

Ministry Reports

Children's Ministry

Over the past year, there have been quite a few changes to Sunday School at Trinity, but we continue to be encouraged by the children of Trinity as they grow in their understanding and love of Christ. Over the past year, we have worked our way through most of the Old Testament, from Joshua through to Esther and some of the Minor Prophets.

The changes to our service times when both services moved to St Martin's Primary school at the end of Term one last year, allowed us to think through how it would be best to serve the children of Trinity going forward. It was prayerfully decided by ministry staff and in consultation with all the Sunday School families to only offer one Sunday School programme at the 10:45am service each week. This was a big change for Trinity! We thank the families who changed services so that their kids could continue to attend Sunday School and for the members of the 9am congregation who I know miss having the children and young families amongst them each week. This change has been overwhelmingly positive, and it has been such a delight to see them grow in relationship with one another over the past year! It is a true privilege to see how the older kids are caring for those younger than them each Sunday as they play games together, share their lives with one another, and grow in their understanding of Christ alongside each other. At this time, Wayne and Colleen Wright stepped back from teaching, and we thank them for their many years of faithful service to the children of Trinity. We also welcomed Abin George to the Sunday School Teaching team.

In 2023, our Sunday school programme ministered to 10-16 children each week. Every Sunday we would begin our lesson all together, sharing what has happened over the past week, recapping what we have been learning and we would then play a big group game together. After this, we would sing together and then watch our bible story video. Then we would break into three smaller age-related groups to read the bible story and discuss the passage together at an age-appropriate level before finishing with prayer and some much loved activity sheets. We will continue with this format in 2024, and it is working well in our new space (lounge and hall) at 200 Colombo Street. We, as teachers, are so grateful to have such a lovely space we have to teach each Sunday. The children are so excited to finally have a space that they can have some collective ownership over after many years where we were in school classrooms where the kids were not able to use many of the resources in the room due to them not being ours. The kids are looking forward to playing big group games in the hall together and being able to display posters on the walls in the lounge, however they were disappointed that we could paint the ceiling in bright colours or install multi-coloured light bulbs! I would like to say a special thank you to Wayne Wright who has stored (since 2016) and set up our media system in the new space and although he is no longer teaching Sunday School he continues to support the ministry so that our kids have the opportunity to come to know and love our Lord each week.

We thank God for the faithful service of Rudy Verbeek, Phyllis Hyde, Lynley Shewan, Elsa and Abin George, Morgan Brown, Amanda Clancey, Amy Hyde and Paul and Kyla Horne, who have all taught this past year, along with Lucy Penno helping out in the past year.

Amanda and Phyllis have stepped back from teaching in 2024, and we thank them so very much for their faithful ministry to the children of Trinity. In 2024, we welcomed Karen Winder, Sarah Anthony, and Edenlea Allerby to the Sunday School teaching team. All of our 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, and that our teachers have completed the training provided by our Diocese to ensure best practice around child safety. I would also like to thank Aimee Gray for her prayerful advice and support last year as I took on the role of Trinity's Sunday School coordinator last year. We continue to thank God for her faithful service of our church over the past few years.

Finally, the teachers would like to continue to partner with the parents of Trinity in 2024 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.

Kyla Horne

Evangelism

With so much going on around our church life in 2023, we recognise that our local evangelism and outreach at Trinity was not at its strongest, with fewer directly invitational services and no *Christianity Explored* course as in previous years. However there have still been highlights, including a repeat of the community singing outside St Martin's New World and our Café Carols event at the Urban Eatery café leading up to our Christmas services. We also note the efforts made by groups and individuals, such as the young adult women running an evangelistic pasta making event including a talk.

People have also been inviting others to come along to our Sunday services, and we must remember the importance of Sundays for our evangelism. This is where the gospel is proclaimed every week, and we would do well to increase our expectation that there will be non-Christians among us whom we want to welcome well and help introduce to Jesus. Please keep on inviting people on Sundays!

We pray that moving into these church buildings will be a great asset for our local evangelism and outreach. The prominence of the building and the location gives a great advantage over what we have been able to do before, for we are now constantly advertising ourselves. In our first few weeks we have seen some glimpses of what this can do, and we are praying for our Easter services this week that they would see many guests who hear of Jesus.

Looking ahead, we want to be thinking about how we can best reach out to the community around us. We can let how these buildings were used in the past (evangelistic courses, different one-off events, holiday clubs, regular playgroups, etc.) inform our decisions for what we could do in the future, without restricting ourselves to only doing what we did before. Most of all we need to be in prayer that God would continue to build his Church and grow us into maturity of faith and the likeness of Christ.

David Thompson

Fellowship Groups

Fellowship Groups at Trinity are a great blessing to our church life together. It is through these small groups that we can spend time in the word of God and each take part in wrestling with what he says and directly applying this to our lives. It is also through these small groups that much of our pastoral care takes place as we become aware of the needs within our groups and as we speak the gospel to and care for one another.

Our studies throughout the year of 2023 were spent in the book of Isaiah. Having spent the previous two years in Matthew's Gospel, there was certainly a contrast as we got to grips with the less familiar content and genre. Whilst challenging, there were many highlights through the year as we were encouraged to look to Jesus. Many thanks to our leaders who worked so hard in preparing studies, caring for their groups, and many of them hosting their groups too. Leaders meet at the start of each term, and I am always thankful for their pastoral concern for their group members as well as their desire to correctly handle the word of truth.

This term our groups have been studying 1 Thessalonians, and the overall feedback seems positive. As with so many areas of ministry in our church, we have certainly been feeling the loss of Dave and Amanda Clancey and Aimee Gray and all they contributed in leading multiple fellowship groups. But we are so thankful for those who have stepped up in their absence and have done so well continuing this important ministry that we have.

In terms of numbers, we currently have about 95 people regularly attending our different fellowship groups across the week. This includes people at our young adults group on Sundays, our morning groups (*Women on Wednesday*, men's Bible study on Thursdays, seniors' group on Thursdays), our weekly evening groups (2x on Tuesday, 1x on Wednesday, 1x on Thursday) and our fortnightly Wednesday evening group. We did also try out a women's evening group on Tuesdays, but for various reasons it was not able to continue. We would warmly welcome new members to our groups – if you are interested, please speak to me.

David Thompson

Men's Ministry

Naturally the highlight for our men's ministry in 2023 was the weekend away in Hanmer Springs in August. Around 20 of us enjoyed sharing holiday homes and squeezing into one lounge for meals and excellent talks from Rob Morton on the 'lost' parables in Luke 15. It is always an encouragement to have men from a variety of ages and stages and backgrounds sharing together remarkably openly about their faith and the challenges of living for Jesus.

There is a similar level of encouragement found at the men's Bible study on Thursday mornings, now held in the church. These men are faithful in prayer for each other and encouragement to trust in Jesus. Bevan Small is dearly missed from this group, but we have welcomed new members and encourage others to join us.

Now that we are in our own buildings it becomes easier for us to consider what other things we can do to provide an opportunity for men to be encouraging each other, as well

as for our outreach to tell others about Jesus. Previous uses of these buildings for men's events were plenty (fellowship breakfasts and curry nights, outreach steak nights, etc.). Please be praying about how we might be able to use the opportunity these buildings give us for the ministry among our men at Trinity.

David Thompson

Missions Giving Review Sub-Committee

We were appointed by Vestry to review and provide suggestions concerning our mission giving for 2024 and onwards. In 2023 TSC made the final payment of \$10,000 to St Peter's of the Rock. Since they no longer need our financial support, there was also opportunity to consider a new mission partner.

Mission priorities

We confirmed TSC's mission priorities:

- Having a breadth of partners (both geographically and ministries).
- Seeking to more than simply give money – we expect prayer updates and a sense of genuine partnership with the church.
- A preference towards word-centred evangelism and the training/raising up of gospel workers.

Current partnerships

As at April 2024 TSC is giving annually to these partners:

- Qaisar Julius - OTS, Pakistan: \$5,000
- James and Carolyn Broughton - Pioneers, Central Asia: \$6,000
- Luke and Naomi Sinclair - NZCMS, Japan: \$5,000
- Mark Santich - TSCF at UC: \$5,000
- Aimee Gray - studying at Moore College: \$5,000
- Matthias Loong - St Simon's Anglican Church, Karori: \$5,000

Conclusions

- Communication: We believe there is adequate communication to the congregation including via congregation intercessory prayer, but, if possible, this should increase. Aside from the dissemination of communications from mission partners in the TSC Weekly Update, other possibilities include live or recorded video interviews or reports played during church services, and obviously face-to-face meetings when in NZ.
- TSC has been giving around 10 per cent of its income to missions for the past three years. We recommend this as a helpful and aspirational guideline going forward. We recommend that the amounts paid to individual mission partners be adjusted for NZ inflation every three years, commencing in 2026.
- We recommend that Vestry reconsider and reconfirm ongoing support of existing mission partners every three years, again commencing in 2026.

Abbey Davison, Janet Lockyer, Rob Vosslander

Music Ministry

Since our last AGM, our servant-hearted musicians involved in music ministry have worked hard to help the congregation sing gospel truths to each other throughout changes in locations, service times, staff teams, and members of the music team as well.

Over the last year the 9am service has continued in a pattern of largely traditional hymns with a few more contemporary songs thrown in. Andy Vosslander and Rosemary Knowles have faithfully been serving this congregation, playing on a regular basis. Linda Howe has also been stepping in to help out in the recent months since Andy has taken a short break and Aimee Gray has moved to Sydney.

We have a wonderfully enthusiastic and reliable team of guitarists, cajon players (who are all very excited to be moving back to playing the drum kit), bass players, and singers at the 10:45am service who regularly rotate on a roster. For the majority of 2023 and the start of 2024 the 10:45am musicians met an hour before the service to quickly run through the songs for that morning. Since moving to 200 Colombo Street, the 10:45am musicians have fortnightly Monday night practices and then play two weeks at a time before having a break. Other exciting and encouraging news is that we have been training up a couple of new pianists to help us out. I'm very thankful to the Lord for this answer to prayer and Mirren and Ethan's willingness to serve in this way.

All of our musicians at Trinity have a great desire to see God, not themselves, glorified when we meet together. They are constantly seeking to upskill so as not to be a distraction from the truthful words that we sing together, as evidenced by the good number of us who were able to attend the Emu music conference on the 24th of Feb. Please pray for the music and sound teams as they work out the acoustics of 200 Colombo Street, as they give up an extra couple of evenings to rehearse together, and for new musicians starting in the next few weeks and months. Pray that preaching God's truths to each other would continue to be our focus.

It is also a huge encouragement to see and hear the rest of the congregation getting on board with music ministry through their eagerness to sing loudly praises to our Lord. At St Martin's the musicians noticed every week how eagerly and well everyone was singing, and at 200 Colombo Street this is even more evident. Thank you for serving each other in this way!

As always, a huge thank you to our soundies who serve faithfully, competently, and patiently week by week. We really couldn't do it without you, and we thank the Lord for your service.

Grace Phillips

Nomination Committee Report

I'm sure, as a parish nominator, I was not alone in hoping that I'd never be called on to appoint a replacement pastor for Trinity. However, as we all know, this was necessary. This report outlines, briefly, the process we went through and the exciting result.

Tim Wilson, Mike Weller, Kyla Horne and I learnt about the process of parish nomination by doing it. The process began for us at the church consultation meeting run by Bishop Jay last April. We took those large sheets of paper that each group filled in at this meeting and pored over them at several meetings in May and June in order to draft a parish profile and advertisement. These were sent out internationally with an end of August closing date.

In early September we met several times again to go through the applications and develop a short list. Shortlisted candidates were contacted, and in mid-September we began the interview process. This involved our committee of four, plus five diocesan nominators, interviewing each shortlisted candidate. By late October we were very thankful that Bishop Jay could announce to our congregation that James Ballinger had accepted our invitation to serve us as our next senior vicar.

As church nominators we were very thankful for the evident love for Trinity shown by the diocesan nominators and Bishop Jay. We keenly felt the responsibility of choosing a new vicar, and were so grateful for the support, prayer and wisdom of our brothers and sisters from other CCA churches.

We are also very thankful for the support and love of our Trinity congregation throughout this process. We eagerly await the arrival of the Ballingers and know that they will be welcomed warmly by us all.

Andy Vosslamber

Pastoral Care

There are some verses from 1 Thessalonians that we have recently looked at in our fellowship groups which seem appropriate to the pastoral care that goes on at Trinity:

Now about your love for one another we do not need to write to you, for your yourselves have been taught by God to love each other. And in fact, you do love all of God's family throughout Macedonia. Yet we urge you, brothers and sisters, to do so more and more.

1 Thess. 4:9-10

Encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing.

1 Thess. 5:11

Paul was writing to encourage the Thessalonians in how they were already doing the work of pastoral care (loving one another and encouraging one another with the gospel), and to urge them to continue and to do so more and more. We can feel likewise about Trinity, for there are many instances of people caring for each other very well, much of which goes unseen. And we want to urge each other to do so more and more.

At one of our discipleship training sessions during the year we considered the subject of pastoral care. It was a good reminder that pastoral care is more than dealing with the acute and chronic issues that our brothers and sisters face, but that it is also found in our regular love for and encouragement of each other with the gospel. Pastoral care is taking place

when we chat over coffee after the service, when we share in our fellowship groups, when we read the Bible and pray with one another, when we pop in for a visit or make a phone call. We all are, or at least we all can be, pastoral carers in this sense.

The trick is found in knowing each other well so that we can care for each other well. This is a reason why our fellowship groups are so valuable, for as we get to know a smaller group of others in a deeper sense, we get to know each other's needs and want to care for them. However there are various reasons why not everyone is able to attend a fellowship group, and often these reasons are because of specific pastoral issues. Furthermore there are various pastoral issues that require more help than a fellowship group alone can give, and so the ministry staff and other very capable and caring individuals have been involved in caring for these pastoral needs too. There is a wonderful (and unstructured) group of people who are regular in visiting individuals, in taking them to hospital appointments or cleaning their homes or collecting their groceries or cooking meals or tending their gardens. As Paul says to the Thessalonians – it is wonderful that you are doing this, be encouraged to do it all the more!

Yet the pastoral care at Trinity would most likely benefit from more coordination and communication. This is mostly to ensure that people and needs aren't slipping through the cracks, and so that we know each other well so that we can care for each other well. In the second half of last year the voluntary role of Pastoral Care Coordinator was advertised for an individual or couple to take on, but it was not filled. The idea was that this role was not for one person to be doing all the pastoral care, but for a person or couple to be helping communication happen so that we could all do the work of pastoral care. Again I would want to recognise the great work of people who have held this (or a similarly themed) role in the past and who have continued to be wonderful carers in our church family, including more recently Karen Winder, but also Anne Brand and Colleen Wright.

Please be praying for one another and for our church as we consider our pastoral care moving forward.

David Thompson

Rest Home Services

2023 was a year where there finally felt like some form of normality with our rest home ministry after the years of Covid. It feels like residents are feeling more willing to attend than they were during those uncertain times. What a difference it has made being confident that the homes should be open to us each month, and what a difference it has made to communication with the residents not having to always be masked. (Although perhaps they'd appreciate it if my singing was still muffled by an N-95 mask!)

On behalf of Trinity I go in to take services at Thorrington Village (part of the Archer Group and one of the sites where Barry Williams is chaplain) on the second Thursday of the month and at Cashmere View (part of Bupa) on the fourth Thursday of the month. The Christian foundation of the Archer Group is very evident at Thorrington. A high proportion of the residents there attend the services, and they have a wonderful level of engagement. The services at Cashmere View can feel more like an outreach into a secular

environment, and I am encouraged by how hard the staff work to ensure people can attend the services as well as the spouses and children who join in whilst visiting their family. Those in that particular unit at Cashmere View are also requiring a higher level of care than those at Thornington, yet I am still encouraged by the good work that simple talks from the word of God and classic hymns that tell that truth can do.

We have a number of residents from Archer Village and also now Essie Summers who attend our Sunday services, and we hope that being back in the Colombo St community will be a blessing to them. Please pray on for these rest homes that we are connected with, and for all who work and live there. Please also include Barry Williams, mentioned above, in your prayers as he continues his ministry in this area. He works very hard and does a great job!

David Thompson

Trinity South Christchurch Property Trust

The process to develop 253 Colombo Street ("253") progressed, with two Special General meetings.

The first meeting in June presented the development costs to the Church, including various pledge options covering amounts and timing. These options included those where a donor did not wish to pledge for 253, but for another building option.

The second meeting in August was where the Church decided to proceed in principle with the development of 253 in light of the very positive response to the request for pledges. Further enquiries were to be made into confirming a contractor, and to that end, updated estimates were sought from the main contractor Avon Dickie. At this date approximately 80% of the contractor's previous estimate had been pledged. Avon Dickie finalised their estimate at the end of September - \$2.051 million plus GST, and advised work could start early 2024.

Then unexpectedly (and contrary to historic expressions of interest made on behalf of the Church to the Anglican Church), the Church was invited to make an offer on the St Saviours site at 200 Colombo Street (including the Vicarage in Roxburgh Street, and the house at 196 Colombo Street ("200 Colombo Street")). Updated pledges were sought from the Church.

A further Special General Meeting was held in November to discuss the possible price for 200 Colombo Street, the possible sale of 253, and present the updated financials to the Church.

November also saw on-going liaison with the agent handling the sale 200 Colombo Street, with further conversations with donors. The sale of 253 was discussed, and interest was sought from those who had expressed interest previously.

An extension to the building consent for 253 was arranged from the Christchurch City Council to keep this option open for any prospective purchaser.

Throughout the year, Matthew Burlton, Wayne Radford and Wayne Wright continued to make weekly inspections of 253 as required by the building insurers.

7 December the Anglican Church accepted the Church's offer on 200 Colombo Street, with settlement of the purchase due February 2024.

The Church celebrated its first service at 200 Colombo Street on 25 February 2024.

The trustees in the past year have been:

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

Women's Ministry

2023 was a very busy year for Women's ministry at Trinity- in a number of ways! A relaxation of Covid restrictions meant that we were once again able to spend time together freely, and we made the most of that to gather together and spend time in the Lord's word.

Our Women's Weekend Away was attended by 30 women and Kara Hartley so wonderfully opened the book of Titus for us, encouraging us to continue to live Godly lives while we wait for Jesus' return.

As well as the Trinity Women's weekend away, some of us managed a mid-week escape to Hanmer, to join the GTT's Women in Ministry conference. This was a great time to sit under God's word with women from all over the country who are involved in different ministries. As well as excellent talks from Fiona Millar there were practical sessions on preparing Bible Studies or talks, mentoring and different ministries.

In October we held an afternoon tea, which was a great chance to spend time together socially. Aimee opened the end of John for us and encouraged us in the account of Peter's restoration. This event was very well organised, and we are thankful to those who contributed time and expertise to do this for the mutual edification of our women.

For 2023 the Women on Wednesday group changed location to the Clancey's home. We are very grateful for Amanda, for both opening her home to us and for leading one of the groups. Amanda's gentle leadership and servant-heartedness will be missed by us all. Thanks also to Glenda for joining Amanda and for Mirren for continuing to lead with me (Claire). It has been a privilege to serve alongside you and see you humbly serve our groups in preparation, prayer, and pastoral and practical care. We ended the year with a morning tea to say thank-you to both Amanda and Aimee for looking after us and it was great to be joined by some past members of WoW. As we begin this year we have lost a couple of our younger members, but also gained a couple of ladies who couldn't cope with the stairs at the Clanceys', and Joy has joined us on the leadership team. So far we are enjoying the encouragement of Paul from 1 Thessalonians.

In 2023 we also tried out a women's evening Bible study on Tuesdays, led by Liz Cousins and hosted by Pam Walters. This was a small group who worked hard in encouraging and caring for each other as they studied Isaiah. Due to various circumstances this group stopped meeting together in term 4, but we are thankful for the times that they shared together.

Our Young Adults women's group has also continued to thrive. Aimee Gray led them through Isaiah, with some weeks the wider Young Adults staying as a mixed-sex group, and some weeks splitting into a single-sex group. In late November they hosted an evangelistic event, where non-Christian friends were invited to make and eat pasta together, and then hear a short talk from the end of John's gospel.

We've also continued to see many women reading the Bible 1-1 with one another during 2023. We've been particularly encouraged by the women we've heard of who are "giving it a go" and opening the Bible together to sit humbly under it together, in a different format to a prepared study. It would be so wonderful to see this continue to grow as women spur one another on towards love and good deeds continuing to meet together in 1-1 ministry, in small groups, and at church on a Sunday.

A great sadness of 2023 was saying goodbye to Aimee Gray as she departed to study at Moore College in Sydney. We give thanks to God for the way He sustained her through the ups and downs of ministry life and equipped her to build up so many of Trinity's women as she led Bible studies and opened the Bible 1-1 with many. We continue to pray that her faith and love of God will develop as she studies, and that she will graduate and be able to serve a church as well as she served us.

We are so grateful for the women of Trinity, who in ways beyond what we can cover here have been striving hard for the growth of the gospel, in the world, in the homes and workplaces, and in their hearts. The formal ministry that we've covered here covers only a fraction of the Gospel ministry that happened every day of 2023. We praise the Lord for the way He has equipped women to flee temptation, love others, and give a reason to all who ask a reason for the hope that they have.

Claire Burrridge and Mackenzie Shewan

Young Adults

Our Young Adults group is made up of 22 young adults (current age range of 18-24 years). This is a mix of 8 females and 14 males. We have experienced growth in numbers over the past year which has been a huge encouragement. We were led faithfully by Dave Clancey with Aimee Gray at the Clanceys' on a Sunday evening up until late December last year.

At the beginning of this year, the group started meeting at Sam and Jasmine Butcher's house where we, the Triumvirate (Josh, Rachael, and Thomas) have begun leading the group. Young Adults has followed the fellowship group program for the past few years now. This means that we are going through 1 Thessalonians this term, feeling very encouraged by the faith of the Thessalonian church and the goodness of God.

This year will be the third year that we have organised a Young Adults Weekend Away (YAWA), this has been an initiative by the young adults which involves two nights away

where we hear a selection of talks, play several themed games, fellowship, and grow with one another. We have just booked YAWA 3.0 in for Matariki weekend where we will be staying at Castle Hill, we have Matthias Paltridge (Latimer intern last year) speaking to us. We would appreciate prayers as we invite friends from outside Trinity. We are in good heart and God's work is evident in the young adults.

Josh Winder, Rachael Winder, Thomas McAven

Youth

2023 has been another encouraging year for our youth ministry at Trinity for those in school years 7-13. We have continued to meet as one group on Tuesday evenings, dividing into Juniors (Years 7-9) and Seniors (Years 10-13) for study and prayer groups and end of year retreats. We currently have 18 youth attending on Tuesday nights. This is made up of 7 senior boys, 5 senior girls, and 6 junior boys. We are starting to see the impact of lower Sunday School numbers with no year 7s joining in 2024. The year 7 and 8s also meet together every second Sunday morning to study the passage being preached on that morning. In 2023, this group had 4-6 attending and started 2024 with 2-4 youth.

We are grateful for the large, committed team we have serving in youth ministry. In 2023, we continued with the Tuesday leadership team of David Thompson, Aimee Gray, Paul Horne, Rachael Winder, Josh Winder, Grace and Luke Phillips, Thomas McAven and Joy Penno. We farewelled Aimee at the end of 2023 and Grace moved with the girls from juniors to seniors at the start of this year. We are very grateful for Mackenzie Shewan and Finn Wescombe who serve on Sunday mornings. The leaders have been faithfully giving their time on Tuesday evenings and Sunday mornings but also attend leader meetings twice a term, lunches, camps, and diocesan events such as the Risen Easter Camp and Risen at Night. They have continued to develop in their roles in writing Bible Studies and running games as well as facilitating study and prayer groups and general pastoral care of those groups. We are especially thankful as these leaders all serve in other areas and many have taken on extra roles during term one to fill gaps left by Dave and Amanda Clancey and Aimee Gray.

Studies in the past year have been in Matthew, Psalms, Revelation and Ephesians. David also did 4 "How 2" talks at the start of each term on Bible, Prayer, Church, and Evangelism. At the senior retreat, we also looked at the topic of Justice. Currently we are tackling Romans with David giving one talk each term on a theme from Proverbs and one from the book we are studying.

We are very thankful that we were able to continue using the Lansdowne Terrace Community Centre. We are also very excited to have moved into our own venue and have started to see the potential of the whole place for youth ministry. Currently we use the hall for games, meet together as a large group on the couches at the back of the church and then spread around into 3 or 4 quiet spaces for studies and prayer. Already we can see an increase in engagement as youth get straight into games of table tennis on arrival and we are able to hear each other well when in small groups.

We continue to rejoice as we see the overall spiritual health of our young people at Trinity. We see this as they serve our congregations in various ways including setup and packdown, music, sound and power point, and Sunday School. It was a delight to see two

of our youth get baptised and testify to the work of Jesus a couple of weeks ago. We also notice the way they continue to engage with people outside the youth group. We are also encouraged by the level of engagement with the Bible and the depth of thought and willingness to ask questions we see in discussions.

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