



# ANNUAL REVIEW

2017





# Following a king who sees all

*"In the land of the blind, the one-eyed man is king."*

This line penned by Erasmus in the 16th Century makes the point that when people cannot see for themselves, they will follow whoever has a little sight.

We live in an age when one-eyed kings rule the earth. The one-eyed kings have a limited field of vision, only see things from one perspective, have a one-dimensional view and they love the power and attention they get from the blind. They produce polarised societies where single issues often dominate and alternatives to their

own point of view are demonised and dismissed.

I need to be careful here, I have a recurrent problem with a plank in my own eye that hinders my ability to identify the specks in other people's. But I am convinced we are seeing significant change.

Witness the revival of nationalism – "Make America great again," "Put Australia first," and "Brexit" all emphasise regaining control of borders and destiny. Or the growing secularism with opposition to the influence of religion in the public square. Debates about "the right to die with dignity," or the care of the environment, the rights of indigenous peoples, and sexual identity divide people around the world. We have seen the rise of politicians of consensus over conviction and a growing

Jesus made it clear that in the last days people will gather around those who say what their itching ears long to hear.

correlation between extremism and populism.

The obvious shortcut to building a support base is to identify the enemy and use that to build a sense of belonging. Just because something is popular does not make it right. Jesus made it clear that in the last days people will gather around those who say what their itching ears long to hear.

We also need to be wary of the one-eyed king phenomena in the church – those who advance



Nigel Pollock,  
National Director

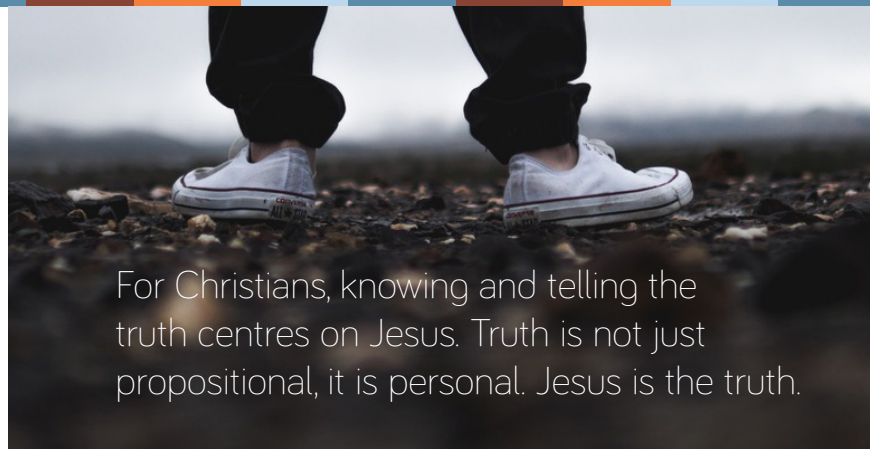
their own prosperity while selling the dream of advancement to the poor, who criticize other churches to build their own influence, or who teach an ideology of cultural relevance disconnected from scripture.

The one-eyed kings both inside and outside of the church are helped by the decline of quality journalism and the growth of social media as many people's primary source of information.

The actor and director Denzel Washington was asked to comment on "fake news." The reporter may have been hoping for a more sympathetic response than Washington gave: "If you don't read the newspaper, you're uninformed. If you do read it, you're misinformed."

"So what do you do?" asked the reporter.

Washington said, "That's a great question. What is the long-term effect of too much information?



For Christians, knowing and telling the truth centres on Jesus. Truth is not just propositional, it is personal. Jesus is the truth.

One of the effects is the need to be first, not even to be true anymore."

"So what responsibility do you all have? To tell the truth. Not just to be first. But to tell the truth."

For Christians, knowing and telling the truth centres on Jesus. Truth is not just propositional, it is personal. Jesus is the truth.

There is one King who sees with total clarity and who opens the eyes of the blind. He is different from the one-eyed kings. He was dismissed by the crowd, who brayed to Pilate, "We have no king

but Caesar." He was crowned with thorns, dying on a cross beneath a sign that said "Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews." And he rose from the grave to initiate the dawn of a new kingdom that will last forever. He is the King of kings and his reign will outlast all others.

Knowing the truth is not easy in a culture where anything inconvenient is labelled as fake. Social media feeds prioritise features and opinions based on what we "like." Listening to alternative viewpoints, seeking to understand the nuances of an



argument and having a regard for those of different persuasions takes initiative. We need to cultivate conversation alongside connectedness and have a vision for Christ-centred community that encourages a different way of thinking and models a different way of living.

TSCF is a counter-cultural movement that believes Jesus' agenda is distinctive from all others.

During the last supper, a dispute arose between the disciples as to who was the greatest. Jesus underlines the essential difference between the way he leads and the way leadership is practiced in the world: "The kings of the Gentiles lord it over them and those who exercise authority over them call themselves benefactors. But you are not to be like that. Instead, the greatest among you should be like the youngest, and the one who rules like the one who serves. For who is greater, the one who is at the

We believe that God's word is a light to guide and a lamp to our path. We need to help opened eyes navigate in the darkness.

table or the one who serves? Is it not the one who is at the table? But I am among you as one who serves."

This radical perspective on leadership comes from the all-seeing King. It is a vision that TSCF embraces wholeheartedly. We work to model servant leadership and to mentor a generation of influence who will be change-makers in public service, education, business, church, sport, the arts, family and community. This leadership is for the benefit of others, has a strong commitment to partnership over competition and is based on Christ-like character.

One-eyed kings have dominion over the blind; we are committed to Jesus' mandate of opening eyes that are blind.

This year we have continued our emphasis on using the gospel in evangelism. The *Rongopai* edition of Luke's gospel has seen hundreds of students able to explore the good news of Jesus for themselves. We continue to develop opportunities for students and graduates to consider how the gospel relates to the big ideas in culture. This includes promoting quality Christian books through Catalyst, small groups that are based in faculties and encourage engagement with academic ideas, apologetics training and events where the good news is explained.

This "true witness" leads to discipleship. We help students engage with the Bible in small groups, talks and conferences. We believe that God's word is a light to guide and a lamp to our path. We need to help opened eyes navigate in the darkness. Understanding

the scriptures in context and applying them to life and work is foundational to living an undivided life. This year our team of staff, interns and volunteers have been able to put more resources into training and enabling students to study the Bible for themselves.

One of the highlights of 2016 was the South Pacific Regional Conference. This is held every three years and it was our turn to host. It was tremendously encouraging to have students from around the Pacific including, for the first time, Hawaii. Events like this are a great reminder that the work of TSCF spreads beyond the shores of Aotearoa.

We continue to participate in IFES through regional partnerships with India and Papua New Guinea, the work of Ruth and Josue with CECE in Ecuador, Zac Smith serving with Interaction Teams in Italy, Chris Collins and Val Goold serving on the IFES Board and several staff working on global projects.



Guests at the South Pacific Regional Conference in 2016 greet each other.

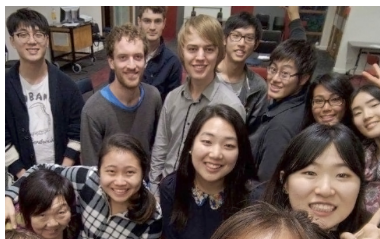
This year we have plans to host a team from Northern California, including some Pasifica students, and to send teams to Fiji and Greece. This is all part of participating in the great commission and of growing leaders who will help others see more clearly around the world. Our reach is global and our concerns transcend international borders and national interests. We need to pray for our one-eyed kings and respect the offices they hold even while we work for change.

We are thankful for all who partner with us in financial giving, prayer support and direct involvement. We participate in that new thing that Isaiah looked forward to, "to open eyes that are blind, to free captives from prison and to release from the dungeon those who sit in darkness." We have had a good year but there is so much more we need to do. Please pray for us that we would seek the Lord, listen to others and have clarity of vision as we move forward together.

# Students reflect

Fellowship and prayer go hand-in-hand, and the Wellington and Palmerston North Christian Fellowships' combined prayer day was no exception. Each year the groups take turns welcoming the other onto their home turf for a day of prayer and reflection.

Last year, we PNOCFers were graciously hosted by students at Victoria University. We prayed as a whole, individually, and in groups of twos and threes. We gave and received prayer requests, and reflected on and gave thanks for God's work on our campuses and throughout New Zealand. We also remembered our brothers and sisters in IFES groups all over the world, asking God to encourage them and meet their different needs. To close the day, each



Palmerston North and Wellington students join for prayer.

Victoria student took a Massey student to their favourite spot on campus. We prayed for one another there and for the roles God has given us.



Jenny Huang  
TSCF Student  
Representative

Half way through the first term of 2017, I attended Lincoln University Christian Fellowship's camp. The theme was Undivided Life, with Ben Carswell looking at how Daniel and his friends treated their faith as the core of everything they did. Around 40 students come

together to worship and spend time in God's word for a few days.

Because I am part of the CF executive team, it was special to see all the hard work that went into the camp rewarded. Hearts changed forever, new friendships were made and students left passionate to live out their faith not just at church, but on campus too.

I would sum up the message of undivided living with this quote from camp:

"No sacrifice is too great for the One who sacrificed it all."

This gives a simple yet powerful clarity to how we as Christians are called not to keep our faith hidden out of fear of what other people will think, but alive and shining bright in everything we do.



Michael Bresler  
TSCF Student  
Representative

# Auckland's good news

The gospel of Luke has continued to be used well by many Auckland students. Bethany, a 2016 Mintern, met up to read Luke with a Chinese student who had never encountered the Bible:

"When she asked about God's standards, we looked at the summary of the law in Luke 10:35 – everyone's a sinner. 'Wow, that's really different!' she said, realising that we all fail to love and obey God. When we came to the end of Luke, I explained reasons for believing Jesus' resurrection. She exclaimed, 'So Jesus was a real person!' It was so encouraging to see how powerful God's word is to help people understand the truth



Robyn Drake  
Auckland Team Leader

of the good news."

This year regional workshops returned to help train students. We looked at why it's worth reading Luke with non-Christian friends and how to go about that. Near the end of the year we helped students who were finishing uni to think through the transition into work and the opportunities and challenges to their faith that will present. The highlight was visiting speaker Andrew Sach teaching students how to read and understand the Old Testament.

For the first time, we had an Easter Camp for international students, bringing together 50 mostly non-Christian students from our two international student ministries in the central city and Massey University Albany. Professor Jeff Tallon gave talks from Luke on Jesus' death and resurrection.



Students, most of whom have English as a second language, appreciated being able to study the passage prior to the talk and better understood who Jesus is and why he came.

The central city ministry in partnership with St Paul's Auckland continues to host around 100 students at a free lunch each week, with 30 regularly attending weekly Bible studies. Bible studies are also a regular feature of the international student ministry at





Students at the EU retreat.

Massey Albany, with a welcome party and English conversation classes the initial contact for many.

As part of Jesus Week at the University of Auckland, Veritas (Christians at Law School), hosted Judge Andrew Becroft on the topic "Does justice matter to Jesus?" Andrew wove in fascinating stories from the courtroom as he took us through Zacchaeus' encounter with Jesus in Luke 19 and how it changed Zacchaeus so much that he started to care about justice.

The Auckland context continues to present ministry challenges. Student life in Auckland is disconnected, with students' homes spread out, more students working more hours, and a lack of community on campus leading to fewer students hanging around. It is a challenge for groups to find meeting times that work for everyone, and to find students committed to being part of groups living out their faith on campus.

But this also presents opportunities to provide friendship and community. Christian Nursing Students enjoyed a number of dinners that drew together Christian and non-Christian students. They heard registered nurses share how their Christian faith is lived out in various areas.

The Evangelical Union, Korean Young Adults Christian Fellowship, Overseas Christian Fellowship and TSCF Massey all found camps and meals together helped

them take a break from uni, deepen relationships and grow in their faith.

And the Evangelical Union hosted talks from a Christian perspective on relevant topics that included a series on physical, mental and spiritual health.

It's been particularly encouraging to see AUT Christian Fellowship gain momentum with a core group and growing student leadership through May Lee's hard work and God's grace.

At the start of 2017 we ran our first regional Launch event. There we looked at the mission and aims of TSCF with 32 students. There was a mix of Bible talks, workshops, student perspectives, and fun. One first year student said, "It was great to be with so many other young people enthusiastic about God. It made me feel a lot more connected within uni and encouraged about the possibility of uni growing rather than shrinking my faith!"

# Waikato & Bay of Plenty grow

Change and collaboration have been themes for Waikato and Bay of Plenty groups over the past year. Waikato team leaders Li Lian and Andrew Lim stepped down last July, and this year I followed on into a role that now extends to the Bay of Plenty.

Hamilton students have helped the pioneering work at Toi Ohomai Institute of Technology in Tauranga (a merger of BOP Polytechnic and Waiariki Institute of Technology) by assisting the new group at orientation events in Tauranga. The two regions have collaborated well; three carloads of Wintec, University of Waikato, and Toi Ohomai students travelled to last year's

midyear conference on the Kapiti Coast. Road trips are a great way to get to know each other!

Recently the Toi Ohomai group did its first "Bless the campus – serve the students" hot cross bun outreach at Easter, giving away 100 hot cross buns with a scripture verse attached. Numbers are small in this pioneering phase, however our prayer is that more students will join the group as its profile on campus develops.

The TSCF Hamilton group at Waikato University continued its Wednesday evening meetings, with a priority on student-led Bible study followed by supper. Friendships develop easily in a social group.

The Waikato Institute of Technology group continued its weekly lunchtime meeting, studying some of Paul's letters.

They were encouraged by a first year student coming to faith, heading to the South Pacific Regional Conference TSCF hosted, and getting involved in the Wintec group through another student, who befriended her and modelled the love and care of Jesus.

Campus chaplain Mark Day has ably assisted the Wintec group. He has been available for post-



David Hodgkinson  
Waikato & Bay of Plenty  
Team Leader



Easter outreach at Toi Ohomai



TSCF Waikato students at the 2016 South Pacific Regional Conference.

meeting, thought-provoking discussions at the Hub café on campus. The group has grown, with 8-10 enthusiastic students meeting to study the biblical foundation and applications for TSCF's four aims: deep thought, undivided life, true witness and global reach.

The Waikato groups were without a staff worker for the second half

of 2016, which put the onus on students to step up further to plan and lead meetings more regularly. Nick Lim, who arrived from Malaysia in 2013, has befriended, supported and led many students in the TSCF Hamilton group in a humble, perceptive and constant manner. He served as associate staff from mid-2015 until this May, when he finished to concentrate on his PhD studies.

As one Nick has moved on, another has arrived. In March, Nick Goodwin joined as associate staff at the University of Waikato, where he once studied. He recently moved up from Wellington, with his family, to work for Raleigh Street Christian Centre in Cambridge.

We thank God for those who have served in the past and praise God for current and new arrivals.

# New staff join Wellington team

In March, the Victoria University Hub swells with people milling around a myriad of clubs to be involved in for the academic year – everything from political parties to the ukulele group are available, depending on your passion.

In the midst of this sits the Christian Fellowship students. They offer encouragement to those who desire to keep their faith alive, and offer hope to those who see lives undivided for Christ. Some stop to ask more, others see the words “Christian Fellowship” and quickly walk past. Those who sign up are a diverse group and that’s what makes the CF group so rich.



Kim Shaw  
Wellington Team Leader

They are those who say “yes” to exploring their questions about God with others, placing the Bible central to these discussions and seeking the truth – deep thought. Many come from around the globe to study at Victoria University for a season and discover, for the first time, who Jesus is – global reach. Others have been Christians for many years and are challenged to let their lives speak of Christ – true witness. And right there in the midst of all that is happening in university life, a slice of the Kingdom of God on earth appears.

It’s been encouraging to see the Victoria University group grow over the last year. Lachlan Whisker has faithfully led it through some difficult times over the past four years, encouraging students to focus beyond themselves.

Around 40 students meet each

Thursday evening for a shared meal and Bible study. We are looking at ways to invest in and encourage future leaders of the group to carry that vision on and continue to build a strong core.

After a couple of years with few staff in Wellington, I am now leading the team part-time. Max







Wellington students attend the 2016 South Pacific Regional Conference.

and Mei Rideout arrived from Canada in 2016 with experience in international student work. They have received a great welcome and significant support from the university's International Student

Support Staff for their events. These have included a Kiwi Culture Night and the regular English practice at Newswatch.

Rongopai is the student house

It's been encouraging to see the Victoria University group grow over the last year. Lachlan Whisker has faithfully led it through some difficult times over the past four years, encouraging students to focus beyond themselves.

on Kelburn Parade, which runs through the campus. It is a strategic ministry where students live intentionally in Christian community, offer hospitality to other students, pray and do life together.

Our team hopes to see some new TSCF groups form on other campuses in the Wellington region over the coming year.

# Palmy students collaborate

Helping students love Jesus on campus remains at the centre of everything we do in Palmerston North, whether they are exploring who Jesus is or they have known him for a long time. We are about calling people to know Jesus and live that out on campus. How this looks for MUCF and OCF is different every year, and that is the exciting thing about working with students. The common thing, across time and cultures, is a love for Jesus that drives students to both know him and make him known.

One of the things that stood out this year is the willingness of



Ian Reid  
Palmerston North  
Team Leader

student leaders, both in MUCF and OCF, to work together. From running our welcome events to enjoying dinner together, there has been an openness to work toward a single mission. While this is not always easy, it is fruitful as students get to work alongside others from very different contexts.

MUCF continues to grow and be a welcoming environment for enquiry. The students have not been afraid to tackle hard issues or to invite friends to discuss such things.

Last year we looked at what Christians believe, thinking deeply about what we hold in common and why. We openly discussed what it means to be a Christian and how to live that out as students.

It will be sad to have our long-

serving president, Rachel Taylor, and secretary, Rebekah Kloosterman, both stand down as they head into fifth year vet science. They have done an awesome job. We also have four weddings coming up, which is a bit exciting.

OCF gathers every Friday night around food and the Bible. We continue to see people from overseas interested in finding out about Jesus and interested in what he has to say. OCF has always been good at serving and loving these students. Included in that is always a bit of fun and food, too – there is always cake.

We've said goodbye to many students who have been a part of MUCF and OCF. OCF has lost many vets who were the stalwarts over the last few years. That is sad but



Overseas Christian Fellowship students in Palmerston North.

also exciting for us as we release them into the world. MUCF has said goodbye to lots of exchange students.

We are always cycling through exchange students who come for six months or a year, but this year it has been particularly hard to say goodbye to a great group

of students who made a real difference within MUCF and on campus.

Massey is slowly changing as well. There have been noticeably fewer students coming from Malaysia. This has changed the shape of OCF and meant that we are more multicultural. Massey is also

attracting more female than male students. As a result, females are well represented in our groups. All this means that we need to be flexible with our style and adapting to what is going on around us.

So the work may look different year-to-year, but the mission continues to be the same.

# Lincoln redefines 'coffee culture'

"As I looked around Mrs O's [a Lincoln University coffee shop], it seemed that all I could see was Bible studies." So said Chris Hay, TSCF staff, about an ordinary Wednesday morning.

Mrs O's is a popular place to read through the Bible at Lincoln University, and the coffee shop staff are super nice, sometimes even joining in and asking their own questions. It's been very good to see reading and studying the Bible with non-Christian friends in a public place become a normative part of Lincoln University Christian Fellowship.

Walk into Mrs O's throughout



Tim Hodge  
Lincoln Team Leader

the week and you may see, for example, Kate McClelland (TSCF staff) leading a group of both Christians and non-Christians through Rongopai, Luke's gospel.

Or David, a Christian student, reading through Genesis with his non-Christian course mate, Tom. Jo, who was formerly on the CF leadership team, might be reading with Baylee, who is currently on the CF leadership team. Or Michael, from the CF leadership team, could be meeting with Jono, who is in his first year.

A group of final year Christians who are committed to studying the Bible together meet there as they transition away from university, and Pete and Benji, new Christians, meet there to read through Proverbs.

I am enthused by how much the Christians at Lincoln have grasped the concept of inviting non-Christian friends to explore the good news of Jesus for themselves.





Benji is a second year student. Last year he was intrigued by the Christians in his hall and on his course, and he attended SPARC, the midyear conference TSCF hosted. He looks back on that as a real catalyst in his turning to Jesus. Others have noticed how the gospel has changed him, and that is encouraging to the Christians and challenging to the non-Christians. He continues to come to the Bible with fresh eyes and asks perceptive questions.

In some ways this is all very ordinary, yet in other ways it is extraordinary. It is ordinary in the sense that it's just friends having a coffee on campus with open books, notepads and pens. Yet it is also extraordinary for we see God at work. As Nigel Pollock has written, we are committed to Jesus' mandate of opening eyes that are blind. I am enthused by how much the Christians at Lincoln have grasped the concept of inviting non-Christian friends to explore the good news of Jesus for



Lincoln staff worker Kate McClelland, right, gets outdoors with CF women.

themselves. It's been a joy to see students take initiative to use the Bible in evangelism.

Thank you to all who are involved in many ways with TSCF Lincoln. This year, exploring who Jesus is from the pages of the Bible

1-to-1 and in small groups in Mrs O's coffee shop has become far more normative for the Lincoln University Christian Fellowship and the Lincoln University Postgraduate Christian Fellowship. And for that, we praise God.

# CU prep for a lifetime of ministry

One of the great joys of ministry amongst university students is also one of the hardest. After 3 or 4 years together on the mission field of the university campus, students have a habit of graduating. This is hard for the Christian Union since we are always saying goodbye to good friends and amazing student leaders. Yet it is also a great joy as we send students who have been deeply shaped by the gospel of Jesus Christ into a life of mission – young men and women who are better equipped to engage the world around them with the life-changing message of Jesus.

It was both encouraging and sad at the end of 2016 to send out 26



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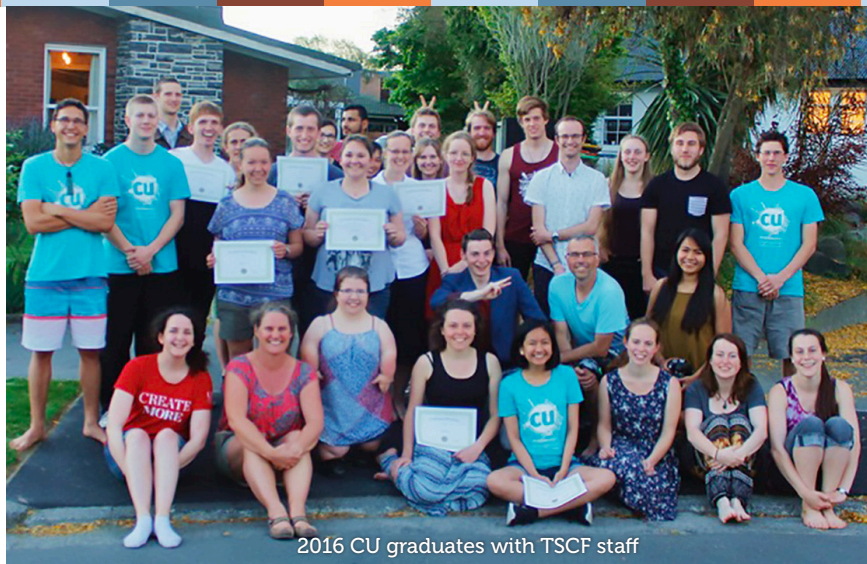
Mark Santich  
Canterbury Team Leader

young leaders to serve Jesus in their churches, workplaces and communities. During their time at the University of Canterbury, they have prayed for their friends to come to know Jesus, engaged in gospel conversations, read the gospel of Luke with friends, and brought friends to talks and small groups to find out more about Jesus. They have been strengthened together with fellow students to love and know God better through his word, trained in evangelism and ministry.

Please keep praying that God would multiply workers in his harvest field at UC so that every student on campus has the opportunity to hear the good news of Jesus during their studies. And pray for graduates, that they would continue to love, serve and proclaim the name of Jesus.

Orientation this year meant lots of conversations with new students. We have seen an increase in international students since the earthquakes of 2010-11, and a growing diversity of cultures within CU. We pray that God will use these opportunities to help other students from those countries hear the life-changing news of Jesus.

For many years, CU students met in small life groups on Wednesday evenings at a couple of houses near uni. This year we have moved onto campus and meet in a student space called The Living Room. We eat dinner together, listen to a short talk, then split into smaller groups. A number of people who aren't Christians come along each week, and a growing number of international and postgraduate students. We help each other grow in an



2016 CU graduates with TSCF staff

understanding of and love for God the Father and his son, Jesus. Life groups are a great way to help unite and prepare us for mission and ministry on campus together. Pray that God would continue to use life groups to help people come to know Jesus and to grow together in their love of and service for him on campus.

This April, CU went away for a long weekend to think on the cross of

Christ. It was amazing to dig deeper into understanding how Jesus' death was God's plan from before the creation of the world to create a new people for himself in Christ. This message of Jesus' death continues to be life transforming as God calls people into his Kingdom. We pray that through the rest of this year students would have the confidence to speak to people about the new life Jesus offers through his death. Pray that

knowing God's love and forgiveness will drive us to pray for our friends and proclaim the good news.

One benefit of having fine arts students involved with CU is their creativity. This year CU, courtesy of Kris, has rebranded. Students have also created a newsletter to communicate better with churches and graduates.

Hannah and Pete completed their Minty year in 2016 but they continue to help lead life groups on Wednesday nights on campus. They grew a lot during their Minty year and have a real love for God and for students. Thank God that he has provided work for them. Please pray they find full time work in line with their degrees.

Geoff and Liz Robson enjoyed a sabbatical in the second half of 2016. Over summer they welcomed Zoe to their family, a 2-year-old Filipina girl. Pray for them as they adjust, and for Zoe following cochlear implants to help correct her acute hearing condition.

# Dunedin supports community

Last year we established the first TSCF community house in Dunedin. This followed a recognition of some worrying trends in student flats. It's a common practice, for example, to use communal spaces as bedrooms. With little space to even eat together, students get used to being alone in their rooms and some fall into unhealthy ways of coping with their loneliness.

So last year we supported the Tree House. It had nine residents who, between them, were involved in five of the TSCF groups and represented five different churches. TSCF staff were involved with life in the house, and residency



James Allaway  
Dunedin Team Leader

came with commitments. These included a minimum of three shared meals a week (which takes some organising with nine schedules to coordinate) and meeting three times a week for shared spiritual practices (scripture memorisation, prayer, discussion etc.).

Nigel has noted that listening and conversation takes effort. Craig Gay, in his book *Dialogue, Catalogue, & Monologue*, writes that "Speaking and listening ... is a requisite for fellowship, and fellowship – with each other and God – is the deepest desire of our hearts." There were times when we failed to relate to each other as human beings and ended up talking at each other. Some of these conversations caused pain, but overall the pilot year was a success.

What came through, as we heard from current and past students from various generations, is that TSCF has equipped students to think deeply and biblically about the world, their studies, work, and wider life.

In November we met to review how the year had gone. I was encouraged to hear the residents reflect on how they had grown through submitting to the weekly rhythms of life in the house and through their interactions with each other. We talked about what we would take away from the





Students discuss their experiences reading the gospel of Luke with their friends, led by Hamish Cartwright, right.

year and, as symbol of this, we gave each resident a small kete bag. Each bag contained a note of encouragement or thanks to the recipient from each resident. For my part, the contents of that bag continue to encourage me in my work on campus.

The 80th anniversary celebrations

were another highlight.

On 14 September students, supporters, and staff gathered to give thanks for the legacy of TSCF's work around the country, and particularly the work in Dunedin. What came through, as we heard from current and past students from various generations,

is that TSCF has equipped students to think deeply and biblically about the world, their studies, work, and wider life.

In a discussion between current student leaders about the challenges and opportunities of being a Christian student, they spoke about the privilege of leading friends through studies in *Rongopai*, the gospel of Luke. For several of their friends, it was the first time reading through a whole gospel. TSCF intern Hamish Cartwright led this discussion.

When he came to Dunedin six years ago, Hamish had a vital role re-establishing the Varsity Christian Fellowship. He went on to lead our outreach in local colleges, was elected to be a student representative on the TSCF board, and most recently served as a ministry intern for two years. It was a fitting end to his active involvement on campus, leading part of our 80th anniversary celebrations.

# Minting disciples

2016 marked 10 years since TSCF launched the Minty (Ministry Internship Year) training programme. Minterns are part of the regional staff team where they are based, disciplined by staff in that region, and support a local student group under the supervision of staff. Minterns also undertake theological study that I oversee as the Minty coordinator, and gather in the summer, winter and spring for training that is tailored to fit each cohort.

Five graduates participated



James Allaway  
Dunedin Team Leader



From left, Hannah Bamford, Alexa Anderson, Hamish Cartwright, National Director Nigel Pollock, Peter Brown, and Bethany Robb.

in during 2016 – Bethany in Auckland, Pete and Hannah in Christchurch, and Hamish and Alexa in Dunedin.

Nigel has written about how we continue to encourage students and graduates to relate the

gospel to the big ideas in culture, by training in apologetics and evangelism. Two of the highlights from 2016 were evangelistic. One mintern was helping a Christian friend from South East Asia find a local church, but by accident sent the invitation to a non-Christian

friend. To the mintern's surprise, the non-Christian friend was very pleased to be invited to church and they went on to have more conversations about the gospel.

And at the winter Minty conference we looked at the topic of mission, particularly how we are called to follow the mission that the Father has revealed in scripture and supremely in Jesus, and how we pursue this call with the help of the Spirit. We talked about how this mission encompasses every aspect of our lives, but gave particular attention to overseas missions, justice, work, and evangelism. Each mintern then prepared a defence to a common objection to the Christian faith and received feedback from staff and fellow minterns. It was encouraging to see them grappling with big questions and helping each other engage.

For more information about Minty, including how to apply, visit [www.tscf.org.nz/get-involved/](http://www.tscf.org.nz/get-involved/).

# Catalyst in the City

Three and a half years ago, with the support of TSCF's graduate ministry, Catalyst, and a couple of local pastors, a handful of Christians who work in downtown Auckland began a midweek Bible study. Catalyst in the City meets every Wednesday at 12:30pm in the Deloitte building on Queen Street, where members chow down on sandwiches or sushi or grab a coffee during what is often the only break in the workday. The fact that we're still meeting is both encouraging and remarkable.

The first major challenge came in 2015 when the last of the three pastors who began leading the group, one of whom was on

TSCF's staff, was called to minister elsewhere. But the group's regulars committed to taking turns leading the studies – they found the break to discuss the Bible too valuable to give up. Two of them had been leaders in TSCF student groups during their uni years.

The second is that, like the three pastors who began leading the group, many have ended up working in other parts of Auckland and even the world. The meetings aren't feasible for many people who work more than 5 minutes' walk away.

And then, in 2016, the popularity of the BNZ Partners' Centre led BNZ to limit access for smaller clients like TSCF. So, for now, the group meets in a café space in the building's lobby. There are pros and cons to being in a public area,



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Maryanne Wardlaw  
Communications  
Manager

one in which members have seen colleagues and acquaintances walk by while we read the Bible and pray. So we're praying that meeting in a more public space will turn out to be a blessing – not just to the group, but to others who may overhear Scriptures or who glimpse a colleague, head bowed, with an unfamiliar lunch crew.

The city's challenges of job transience and limited time and space have made us question the study's future. Some weeks, only two people are able to attend. However we've been encouraged by friends and coworkers who have shown interest, and fresh faces appearing as others leave.

The group persists because people have experienced the transformative power of God's word as they apply it, together, to their professional and personal lives. Please pray for these men and women as they grow in their faith and take the gospel into their workplaces and neighbourhoods.



"My Christian life, when I started attending, felt distracted. Catalyst has helped me be more devoted to Jesus. I particularly enjoy reading the Bible with other Christians and discussing it – it deepens my understanding. It is also inspiring to see other Christians who are trying to better understand and apply their faith. I've enjoyed reading entire books of the Bible and gaining a far better understanding of what the writers meant."

– Blair Franklin

"Catalyst continues to change

and evolve. The thing that hasn't changed (apart from God) is the willingness of those who attend to make time in often very busy work schedules to delve into the word, encourage one another, and apply faith in the workplace. Being faithful isn't just about worshipping God on a Sunday, but living it every day. Catalyst provides a forum to meet other like-minded Christians working in the city. It helps keep life and work in perspective knowing that God is faithful, wherever we are."

– Sarah Ho



# the team

## NATIONAL BOARD



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**Raewyn Taylor**  
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Ecuador

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**Michael Drake**  
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Wellington



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## TEAM LEADERS



**Robyn Drake**  
Auckland



**David Hodgkinson**  
Waikato & BOP



**Ian Reid**  
Palmerston North



**Kim Shaw**  
Wellington



**Tim Hodge**  
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Canterbury



**James Allaway**  
Dunedin

## STAFF WORKERS



**May Lee**  
Auckland



**Jeff Lane**  
Auckland  
(seconded from OMF)



**Max Rideout**  
Wellington



**Geoff Robson**  
Canterbury



**Rachel Bartlett**  
Canterbury p/t



**Renee Santich**  
Canterbury p/t



**Christina Denmead**  
Canterbury p/t



**Matthias Loong**  
(Study leave)



**Jane Pelz**  
In transition to InterVarsity USA



**Jeff Pelz**  
In transition to InterVarsity USA



**Ani Kartikasari**  
Lincoln Postgrads & Catalyst p/t



**Chris Hay**  
Lincoln



**Kate McClelland**  
Lincoln



**Jen Allaway**  
Dunedin p/t



**Mike Summerfield**  
Dunedin p/t



**Simon Sim**  
Dunedin

# 2016 Financial Report

## Note 9: Ability to continue operating

Note 9 is the last note on the last page of our 2016 annual report. The note is simple, if you are used to accounting-speak. It says “TSCF will continue to operate in the foreseeable future.”

For those of us on the Finance Committee it is probably the most meaningful and important sentence in the financial statements.

It is a very short, human assessment which has required God-sized hearts of many to actually make happen. And we are very grateful for those who hold TSCF dear to their own hearts and give so generously. Without that generosity we could not operate or

operate on the scale we do.

Previously our ability to “operate in the foreseeable future” has been in doubt, especially if viewed in human terms. There have been many times the Finance Committee have cast their eyes over cash-flow predictions, keen to see if we can meet our monthly commitments. We have not been immune from that in 2016. Focusing solely on the year-end result does not necessarily reflect the at-times tense journey through the year. The tight position does bring its stress and the committee remains concerned for all staff, but especially our dedicated administrators who manage the operations of TSCF.

Our audited accounts reflect that we finished the year with a modest surplus – revenue is greater than

expenditure. We have a secure base in Wellington and large network of staff “in the field.”

The committee is especially grateful to Peter Thirkell who has brought fresh vision to fundraising and his leadership has been important in the result achieved in 2016.

We seek to balance being real about what funding we can reasonably expect, while also acknowledging that a greater level of resourcing would undoubtedly enable TSCF to be more effective, to reach more students. A fund of, say, \$500,000 would enable a greater freedom to support the work on campuses. It is a vision we are yet to grasp.

In the meantime we remain grateful to our staff – particularly Nigel, Mike Doragh and especially our accountant, John Riley – for faithfulness in managing the day-to-day functioning of our finances. It is to their credit that we have achieved this result.

"We will continue to operate...". We didn't doubt that but in December 2016 we called an extra committee meeting as our cashflow was not great. We assembled to see if we could fund ourselves over the lean Christmas break. However we arrived to the great news of a very generous donation from an individual – a legacy. It meant we finished the financial year in the black, by a narrow margin. It also meant we could go through the Christmas break able to pay our bills and be confident in the God-given task that TSCF has in 2017.

We give thanks for note 9 and again thanks to our supporters – individuals, churches and trusts alike.

Blessings on you all,

Bruce Robertson,  
Convenor

*You can request a copy of our full accounts from John Riley at [johnr@tscf.org.nz](mailto:johnr@tscf.org.nz).*

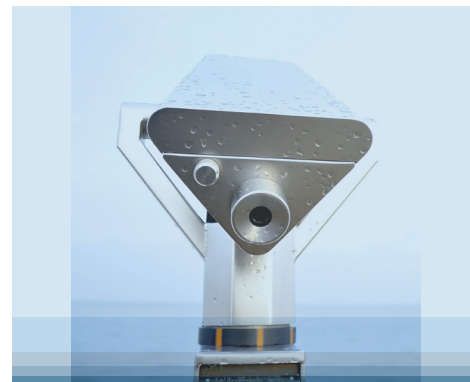
## INCOME

Donated income	2016	2015
Core Funds Donations	\$ 207,203	\$ 207,256
Staff Support Donations	\$ 1,295,751	\$ 1,216,542
Legacies Donations	\$ 9,056	\$ 3,646
Other Donations	\$ 56,552	\$ 10,267
<b>Total Donations</b>	<b>\$ 1,578,562</b>	<b>\$ 1,437,711</b>

## EXPENDITURE

For each \$10 given, we use:

Field staff & ministry costs	\$8.23
Administration	\$0.91
Communications	\$0.37
IFES	\$0.26
Utilities	\$0.23





## Tertiary Students Christian Fellowship

PO Box 9672, Marion Square, Wellington 6141 | [tscf.org.nz](http://tscf.org.nz) | [facebook.com/tscf.nz](https://facebook.com/tscf.nz)

