

Ministry Reports

Evangelism and Missions

Mission partnerships

Trinity partners in prayer and financially with a number of different individuals in seeing the good news of Jesus spreading around the world. In the past year we approached all our mission partners with an offer of revisiting the level of our financial support. All were content with and thankful for the partnership, and the Broughtons indicated that a slight increase in the amount given would be particularly helpful. Our mission partners are:

1. James and Caroline Broughton who work in Kazakhstan with an indigenous people group, primarily through personal evangelism in the context of establishing local business. This is personal support for them as a family via Pioneers. It was a great joy to have the Broughton family visit us in August last year.
2. Luke and Naomi Sinclair who are working in Japan in University student ministry. This is personal support for them as a family, given via NZCMS, through a partnership we started in 2021.
3. The Open Theological Seminary in Lahore, Pakistan. Specifically, we financially support programs which equip and educate lay pastors in rural areas. We were able to hear directly from Qaisar and Rahila late last year after the floods in Pakistan. In addition to our regular giving, the Trinity congregations responded with great generosity to the needs that Rahila's HELP for the helpless programme was facing.
4. We have started partnering with Mark and Renee Santich who lead the Tertiary Students Christian Fellowship (TSCF) at the University of Canterbury. Mark and Renee have served in this area for many years, and the ministry is an extraordinary blessing not only to students at UC but also to local churches (including Trinity).
5. Lastly, we have been partnering with St Peter's of the Rock, Rangiora, a CCAANZ church which is led by Chris Spark (former assistant minister at Trinity). We have pledged \$20,000 in 2021, \$15,000 in 2022, and are giving \$10,000 this year. In his mercy, God has been growing this church, and we continue to pray that our financial support will no longer be needed at the end of the year.

The conclusion of our formal and financial partnership with SPOTR this year brings about an opportune moment to review our overall missions work, and to consider how it can be better integrated into the life of the church. Vestry have noted this, and will be initiating this review later in the year. Anyone who would be interested in taking part in this reviewing and forward-looking work should let Dave know.

Local Evangelism and outreach

Evangelism continued in a number of ways throughout this past year, albeit slightly less 'driven' given the continuing impacts of Covid throughout the year. Some highlights - evangelistic

events (Jazz night and butchery demo in May, Community carol singing in December), Christianity Explored being run in the middle of the year in a number of formats – as an evangelistic course attended by a few non-Christian young adults; a youth-CE; and as mentioned elsewhere CE being run in Fellowship Groups. We also sought to indicate particular Sundays which would be good to invite non-Christian friends along to church, and were greatly encouraged as people continue to share stories of their own personal evangelism, and bringing friends along to church. As is always the case, there is more to do! We all feel our weakness in this area, but let us be encouraged by the promise and power of God who is growing his church, and calling men and women to know him as Lord and Saviour through the great news of the gospel of Jesus.

Dave Clancey

Fellowship Groups

In 2022 our fellowship groups continued to play a vital role in our life together as a church. There have been many encouraging stories of people engaging with the Bible openly with one another and also caring for one another. This was seen especially as individuals and families were having to isolate for Covid. Thanks must be given to the group leaders (about 20 of them) and hosts for their faithful service and hard work in preparing studies and leading their groups in caring for one another.

2022 followed a similar pattern to 2021 with regard to the studies. Three of the four terms were spent in Matthew's Gospel, finishing the book by December (having started it two years beforehand!). There were some larger readings by the end, but it was wonderful to see the fulfilment of Jesus' mission in his crucifixion and resurrection, even as we prepared ourselves to celebrate and share the message of Christmas. In term three our groups worked through the evangelistic course *Christianity Explored* together. The purpose was to remind ourselves of the central truths of the gospel, be equipped to share the good news of Jesus with others, and to have confidence in inviting non-Christians to join the course in the future.

In 2023 we are endeavouring to study the book of Isaiah and by this stage have just about completed the first section of twelve chapters. Taking on an Old Testament prophetic book for the year has been daunting to many, but so far it has been helpful for us in seeing God's righteousness at work in judgment and his promises pointing us to Jesus. Leaders have been using the excellent book *Teaching Isaiah* by David Jackman as a guide, supplemented by some notes and resources from Dave and David, rather than the fulsome notes which have been produced for leaders over previous years. Again we are very thankful to leaders for their work in preparing studies to share with their groups.

About 100 adults took part in sharing the word of God together and praying for one another across various groups in 2022, which included five mixed groups meeting weekly on Tuesday,

Wednesday and Thursday evenings and one group meeting fortnightly on Wednesdays. Other groups are the young adults' group on Sunday evenings, *Women on Wednesday*, and a men's group and a seniors' group on Thursday mornings. In 2023 a new women's group on Tuesday evenings has been started too. We would warmly welcome new members to our groups – if you are interested, please see one of the staff.

Dave Clancey & David Thompson

Men's Ministry

A highlight for our men's ministry in 2022 was a Weekend Away in Hanmer Springs in August, when both Dave (due to Covid) and David (due to sabbatical) were unable to be there. It wasn't so much the absence of clergy which made the weekend a highlight, as it was the great encouragement of seeing a group of men from Trinity gathering together and making things work practically so that they could encourage one another as they shared fellowship together and spent time in God's Word.

We continue to miss having our own facilities to be able to run more regular men's events, as we also acknowledge the effect that a couple of years of Covid has had on our planning of events too. Please continue praying for the men in our Church to be growing in godliness and love and creating new opportunities to share fellowship together.

The Men's Bible Study on Thursday mornings has continued to be a joy for those who attend, which can vary between four and a dozen men before the working day begins. We were grateful to be able to use the lounge at Beckenham Baptist Church and since the start of 2023 have enjoyed using a meeting room at Archer Village, with a couple of new members joining. Along with the rest of the fellowship groups we finished Matthew's Gospel last year and have been reading Isaiah together this year. There is good quality fellowship and encouragement taking place in this group, for which we are thankful to God and pray that it might continue and grow in the year ahead.

David Thompson

Music ministry

Music ministry has continued through 2022 with relative seamlessness. We have a wonderful number of servant-hearted musicians involved, enabling our church to give thanks to the Lord and to encourage one another with the glorious truths of the gospel, on Sundays.

Andy, Grace and Rosemary have continued faithfully, playing for the 9:30 service - with me occasionally stepping in. Our 9:30 congregation generally sings heartily, with a regular diet of

both traditional hymns and more contemporary songs. We have a number of guitarists, drummers, pianists and singers within the 4pm congregation who regularly rotate on a roster. They turn up on time for rehearsal and relate to each other with kindness and patience. It brings me joy that our musos aren't self-exalting - they serve because they love our people at Trinity and not because they want to practice their instrument or to be seen to be talented.

We spent some time as a church family thinking about why Singing Matters in a series of three sessions on a theology of music in church. This provoked some good conversations across both congregations as to why we do music the way we do, why we sing, and the goodness of doing so with great heartiness and confidence. I trust this small series of reflections has spurred every one of us on to being a fully engaged member of "music team" at Trinity! Certainly we look forward in 2023 to a move to having both services at St. Martin's Primary School. It's evident to me that as a church, we sing so much better when we can hear one another well, and unfortunately the Hillview Gym is sub-par in this regard. So a huge thank you to everyone at the 4pm who "sings up big" even when you feel as though you're the only one.

I'd also like to thank our soundies who do a great job setting up and down for us at Hillview. Your expertise, patience and loving service on Sundays is noticed and rejoiced in.

Aimee Gray

Pastoral Care

After a few very odd years, 2022 started to feel a little more normal. Being able to meet together in church without restriction (or fear of 'level change') has been wonderful, and seeing fellowship and bonds of friendship strengthened has been a great blessing to us all. Fellowship groups continue to be the heart of pastoral connections at Trinity, and it is wonderful to hear of these working well in long-term support and encouragement of each other through the normal ups and downs of life.

We are so thankful for Karen Winder for the work she did leading and co-ordinating our person-to-person pastoral care at Trinity, and farewelled her from this role in later 2022. She continues to do wonderful work in looking out and caring for those in need – as do a number of other individuals in our church who see need and act to meet it. But we are yet to secure a good process or structure to co-ordinate this work, and while part of the beauty of a healthy church life is having the many members of the body just 'getting on' with this work of caring for each other, having some structure around it helps all those parts to work well together (and to ensure that no-one is overlooked).

Since the last AGM we farewelled Mavis Mosely, who received her eternal reward of life spent with her Christ and King. We have had our share of deaths and hospital visits, surgeries and

unexpected prognoses this year and it has been an encouragement and privilege for the staff to see so many people relying on Jesus through these difficult periods of health issues.

While the changes to service time and location will be challenging for some, we are very hopeful that seeing more of each other (across both congregations) will be really helpful for our love and care of each other. But the most significant thing we can each do to support and encourage each other, is to continue to grow ourselves in our love and knowledge of God. For as we are convinced of his love of us, we are equipped and compelled to reach out with love to others.

Dave Clancey

Seniors and Rest Home Ministry

For the third year in a row, there was a lot of uncertainty and inconsistency when it came to our ministry into Rest Homes, due to restrictions around Covid. As community spread really began to kick on in Christchurch about a year ago, Rest Homes persevered under increased pressures even while everywhere else began to open up. Only in the past few months have things been more settled, but even then the threat of closing doors due to outbreaks of Covid and other illnesses has been present.

I normally go in to take services at Thorrington Village on the second Thursday of the month and at Cashmere View on the fourth Thursday of the month. Mask wearing is understandably still a requirement for entering the homes, and is often still required for whilst I am leading the service itself. I must admit it is not ideal to be preaching, praying, and leading singing from behind an N95 mask to a group of residents who on the whole are hard of hearing!

However, this still remains a good ministry to bless others with, to share the gospel of Jesus, and to have a connection with our community. Staff and residents are very appreciative, and I am thankful for the support we get from Kiki Hornell who organises the roster at Cashmere View, and our own Barry Williams (chaplain at Thorrington).

One notable change over the past few years in these services is the reduced number of residents from the retirement villages coming into the rest homes for the services. Before Covid there was always a faithful group of individuals coming in from the villas, particularly at Cashmere View. This has dropped off almost entirely since Covid, which is understandable given the amount of times that these residents have not been allowed to come into the rest homes. I do believe these communities will benefit in the long-term if village residents feel confident to return to visiting the rest homes again, as will the services we are taking and the gospel ministry that can happen through them.

With these things in mind, please pray for the rest homes we are connected with: Thorrington and Cashmere View, along with Archer village. They are under immense pressure and are

working very hard to care for their residents. Please include Barry Williams, mentioned above, in your prayers as he continues his ministry in this area.

David Thompson

Sunday School

Over the past year, we have been encouraged to see the children of Trinity grow in their understanding of who Jesus is and explore a relationship with him. Because our curriculum follows a three-year rotation, over the past year we have 'finished' the New Testament and have been walking our way through the opening historical books of the Old Testament.

There is a single Sunday school class at the 9:30am that caters for all ages and has a regular attendance of 6-7 children. We thank God for the faithful service of Amanda Clancey, Lynley Shewan, Elsa George, Karen Winder, Geraldine Maffey, and Wayne and Colleen Wright and Andy Cousins who have all taught this past year, along with Amy Hyde helping out. Karen and Geraldine and Andy have stepped back from this in 2023, and we thank them very much for their ministry. We also welcome Morgan Brown who has joined the team and is being trained up in teaching the children.

In 2022, the 4pm Sunday school classes were combined into one class in recognition of the age distribution and smaller number of children (six primary aged kids). Rudy Verbeek, Phyllis Hyde, and Paul and Kyla Horne have remained as Sunday School teachers, and this smaller group of children has grown in confidence with each other, and in engaging with the Bible, as they've spent time together .

Jole and Rosie Cameron taught the fortnightly Intermediate class throughout 2022. The aim of this class is to help children move from Sunday School to sitting in church and engaging as part of the wider church family. Jole and Rose have done a great job and, with the arrival of a baby, have rightly stepped back from this role – we thank them for their service. Mackenzie Shewan and Finn Wescombe have taken up this ministry.

All of the Sunday school teachers have been police checked, and Andy Cousins has remained in the role of Trinity's Vulnerable Person's Safety Officer. He will continue to ensure that our Sunday school classes meet the requirements of the Diocese in 2022. Sunday school teachers (along with others) have completed the training provided by our Diocese to ensure best practice around child safety.

The changes to our service times and locations will have, we believe, a positive impact on our ministry to children at Trinity. There will no doubt be some teething issues, and there's still some finalizing to do in terms of how we best teach a wider age-range of kids in one setting. But the positives will outweigh and negatives and we're positive about the future.

Finally, the teachers would like to continue to partner with the parents of Trinity in 2023 so that the children at Trinity might, in God's mercy, come to know Him. We encourage all our parents to discuss with their children's teachers what is being taught in Sunday School and how these could be reinforced and built upon throughout the week.

Paul and Kyla Horne

Trinity South Christchurch Property Trust

In response to the motion of the Church's Special General Meeting in January 2022, and having been established as a charitable trust board in February 2022, Trinity South Christchurch Property Trust completed the purchase of 253 Colombo Street at the end of April.

The trustees in the past year have been Kyla Horne and John McKie (both elected by the Church at the 2022 AGM) and David Wong and David Thompson (both appointed by Vestry). Ross Anthony was also co-opted onto the Trust towards the end of 2022, and Kyla has taken on the role of interim chairperson.

Ongoing responsibilities in the management of the property at 253 Colombo St have included the payment of insurance and rates, as well as weekly inspections of the property as required by the insurers. The trustees are grateful to Matthew Burlton, Wayne Radford and Wayne Wright who have taken on these weekly inspections.

With regard to the development of the project at 253 Colombo St, an extension to the building consent has been granted by the Council until 5 February 2024. Efforts have been made to secure a reasonable estimate of the building cost of the consented plans, and Alex Hinchey from Avon Dickie Construction has proved very helpful in giving his time and working with contractors to provide a conservative estimate. David Wong, along with help from Martin Winder and Sam Butcher, has put together an analysis of the financial options available to the Church in funding this project. We look forward to this information being presented and discussing it with the Church as we prayerfully consider a way forward.

Kyla Horne, Ross Anthony, John McKie, David Thompson, and David Wong

Women's Ministry

2022 was a busy, but joyful year for our women at Trinity.

COVID restrictions made things relationally difficult in many ways, but we were still able to gather in different formats for mutual encouragement. As I think across our church family, we have so

many women in so many different life situations, exercising their Spirit-empowered ability to turn from sin, put aside their own preferences in favour of another, and most importantly sit under God's authority - not their own. This is no small thing. It makes me feel truly humbled to witness the Lord's work in this way at Trinity.

We have two Women on Wednesday groups made up of 15-20 women of all walks of life and these are generally well-attended. Thanks to Claire Burridge for hosting these groups on a weekly basis. Claire, Amanda Clancey and Mirren Verbeek have humbly served these women in their leadership - from hours of preparation, to pastoral care, to prayer and commitment. I thank the Lord so much for these servants - we all benefit from their labour.

I've been leading the young adult women on a Sunday night - we sometimes split into single-sex groups and sometimes stay as a whole mixed group. I continue to be delighted to see these women grow, in their love for one another and their earnestness to take God's word seriously in the midst of significant life changes. It's been great to see these women helping out widely in the life of the church too: really involved in serving across the board.

One-to-one Bible reading ministry has been an encouragement this year. We have a handful of women who are regularly meeting up with someone, opening the Scriptures, praying together and spurring one another on in their Christian walk and evangelism. It would be wonderful to keep seeing this multiplying as a normal way that we live out Titus 2 at Trinity. I've enjoyed reading regularly with a wide variety of women - from those investigating faith, to new Christians, through to a number of more mature Christians who as gospel partners are keen to be further equipped for the work of ministry.

We held a morning brunch on "Building the Body", as we thought about how God uses each of us to be making disciples in our workplaces, homes and ministries. The Women's Weekend Away in Hanmer is a highlight for many, I gave three talks on Ephesians 4-6. It was a flying overview, but I trust grew all of our love for God's big plan, in uniting all things under Christ.

I am so very grateful for the women of our church. Praise the Lord for his immense kindness in keeping us going through a year of ups and downs. I've outlined just a few of the more formal ways that our women have been involved in the life of the church, but I can think of dozens of examples of informal ways women have loved one another, opened their homes in hospitality, told their children about Jesus, limited their freedoms for others, rejected distraction and persevered through trial. Our gospel truly is powerful for change!

Aimee Gray

Youth Ministry Report

2022 was an encouraging year for SALT, our youth ministry at Trinity for those in school years 7 to 13. The year began with the change of combining our junior (years 7 to 9) and senior (years 10 to 13) groups to meet together on Tuesday evenings rather than on separate nights. This change had had a successful first few weeks by the time of last year's AGM, and this continued throughout the year with a good group culture and care for one another. On a normal week we would have around 7 juniors and 14 seniors in 2022 and so far in 2023 are seeing around 9 juniors and 12 seniors coming along.

I am particularly grateful to the leaders who serve in the youth group: Aimee Gray, Joy Penno and Rachael Winder work particularly with the senior girls; Josh Winder and Paul Horne with the senior boys; and Thomas McAven and Luke and Grace Phillips with the juniors. Thomas McAven was new to the team in 2022 and has been a joy to have on board. We were sorry to lose Jack Phillips after four and a half years of being a brilliant and enthusiastic youth leader with the juniors as he moved away for police training.

These leaders have been faithfully giving their time weekly on Tuesday evenings as well as at extra events such as lunches and camps. They have continued to develop in these roles with increasing responsibilities in writing Bible studies and looking after the games, as well as the general pastoral care of those in their smaller prayer groups. Having such a capable and responsible team of leaders certainly gave me confidence in being away for all of Term 3 last year. Studies in the past year have been in Matthew's Gospel (usually about a term behind the fellowship groups), the book of Joshua, and a Bible overview through Vaughan Roberts' *God's Big Picture* material. At the Senior Retreat in December they looked at the subject of Work. The levels of engagement and enquiry among our youth, both junior and senior, have been very encouraging.

While the diocesan youth camp Risen was unable to run at Easter in 2022, we are looking forward to Risen 2023 in a couple of weeks' time. Our youth group was able to join in a Risen sports competition in July and an evening Risen conference in September, both of which were good opportunities to spend time with youth from our wider network of churches, including Latimer, St Stephen's, St Peter's of the Rock, Rangiora, St Pauls, Rakaia, and Christ Church Roimata. We rejoice in the overall spiritual health of our young people at Trinity. We see this in various ways, such as a good number serving in different roles at both our congregations, including in Sunday School, in setup, and in sound and PowerPoint. The recent weekend away was an excellent example of how well the youth are relating with those older and younger than them. And what a joy it was to see one former and five current members of the youth group be baptised and testify to the work of Jesus.

We are indebted to the Clancey family for continuing to allow youth group to meet in their home in 2022. They gave up not only their lounge but two or three other rooms to be filled with noisy

young people every week, which we greatly benefited from in being able to gather together and then break into smaller groups. At the start of 2023 we did manage to secure the Lansdowne Terrace Community Centre for regular youth group meetings, which has been a wonderful blessing for us. There are many advantages for us in this facility, which is only costing a small hire fee, such as the larger indoor space, access to good outdoor areas, and a more easy-to-find location with ample parking spaces. We trust that this venue will allow us to grow as a group as we continue to open the Bible and share Jesus with young people.

Please keep praying with us for the growth of our youth group in maturity in faith, in fellowship with each other, in connection with the wider church, and in outreach to young people in our community around us.

David Thompson