, and yet I was often surprised by who volunteered.

"Going forward I am going to ask more of our young people, because they will grow more if they are contributing. I'm going to ask more of our parents, because having them engaged is gold on so many levels! I'm going to ask more of our elders, because when they show up our team and our young people feel valued and important. And I'm going to ask less of myself, because when I do jobs that someone else can do, I'm stifling my real role to equip the saints for acts of service".



NIGEL AND HANNAH WINDER

Nigel: Rosedale Bible Chapel Ministry
Leader (part time) and Elder

Hannah: Rosedale Bible Chapel Church
Administrator (part time) and CCCNZ
National Admin Team

"We have been reminded that the programmes, services, and ministries we run are about the people—the connections we have with one another—and about our connection with God.

"It is very easy to have a thin veneer of shallow relationships where we are busy running activities or turning up to services. When those things can't happen, we have the layers peeled back revealing how well invested we are in each other's lives—in loving each other and our determination to grow each other's faith in new and different ways.

"We have learnt from God that we have much work to do in convincing people that being actively part of a church is essential to our faith. While we may get better sermons and music online, at a time that suits us, and allows us the benefit of avoiding others when we can't be bothered—that only nurtures a 'me focus' and consumer attitude toward church.

"When we are truly committed to one another, loving one another, and desiring to serve God through and in his Church, we will be a healthy and maturing church. We have also realised that real change in people's hearts, attitudes and commitment to church can only be achieved by the work of the Holy Spirit".

**DAN TYLER**

Birkenhead Community Church Pastor
& CCCNZ PastorLINK Enabler Auckland

“The thing that strikes me is that the pandemic has really put pressure on, and under pressure you see what people truly value. You see what things people hold on to or fight for. Aucklanders basically had no face-to-face interaction in a gathered setting from mid-August 2021 until early December, and even then, gatherings were limited.

“At Birkenhead Community Church we focused a lot on connection and fellowship over the past 12 months. While we were unable to meet in large groups, we’d share morning tea in small groups, when we couldn’t meet at all we started a WhatsApp group where people could share what was going on for them at home by sharing photos and stories.

“One of the cool things about encouraging families and groups of families has been the growth in engagement. Where before, maybe one or two members of the family were actively engaged, now all are. It has been a particular joy to see dads grow in leading their families in prayer, and absolutely phenomenal to see the whole family coming together in worship each week.

“Across the region I believe we are a leaner, more resilient church. We all have a proven ability to respond to the unexpected and our leadership teams are more united around what is truly valuable. New people have stepped up to serve from within our fellowships and God has brought patience and humility to the fore. It is surely true that the testing of our faith produces perseverance”.

**KERRY RICKARD**

Kingston Community Church Pastor
& CCCNZ Leadership Support Enabler

“Leaders across the movement have learnt that we are more diverse in our thinking and understanding of life and Word and faith—both within and across our church families—than we realised. Many churches discovered there isn’t always a shared understanding of key words (unity, freedom, rights) or a shared measure of spiritual maturity as a church family.

“In many ways, we haven’t responded generally to our pandemic context as a gospel opportunity. Rather than equipping people to take up gospel opportunities, leaders have often been distracted by internal tensions, fear, or feeling overwhelmed.

“The past year has also shown us that we are not as relationally connected across our church families as we thought. Knowing people has become more and more important as the pressure rises. As a result of this realisation, there has been a challenge to have people in one another’s homes. Many churches have seen new home groups start and others grow.

“It has been a joy to see new people in our churches who have stepped up to help, serve and be involved. Many churches are becoming increasingly intergenerational in how we engage together. Many leaders are learning that leadership must be both from the front and alongside”.

“Some of the key strengths we have recognised that we need in church communities are trusting relationships, clarity of thinking, communication, and persistent faith.”

**SCOTT DODDRELL**

Manurewa Bible Chapel Elder &
CCCNZ Youth Enabler Central
and South Auckland

“The last year has certainly been a challenge. In Auckland with so much isolation, there were a lot of tough moments in ministry.

“The two key learnings that I observed were, firstly, how great it was to have a network to rely on. Doing youth work often has its challenges and coming up with ideas to engage with the youth was difficult when in isolation. However, using our network of churches brought a new light to youth work and sharing ideas and brainstorming ways to do youth group were so helpful.

“The second learning was the value of face-to-face ministry. I feel there has been a renewed excitement about meeting with our youth and cherishing these opportunities we have. At the start of the year we ran a ‘watch party’ style youth conference, where we could meet face-to-face with other youth leaders; this was an example of having to think outside the box in challenging times”.

**MARK WELLS**

Riccarton Community Church
Associate Pastor & CCCNZ
National Admin Team

“As administrative leaders from around the movement have connected over the past year, many of us have appreciated the opportunity to bounce ideas off each other, share knowledge, and find practical solutions together.

“Some of the key strengths we have recognised that we need in church communities are trusting relationships, clarity of thinking, communication, and persistent faith.

“This has all come into play as churches have been forced to make decisions in COVID times—and often where it is impossible to choose to stay with what has worked up until now, or to find a solution that keeps everyone happy.

“It has helped us re-focus on church as a mutually-caring family, rather than just a gathering that people come to. And it has reminded us that God stands with us in times of struggle; both caring and calling”.



Daryl Bay addressing Hope Community Church on Easter Sunday as they met together at Teapot Valley Christian Camp.



MARINA SHANNON

Orewa Community Church Youth Pastor & CCCNZ North Shore and West Auckland Enabler

“What I’ve learnt and observed over the past year is that youth ministry is often over-facilitated, or over-orchestrated. The circumstances have forced us to strip everything right back to focus on community and discipleship.

“The beauty of doing things small has been watching our older youth take on more and see them grow naturally and organically into those leadership roles”.



DARYL BAY

Lead Pastor of Hope Community Church, Nelson

“God has been really gracious to us over the past years of change, simmering tension, and fatigue. Early on, one elder appealed to us to embrace challenge as opportunity. It has been a case of back to the basics, and cultivating the ground in which true life in Christ is grown. We’ve relearned the vitality of unity in Christ, how life-giving grace and patience can be, and how important it is to care, communicate, and listen well.

“We’ve experienced the joy of House Church worship, to the extent that we are building it into the rhythm of our monthly gathering plan. Rather than having one Sunday worship leader or communion leader, the House Church model has had dozens of worship leaders expressing their giftings each week. Little gatherings have contextualised their meetings, equipping children and teens to engage in worship, and allowing more personal and interactive times of communion.

“Our passion is to grow more than just a crowd of disconnected people. We long to cultivate a vibrant family of faith, sharing life and love in Christ, and on mission to bring hope to our community. It was a thrill to gather as one large church family for the first time at Teapot Valley Christian Camp at Easter. We heard testimonies, the gospel was preached, Teapot Valley served us beautifully, and the church family relaxed late into the day on the wonderful campus”.



RICHARD DAVIS

CCCNZ Camping Enabler

“Over the past year or two, camps have endured a fair bit of suffering and hardship—financial, staffing losses, wellbeing of leaders, loss of core ministry opportunity, and the building of relationships.

“Hardship and difficulty do come our way but it is what we learn from these times and our absolute trust in God’s timing that allows us to carry on. While we are still working in a COVID pandemic period, God continues to call people to himself through this ministry we call Christian Camping.

“Whilst COVID has affected everyone throughout New Zealand this has been a particularly difficult time for the communities of South Auckland. Tāmaki Community Church saw the need but didn’t have the resource to meet the need. In stepped Willow Park and their fantastic catering team. Willow Park had no camps running and what better way to keep busy in the kitchen than to prepare weekly meals. This was an example of taking ministry ‘out of the box’ and a fantastic example of camp and church working together for the benefit of a local community.

“This year has seen Sonshine Ranch Christian Camp in Papakura, Auckland join the CCCNZ Heritage Camps. The camp is a traditional horse camp (hence the name) and has run holiday camps for many years. We look forward to develop this site further and to look for churches who will partner with them.

“There is a growing desire to support one another; to support our communities; to build relationships with support ministries and churches; to develop our people; to be prepared to adapt; to be visionary and, above all else, to allow God to lead.



Clark Road Chapel and Marsden Bay Christian Camp worked together to make meals to distribute to the wider CRC community.



ANDREW CLEWOW

Clark Road Chapel Pastor & CCCNZ Northland Regional Enabler

“Clark Road Chapel (CRC) has continued to support nearby Raumati Chapel (Onerahi) throughout the time of COVID changes, at their request. This has mainly been through a former elder of CRC attending Raumati Chapel two Sundays per month—once to preach and once to run a kids’ programme.

“It has been encouraging to see Raumati (who have a mainly elderly congregation and who ceased to

meet for a while) come back together again with leadership being provided by a younger man who has the confidence of the congregation.

“CRC and Marsden Bay Christian Camp (MBCC) have a close partnership. Like all camps, MBCC has taken a hit in finances and bookings due to COVID, but they have continued to look for opportunities to serve. This included hosting some gatherings of one of our house churches and letting us use their kitchen for production of community meals. These meals have been given to church members and people we are in touch with from the wider community needing support, whether due to COVID or other illnesses or pressures.

“Totara North Bible Chapel have seen a new elder come on board. CRC have found that new people have stepped up to lead house churches and this has been a great way of identifying and developing potential leaders”.



AARON HODGSON

Raleigh Street Christian Centre
Youth Pastor & CCCNZ Waikato
Youth Enabler

“After the Delta lockdown hit in August, we chose to focus on two things: Maintaining connection and giving encouragement.

“During Term 4, all the local school juniors were still at home, while the seniors went back to in-person school. We started doing drop offs—an A4 piece of paper with an encouragement and some other things. There’s a lot of power in simple acts of kindness and connection.

“Adjusting to the traffic lights was big for us as a large group. Prior to lockdown we had over 100 youth gathering each week—this was a great outreach into the community, but when we couldn’t meet as a large group, we quickly realised we were lacking depth of relationships.

“Because we didn’t want to use vaccine passes for youth we chose to prioritise small group meetings in homes. Some were initially very resistant to this and didn’t even want to try. But it had amazing results in cultivating deep discipleship relationships and developing new leaders. It also helped break down friendship cliques.

“A lot of other churches in the region were also reluctant to use vaccine passes for youth group and came up with creative ways of serving their groups—everything from meeting in two distinct locations in the same building, to three groups in the same building, rotating each week so different youth could connect each time.

“Now that we can ‘come home’ or have greater freedom in gathering, at RSCC Youth we’ve decided we’ll pursue a hybrid model. We meet one week in a large group setting, and the next week in a smaller group setting; giving us the best of both contexts”.

“If there has been one single recurring theme I’ve heard in my conversations with youth leaders over the past year, it has been the increasing emphasis on relationships over programmes in the task of discipleship.”



MURRAY BROWN

CCCNZ National Youth Enabler

“If there has been one single recurring theme I’ve heard in my conversations with youth leaders over the past year, it has been the increasing emphasis on relationships over programmes in the task of discipleship.

“Restrictions have meant that many of our youth ministries have been unable to meet together as a whole group and so various patterns of meeting in smaller groups have emerged and youth leaders have looked for new ways to connect with young people.

“Interestingly, many are planning to carry forward these changes which include meeting in homes more often and focussing on deeper relationships with youth and between youth. Many report that while numbers may have dropped, connection and depth have grown”.

"There needs to be a focus on teaching/discipleship/doing life together in church... to increase true fellowship, not just cups of coffee!"



GARY GILPIN

Feilding Bible Chapel Pastor
& CCCNZ PastorLINK Enabler

"In this season of coming home we've noticed a few things. Churches that were full before COVID were not as healthy as they thought they were—COVID revealed that the number of people attending didn't necessarily translate to depth of relationship or focus on Jesus.

"Some churches have seen a growth in unity, and a growing realisation of the importance of meeting together with other believers—the knowledge that church is about people and relationships—not programmes.

"Some have realised that 'home' has to change and be different if the church is going to grow. There needs to be a focus on teaching/discipleship/doing life together in church... to increase true fellowship, not just cups of coffee!

"I've observed a move to focus teaching on who Christ is and what he has done. Not preaching about 'living your best life now'. We may have thought we were already doing this, but so many people have left churches or fallen away because circumstances were less-than-ideal, showing that people don't really grasp the fullness of the gospel".



DARRYL WARD

Lead Pastor at The Anchor Church
& CCCNZ PastorLINK Enabler

"There are always joys, encouragements, challenges, frustrations, and concerns in ministry, and life but the latter three have been exasperated due to the pandemic. There is no question regular changes to numbers, structure, and a myriad of views have meant ministry was more complex. Yet through it all, we found a way.

"We discovered that we could adapt to the situation and provide an opportunity to worship by conducting two services. This meant some changes to the building and ministry structures. Some minor building works were done so we could create two distinct areas and meet the number allocation.

"We were so encouraged by our leaders and ministry teams as they adapted to the constant changes, working tirelessly for the benefit of those in person and watching online. As we come back together we (all churches) must help people navigate the remaining protocols, support each other, and have a deeper understanding of what the restrictions meant for each other.

"There may need to be some healing words spoken if offences have been caused. Above all, as leaders resume a fuller sense of leading their churches to fulfil the mission God has given them, they will require a great deal of grace and patience.

"A reflection on the new commandment is appropriate. *'I am giving you a new commandment, that you love one another; just as I have loved you, that you also love one another. By this all people will know that you are My disciples: if you have love for one another'.* (John 13:34-35)".



LAWSON SCOTT

Rutland Street Church Elder &
CCCNZ Canterbury Regional Enabler

"The biggest challenge was the divergent views held by people within our congregations. One elder told me this was his biggest challenge in all his years as an elder.

"Size of church had an impact on the response to the introduction of the traffic light settings. Some churches added additional Sunday services in the auditorium, while others ran Vaccine Pass and Open Services concurrently—while some were able to keep operating as normal. During case number peaks, some of the Canterbury churches moved to solely online for a period.

"Sadly, it is likely that we will see some people leave our churches over how they perceived the matters were handled by church leaderships. For others however, this has been an opportunity to step up to support church life, whether taking on a new serving role in a Sunday morning service, or joining in pastoral visits and care. For these people, 2021 was a busy and tiring time.

"There seems to be a general trend across Canterbury that some people continue to be missing from church gatherings, or at least not ready to return to community life within our church fellowships. This will require additional pastoral care by our leadership teams as we walk the journey with people.

"Equally, it is apparent that we need to rethink some of our old 'normals' for Sunday services. For some churches this will continue online as a means to 'meeting together', or it may see some smaller home groups continuing, or giving people the opportunity to attend on a Sunday but remain separate to the main service. Overall it is paramount that pastoral care is part of our coming back together".



NICK GOODWIN

Raleigh Street Christian Centre
Associate Pastor & CCCNZ
Waikato Regional Enabler

"We've learnt that there is room for improvement in our relationships and disciple-making. The period we spent with vaccine mandates and traffic lights highlighted varying perspectives amongst different groups in Raleigh Street. Important topics surfaced, like the role of government, trust in civil institutions, end time events, and the kinds of moral commitments Christians owe to their communities.

"These differences were largely hidden previously, but necessarily came into the light as government policy made people's choices about vaccination more public. My experience of one-to-one disciple-making relationships is that over time these kinds of topics and controversies inevitably get discussed and we sharpen one another.

"The fact that these differences have taken us by surprise therefore suggests to me that, firstly, we don't know each other as well as should, and secondly, there is much scope for greater investment in personal, up-close, disciple-making.

"At Raleigh Street we have tried a number of different things over the past two years, sometimes because we were forced to, sometimes just because the disruption provided freedom to change.

"Some of the things we're going to keep doing are new Sunday morning routines, including electives: a range of classes, seminars, missionary talks etc. that people can choose to attend (or they can stay in the café and chat).

"We'll also keep offering additional expressions of church; we have seen people engage in these services who have not been so involved previously, including non-Christians.

"Our commitment to community outreach will also continue to grow. A new initiative, Mahi Whenua, has started which involves church groups giving practical assistance in the community".



MURRAY STEVENSON
GC3 Ambassador 2020 - 2022

“COVID had a significant impact on many churches, exposing ruptures or fault lines. Bigger churches tended to be more impacted than smaller churches because of the impact on gathering numbers as levels changed.

“The conversation has now turned to ‘how do we re-set church?’ Not just going back, but asking ‘what is church?’

“COVID exposed that fact that much of what we do as churches is called ‘missional’, but is about mission in name only—and is actually more self-serving than anything else. There were many community outreaches and programmes that got shut down by COVID, and exposed that they were just activities—with a lack of relationship or true heart for people.

“Mission in a COVID context should have been strong, not weak. But instead people struggled with the same things their communities struggled with: fear, lack of understanding about God’s sovereignty, facing mortality... instead of being equipped and ready to speak out with the hope of the gospel and the peace of God, people struggled to see how they could be active in their communities without programmes.

“Where churches have been taking the opportunity provided this past year, I’ve observed encouraging growth—people have been ready to give an answer for the hope that is within them, offering to pray with neighbours, and simply realising the suffering of others and walking alongside them.

“We’re now in a season where it’s not about figuring out what is next, but figure out WHY we do what we do. Now is a season to grow in community, as a priesthood of all believers—remembering that we are the visibility of Christ, his ambassadors.”



Chatting at the 2021 Auckland Leaders Forum.



DONNA GRANT
CCCNZ National Youth Team

“In the past 12 months I have noticed a change in conversation in coaching sessions to be that of simply keeping one’s head above water—taking away from the focus of strategic planning or re-evaluating how and why the ministry functions in the way it does.

“This complacency around forward planning has deterred thinking around creative ways of getting ahead of the COVID level changes, resulting in a relaxed approach of ‘going with the flow’.

“While I understand that this approach is a coping mechanism to some degree, I truly believe that the Church should be leading the way in creative ways of meeting in person. COVID has presented the Church with the opportunity to rethink what is important in our approach in fulfilling the Great Commission”.



RICHARD FOUNTAIN
CCCNZ Auckland Enabler

“It’s great to see churches working with churches, and churches working in the wider community. Some of the highlights of the year include Northcross Church hosting a training event with Word of Life, Orewa Community Church and Summit (now Gracecity East).

“Several Central Auckland churches met together for combined prayer nights during the past year, encouraged by Hans Stutz from Terry Street Bible Chapel: ‘Prayer works on Zoom’ he says, ‘even if it can be awkward at times’.

“Zoom gatherings were a key part of getting together in the past 12 months. CCCNZ Auckland was able to host an in-person Church and Ministry Forum earlier in 2021, but later moved online when restrictions increased and case numbers went up.

Over the year we covered Child Poverty, Lament, Preaching and Mission as part of our forums.

“All churches had to cut back ministry and felt the squeeze to reduce outreach this past year. The increase in mental health stresses for people and the unhealthy coping mechanisms used to combat these stresses has sky rocked over the last year.

“Massey Community Church’s Libby Hunt found there was still ‘a huge need for Celebrate Recovery Groups in churches around the country’. They endeavoured to provide care for people ‘not just for those with addictions’ but for people experiencing all kinds of problems ‘like co-dependency, relational issues, grief and loss, anxiety and depression, anger, sexual issues, financial, guilt and shame’.

“Practically reaching out into their communities was another way Auckland churches worked together during difficult circumstances. LifeChurch Manurewa was a consistent presence in their South Auckland community by providing food parcels and other community support.

“These and countless other stories are testimony to Auckland churches showing the love of Christ and learning together in practical ways when the going has got tough”.

“Pastoral care has been an essential these past two years. People that had developed good practices and deep relationships have been able to make the most of the opportunities that have come along.”



GRAHAM ASHBY

Speaker, Writer, and Evangelist

“Pastoral care has been an essential these past two years. People that had developed good practices and deep relationships have been able to make the most of the opportunities that have come along. But where there was a focus on management rather than pastoral care of people, there have been consequences.

“Pastoral care needs to be re-kindled, not at the expense of the gospel, but a time of consolidation. Those churches that have chosen to communicate well with their people have kept congregants—this personal touch has been essential.

“Now that we can re-gather, many leaders have been noticing that some people haven’t come back—and are asking ‘why?’ As a result, I think we’re seeing a trend of elderships desiring to move back towards being shepherds, rather than just managers.

“It has been encouraging to see the partnership between Bryndwr Chapel and Mosgiel Gospel Hall (now Anchorage Church), what a marvellous collaboration and fantastic to see the support”.



ROB MORTON

Heretaunga Community Church
Leader & CCCNZ Training

“The impact and uncertainty of COVID hasn’t stopped people training for Christian service. In the last 12 months more people from within our movement of churches, campsites, and ministries have signed up for training and theological education than in previous years. The funding trusts behind the 3Trusts Scholarships are supporting more students and future leaders than ever before.

“I think we can partially thank COVID for this! The government restrictions meant that we all had to try new ways of doing things. Some larger churches split up into smaller groups or house churches. Without the normal patterns of gathering together each week, many churches had to be more proactive with visitation and pastoral care.

“Instead of having large prayer meetings, a few churches kept their buildings open throughout the week for smaller and more informal prayer times. New ways of doing things means new leaders need to step up, and existing leaders need to try something new. These are the positive outcomes of a global pandemic!”



Small group time at FIRST Training Upper North 2021, training for developing leaders aged 16 -18.



ANTHONY CAMPBELL

Redeemer Church Tauranga Lead Pastor

“Like many pastors, leaders, and churches around the country (and the world) we scrambled to do things we weren’t used to. But we pressed on to keep things simple, make the most of technology, and whenever possible pursue meeting in person.

“How blessed was the church in Aotearoa that the restrictions around COVID-19 began to lift in time for Easter Weekend? Our Good Friday and Resurrection Sunday services felt like a home coming. We sang together, pressed into the Lord in

prayer, had the Word of God preached, participated in the Lord’s Supper, and enjoyed the reality of the gospel together, as a church!

“An unexpected opportunity for Redeemer Church was bringing on one of our elders on staff full-time. The uncertainty that COVID-19 brought was also sweet providence for us as we were able to call Philip Brown to be our Preaching and Teaching Pastor.

“Philip has been involved with and served the local church in Rotorua since his teens, is a CCCNZ scholarship recipient and Master’s Graduate from Carey, and in January 2022 began serving Redeemer with his gifted preaching and teaching skills.

“While he serves us in this office he’ll work alongside me and the elders to grow in other areas of ministry life from pastoral care through to finances and administration. It seemed good to us and the Holy Spirit to do this at this time and we’re hopeful for what this will mean for us in church planting and leadership development”.

COMING HOME TO SERVE

FINANCIAL REPORT

Although the 2021 financial year started with a renewed sense of hope and a calendar full of planned activities, no one anticipated that we were being prepared for another period of restrictions and curtailment.

Our churches, campsites, and support ministries had to draw from all we had learnt in 2020, realising that we may be working together a bit differently for a longer time than we had hoped.

Additions to the staff team, as well as the full year impact of staff appointed part way through the previous year, resulted in the investment in the staff team growing to \$805,021 or 68% of our total expenses during 2021 (2020: \$597,489 or 73%).

It was a great privilege gathering together leaders at in-person events where we were able in 2021. Net cost relating to all our events after income for the year was \$19,501 (2020: \$16,516). Thankfully, 2020 lockdowns prepared the way for continuing online events like prayer gatherings, Zoom seminars and Church and Ministry Forums later in 2021.

Telling the stories of how God is at work among people in and through our churches, campsites, and support ministries remains an important focus of our team. The growing preference for digital communications continued during the year.

This preference is reflected in the web-based initiatives such as E-QUIP training for those in Children and Family Ministries, the weekly Prayer Hour, and online Prayer Gatherings. Despite growth in demand for online communications, the desire for printed material remains steady with the Annual Report, Rongopai and the Home Workers Guide all essential in printed format. In 2021 publication costs amounted to \$33,277 (2020: \$20,031) for the year.

Individuals and churches continue to faithfully support the work of reaching New Zealanders for Christ through one-off and regular donations. In 2021, these donations were \$10,741 (2020: \$10,800 excluding a \$40,000 distribution from an entity upon winding up). We are grateful for your continuous support.

We are truly grateful for the partnership and ongoing support of Lichfield Lands Inc., Hillview Trust, Soul Purpose Trust, Longview Trust, and GPH Charitable Trust; with a total funding support of \$1,322,288 (2020: \$873,000).

Taking all this into account we ended 2021 with a surplus of \$264,086 (2020: \$199,734) as reflected in the annual accounts and our prepaid grant account reflected \$665,000 (2020: \$380,001).

Let us continue to serve him together as we faithfully proclaim the gospel, from the Scriptures, to people across our country.

Our full accounts are available at the Charities Commission (CC54332) or by request from our Operations Manager, JC Marais jcmarais@cccnz.nz or 027 303 2914.



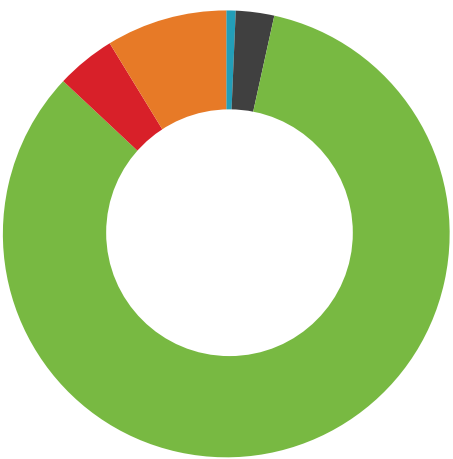
JC Marais
Operations Manager
jcmarais@cccnz.nz



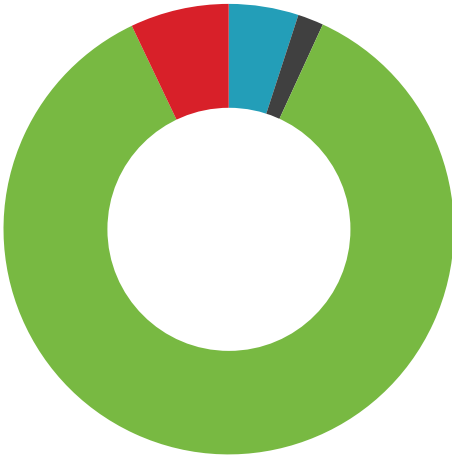
Bruce Stormer
Chair of Finance Committee
Bruce.Stormer@markhams.co.nz

REVENUE

2021
DONATIONS \$10,741
EVENTS \$43,922
GRANTS \$1,322,288
OTHER \$67,796

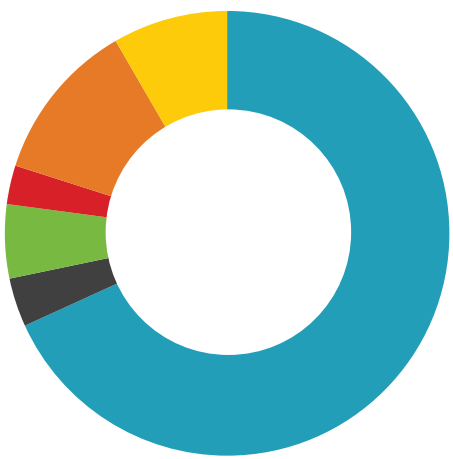


2020
DONATIONS \$50,800
EVENTS \$18,804
GRANTS \$873,000
OTHER \$71,835

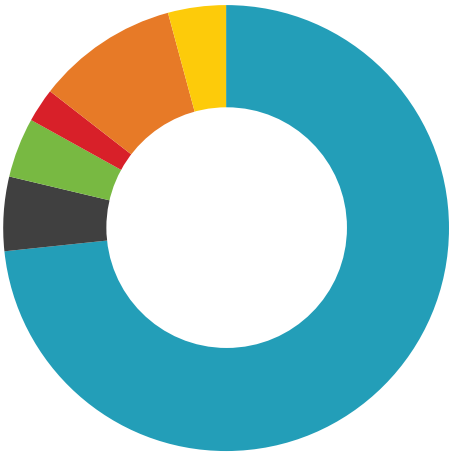


EXPENSES

2021
STAFF \$805,021
TRAVEL \$41,862
EVENTS \$63,423
PUBLICATIONS \$33,277
OFFICE \$138,355
OTHER \$98,723



2020
STAFF \$597,488
TRAVEL \$43,815
EVENTS \$35,320
PUBLICATIONS \$20,031
OFFICE \$83,839
OTHER \$34,212





COMING HOME IN PARTNERSHIP

LINKED-IN CHURCHES

Northland

Clark Road Chapel
Raumati Crescent Chapel

Auckland

Amatakiloa Gospel Church
Auckland Bible Church
Auckland Japanese Christian Church
Birkenhead Community Church
Eden Community 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 Bible Chapel
Northcross Community Church
Orewa Community Church
Pakuranga Christian Fellowship
Papatoetoe Bible Chapel
Samoan Open Brethren, Ranui
Tāmaki Community Church
Terry Street Bible Chapel
Wiremu Street Bible Chapel

Waikato

Chapel Hill Community Church
Agora Church
Hillcrest Chapel
Hukanui Bible Church
Kaipaki Combined Church

Manawarū Bible Chapel
Matamata Bible Church
Northgate Community Church
Paeroa Bible Chapel
Putaruru Gospel Chapel
Raleigh Street Christian Centre
Te Awamutu Bible Chapel
Whitiora Bible Church

Bay of Plenty

Fenton Park Bible Church
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 Vogel
Crossroads Church
Feilding Bible Chapel
Kingston Community Church
Ingestre Street Bible Church
Queen Street Chapel - Levin
York Street Chapel – Levin

Wellington

Church @ Cedarwood
Onslow Community Church
Porirua Gospel Chapel
The Anchor Church
Titahi Bay Community Church

Nelson-Tasman

Grace Church, Richmond
Hope Community Church
Tasman Church

Canterbury

Bryndwr Chapel
Church Street Bible Chapel
EAUKS (Ekalesia Au Uso Kerisiano Samoa)
Glentunnel Chapel
Redemption Church Christchurch
Riccarton Community Church
Rowley Bible Church
Rutland Street Church
Springs Community Church
Wairakei Road Bible Church

Otago

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

Southland

Rosedale Bible Chapel

REGIONAL CAMPSITES

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 and Tasman Teapot Valley Christian Camp Canterbury Woodend Christian Camp	Waikato / Lakes Karakariki Christian Camp Kauaeranga Valley Christian Camp MiCamp Ruapehu MiCamp Taupō MiCamp Whakamaru Totara Springs Christian Centre Marlborough Kiwi Ranch Curious Cove Otago Lakeland Park
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BOARD MEMBERS

Stuart Bay (Waikato)
Graham Fletcher (Southland)
Murray Frost (Canterbury)
Rick Iles (Auckland)
Bruce Stormer (Wellington)
Gordon Fountain CHAIR (Auckland)
Shannon Samuels (Auckland)
Ane Ponifasio (Auckland)
Richard Goodwin (Waikato)
Alan Aitken (Canterbury)
Gillian Gupstill (Auckland)

REGIONAL ENABLERS

Northland Andrew Clemow Admin – Scotty Delemare Auckland Richard Fountain PastorLINK - Dan Tyler (North Shore) Youth - Marina Shannon (North Shore/West Auckland) Youth - Scott Doddrell (Central East/South Auckland) Waikato Nick Goodwin Admin – Ellen Heebink Youth - Aaron Hodgson	Manawatū-Whanganui PastorLINK – Kerry Rickard PastorLINK – Gary Gilpin Wellington PastorLINK - Darryl Ward Youth - Brad de Villiers Canterbury Lawson Scott Admin – Mark Wells Youth - Matt Meek Southland Admin - Hannah Winder National Youth Team Enablers Murray Brown Donna Grant (Coaching)
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STAFF TEAM

Mark Grace <i>CCCNZ Ambassador Full time.</i> Murray Brown <i>National Youth Enabler Four days per week.</i> Hannah Munro <i>Events & Promotions Manager Four days per week.</i> Jackie Millar <i>Prayer Coordinator Two days per week.</i> Sophia Sinclair <i>Communications Manager Three days per week.</i> Rob Morton <i>Training Coordinator Three days per week.</i> Liz Hodge <i>Scholarship Enabler Two and a half days per week.</i>	Kerry Rickard <i>Leadership Support Enabler One and a half days per week.</i> Richard Fountain <i>Auckland Regional Enabler Full time.</i> Julie McKinnon <i>National Children and Family Ministries Enabler Three days per week.</i> Richard Davis <i>Camping Enabler Full time.</i> JC Marais <i>Operations Manager Full time.</i> Ray-Anne Cahill <i>Accounts and Team Support Monday – Friday 8am-3pm</i>
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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.



COMING HOME TO GROW IN THE GOSPEL 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](https://www.facebook.com/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 magazine, by emailing your mailing address to: office@cccnz.nz
- Visit our website: www.cccnz.nz