

GREENSHOOTS FROM THE GRASS ROOTS

CCCNZ ANNUAL REPORT 2022–2023



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THE AMBASSADOR'S REPORT | MARK GRACE

It is very likely that Jesus knew what it was to have dirt under his fingernails. When I think of this agrarian image of 'green shoots from the grassroots', I'm reminded that the Bible begins and ends with a garden—from Eden to the New Jerusalem. Jesus' journey to the cross begins in the garden of Gethsemane and it ends with his resurrection from a garden tomb.

We are a grassroots movement. Ordinary people in ordinary independent churches, pointing their communities to Jesus. As churches, we are served

and supported in this mission by regional campuses and national ministries. We believe ordinary people in ordinary churches serving ordinary communities aren't on the edges of God's purposes on these islands, but at the center of them.

We serve a God whose Son came to the grassroots. The second person of the Trinity came to us at the grassroots. He came to us and became one of us. He would suffer at the hands of the powerful. In his death he dealt with the sin and evil that are at the root of humanity.

GOSPEL RENEWAL

In 2022, and into 2023, green shoots of gospel renewal are budding across our grassroots movement.

These green shoots come in, and from, a difficult season for many churches. The ‘traffic light’ framework introduced by the government in December 2021 saw many churches wrestle deeply with how to respond during 2022. This, in turn, led to Christians moving from and to CCCNZ/Open Brethren heritage churches. Almost all gathering restrictions and mandates were dropped in March 2022, and over the past year many churches have noticed a slow stabilisation of attendance and engagement.

Over the past year, some churches have felt the loss of people from fellowship or the rift in relationships. There is a deep sadness, a sense of bare earth before any green shoots can grow. In some of these churches the shifting demographic has resulted in ministries concluding to make way for new opportunities. Other churches have noticed growth of those who remain in their churches, with new seekers joining, as those at grassroots level begin to grow up into maturity in Christ.

Perhaps the weariness of the last season of ministry might cause us to mourn the loss and change of more established growth—whether programmes, structures, or finances. While God can and does use these things to bring about gospel renewal, he is always at work according to his purposes. Let us not despise the green shoots as too small or insignificant as they pop up through the earth but remember the miracle of God at work.

The disruption of the pandemic has resulted in increased flexibility, and more churches are working together to point people to Jesus through camps, community events, training leaders, sharing preachers and more. More churches and campsites across the movement are working together to reach their communities. Alpha and other evangelistic groups at various churches are growing.

New Easter camps are starting, and new churches are being planted.

It’s our privilege as a service trust to be serving amongst you. Like you, we are ordinary people, committed to our own ordinary churches, seeking to reach the communities we are in. We know that green shoots are often small and tender, and they don’t look spectacular on their own.

CHURCHES LINKING IN

Since our last Annual Report, eleven churches strengthened their commitment to work together to point people to Jesus in their own communities through linking in to the CCCNZ Service Trust and movement. They are:

| | | | |
|--|----------|------|--------------|
| Kawerau Bible Chapel | June | 2022 | Kawerau |
| Rossgrove Chapel | June | 2022 | Auckland |
| The Anchorage Church | June | 2022 | Mosgiel |
| Coast Community Church | August | 2022 | Paraparaumu |
| Takapuna Bible Church | August | 2022 | Auckland |
| Ellerslie Bible Chapel | February | 2023 | Auckland |
| Pathway Christian Centre | February | 2023 | Lower Hutt |
| Christchurch Korean Church | February | 2023 | Christchurch |
| The Lighthouse Church | April | 2023 | Masterton |
| Wainuiomata Gospel Church | April | 2023 | Wainuiomata |
| Auuso Kerisiano Ōtara (Ōtara Brethren Christian Fellowship) | April | 2023 | Auckland |

PRAYING FOR GREEN SHOOTS

As a grassroots movement, one of the most significant things we do is pray. Every week the CCCNZ staff team gathers to pray for you (Thursdays at 9.30am). It’s a profound reminder to our own hearts that God is God, and that his Church is at the center of his purposes on these islands. Every week (Tuesdays 9.30am) a team of pray-ers from CCCNZ/Open Brethren churches around the country get together to pray. Anyone can join this Zoom call and we invite you to join them! It has also been a privilege in November 2022 to gather 81 national leaders to pray via Zoom for the growth of the gospel through the churches of our movement.



Leaders from Onslow Community Church at the Lower North Island Regional Summit, held at Forest Lakes Camp, Ōtaki.

GROWING GRASSROOTS LEADERS

As a service trust, another way we serve churches committed to grassroots ministry in their communities is by bringing leaders together.

In 2022, CCCNZ held four regional summits in Auckland, Waikato, the Kāpiti Coast, and Christchurch. Our heart in facilitating these was inviting local church leaders to come together to better reach their communities with the gospel. 365 leaders from 66 churches participated in these Summits:

- 22 churches in Auckland and Northland
- 18 churches in the Waikato and Bay of Plenty
- 16 churches around the Lower North Island
- 10 churches around the South Island

One of the ways we are committed to green shoots at the grassroots is by serving churches as they seek to develop younger leaders, aged 16-18. We held three four-day FIRST Training events for 81 emerging leaders from 10 churches in the Lower North Island, Upper North Island, and South Island. It is a blessing to see local church leaders take most of the training sessions as part of these events. It has been so encouraging to see these young leaders go on to serve in deeper ways in their churches and with the campsites they are involved in serving.

Church-run, community-focused children and family ministries like NZ Rally are finding increasing attendance from Northland to Southland with several new Rallies being started in our churches. Camps across the movement are noticing increasing attendance at children’s and youth camps.

“It really is a profound privilege to hear what God is doing amongst you through your grassroots ministry in local churches”.

We are also working with local church leaders to grow their children and family ministry leaders. In 2022, 11 leaders went through the CCCNZ Children and Families E-QUIP training. We are also supporting local church leaders as they seek to grow prayer leaders. In 2022, 12 leaders went through CCCNZ Prayer E-QUIP online training.

In Auckland, over 140 leaders from approximately 15 churches attended three Auckland Leaders Dinners in 2022. 49 leaders attended the Māori and Pasifika Leaders Dinner in July. 47 leaders attended the North and West Regional Dinner, and 45 leaders attended the South, East, and Central Dinner—both held on the same week in October.

In August 2022, 33 people (pastors and their spouses), representing 13 churches, attended the annual PastorLINK Retreat in Taupō.

It's an absolute delight hearing of the 'gospel green shoots' initiatives coming out of these various gatherings...of leaders connecting and talking about supporting each other, of plans to combine training or leadership events, plans to support growth and evangelism efforts, of friendships made, of connections developed and strengthened. It is a joy to see people in our movement discover one of the greatest resources God has provided to serve the Church: each other! We can't wait to serve and support these green shoots as they grow to fruition.

GROWING ONLINE CONNECTION

Another way we seek to serve the churches in their grassroots ministry is by drawing leaders together online. This happens in several ways.

1267 of you have followed the CCCNZ Facebook page where we share regular posts about events and news from our churches. 118 leaders responsible for an aspect of their church's administration have joined the CCCNZ Admin Facebook group. 85 children and family ministry leaders across

the country encourage one another through their Facebook community. 148 youth leaders from Northland to Southland support one another in grassroots ministry by connecting as part of their Facebook group. 246 church leaders from across Auckland participate in their Facebook community. 79 prayer leaders from across a significant cross-section of churches appreciate supporting one another in encouraging prayer in their churches via their Facebook group.

It really is a profound privilege to hear what God is doing amongst you through your grassroots ministry in local churches. We love hearing the ways God is drawing independent local churches together in their regions to point people to Jesus, through the gospel from the Scriptures, at the grassroots. We love sharing this with you. One of the most significant ways we do this is through newsletters.

1030 of you receive the Weekly Wrap newsletter. 420 leaders receive the Auckland Community newsletter. 235 leaders receive the PastorLINK newsletter. 256 youth leaders receive the Youth Leaders newsletter, and 85 leaders receive the Children and Families newsletter. 506 church leaders receive the Admin newsletter, and 217 prayer leaders receive the Prayer newsletter.

Lastly, the CCCNZ website continues to be a place where people come to get information and connect, with church and campsite listings being among the top visited pages along with the jobs section. More and more administrators and leaders are connecting with the material in the Admin Library. In 2022 we recorded 17,776 unique users visiting the CCCNZ website.

SCHOLARSHIPS TO SUPPORT GRASSROOTS MINISTRY

We are a service trust seeking to support independent local churches, and the regional campsites and national ministries that support them. One



Some of the team from Tauwhare Gospel Chapel at the 2022 Waikato-Bay of Plenty Regional Summit.

of the ways we do this is by supporting the scholarship process from the CCCNZ/Open Brethren Funding Trusts Lichfield Lands and Hillview Trust.

The JH Baldwin Scholarship is kindly offered by Lichfield Lands and supports students from CCCNZ/Open Brethren churches in theological studies across all levels. The David Bay evangelism scholarship is kindly offered by Hillview Trust and is given to CCCNZ and Open Brethren churches wanting to develop their evangelists and their evangelism.

Alongside the scholarships, we also facilitate the distribution of specific funds kindly provided by Lichfield Lands that support churches in working together to point people to Jesus.

These include the Churches-Schools-Camp Fund. This supports churches in engaging the schools in their community by taking children and youth camping. In 2022, \$6,388 was used from the fund.

The Pastoral Support Fund supports pastors facing material hardship, or who need of refreshment. In 2022, \$27,100 was distributed by the fund.

The Ian Elliott Governance Scholarship Fund supports leaders in CCCNZ/Open Brethren heritage churches, campsites, and ministries. In 2022, \$9,420 was given towards governance training.

Lastly, the National Youth Enabler can commend CCCNZ/Open Brethren heritage youth groups who want to work together to point youth to Jesus through camping to Lichfield. Several youth groups have received subsidising funding, which has enabled youth who don't know Jesus to hear the gospel at camp.

We serve a God whose Son brings green shoots from the grassroots through his death and resurrection. At the heart of the green shoots of gospel renewal is the death and resurrection of Jesus—experienced in and through the message of the gospel. This gospel is growing in and amongst us; it is going out from us. The good news of the gospel is still good!



Mark Grace
CCCNZ Ambassador
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GREEN SHOOTS FROM WORKING TOGETHER AT THE GRASSROOTS

THE CHAIR'S REPORT | GORDON FOUNTAIN

“Grassroots” speaks to immediate location and setting, and “green shoots” speaks of regeneration and new growth. Organisationally, CCCNZ is looking to involve engagement at a local level, while those involved in its establishment begin to transition to differing aspects of life and service, and new appointments come through to carry on the ministry.

ANNUAL RESULTS

This annual report completes the sixth year of operations of CCCNZ. We continue to build capacity within the team, and in the last year saw more appointments of regional enablers and the strengthening of pastoral support.

Operationally, we closed the year with a moderate surplus of \$20,000, enabling the organisation to

cover all its growing operations. The CCCNZ Board looks to retain cashflow at a sufficient level to cover one quarter of operational costs throughout the year. The financial report gives you more commentary.

In the year ahead, we expect the cost of service to increase as the new appointed roles are in place for a full year. The CCCNZ Board is grateful for the significant levels of support received from our funders who enable CCCNZ to operate both nationally and regionally within our movement of churches, camps, and support ministries. We would not be able to provide such a scope of services without the generous support of our funders—thank you.

CCCNZ is a registered charity and we welcome donation support where you see benefit in the programmes and services provided, along with the possibility of receiving legacies to enable CCCNZ to continue to support our movement well into the future. If you desire to assist us in our goal of reaching the islands of Aotearoa, New Zealand with the good news of Jesus from the Scriptures, then we would welcome your support.

CHANGES IN PERSONNEL

Over the next three years, we anticipate changes at board and staff levels. Here is where we are looking for the green shoots of growing people into roles. Mark Grace and his team continue to serve with the blessing and support provided by the CCCNZ Board. Our financial resources are released to enable the staff team to serve our movement. CCCNZ is heavily weighted in terms of human resources, as a service ministry of this type should be. It is people who articulate and embody the vision of CCCNZ, and as a board we are grateful for our entire team who, day-in-and-day-out, work to see the vision of reaching New Zealand with the good news of Jesus accomplished.



Pam and Stephen Ferguson chatting with Ian and Liz Wright at the South Island Regional Summit 2022. Stephen and Pam have been sent by Bryndwr Chapel in Christchurch to revitalise what is now Anchorage Church in Mosgiel.

At the time of preparing our annual reports, Murray Brown, our foundational National Youth Enabler, has concluded his time with us. Murray has built this role from the outset and we're grateful for the way he has connected with youth pastors and leaders around the country and brought youth together to hear from the Scriptures and encourage one another in their discipleship journeys. Murray, you have served the movement wonderfully well and we're grateful for your passion and enthusiasm for youth leadership in our nation. Thank you.

All CCCNZ Board members are volunteers and represent the grassroots of the movement across the nation. This enables the CCCNZ Board to hear and consider the wider perspective, as well as consider the regional and local perspectives. It is that passion and engagement within a local community that spurs and encourages a national effort like CCCNZ to thrive.

“Together we work collectively to encourage green shoots of the gospel to grow, remembering that it is God’s work and God who gives the growth”.

The CCCNZ Board welcomed Chris Broadbent following the election in October-November 2022. Chris is an experienced HR professional and has current and previous board experience. We have appreciated Chris’ input to our discussions. At the same time, Stuart Bay was appointed as an independent trustee. I’m grateful for all the board members who prayerfully serve and contribute their insight and experience to our governance.

The coming election in October-November this year is another opportunity to bring through to the CCCNZ Board the skills required as board members complete their final tenure. Over the next two years our foundational board members are required to retire from the board, by 2025. This involves Stuart Bay, Graham Fletcher, Gordon Fountain and Bruce Stormer. The deed was signed in November 2016 and these board members were all deemed to be elected and appointed when CCCNZ commenced. The board is pleased to have a maximum term mandated so that board members need not see this as a lifetime commitment. It also provides for regular replenishment of the CCCNZ Board and flexibility within the nine-year maximum period to bring changes to the board as the organisational needs change.

The board and senior staff team have addressed the principles and practices of our movement so that ‘Mission Drift’¹ in our appointing of future board members can be avoided. There will be three elected board positions this coming year, and we welcome future board candidates with experience and skills in accountancy or operations and a heart to serve our movement to consider standing this year or in 2024. You will be joining existing trustees and assist them to replace the foundation trustees who retire from the CCCNZ Board.

PROVIDING SERVICE

CCCNZ was established to assist in the networking and improved connection of churches and support ministries within the New Zealand Open Brethren heritage movement. Over the last six years, we have seen 84 churches link in (number as of December 31 2022), with a further six churches linking in during the first quarter of 2023.

The CCCNZ Trust Deed presents our purpose in these two statements. Our purpose is to:

- promote and spread the Christian faith *in accordance with the principles, teaching, mission, vision, and practices of CCCNZ Churches*, and
- network and form strong relationships primarily between CCCNZ-related support ministries and persons for the purpose of *unifying, strengthening, and supporting CCCNZ churches and their communities and propagate Christian faith and values*.

We are a movement made up of many grassroots volunteers with some who are employed into particular roles. Together we work collectively to encourage green shoots of the gospel to grow, remembering that it is God’s work and God who gives the growth (1 Cor. 3:6).

The CCCNZ Board is pleased to provide you this annual report in addressing these primary aims, and we trust that you share our ongoing desire to reach the islands of New Zealand with the good news of Jesus, through the gospel from the Scriptures. Together works better.



Gordon Fountain
CCCNZ Board Chairperson

¹ *Mission Drift: The Unspoken Crisis Facing Leaders, Charities, and Churches* by Peter Greer and Chris Horst, with Anna Haggard.

GREEN SHOOTS AROUND THE MOTU

“We embrace these opportunities to collaborate with other churches in serving others and pointing people to Jesus”.



Murray Brown with key youth leaders and pastors at the 2022 Youth Summit at Willow Park Christian Camp in Auckland.



HANNAH WINDER

Rosedale Bible Chapel Church
Administrator (part time) &
CCCNZ National Admin Team

“I am struck by how God’s Church can only be effective if we’re working together as a body, each part doing its bit for the good of the whole.

“In our small, ordinary church at the bottom of Aotearoa, New Zealand we have many ordinary people doing small and ordinary things to point people to Jesus. I am increasingly aware that ‘we,’ way down south, are a part of something so much bigger.

“From the couple who serve hot cross buns at Easter, to the leaders who plan and run the Sunday morning children’s programme every week, the leaders involved in Girl’s and Boy’s Rally, Youth Group, Play Group, seniors’ events, music

and sound for Sunday services, pastoral care visits, phone calls, Fellowship Lunches, the prayer chain, Bible studies and prayer meetings... the list goes on!

“People are working and serving as they are able, and I believe we are seeing growth because of their faithfulness—the new and strengthened relationships due to the focus on intergenerational connections, the elders’ focus on prayer, new families arriving, and three baptisms at the end of 2022. This happens because of ordinary people volunteering their time, money, energy, and willingness to serve sacrificially out of their love for God.

“In the middle of the year Rosedale Bible Chapel (RBC) will host a Rally Regional Training Day as well as the annual Winter Bible School in collaboration with Elles Road Bible Chapel.

“Invercargill City Pastors have begun a city-wide prayer initiative in which each church will host a week of prayer events for the city, finishing up with a combined church service. RBC is also excited to be partnering with another church in a “Serve the City” day.

“We embrace these opportunities to collaborate with other churches in serving others and pointing people to Jesus. We may all do things differently, but we are one body toiling in the same soil”.



MURRAY BROWN

Outgoing CCCNZ National Youth
Enabler (2017-2023)

“As I conclude my role with CCCNZ I find myself reflecting on three trends I have seen develop over the past five years—trends that I see as the ‘green shoots’ that will continue to sprout and bear fruit in the years ahead.

“Firstly, there is a growing trend amongst our youth leaders to work together. Relationships built at Youth Summits and FIRST Training Retreats have indirectly led to the revitalisation of our Easter Camps, combined youth leadership training events, and regular regional gatherings of youth leaders. We have always said that ‘together works better’ and this is proving to be true.

“The second ‘green shoot’ I see is the conviction that youth ministry is the responsibility of all ages. I continue to hear stories of those once thought of as ‘too old to lead youth group’ having a significant impact on young lives. Life for these teens is so much more complex and painful and they appreciate adults who show genuine care and have a depth of faith to impart, based on life experience. One of our youth pastors recently shared on social media how a young girl had been drawn into the life of the church through contact with an older Christian woman who was struggling to find a sense of purpose. The post was one of the most ‘liked’ of the year by our youth leaders.

“The third ‘green shoot’ I see is a return to a greater emphasis on discipleship and the spiritual formation of our young people. At our FIRST Training retreats, we see this hunger among young people to grow deeper in their faith. One of the most popular activities is the daily one-hour they spend with God, praying and reflecting on his Word. Such an emphasis on depth is essential in preparing our young people for a culture that is shifting from apathy to antagonism toward those who follow Jesus”.

“At our FIRST Training retreats, we see this hunger among young people to grow deeper in their faith”.



MARK WELLS

Riccarton Community Church
Associate Pastor & CCCNZ
National Admin Team

“Really healthy things that I am seeing in our local context include the various regional Rally gatherings inviting input from CCCNZ National Children and Family Ministries Enabler Julie McKinnon and myself about better integrating Child Protection policy into their work. In the Canterbury meeting it was encouraging to hear the cadets going away from the meeting really curious to read their policy and plans in order to help lead young people well.

“We have also been able to celebrate the success of the Community Development Network Trust’s (CDN Trust) newest role—that of a Whānau Connection worker, who connects with families after Kids Camps to offer support and connection to community groups, youth groups, and other agencies. This moves the momentum from helping kids make changes alone, to enabling parents to make positive changes for the whole family.

“At the national level, it is encouraging to have been invited into the conversation around developing best practise for churches in the area of safeguarding vulnerable people—to ensure that we give support that actually helps to those who approach the church with various needs”.

GROWING UP AND LEADING THE WAY

“God will reward and bless those who serve him, giving them joy and satisfaction in their work”.

Often, we look to our elders for inspiration when it comes to growing a ministry from the ground up. However, 13-year-old Sophia Coleman from Caversham Community Church reminds us to look at where God works at every age.

Since October 2020, Sophia has been creating and producing a monthly magazine for children and youth called ‘Grow’.

Sophia started by handing out her magazine at church with the hope of helping “kids (and adults) grow as Christians and become fruitful ‘plants’ for God. Each issue focuses on a character trait for the Bible”.

Originally written and drawn by hand, her first digital edition was released in 2023.

She says, “I’m pretty sure the idea came from God because usually when I start a project, I lose enthusiasm for it after a while. But I’ve made Grow nearly every month for more than two years and hope to continue making new editions”.

“I always enjoy making it, and my subscribers are very encouraging and supportive. It reminds me of the verse that says, ‘Unless the Lord builds the house, the builders labour in vain’ (Psalm 127:1)”.

“One girl who comes to our Youth Group comes from a non-Christian family, and not only does she look forward to receiving my magazine each month, but she said her parents like it too!”

Sophia acknowledges the support of her parents, especially her Dad, Jeff Coleman, who has put a page on his website for Sophia’s magazine.

Sophia says, “The main thing I have learnt is that doing things for God doesn’t have to be tedious or boring. God will reward and bless those who serve him, giving them joy and satisfaction in their work. I also learnt that if you don’t give up on a project because of losing enthusiasm, it is a good sign that God is behind it”.

Story by Trista Burn



“I sense that God is calling our movement’s churches, and the camps that serve them, into a greater relationship for his glory”.



ELLEN HEEBINK

RSCC Secretary, Tōtara Springs Secretary & CCCNZ National Admin Team

“The challenging times of the past few years, as well as the stresses of life many people are currently experiencing, provide wonderful opportunities for our local church to really be the hands and feet of Jesus in our community. It is encouraging to see our church family work together to support the community.

“It is also encouraging to see numbers of people attending church on the rise, including new people, with many of us really enjoying fellowship and community as a church family, and the opportunity to worship our Lord together.

“I am privileged to serve within the Christian Camping Project, where a team of people from different CCCNZ churches with a passion for Christian Camping use their skills to look at ways to rebuild and strengthen the connection between churches and camps in the regions and across the country”.



RICHARD DAVIS

CCCNZ Camping Enabler

“In the 2021 Annual Report I made mention of a time during COVID lockdown in Auckland where Tāmaki Community Church and Willow Park Christian Centre worked together to supply and distribute meals to many people in the local South Auckland community. As much as this was a wonderful example of camps and a local church working together, it was not the end of this story.

“Fast forward 12 months after the meals were provided, Tāmaki Community Church organised a church camp at Willow Park. But instead of a camp just for their own congregation, TCC invited families in the community who had been recipients of those meals to join them. On that wonderful weekend in Spring 2022, more than 20 people from the community gave their lives to Jesus. The meals were simply a means to start a conversation, that then led to a relationship that finally led to trust in Jesus. This is the power of what a church/camp partnership can look like for your own community.

“Another wonderful example of camps and churches working together is seeing youth from Orewa Community Church and Clark Road Chapel working together to lead at Marsden Bay Christian Camp where nearly 100 local unchurched kids come together each school holidays. While the impact is great—as many young children have come to accept Jesus—there is also a significant impact and growth in the youth who are serving. This can only bode well for the ongoing discipleship of these young men and women who will one day be the future leaders in our churches.

“I sense that God is calling our movement’s churches, and the camps that serve them, into a greater relationship for his glory. These stories are just a small snippet of what is occurring throughout Aotearoa, New Zealand. It is powerful when camps are proactively serving and supporting churches to reach and disciple the lost, and to fulfil Christ’s mission”.



SOWING SEEDS

It's encouraging to see green shoots grow up as the 'seeds' of new ministries are planted from already established ministries.

This is undoubtedly the case for Onslow Community Church in Wellington, as they hosted their first holiday programme in 2022—a green shoot that has grown up after observing a thriving ministry at The Anchor Church in nearby Porirua.

In 2021, The Anchor Church's Children and Families Leader Christine Leadbeater spoke at the CCCNZ National Summit about the fruitfulness of their church's annual holiday programme—15 years in the running.

Seeing clear potential for a similar programme in their community, the team from Onslow Community Church team took their inspiration and got to work.

First, they visited Christine at The Anchor Church to see the programme in action. "It was amazing to see how they were serving together to bring the good news to the children who attended", Heather shares.

"After much thought and prayer, we decided to run a trial holiday programme in 2022 over two mornings and see how it went".

The small Onslow team shared their vision with the church, and it wasn't long before both registrations and volunteers rolled in. Not only was there a need within their community, with over 76 registrations, but over 50 people were willing to help volunteer to meet that need.

The excitement continued to build within the church family as they prayed and prepared together. "It was encouraging to witness all ages serve alongside each other with a common purpose and goal", says Heather. "Some even took the morning off of work to be there!"

Almost half of the children who came were from the church's local community and hadn't previously connected with the church.

"We are looking forward to our next holiday programme already and continue to pray that the children who were able to come along will know what it means to be known and loved by God".

Christine Leadbeater applauded the work the church put into its programme and is confident it will continue to grow.

"They took the concept and modified it to meet the needs and availability of their community", she said. "There's no perfect way to do it. Yes, we have 15 years of experience, props, and volunteers, but we are still modifying. It took that long—and many combos of people. There are lots of ways to make it work".

Christine pointed to Jodi Wichers at The Orchard Church in the Bay of Plenty as another example. Jodi also developed a programme to find ways it can work for their community and church.

"If this is something you want to do, it's all about initiating the conversation with someone who has done it before, just getting in there, giving it a go and adapting to your needs. One model does not work for every church, and that's OK. Every community is different, and seeing what they build is exciting... It's simply about sowing the seeds of the gospel in whatever way you can".

Story by Trista Burn



DARRYL WARD

Lead Pastor at The Anchor Church
& CCCNZ PastorLINK Regional
Enabler for Wellington

"Titahi Bay Community Church (TBCC) desires to see the church represent Jesus in their community well—TBCC is in culturally diverse neighbourhood. The church has recently installed a second service in the afternoon to cater for the Pasifika community. Many people in the service have English as a second language and want to worship the Lord wholeheartedly in their own language. Pastor Max Faletutulu says, 'we have made it clear this is not a separate church plant, we are all one family, and we encourage all people to come together in the morning service'. This initiative helps to bring cultures together as a single body in Titahi Bay. We pray for gospel outcomes as the whole church works together for God's glory.

"Onslow Community Church had their first kids holiday programme in July 2022. The response has been amazing as they have taken the gospel to the community, we pray that through the whole church commitment these efforts will produce discipleship outcomes. The Anchor Church has historically had their own holiday programme and Pastor Pete Rhodes Robinson communicated with The Anchor to ensure theirs was on a different week (more on this story below). They have also supported a local school by assisting them with a fund raiser. This meant they moved their service to Sunday evening and became the hands and feet of Jesus by mobilising the people of the church to serve in the school throughout the morning.

"The Anchor Church has supported other churches with preaching resources as asked. This has been a great blessing to all who have been involved. Last year on November 6, the church released a twenty year vision. This vision desires to reach 50,000 people for the gospel. This exciting vision is a whole church undertaking for God's glory. Our core values express the intent for every person to grow and be released as ambassadors: 'saturated in God's love, the Bible as the foundation for life, a heart for every person, and courageously sharing the hope of Jesus'".



Young leaders from Tāmaki Community Church share with the wider group at the South, West and Central Auckland Leaders Dinner.



SHANNON SAMUELS

Tāmaki Community Church
Leader & CCCNZ Board Member

“Tāmaki Community Church (in collaboration with another local church) established ‘Sunday Funday: an opportunity to gather purposefully and share hope with our community’. Our Sunday service became a free carnival at the local primary school with a sausage sizzle, candy floss, face painting... all with the coffee cart and giant inflatables from the Word of Life team. Our second event was an Old School Sunday Picnic. Both events saw between 50-100 local people attend.

“After floods ravaged Auckland, a small group were able to practically help by relocating people and goods to the safety of the West Auckland Hub. Opportunities to talk about ‘real stuff’ were also possible with the devastated few who were affected.

“In 2022 Tāmaki Community Church was gifted a ‘pay as you can’ camp from Willow Park Camp. We used this an opportunity to purposefully reach out to the unchurched within Tāmaki (see Richard’s story on page 15). The camp also served as an incubator to develop younger leaders. About eight guys from a young adults home group spoke throughout the weekend, bringing an authenticity and passion as they shared from Scripture. We saw many people respond who are still connected and growing.

“July 2022 saw the emergence of a three-times-a year event for young adults (primarily in Auckland and Waikato) called CPR. Our aim is for young adults to connect, pray together and leave refreshed and engaging more in their local church. So far, we’ve hosted a Mid-Winter Christmas Banquet, a rockin’ Barn Dance and an Outdoor Worship Night with great feedback. While this is an interdenominational effort to connect young adults, a significant number of CCCNZ churches have attended or hosted events: Mt Wellington Community Church, Orewa Community Church, Raleigh St Christian Centre, Northgate Community Church, Hukanui Bible Church, LifeChurch Manurewa, Manawarū Bible Chapel, and Tāmaki Community Church. Someone even came from as far as Waikanae!”



JULIE MCKINNON

CCCNZ Children and Family
Ministries Enabler

“It has been encouraging to see the conversation around what discipleship and ministry with children and families looks like broaden and grow in depth during 2022.

“Exciting new conversations are emerging as many churches explore what it looks like to engage all generations in living and growing in Christ together as a church family. It is inspiring to see churches courageously evaluating the effectiveness of segregated children’s ministries and seriously considering a more holistic discipleship paradigm. More and more churches are seeking meaningful ways to integrate children into wider church family life.

“This includes initiatives like the small group Bible study at Raleigh Street Christian Centre—where a group including children from age eight up to adults in their 80s gathers to learn to study the Word together. And the homegroup at Putaruru Gospel Chapel where children and adults meet to share a meal and then continue with a Bible study—sharing insights, life stories, and questions about Scripture and life together.

“Other churches are exploring what worship with all ages looks like on Sunday morning. What serving together, prayer, and hospitality can involve when all generations are welcomed and encouraged to have a place and a voice.

“It is also great to see churches equipping and empowering parents and caregivers in their ministry of discipling children in the everyday rhythms of life. It is encouraging to see churches increasingly listening and responding to the needs of parents and caregivers in their parenting and family discipleship journeys.

“It will be exciting to see how the green shoots of this broadening conversation might grow into flourishing discipleship of children and families”.



MARINA SHANNON

Orewa Community Church
Youth Pastor & CCCNZ Auckland
Youth Enabler

“It has been wonderful see to a partnership between Orewa Community Church and Love Soup (a feeding programme for the less fortunate) grow here. It has involved people from the community coming once a month through the church doors to feel welcomed, accepted, and loved. It has been encouraging to see a number of people in our congregation serve in this area when they haven’t been involved in active church service prior.

“More generally, it has been encouraging to see better relationships building between churches in West Auckland and the North Shore, with our leaders dinners and people being encouraged in their ministry through conversations and fellowship. It has also been cool to see more folk who are serving within the children and family space and youth areas attend these and share together.

“It has been cool to have Northcross Church and Orewa Community Church come together for a youth leadership training day put on by Word of Life. It is always great to have conversation with those serving a similar population in youth ministry. We appreciated the opportunity to continue to build great relationships with Northcross Church. It was especially good to see the younger leaders engaging with others who are servant-hearted and go the extra mile to serve youth. It’s nice for us to walk into Northcross and for our crew to know most of the Northcross crew and have that sense of friendship and familiarity”.

LEADING AND LEARNING TOGETHER THROUGH CHURCH & CAMP PARTNERSHIP

“We’re very excited about what this all means in terms of sowing the gospel message into kids’ hearts”.

Marsden Bay Christian Camp in Whangārei is intentionally building relationships with churches, teens, and other local campsites to build future leaders and lifelong memories while pointing their local community towards Jesus.

Like many great ideas, this one was born out of identifying a problem—or two.

Matt Scott, Youth Leader at Clark Road Chapel (CRC), shares, “After COVID, we identified a hole in the willingness of the upcoming young adults to lead. We realised we needed to equip them with the tools to do so”.

Matt is also in the unique position of working as Assistant Manager of the Marsden Bay Christian Camp. He believes Christian camps can easily miss opportunities to serve and share the gospel with their local communities and with people down the road from the facilities.

“So during the school holidays, to meet both needs, we built a day camp format for local kids with our 14-17-year-olds leading”.

The teens would then stay overnight, receiving intentional leadership training from Word of Life Interns and other camp senior leaders. “During these sessions, we would help them identify their skills and abilities and give them the tools they need to flourish in their leadership role”.

Recognising that other churches may also have a need, Matt extended an invitation to members of Orewa Community Church.

Marina Shannon, Youth Pastor at Orewa Community Church, sent seven young adults for the week. “They raved about it—one even said it was the best few days of his life!”

“I love that it gives our teens tools like fostering community and articulating the gospel and then gives them practical opportunities to practice their faith during the week”, she said. “And they love it—they are already looking forward to the next one”.

“It went so well; I was blown away”, Matt shared.

“So far, we have held two events, with another planned for this Easter. At our first event, we had 93 kids and 64 at our second. We had 17-20 teenage leaders at each. The partnership between churches is exciting as well. Northcross Church youth group will be joining us this year”.

Andrew Clemow, Pastor at Clark Road Chapel, says, “We’re very excited about what this all means in terms of sowing the gospel message into kids’ hearts and training and discipling of teens, young adults and leaders”.

Story by Trista Burn



An ESOL class taught by Cherry McKinnon at Wiremu Street Bible Chapel.



MARK VAN WIJK
CCCNZ PastorLINK Enabler

“After commencing my role in late 2022 I’ve been privileged to observe a number of things as I’ve met with different pastors across the country.

“An initial observation would be that the topic of pastoral care is a high priority in many churches—both the pastoral care of congregations, and the care of pastors themselves. A common conversation I have with pastors and elders is ‘how do we do pastoral care well?’ This past season has highlighted some gaps and we’ve been prompted to think about how we stay in touch with people and make sure they’re cared for and connected, I see ‘green shoots’ growing up as constraints have led to innovation and growth in this area.

“In terms of caring for pastors, many pastoral leaders are feeling tired from ministry over the past three years. Many have taken sabbaticals or have needed extended times of leave. I’ve observed that

where there is good support for pastors (elders, leadership teams etc.), there is energy to implement new things and grow together. Churches are beginning to ask, ‘how are we equipping pastors and elders to work well together?’

“I’ve been encouraged and surprised by the freshness, or ‘green shoots’, I’ve seen across the movement. We may be tempted to think it’s only larger churches where growth is taking place, but God is growing his Church right across this country

“Wiremu Street Bible Chapel is one example of a church reaching out to their community with the good news of the gospel. They’re just a small congregation, but they have a huge heart for reaching their community. Each Saturday they set up tables in front of their church building with pamphlets, tracts and Bibles—and people are genuinely interested in engaging with them. Community meals and language classes also provide opportunities for relationship and conversation. This church knows and loves the wider community God has placed them in.

“Tasman Church is another example of green shoots growing in grass roots New Zealand. It’s clear their elders have authentic relationships and know each other deeply. I really appreciated witnessing the way this group had honest and robust conversations with each other, and how they were open to take on new ideas together”.



Seeing the fruit of God's transforming power at work through baptisms at LifeChurch Manurewa.



ANE PONIFASIO

LifeChurch Manurewa Pastor
& CCCNZ Board Member

"I am loving our bountiful feijoa tree at the moment. We planted it eight years ago, and it produced a great harvest of big juicy fruits for the first time this year. It's so satisfying visiting the tree every day and collecting fruit ready to eat. We also love giving them away and sharing with others. We can do this because our baby tree was planted, nurtured, and pruned through all seasons and is now bearing lots of fruit and showing maturity.

"It's a similar feeling with church ministry—from the joy of making disciples, helping people become followers of Christ, teaching, praying, and encouraging over many years to then see the fruit of a life of obedience and growth in their love for Jesus. It's very satisfying!

"Matthew 28:18-20 has been one of the main themes for Sunday gathering sermons and

weekly Bible studies in small groups at LifeChurch Manurewa and Avondale, as part of re-focusing the church on discipleship.

"We haven't had a baptism in church for over three years, but in 2021 we sent about 30 young people to CCCNZ Combined Youth Groups Easter Camp, and HM Rage youth camp in 2022, both at Tōtara Springs in Matamata.

"In February 2023, we felt from the Lord, it was time to harvest the seeds of the gospel that God has planted in the hearts of the young people. It was a joy teaching a baptism class to 10 young people and two adults who were ready to be baptised and take the step of obedience as believers and follower of Christ.

"Tears of joy were seen from the church family as they shared their testimonies of faith. I was moved hearing a young teenager confessing his need for forgiveness from a life of sin. I cried, thinking 'I wish his un-churched parents were here'. Or the story of siblings who were grieving the sudden death of their 15 year old brother a few months before. Or hearing about brothers who were separated from their broken home as kids and raised by their widow grandma in the church. And the story of the single mother who was raised in 24 foster care homes in New Zealand since birth, whose testimony included her life of pain and struggle to accept God's love for her. Or the story of the broken

"It was also the day that Auckland was nationally declared in a state of emergency, as we were expecting a visit from Cyclone Gabrielle. But ain't no cyclone gonna stop us from having baptisms!"

man who had a prominent position in his career and had everything, and then lost everything, but was restored by the grace of God.

"It was a rainy day as we gathered around the pool with our umbrellas, singing the joys of being a follower of Jesus... 'I have decided to follow Jesus, no turning back, no turning back, the world behind me, the cross before me, no turning back, no turning back'. It was also the day that Auckland was nationally declared in a state of emergency, as we were expecting a visit from Cyclone Gabrielle. But ain't no cyclone gonna stop us from having baptisms!

"There have also been 'green shoots' in seeing CCCNZ churches across the movement working together. Orewa Community Church sponsored one of our girls who had a life threatening illness and needed surgery. She has had a successful one last month.

"At Christmas 2021, Orewa Community Church sponsored some food boxes for families in our church community during Christmas etc. and during lockdown. A whole group of people came over to help pack and deliver the food boxes. They also sent funds, and are so generous and always ringing Pastor Lui (Ponifasio) to ask how they can help or assist our church family. Northcross Church has also been active in serving our church and community with the same thing during lockdowns".



NICK GOODWIN

Associate Pastor Raleigh Street Christian Centre & CCCNZ Pastoral Theologians Fellowship Coordinator & Waikato Regional Enabler

"Over recent months, I have been meeting regularly with an international tertiary student at the University of Waikato in order to study the Gospel of Luke.² He became a Christian late last year—and while TSCF (Tertiary Students Christian Fellowship) had a part in his conversion, I know that several individuals from Northgate Community Church took a leading role.

"This is far from the only conversion story within our Waikato churches; for instance, I was delighted to hear recently that of the 26 attendees in their most recent Alpha Course, Te Awamutu Bible Chapel saw eight people become Christians or take significant steps towards faith (read more about this in the story about The Mark Drama). And this is just one indicator of the current spiritual fruit evident within the CCCNZ churches of the Waikato.

"To take another example, within the last few weeks we have seen five young people baptised in my home church, Raleigh Street Christian Centre, and we are not alone in celebrating such signs of spiritual life within the congregation. Matamata Bible Church, for instance, reported 11 baptisms in 2022, a 'bumper crop' for a church of around 200 people. And when I attended the commissioning of Chris Chalmers as new Pastor at Hillcrest Chapel, I had the pleasant surprise of also witnessing the baptism of one of their young people on that day.

"As the churches of the Waikato emerge from the disruption and discord of the covid years, some congregations have seen growth in numbers, and others have been experimenting with new services and programmes. But most importantly, we see that the Spirit continues to be at work in hearts and minds to bring forth new life. Paul says of the Corinthians, 'you are God's field' (1 Cor 3:9). I pray we continue to see gospel seed bringing forth a harvest in our region".

² Name withheld for security reasons.



CHURCHES WORKING TOGETHER TO PUT ON THE MARK DRAMA

It's 7 pm on Sunday, and over 200 people are at Te Awamutu Bible Chapel.

All are seated in a rippling circle of chairs, creating a blank stage for the Gospel of Mark to come alive. From the centre, 15 brave young adults come together to begin.

The Mark Drama is underway.

From the first moment of the production, it's impossible for the audience not to engage with the innovative approach to sharing the gospel. While much of the dramatic presentation is structured improvisation, some is memorised, with the actor playing Jesus having nearly 250 verses from Mark to learn.

Produced by Nick Goodwin in his role as TSCF Associate Staff, 2022 was the second year he was involved in facilitating performances in the Waikato.

"My wife and I first heard about The Mark Drama at a TSCF conference a few years ago, and we both believed it would be a powerful way to engage the community and share the gospel", he said. "What we didn't anticipate was the growth opportunity for those involved—even my son's testimony includes the impact that it had on his life as he watched every rehearsal and production".

"It took a while to get off the ground as we knew it needed to be owned and driven by students—but once it did, the actors loved participating, and many are keen for a repeat season".

Over the past two years The Mark Drama has been performed in three CCCNZ churches—Raleigh Street Christian Centre, Agora Church, and Te Awamutu Bible Chapel—with attendance from other Waikato CCCNZ churches, including Hillcrest Chapel and Hukanui Bible Church. Many attendees and participants took advantage of the opportunity to bring friends and family curious about Jesus in the casual setting.

"In the future it would be encouraging to see even more churches come together to create something", says Nick.

The 50 Alpha Course members—a mix of attendees and hosts—in the audience at Te Awamutu was one of the most exciting developments. As the event was held on the same night as their usual Alpha Course, The Mark Drama created a robust foundation for conversations in the weeks to come.

Story by Trista Burn



Enjoying fellowship and food together at the North and West Auckland Leaders Dinner 2022.



RICHARD FOUNTAIN
CCCNZ Auckland Enabler

"This year we've seen remarkable discussion continue between elderships, ministry leaders and pastors. Eating together, fellowship, and good discussion... these are the key ingredients of leaders' dinners in Auckland's North-West and South-Central-East suburbs, with 2022-23 events having a focus on a church approach to mental health and the faith community.

"I've observed more first timers at these dinners. One elder shared, 'coming together like this is a new way of relating for me' as we explore heavy issues with other churches in our local area.

"It's humbling to consider all that God is doing in our smaller churches. Kolokota Sao-Mafiti (Family Worship Ōtāhuhu) is seeing God at work in their young people. Pastor Kolokota and the church family celebrated a baptism at Eastern Beach one Sunday in March 2023.

"Kolokota and Janet recognises the church is moving towards challenging times. 'The children need to be in touch with the Bible themselves in order to develop a personal relationship with God'.

"It's great to see they encourage learning the story of the Bible. As Kolokota says 'even the little ones have finished memorising all the books of the Bible'. Their desire for the next generation to accurately handle the word of God and to be strengthened in their faith shines through.

"For a second year, three churches (Northcross Church, Orewa Community Church and Clark Road Chapel) sent about 20 keen youth leaders to join together for a Word of Life youth leaders conference or 'watch party'.

"The watch party has generated interest among Auckland leaders for ongoing encouragement, teaching and equipping. Northcross Church's Youth Ministry Coordinator, Isaac Claasen, says youth training alongside other churches is essential: 'We've had some fruitful leads as a result'. This bond between churches is a great example of working with support ministries to see more people being disciplined in their local church contexts.

"In the past 12 months I have noticed more churches being intentional about their leadership development. An encouraging example is Tina Fata, who is serving at Mt Wellington Community Church. She has been involved there for the past four years and has moved into a leadership role with youth. This year she has begun doing an internship at MWCC with Pathways College. Tina also helps at the community lunch each week, and is involved in singing and worship leading with the music team. Gillian Guptill is her mentor and supervisor. Gillian writes: 'Tina is an awesome young woman with a heart for God and others. It is exciting to see her taking her first step out of school into growing her faith and ministry'".

“Increased engagement is seeing the communities of faith becoming more comfortable to connect as we serve together for God’s glory”.



ANDREW CLEMOW

Clark Road Chapel Pastor & CCCNZ Northland Regional Enabler

“Kaitaia Gospel Chapel, Mangonui Chapel, and Tōtara North Chapel continue to partner together with Coopers Beach Camp to run camps that have a dual purpose of building up believers and reaching people (mainly youth and kids) with the gospel. Janet and Mike Fleming do a wonderful job of connecting with local kids and taking them to the camps where they hear the gospel and experience Christian community in action. Over Easter there was a camp that was very well attended, with a great atmosphere of joy and unity. The children and young people were very engaged in their gospel-focused programmes and in the gospel message on Sunday night. One young guy made a response and committed his life to the Lord”.



LAWSON SCOTT

Rutland Street Church Elder & CCCNZ Canterbury Regional Enabler

“We continue to be encouraged as there are natural connections developing across CCCNZ churches in Canterbury. This increased engagement is seeing the communities of faith becoming more comfortable to connect as we serve together for God’s glory.

“Springs Community Church in Lincoln continue to be supported by a reference board from Bryndwr Chapel, Rutland Street Church and Riccarton Community Church as they work towards celebrating their second year as a church plant in the Selwyn district in 2023. It was great to have many from the Springs Community Church whānau connect in at our Regional Summit in September.

“The 2022 Regional Summit was a highlight—as church leaders, volunteers, youth leaders, pastors and elders came together to hear from each other to be equipped and connect. Thank you to Riccarton Community Church for hosting the Summit. We’re looking forward to the 2023 Regional Summit, coming up in September, this time hosted by Rutland Street Church.

“The first ever combined regional rally camp was held in 2022, involving rallies from Rutland Street Church, Glentunnel Chapel and Church St Chapel in Timaru. This camp was an encouraging highlight in the calendar, with rallies and leaders enjoying coming together for fun, games, and learning about the Bible.

“Several smaller churches are continuing to be supported with visiting speakers on a Sunday morning and this is likely to see some expansion with the use of streaming capability in the next year.

“It was great to be hosted by Westchurch for a combined CCCNZ Prayer Meeting in November 2022, and to be reminded again of the importance of praying together”.



JACKIE MILLAR

CCCNZ Prayer Coordinator

“When combined church prayer gatherings in the regions are part of regular calendar rhythms, you know green shoots and grassroots have taken hold. It’s wonderful to hear about these combined church gatherings, such as the one hosted by Westchurch in Christchurch in November 2022, where CCCNZ churches gathered to pray for their region and city. We’re also encouraged by churches like Clark Road Chapel in Whangārei, Riccarton Community Church in Christchurch, and Church on Vogel in Palmerston North where people join with other churches in their cities to pray together.

“When a church prays for a nearby community, you know green shoots and grassroots have taken hold. It’s wonderful to be joining in prayer over recent years with Cornerstone International Bible Church in Dunedin, who are praying for another local community. Out of prayer, a vision for a community holiday program was birthed, followed by other initiatives, such as community lunches. Prayer for regular community dinners and devotions is now underway.

“When prayer happens across the generations in our churches, you know green shoots and grassroots have taken hold. It’s wonderful to hear about these precious prayer moments, when young and old pray together and for each other, like at Hillcrest Chapel in Hamilton. Often, new friendships across the generations are formed, and people are encouraged knowing that someone in their church, irrespective of age, continues in prayer for them.

“When people invite others to pray, you know green shoots and grassroots have taken hold.

It’s wonderful to hear about people in our churches inviting others to join them in discovering and exploring different prayer practices, with the aim



Worshipping God together at the PastorLINK Retreat for pastors and their spouses.

of deeper communion and fellowship with God. A recent example of this was in the Waikato when someone from the Raleigh Street Christian Centre church family facilitated weekly, guided prayer times. This entailed slowly reading through selected sections of the Bible, moments of silence, and communion.

“When pastors gather in prayer for one another, whether weekly or monthly, you know green shoots and grassroots have taken hold. It’s wonderful to hear about these prayer times. Church on Ingestre in Whanganui is part of a group that gathers every Sunday morning, before the Sunday service. They meet at a different pastors’ church each week and pray for one another before they each head to church.

“When green shoots and grassroots have taken hold, we know prayer is quietly, regularly, and faithfully being weaved through every part of church life—for we are a praying people, a house of prayer (Matt 21:13). John 15:5 is clear: ‘for apart from him, we can do nothing’”.



CULTIVATING COMMUNITY

Sowing the seeds for meaningful collaboration between churches can be as simple as asking for a point of connection.

Last October, Nevin Beukes, Assistant Pastor at Church on Vogel in Palmerston North, did just that.

Once a month the people at Church on Vogel (COV) gather after the service to share a lunch and cultivate a time of learning beyond the weekly sermons. These workshop topics include worship, evangelism, Bible teaching or pastoral care. In October? The topic was prayer.

Nevin approached Jackie Millar, Prayer Coordinator for CCCNZ, who recommended Maurius Dryfhout of Feilding Bible Chapel as he was developing a prayer seminar for a Summit at Forest Lakes. She knew it would be a good fit and Beukes enthusiastically agreed.

“Maurius spoke on ‘Hearing God’s Voice’ in the space of prayer. It was simple, yet had biblical depth, and was practically encouraging for people who may have missed the beautiful simplicity of what prayer can offer”. Beukes says. “It was awesome to have a local brother-in-Christ join us, and the feedback was overwhelmingly positive”.

Dryfhout, a construction instructor at UCOL and local polytechnics in his day job, was just as positive, “The people who attended were very encouraging. There was certainly an appetite for what I had to share”.

The seminar was originally designed and presented in collaboration with Jackie Millar about the practicalities and tools towards hearing God’s voice in prayer.

“It is an evolving thing. After sharing at the Summit and Church on Vogel, I have also been able to use elements in other locations, like an Emmaus Bible College prayer meeting”.

This example of reaching out, cultivating community across churches, creates new opportunities and more meaningful connection between local gatherings.

Story by Trista Burn



Auckland leaders connecting at the South, West and Central Leaders Dinner 2022.



SCOTTY DELEMARE

Clark Road Chapel Community Pastor
& CCCNZ National Admin Team

“As elders at Clark Road Chapel we are beginning a process of being more effective in maximising opportunities for relationships with those who do not yet know Christ. We are currently working with our deacons, ministry leaders and other interested parties on three focus areas. First, walking outside the walls (recognising new opportunities to engage with the communities God has placed us in). Second, lowering the walls (addressing the things that make us as a church less approachable or

available to the community). Third, strengthening what is effective (taking those next steps that will make what is currently good even more effective).

“We are seeing children from our local school attending our 9-12 year old programme, which is very encouraging. Our children’s camps are also an effective tool for reaching out to children of the same age.

“We’re excited by the growing partnerships between Clark Road Chapel, Marsden Bay Children’s Camp, Word of Life, Orewa Community Church, and Northcross Church in building camp teams that encourage the development of new friendships between our youth groups, and intentionally living and presenting the gospel through the week.

“The Lighthouse Church in Ngunguru is a church plant of Clark Road Chapel and has now become a fully functioning independent church. It has been awesome to look back at the journey and see the support of The Lighthouse from different people and organisations like CCCNZ”.

SERVING THE GRASSROOTS TO GROW GREEN SHOOTS

FINANCIAL REPORT

We entered the 2022 financial year under the restrictions of the ‘traffic light’ COVID-19 Protection Framework. This led to rethinking how we would go about implementing our strategy to serve the movement’s churches, campsites, and support ministries as we adapted to a new way of working together.

We invested \$776,728 or 64% of our total expenses in the staff team during 2022 (2021: \$805,021 or 68%).

Due to the initial restrictions in 2022 we decided to move away from a National Ministry Summit, instead looking to support ‘the grassroots’ by gathering ministry leaders at four one-day, in-person events across the regions. This resulted in greater effectiveness in engaging leaders, particularly key volunteer leaders who were not free to travel to a national event during the week, but were able to attend locally on a Saturday. This was done at a net investment of \$24,880 after income for the year (2021: \$19,501).

We also continued utilising the efficiencies of on-line events, such as prayer gatherings, Zoom seminars, and Church and Ministry Forums.

A key aspect of bringing churches together is the sharing of the stories of God’s work among people through our churches, campsites, and support ministries. This continued to be a critical focus of our team.

This takes place through the ongoing development of our website and growing the private ministry-specific Facebook communities to over 676 members in the past year. We also sent email newsletters to ministry groups within the movement, which had more than 31,973 unique opens across the year. Our publication costs amounted to \$27,110 (2021: \$33,277) for the year, reflecting the move away from paper to digital publications.

Individuals and churches continued to support our mission to reach New Zealanders for Christ through one-off and regular donations, which totalled \$11,360 in 2022 (2021: \$10,741). Thank you for your ongoing commitment to supporting the growth of the gospel in this way.

Our partnership with and the support from Lichfield Lands Inc., Hillview Trust, Soul Purpose Trust, Longview Trust, and GPH Charitable Trust continued—for which we are very grateful. The total funding support provided was \$1,136,000 in 2022 (2021: \$1,322,288).

As a result of this generosity, 2022 ended with a surplus of \$20,589 (2021: \$264,086), as reflected in our annual accounts, and grants received towards the end of our financial year, to finance our operations for the following year amounted to \$820,000 (2021: \$665,000).

Let us continue to serve God faithfully, proclaiming the gospel from the Scriptures, and inspiring people across our country to put their hope and trust in Jesus in the new ways that are increasingly being made possible for us.

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.



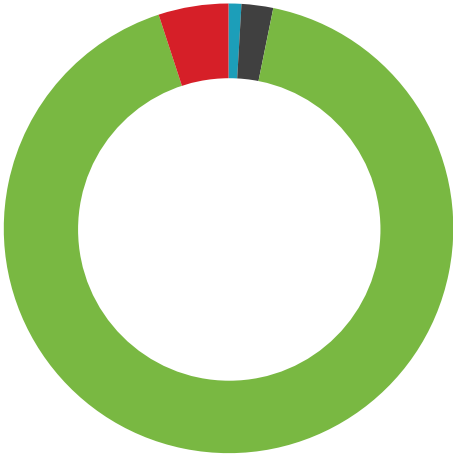
JC Marais
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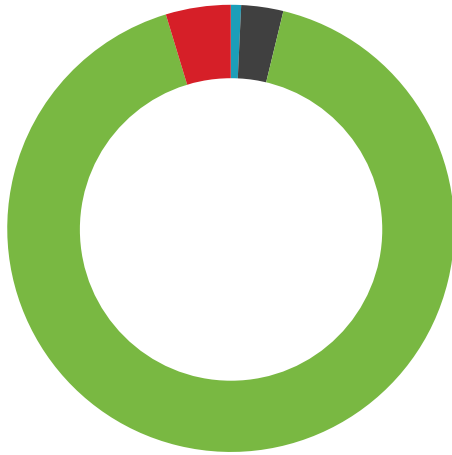
Bruce Stormer
Chair of Finance Committee
Bruce.Stormer@markhams.co.nz

REVENUE

2022
DONATIONS \$11,360
EVENTS \$28,165
GRANTS \$1,136,000
OTHER \$62,324

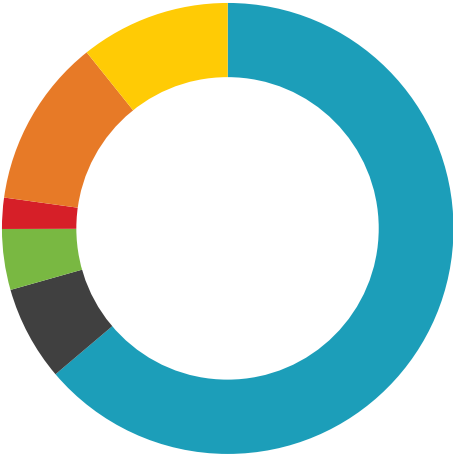


2021
DONATIONS \$10,741
EVENTS \$43,922
GRANTS \$1,322,288
OTHER \$67,796

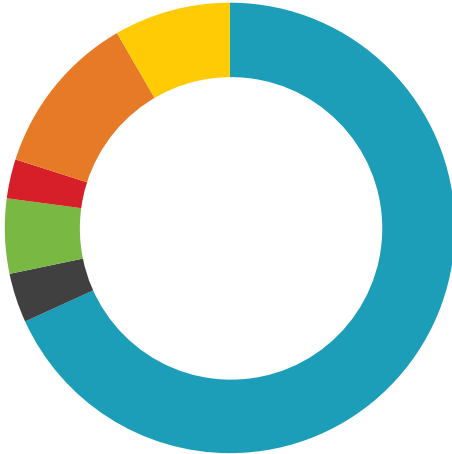


EXPENSES

2022
STAFF \$776,728
TRAVEL \$82,722
EVENTS \$53,045
PUBLICATIONS \$27,110
OFFICE \$146,945
OTHER \$130,711



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





GRASS ROOTS 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
Ellerslie Bible Chapel
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 Church
Orewa Community Church
Otara Brethren Christian Fellowship
Pakuranga Christian Fellowship
Papatoetoe Bible Chapel
Rossgrove Chapel
Samoa Open Brethren, Ranui
Takapuna Bible Church
Tāmaki Community Church
Terry Street Bible Chapel
Wiremu Street Bible Chapel

Waikato

Agora Church
Chapel Hill Community 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
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 Chapel - Levin
York Street Chapel – Levin

Wairarapa

The Lighthouse Church

Wellington

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

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)
Glentunnel Chapel
Redemption Church Christchurch
Riccarton Community Church
Rowley Bible Church
Rutland Street Church
Springs Community Church
Wairakei Road Bible Church

Otago

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

Southland

Rosedale Bible Chapel

REGIONAL CAMPSITES

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| 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 Karakariki Christian Camp Kauaeranga Valley Christian Camp MiCamp Ruapehu MiCamp Taupō MiCamp Whakamaru Tōtara Springs Christian Centre Marlborough Curious Cove Otago Lakeland Park |
|---|---|---|

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)
Chris Broadbent (Auckland)
Gillian Guptill (Auckland)

REGIONAL ENABLERS

| | |
|--|---|
| Northland Andrew Clemow Admin – Scotty Delemare Auckland Richard Fountain PastorLINK Area Enabler - 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 – 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 (Retired 2023) Donna Grant (Coaching) |
|--|---|

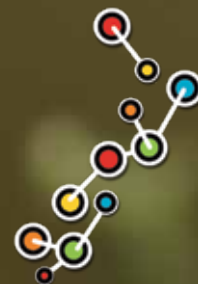
STAFF TEAM

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| Mark Grace <i>CCCNZ Ambassador Full time.</i> Paula Almada <i>Executive Assistant to the Ambassador Full time.</i> Murray Brown <i>National Youth Enabler (Retired – May 2023)</i> Jackie Millar <i>Prayer Coordinator Two days per week.</i> Sophia Sinclair <i>Communications Manager Three days per week.</i> Liz Hodge <i>Scholarship Enabler Two and a half days per week.</i> Kerry Rickard <i>Leadership Support Enabler 16 hours 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> Mark van Wijk <i>PastorLINK Enabler Full time.</i> Nick Goodwin <i>Pastoral Theologians Fellowship Coordinator One day per week.</i> JC Marais <i>Operations Manager Full time.</i> Ray-Anne Cahill <i>Accounts and Team Support Full time.</i> Teri Lauder <i>Special Projects Two days per week.</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.





GROWING GREEN SHOOTS FROM THE GRASSROOTS 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 our Weekly Wrap (a round up of stories and encouragement from the Ambassador) to specific Auckland Community, PastorLINK, youth ministry, prayer ministry, children and families ministry, and church administration newsletters. 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