



Thanks

TSCF Annual Review





Tertiary Students Christian Fellowship

2025 Annual Review

Published August 2026

**He ākonga ki ngā ākonga hei
ara whakawhiti mā te Karaiti.**

Reaching students for Christ,
changing students for life.

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TSCF's vision is to help students in New Zealand become servant leaders of character through the transforming gospel of Christ. TSCF is a founding member of the International Fellowship of Evangelical Students.

The **Annual Review** is for those who partner with us in our vision and mission to reach students for Christ. It reports on what God has accomplished through TSCF in the previous calendar year, as well as looking to what He is building for the future. This work is made possible by the grace of God and the generosity of our partners. This is a review of the 2025 year.

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Thanks!



Ben Carswell
National Director

I'll never forget the moment. I was a teenager serving on a Beach Mission team, staying in a local bach, when there was a knock at the door interrupting our dinner. I opened it and was met by a rather eccentric, smiley man. After greeting me, and introducing himself, he said, 'I'm from the Ministry of Encouragement'. I invited him in to meet the team, where he proceeded to express his thanks to us for the work we were doing and for what God was doing through us.

Over thirty years later, that unusual experience has left an indelible imprint on my mind and served as an incredible inspiration to join him in 'the Ministry of Encouragement' by making sure to regularly say 'thank you' to those who live their lives in service for God and His Kingdom.

In Scripture, we are repeatedly commanded to 'give thanks to the Lord for He is good' and the idea of 'giving thanks' is prevalent throughout. However, tucked away in the Gospels is a wonderful incident in the life of Jesus, which, as well as teaching about faith and foreigners, specifically focuses on thankfulness.

Utter Dependence

In chapter 17 of Luke's Gospel, we read that Jesus has been travelling and deliberately chooses to travel along the border between Samaria and Galilee. He goes knowing that He will meet some of the outcasts of society: ten lepers, exiled and 'socially distanced' from their families and their communities. As they meet Jesus, they call out from a distance, 'Jesus, Master, have pity on us!'

Although the story is primarily a lesson in thankfulness, it clearly reminds us of their utter dependence on and need for Jesus. When no one else had been able to help, their only hope was Jesus. In today's world of increased hopelessness, self-reliance and self-sufficiency, we need to help students see they need Jesus.

As we seek to point students to this truth, we are often reminded of our own dependence on Him. At times, the year was more challenging than anticipated, with three regions having no Staff Workers to support the work. But amidst those toils and tests, the worst and best, we've never been left alone. We're thankful for God's good hand bringing staff back to two of those three regions, so now only one

region, the Manawātū, has no local TSCF staff support. Please continue to pray that God would provide staff for the Manawātū.

We also look to God for His continued provision. He has enabled us to meet all our ministry costs and implement a salary review to ensure we are paying all our staff fairly and appropriately. We were further encouraged to receive a significant legacy from a long-time supporter of the ministry. A legacy makes a significant difference to TSCF, so this really is a gift that will keep on giving for years to come and was a much-appreciated surprise from 'the Ministry of Encouragement'. We are thankful for God's work in the life of this TSCF graduate and for her generosity and gospel vision to see the work continue for many generations to come.

Deliberate Obedience

Jesus could have healed the lepers there and then, but instead He chose to allow their faith to flourish by telling them, 'Go, show yourselves to the priests.' As they obey, miraculously, they are cleansed.

What a wonderful reminder of the need not just to hear Jesus' words, but also to obey. In TSCF, we are committed to helping students hear and engage with the claims and call of Jesus. But

this alone is not enough! We long to see students obey the call of Jesus to follow Him!

In recent years, we have frequently found that, while student numbers may be lower than in previous generations, the interest and engagement of those who are involved has increased, with a deeper engagement as they encounter Christ, His claims and call.

TSCF is committed to both helping students hear the Good News of Jesus and respond to it, but also to keep on following in obedience and submission to Him every day of their lives. This call is radically counter-cultural, but as the lepers found for themselves, whilst being obedient to someone else is not the norm, it is best when that obedience is to Jesus. Our prayer is not just that we see students living for Christ in their student years, but that they would submit to Him, serve and obey Him for the whole of their lives.

Each year, we hear reports of students coming to a saving knowledge and trust in the Lord Jesus. Last year was no exception and in many of our regions, we heard of students who had trusted in Jesus for the first time. While these reports can't be described as a revival, or even 'a quiet revival', we give thanks to God for His reviving work in the lives of students, bringing



Top: Student Lounge at Festival One
Bottom: TSCF Hamilton Weekly Food Rescue (Food giveaway)

them from death to life. 'Salvation comes from the Lord' (Jonah 2:9). Thanks be to God!

In the current climate it is becoming more challenging for all student clubs and societies to remain central to the life and health of our tertiary institutions, we remain thankful for the freedom of speech we have in NZ and the unrestricted access we have to campus for students to join together in Christian witness.

Increasingly, these freedoms are being challenged, often by well-meaning (and sometimes not so well-meaning!) individuals and groups seeking their place in the 'marketplace of students'. We anticipate this may become more challenging in the coming years, but for now, we are thankful for the freedoms enjoyed by students and the opportunity to live for and proclaim Jesus on campus.

Joyful Thankfulness

For the lepers, in the midst of the miraculous, something quite unbelievable happens! Think about it. Imagine you are a leper - rejected, feared, cast out, sick, looked down on, and hopeless. And suddenly, Jesus, the Master, hears your voice and has pity on you. Surely, the first instinct is to say, 'thank you'?

But, in the hurry and happiness of healing, only

one leper has the right response of coming back, praising and prostrating himself before Jesus, and thanking Him, *and* 'He was a Samaritan'. In response, Jesus asks, 'Where are the other nine? Has no one returned to give praise to God except this foreigner?'

It's a lesson in thankfulness, and the fact that the miracle involved a Samaritan made it even more significant. Jesus was using this event to teach a lesson about gratitude to God.

Amongst our friends in the Pacific Islands, it is common to hear students saying, 'God is good, all the time, and all the time, God is good.' This is a good reminder. And so, as we look back on the last year, we can see God's hand of goodness, protecting and providing in all we have done.

After a few years getting properly established, last year was the year our residential community in Lincoln, *The Well*, really 'found its feet'. This was built on the successes and lessons learnt over previous years as well as a vibrant Lincoln Uni CF fully embracing the opportunity *The Well* presented. Seeking to introduce others to the good news of Jesus, the residents in *The Well* came together to host students from the university, inviting them in for food, Bible studies and prayer. We have so much to be thankful for.

One of the highlights of last year was making a significant change to one of our leadership structures. Since my appointment as National Director seven years ago, I have had the excellent support of a *National Strategy Team*. I am thankful for the way we have worked together to make many strategic decisions, and for the way each shared the responsibility of leadership. I particularly look back at the period of COVID lockdowns and the swift readjustments that needed to be made and thank God for their support during that time and over the last few years.

TSCF is a student movement committed to identifying, developing, equipping and supporting the next generation of leadership. Over recent years, we have been delighted to see young, homegrown leaders stepping up and into various roles within TSCF. One of the significant moments of 2025 was the decision made by the *National Strategy Team* to disband, enabling a new *National Advisory Team* to form. I am delighted that Caitlin Ormiston, Josh Irving and Kate McClelland have joined this new team. They each bring a fresh energy with their unique gifts and a variety of local and international experience. I know that they will make a significant impact for many years to come. From a TSCF perspective, we are committed to

passing the baton on from one generation to the next and working together for God's greater glory.



Top: TSCF Hamilton group with Waikato staff worker Nadine Liddle
Bottom: Summit 2025 at Ngāruawāhia



TSCF National Advisory Team

I also want to take this opportunity to publicly express my thanks to our entire staff team for the work they do. Thank you both to those who serve directly amongst students, and our excellent office team providing the support to enable student mission on campus to be active and effective.

Faithful Partnership

We are always mindful that TSCF's ministry is one of partnership and collaboration. We are a partnership of students, supporters, staff and churches, working together to enable students to hear about Jesus and have their lives transformed by Him. To that end, it would be remiss not to thank God for our students and what He has done in and through them.

We also want to thank our students for all they have attempted and achieved over this past year. From creative Clubs' Day campaigns, to camps and conferences, Bible studies and bake sales – week in, week out, students are seeking to serve on their campuses so that students are reached for Christ and changed for life. The energy they bring to to our national conference, *Summit*, and their willingness to engage with God's Word is both encouraging and exciting. For a generation that is much maligned and misunderstood, they have taken the mission mandate to live and speak for Jesus in this moment.

There is a vibrancy that comes with working with students. The potential they have and the opportunities they take make it a genuine privilege to work alongside them. TSCF remains committed to student leadership as one of our core distinctives, recognising that students are best placed to reach students for Christ.

Over the last 90 years, since our founding in 1936, TSCF has been a partnership not just of students and staff, but significantly of supporters standing alongside them and cheering them along the way. Thank you to each and every one of you for your support, through your encouragement and prayers, your generous financial giving and, as we have experienced this year, through the ongoing impact of financial legacies.

As in the story of the ten lepers, your partnership in student mission is an act of faith. In the busyness of day-to-day life, we don't always get to thank those who partner with us as much as we would like.

Your part in God's work is significant and very much appreciated. Thank you!

Of course, TSCF remains committed to partnership with the local church and the global church through our partner movements as part of IFES (International Fellowship of Evangelical Students). Over the last year, we were able to enjoy visits both from and to the student movement in Ecuador, CECE (Comunidad de Estudiantes Cristianos del Ecuador). We are delighted that Ruth and Josué Hicks Olmedo continue to serve on a broader canvas, with both having taken roles with IFES based out of Latin America. It was a real joy to have two CECE staff, Wendy and Lizandro, visiting us at *Summit* and then joining with student groups in the Waikato/ Bay of Plenty and Auckland regions. These exchanges strengthen the partnership and are part of the ongoing commitment to Global Reach, helping students get a sense of what God is doing around the world. Later in the year, three of our TSCF team were able to attend the Urbana missions conference in the USA, organised by InterVarsity.

TSCF is thankful for the many churches across NZ who partner with us by encouraging students to get involved and by actively supporting this work through their prayers and practical support.

We remain committed to the local church and, in a world of increasing apathy, are proactively passionate about being part of the local church and helping students to be the mission arm of the church on campus.

As we look forward to celebrating 90 years of student ministry in 2026, we do so in anticipation and expectation of what God may do. As we step out in prayerful dependence and joyful obedience, we look forward to seeing how He will use students, staff, supporters and churches to accomplish His purposes as we look, by faith, to Him, to will and to act, according to His good pleasure.

But in that anticipation, we must never forget to look back, fall at His feet and thank Him for all He has already done in our lives and through this ministry. I trust that as you read this Annual Review, you will join with us in giving thanks to God for all He's done and to look to Him for all that's to come.

God bless,
Ben Carswell



Staff and Families Camp 2025

Otago

Student Leadership Shines

2025 has been a year of growing student leadership in Otago. As one of the hallmarks of TSCF, it has been a joy to witness students take the initiative in leading the two groups in Otago, and to see them take a further step towards participating in God's mission on campus. This year, I have been on study leave abroad completing theological studies at Regent College, Vancouver. While I have been away, it has been a tremendous encouragement to see students embrace student leadership and experience God at work in and through them. I hope you will be just as encouraged as you read about what God has been doing in our region.

Otago Christian Fellowship

Tim Marshall, Associate Staff Worker

OCF has continued to gain momentum post-COVID. The student group culture has developed as the student leadership team exercised creativity and initiative.

They facilitated a welcoming atmosphere including good conversations over hot beverages and food. We are thankful for support and collaboration with Student Soul, the Dunedin TSCF Support Group (comprised of past students, long-time supporters and chaplains), the Combined Christian Groups (churches and

other student ministries) and TSCF staff in NZ and abroad!

Highlights of the year included meeting speakers from the Otago Theology Department, local churches, and Voice of the Martyrs (an organisation serving the persecuted church). Students and helpers alike were impacted by their conversations and talks. Discussions around the table at weekly meetings were enriched by having students from different backgrounds and denominations. Weekly studies included short courses: *Long Story Short*; *Lunch with Luke* (adapted from the *Dinner with the Disciples* series by Kim Shaw); and the 321 Course - *Speak Life* (presented by Glen Scrivener). These sessions sparked questions and discussions which were helpful for those 'old' and new to Christianity.

With financial support from TSCF, the Otago University Student Association, and internal fundraising, group members were able to attend the *Summit* national conference and the *South Pacific Regional Conference* (SPARC). Students benefitted greatly from attending the conferences; one of our leadership team said she appreciated "growing closer as leaders and getting to know more Christian Fellowship students" at *Summit*. She also says the club



Simon Sim
Otago
Team Leader

had "the best AGM anyone will ever pull off, Taskmaster-themed with impeccable slides". I would have to agree!

Christian Medical Fellowship **Sophie Watson, Student Leader**

We started off the year with a pizza lunch to introduce what we are about and then carried on meeting weekly. We had around 10-12 people turn up for each session, usually consisting of socialising, eating lunch together, playing a game, followed by a devotional or a guest speaker. It was encouraging to see a few non-believing friends join us for different sessions. God is on the move!

Our last session was probably my favourite; everyone shared their testimonies on how God has worked in them over this year and we prayed for each other before exams started.

Some other highlights from the year were: the CMF conference, the CMF *Saline* training course, and watching the group grow closer to one another and to Christ.

CMF has been a huge blessing in my life. It was a privilege to be one of the student leaders this year. I never felt I could be a leader in a Christian setting, but Pearl (one of last year's leaders)

encouraged me to step outside of my comfort zone into Christian leadership. I have been reminded time and time again this year: "yet not I, but through Christ in me." Last year, I really felt like the younger sister being mentored so it was so lovely to pass that on. Walking alongside my co-leaders, Ben and Beulah, has been so inspiring and I'm so grateful to have a group of people that always points each other to the truth and I hope I have been an encouragement to others too.



Top: Otago CF Wednesday Night Meeting
Bottom: Otago CF Taskmaster Themed AGM

Lincoln



Chris Hay
Lincoln
Team Leader

Many around the world are noticing a growing openness among young people to explore questions of faith. The Barna Group recently released global survey results from teenagers, describing them as 'The Open Generation'¹. Their research highlights that young people today are more willing than previous generations to engage in spiritual conversations. Other studies echo this trend, suggesting that young people, particularly young men, are increasingly curious about life's deeper questions. This wider cultural shift seems to be taking place at Lincoln University.

One of our longest-running weekly gatherings has been the Monday night Bible study. For 2025, the group worked through John's Gospel. In recent years, attendance would usually be around twenty students. This year, however, numbers consistently ranged between twenty-five and thirty-five. The biggest surprise was not simply the increase in attendance but the number of students reading the Bible for the first time. On any given night, there would be around ten students who had little previous knowledge of Christianity.

Their reasons for coming varied. Some felt a growing sense of lack in their lives and wondered whether Christianity offered some answers. Others were searching for community. A few had gone through major life events that pushed them to reflect on life's biggest questions. Whatever the motivation, it was a real joy to meet and look at who Jesus is through the eyes of John. Our ongoing hope and prayer is that more students will not only explore Christianity but ultimately recognise Jesus Christ as their Saviour.

While evangelism in 2025 has been especially encouraging, community within the group has been more challenging. The Christian life is meant to be lived in fellowship with others. Staying faithful to Christ in study, work, and everyday life, and having a meaningful missional impact, is far easier together than alone. Community is at the heart of TSCF's vision. We long to see Christian students at Lincoln form a united fellowship that encourages one another in true witness, pursues undivided lives, thinks deeply about how faith connects with study, and carries a heart for reaching the world. This year many students attended individual events, that involvement has not always translated into doing life together on campus. The reasons are again varied, but the need remains the same: we pray that students will grow a deeper desire for shared life. This could look like praying together, studying

¹<https://www.barna.com/the-open-generation/>



the Bible together, running outreach events side-by-side, or even simply studying together. It is essential not only for student life but for Christian life more broadly. While the origin of the saying is uncertain, the wisdom rings true: if you want to go fast, go alone; if you want to go far, go together.

A newer encouragement this year has been investing more intentionally in the postgraduate Christian fellowship. For several years a small postgrad group had continued quietly, but in 2025 we committed more time and energy to its growth. Lincoln has seen a significant rise in postgraduate enrolments in recent years, many of whom are international students. This increase has been a blessing to the campus. In 2025 a small but faithful group gathered to study God's Word and think through what it means to study as a Christian every week. This has been a great encouragement and a clear answer to prayer. Looking ahead, we are excited to see what God does in the postgrad world.

Overall, 2025 has been a deeply encouraging year. In my ten years on staff, it has been one of the more encouraging especially in evangelism.



Mid-year bonfire



Top: Lincoln CF leadership team for 2026

Bottom: The amazing team of students helping out at Clubs Day

Canterbury

As we reflect on 2025, we are deeply thankful for the many ways God has been at work within Christian Union (CU) and across the University of Canterbury campus. Although each term brought its own challenges, the steady thread throughout has been God's faithfulness in sustaining the ministry, growing relationships and opening doors for the gospel.

Engaging Campus

The year began with Clubs Day, where we connected with tons of students at the CU stall. While many Christian students showed interest in joining, what stood out most was the surprising openness of atheists and those of other faiths to engage in spiritual conversations. These early interactions set a hopeful tone for the year, reminding us that God is already at work in people's hearts before we even arrive.

The semester was also marked by warm community-building events such as welcome BBQs and shared meals, providing natural spaces for students to connect and feel welcomed into the CU family.

Our central weekly rhythm has continued through Wednesday night dinner and Bible studies. Under the series *Encountering Jesus*, students explored gospel encounters that

revealed who Jesus is and why He came. We also looked at the book of Jonah to learn of God's heart for the nations. Later in the year we studied Acts to see how the early church prioritised scripture, prayer and fellowship as they went out to proclaim the good news. Finally, in Term 4, we covered the Sermon on the Mount to learn about the New Kingdom preached by the King Himself. It was amazing to see the student's hunger for God's Word grow, leading them to often stick around and ask more questions of the passages.

Encouragingly, several non-Christians attended regularly, including many international students and those from other religious backgrounds. These evenings have provided valuable opportunities for gentle, intentional gospel conversations and ongoing spiritual exploration.

Discipleship and Spiritual Growth

Alongside large group gatherings, smaller discipleship spaces have flourished. Daytime study groups as well as specific equipping series (evangelism, Christian Living, etc.) have met faithfully, digging into Scripture and applying it to every aspect of life as students seeking to honour Christ in a secular environment. The retreat day *Refresh* also provided students with space to reflect on spiritual disciplines, helping



Mark Santich
Canterbury
Team Leader

them establish healthy rhythms for sustainable faith. Our Term 3 camp was a special time where we teased out what Jesus meant by His call to deny ourselves, take up our cross and follow Him. Other activities included karaoke sessions, night-time volleyball, and hilarious games until late hours of the night!

Highlights

A number of significant moments have marked the year. The most memorable highlight was a Chinese student coming to CU in Term 1, hearing the gospel, responding in faith and getting baptised within months of arriving in NZ! His tangible joy was an incredible reminder of God's goodness and love through the gospel. Praise God we also had the joy of witnessing a returning student get baptised in November.

Another highlight included celebrating 25 years of ministry on campus for Renée and me. This milestone served as a powerful reminder of God's sustaining grace over decades of gospel service on campus. It was incredibly special to hear from alumni whose lives had been transformed by the gospel over that time - many of them now involved in ministry themselves.

The graduates' celebration was also a joyful way to end the year and celebrate students



stepping into the workforce. Through generous donations from local churches, over 45 support packs full of snacks and goodies were prepared for students during exam season. Surplus packs were given to their friends as a way of reaching out to others.



Celebrating 25 years of ministry with Mark and Renée



Top: CU camp

Bottom: CU evangelism course

Wellington



Will & Esther Chu

The past year has been one of the more challenging ones for TSCF student mission in Wellington. In recent years, although the group has been smaller, there have been significantly encouraging things happening. Sadly, things were put on hold as unexpected staffing changes and students opting out meant we were unable to see a continued presence on campus through the whole year. We remain convinced that TSCF is, among other things, a partnership between students and staff, working together to see a vibrant witness for Jesus in the tertiary institutions across NZ. We give thanks to God for the staff who have and continue to serve faithfully in Wellington.

To that end, we are delighted that during the year, Will & Esther Chu have been appointed to serve in the Wellington team starting in 2026. Will has been appointed as the new Team Leader and Esther will divide her time between serving as a Staff Worker and providing some much-needed administrative support in the National Office. The Chus come with a breadth of experience from their time serving with InterVarsity USA, most recently as leaders on the team in St. Louis, Missouri.

Will and Esther will be coming to re-pioneer the work in Wellington, and we are mindful of the many opportunities and challenges ahead of them. Historically, Wellington has had a significant work amongst both domestic and international students and we would love to see a rebirth of a vibrant student witness on the various campuses in and around our Capital city.

Please pray for the Chus as they settle into Wellington and life in NZ. Pray for new work and witness to develop and grow at Victoria University and at the Wellington campus of Massey University. We would love to see student groups develop in the Polytech spaces of Whitireia and WelTec, as well as in the Wānanga, but recognise these can be more challenging places for student clubs to thrive.

Manawatū

Student leadership is a key part of TSCF's vision, and that has been especially clear in the Manawatū. Without a local staff team alongside them this year, students in Massey University Christian Fellowship have had to step up and lead without the regular in-person staff support enjoyed by other TSCF groups. This has come with both unique challenges and genuine encouragement. Here's an update from one of those student leaders, Luke Cherrington.

"2025 was a time of growth for MUCF as we moved into a new chapter. After many of the student leaders graduated in 2024, there were opportunities for new styles to emerge. Our goal was not to just retrace previous years or to reinvent the wheel, but to use what we know has worked in the past as a springboard for new ideas.

One of the ways we did that was to bring back an old MUCF tradition where we served hot chocolates for students on cold Friday mornings. Initially, we didn't advertise ourselves as a club or wear MUCF clothes as we felt this made us more approachable for non-Christians and allowed us to learn more about the community we're seeking to serve.

Bible studies and prayer meetings continued as a regular part of our week. Prayer meetings had consistent attendance and were a great way to slow down during our busy study days. Bible study attendance fluctuated throughout the year, and we reasoned this was because people were hesitant to join after missing out on earlier studies. To remedy this, we now have Bible study mini-series dotted throughout the semester allowing people to jump in and out.

A highlight of the year was a 'Speaker Night' headed by Paul Stock, Massey University Chaplain, who taught us about the intersection of science and faith. This night had a stronger attendance than other activities, which showed us that many want to attend events but can't always make it due to classes.

Overall, 2025 was a year of trusting and walking by faith. Being a new team was hard, and there were certainly some growing pains, including doubt over the club's future. However, from that time we have grown as leaders and look forward to implementing the lessons we learned. God is good to us, and we are so grateful for the opportunities to serve on campus."



Luke Cherrington
MUCF Vice President

We are so thankful to God for the work He continues to do amongst students in Palmerston North. We continue to pray for new staff to serve in the Manawatū region. If you are interested in exploring this opportunity, please get in touch at personnel@tscf.org.nz



Clubs Day



Top: Canterbury Grads' night
Bottom Left: Unitec Mount Albert crew
Bottom Right: TSCF Wintec group in Hamilton



Top Left: End of year event combined event with Lincoln and Canterbury
Bottom Left: Canterbury Refresh Retreat

Top Right: Students and TSCF staff at the South Pacific Regional Conference in the Solomon Islands
Bottom Right: Lincoln University CF Bible study

Waikato & Bay of Plenty

*"...And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him."
Colossians 3:17 NIV*



Dave Hodgkinson
*Waikato & Bay of
Plenty Team Leader*

Undivided Life (one of TSCF's four aims) is about faithfulness and worship in the whole of life, bringing our studies, work, leisure and relationships under Christ. Last year our Waikato and Bay of Plenty students lived this, being faithful in mission through the challenges and opportunities that came their way.

In Hamilton, our Waikato University group started 2025 by hosting a Kiwi-culture-focussed 'Welcome to Waikato' social. This was a big success, especially with international students. Connecting with students continued throughout the year: serving hot cross buns at Easter; a mid-winter Christmas party and an end of year thanksgiving dessert night. These all provided opportunities to share something of Jesus, inviting students to investigate further.

Our Wednesday lunchtime sessions continued with studies of Mark's Gospel and Philippians over the year, prompting Deep Thought amongst students. A weekly prayer gathering became a regular rhythm on Monday mornings and our weekly food rescue initiative was cemented this year, as we partnered with a local church to hand out bread to students in need on campus.

Club Treasurer, Daniel Aneke, reflected on his year, "The last year has been the most formative year yet. Through the initiatives and gatherings TSCF has run, I've experienced a depth of community that has shaped both my faith and my time at university."

The *Summit* conference was held in the Waikato for the first time in several years. Here, TSCF students met visiting Ecuadorian student movement (CECE) staff workers Lizandro and Wendy, hosting them on the Waikato University campus the following week. This provided an opportunity to learn about the challenges to faithfulness and mission in the Latin American context. TSCF's aim of Global Reach sees us wanting students to have a heart for the nations and to think beyond their own culture.

Across the city in Hamilton's CBD, a new group has slowly been re-established at Wintec (Waikato Institute of Technology). Wintec student Abbie Webber has laboured faithfully to pioneer a group that meets weekly for lunch. She reflected, "It's been wonderful to see God at work amongst the students drawn to our TSCF Bible studies. Witnessing the power of prayer, fellowship and scripture has been



Live Life camp (Annual Waikato & BOP regional camp)

very encouraging for my faith. We have enjoyed reading Mark, seeing who Christ is and His power over sin and darkness.”

Over in Tauranga it was a challenging year. Our Toi Ohomai group on the Windermere campus struggled to find a consistent rhythm due to short and ad-hoc lunch breaks for students. The Waikato University group at the Tauranga campus struggled to widen the group's reach on campus and this limited gospel sharing opportunities. Through the year we studied Psalms, 1 John and James at our weekly meetings.

We continued to serve pancakes in the local student hostel once a month, which fosters good connections with hostel students. Our new regional staff worker Natasha Brown (née Burling) began working in Tauranga from May, increasing our capacity to meet more intentionally with students. Final year accounting student, Jayden Cantwell, reflected on his three years, “Events like *Summit* conferences were fantastic. Yet of all the things I've been involved in over my time at TSCF, the regular catch-ups, conversations and mentoring have helped my faith the most.”

The challenges in Tauranga have caused us to think and discuss deeply about how to contextualise campus mission well for the coming year and beyond.

Over in Rotorua it was wonderful to see a new TSCF group at Toi Ohomai's Mokoia campus. Local church and polytech staff met weekly with students in the campus café. They warmly welcomed others and studied the book of Romans over the year. Many Polytech students' courses last only one year, but the hope is that the group will continue into 2026.

We ended the year with several students stepping up to be part of new leadership teams across the region. I'm thankful to God for faithfully providing new student leaders to carry on TSCF's mission, supported, trained and cheered on by staff workers and supporters. Please continue to pray for them!



Top: Orientation Week in Hamilton
Bottom: CECE staff workers at Summit

Auckland



Josh Irving
Auckland Team
Leader

TSCF's work in Auckland continues to grow and bear fruit. This past year, our 12 campus groups connected with over 1,200 students - through club stalls, outreach initiatives and Bible studies. While responses vary, there does seem to be an openness, even a growing curiosity about Christian faith on campus. Half of our Auckland groups have seen one or more students come to faith in Jesus and taken steps to follow Him.

At the University of Auckland (UoA), Korean Young-Adult Christian Fellowship (KYCF) recognised a need to adjust their approach, given the number of students exploring Christian faith. Ana, one of the student leaders, explains:

"KYCF tried running a new course to encourage those who were considering Christian faith or feeling unsure about it. This included an introduction to the Bible and the gospel. All glory to God - the 15 students who participated all stayed on at KYCF to continue their faith journey, and some have even committed to volunteering next year!"

Alongside True Witness, TSCF's prayer is that students' own lives and vocations will be shaped by Deep Thought, informed by the Bible and a Christ-centred worldview. So, as well as inviting non-Christian students to place their trust in Jesus, TSCF students are learning to live (and think!) for Jesus in their studies. Staff worker Robyn, who supports the Christian Medical Fellowship (CMF), provides an example from the UoA medical school:

"What does it mean to be a Christian doctor, not just a doctor who happens to also be a Christian? CMF discussed this question in a variety of ways throughout the year, diving into the Bible to find answers. For instance, we looked at how a Christian framework for ethics is distinctive and how the gospel brings hope in suffering and chronic illness. All of this helped students to plant gospel seeds and have more confident answers when friends ask about their faith."

Another opportunity in our diverse region is to welcome international students and introduce them to Jesus. Some of our groups are more specifically geared for this work, such as the Overseas Christian Fellowship at UoA and the English Corner and Bible study groups at Massey University (Albany).

One student, Ryan, describes his involvement:

"In my first year at Massey, an acquaintance invited me to English Corner - run by TSCF and the Massey Chaplaincy. I was not a Christian back then, but God was at work in my life. Then, this year, I was encouraged to attend TSCF's Summit. I had a truly transformative experience, seeing how other students live their lives to honour God, and being supported in my own walk with Jesus."

Ryan was one of a 40-strong Auckland contingent at *Summit 2025*. Proximity to the Waikato campsite of course helped in this case. But the Auckland representation at *Summit* has seen a steady increase over the past three years - effectively doubling! What's more, the learning and equipping that happens at *Summit* is having a noticeable impact as Auckland students return to campus with more evangelistic impetus. Anna, a student leader with AUT Christian Fellowship, shares:

"Following Summit, several of the leaders shared how we'd enjoyed hearing from the different missionaries who spoke. We were inspired to organise a missions event for our own campus groups, to share more about the Great Commission and how that applies to students today. What started as a random idea turned into a group chat with five of us planning and contacting people. We were grateful for guest speakers from OMF, Interserve, Barnabas Aid, and YWAM, in addition to Lance, our own TSCF staff-worker. They all challenged us to consider steps we could take to participate in God's mission, now and into the future."

Students like Anna and her friends are brilliantly placed to reach their peers and go on as Christ-like servant leaders - in churches, workplaces, families, and friend groups, long into the future. This year, we praise God for 50 recognised student leaders in Auckland and for the excellent work they're doing to reach students for Christ.

We also give thanks for new additions to the Auckland staff team, who enable us to better train and support our student leaders. Anna Jacobs has joined from across the ditch in Australia (having served seven years in the IFES movement there) and Chris Northcott, based in West Auckland, has come aboard as an Associate at Unitec Waitakere.



Top: Veritas Law after challenging Christian Medical Fellowship in football and basketball.

Bottom: 'Celebrate Auckland' event

Towards the end of the year, it was good to gather with students, staff, and supporters for a 'Celebrate Auckland' event. After several years of re-building TSCF's presence and capacity in Auckland, it was important to mark the many ways God has provided.

Please continue to pray with us for NZ's biggest student city. There's plenty more work to do...



Auckland student leaders



Top: Fun and games after combined leaders' dinner
Bottom: CU & OCF ice cream outreach



Auckland contingent at Summit 25



Waikato Uni students welcome buses and carloads of students to Summit 2025 in Ngāruawāhia



Top Middle: Christchurch Wednesday night dinner
Bottom Middle: TSCF Toi Ohomai Rotorua 2025



Students leading worship at Summit 25



Top Left: TSCF staff with Wellington OCF grad and now Prime Minister of the Solomon Islands Matthew Wale (centre)

Top Middle: Students at Summit 25

Bottom Left: Staff Training 2025

Top Right: Students at the South Pacific Regional Conference in the Solomon Islands

Bottom Right: Chapel at Canterbury CU Camp

Finance Report

Equipping students for a lifetime of following Jesus requires sustainable support, wise stewardship and strategic investment. In 2025, our vision focused on investing in future leadership across campus groups, *Summit* and the training and development of staff workers, while also taking steps towards growing our four aims: True Witness, Undivided Life, Deep Thought and Global Reach.

We are deeply grateful for the generosity of you, our partners, whose faithful giving makes this work possible. Thank you!

This report outlines our income, expenditure and overall financial position as we remain committed to campus mission across New Zealand.

Students at the Forefront

- Investing in student leadership development. Through funding from individuals and trusts, we were able to offer a number of *Summit* scholarships to students from all over New Zealand, building on the growth we have seen in recent years.
- Broadening student's understanding of God's global mission. Eight students participated in the South Pacific Regional Conference (SPARC) in the Solomon Islands. Joining students and staff from all sister movements across the South Pacific, SPARC fostered the growth of vision of God's work around the world, the sharing of ideas and learning from one another's different cultural contexts.
- Supporting new students. We designed and produced the *New Student Pack* for those heading to university or polytech for the first time. The aim of the pack is to bless new students, support their flourishing in this new season, and connect them to local TSCF groups.
- Developing intentional community. This included making a lump sum repayment of \$65,000 to further reduce our mortgage liability at *The Well* so that it can continue to grow as a base for student mission at Lincoln University.



Caitlin Ormiston
Chief Operating
Officer

Strengthening Sustainability

As well as supporting students on the ground, funds were utilised to strengthen the sustainability of TSCF:

- *Recruitment.* We were able to strengthen our work with the addition of new staff in Auckland, Tauranga and Wellington. This included saying farewell to Finance Officer, John Riley, who headed into retirement, handing over the baton for managing TSCF finances to Anita Nolan. I'd like to express my sincere thanks to John, on behalf of TSCF, for his hard work managing the finances of TSCF for 13 1/2 years. We are so grateful!
- *Investing in leadership for the long haul.* Staff experienced mission alongside other nations through the Urbana Missions Conference in America and SPARC. We invested in professional development, including sending Otago Team Leader Simon Sim and his family to Regent College in Canada, so that Simon could complete his Master of Arts in Leadership, Theology and Society (MALTS). We also encouraged ministry refreshment and equipped staff for extended seasons of mission with TSCF through the provision of sabbaticals.

- *Enabling staff for long-term sustainable ministry.* We implemented the first two phases of TSCF's staff-wide salary review, based around principles of Biblical stewardship, transparency, integrity and enabling staff for a sustainable life of ministry. We have been so encouraged by God's provision in 2025, with staff support funds increasing by more than \$150,000, allowing us to reach the first targets for implementation.

Core funding, however, has not experienced the same growth as staff support. These funds are vital for supporting most of our governance, administration and visionary projects. Together, these functions enable TSCF to work effectively, move forward together and adapt to the ever-changing landscape of student ministry.

In 2026, TSCF hopes to implement the final stage of this salary review. However, growth in regular giving to our core funds continues to be a key factor in enabling us to reach this goal. Would you consider supporting the core funds of TSCF, to help us create a more sustainable movement for the long term?

Leaving a Legacy

During the year, we were deeply grateful to receive a substantial legacy gift. This generous bequest is a significant blessing and a testament to long-term trust in the mission of TSCF. With the Board's guidance, this gift will be stewarded in ways that strengthen our foundations, grow our capacity for ministry and create flexibility to respond as students' needs change and new doors are opened.

Student ministry is built on partnership, and we remain committed to cultivating ongoing support so that TSCF continues to flourish not just for this generation, but for generations of students to come.

Finishing Position

Overall, both income and expenses increased when compared with the prior year. The net result was that TSCF finished the year in a positive financial position, with the legacy gift bringing our surplus to \$612,523 (approximately \$55k operating surplus without the legacy).

With the substantial efforts from the staff team with their vision funding, and the implementation of the salary review, it was encouraging to finish the year with these funds to carry across into ministry in 2026.

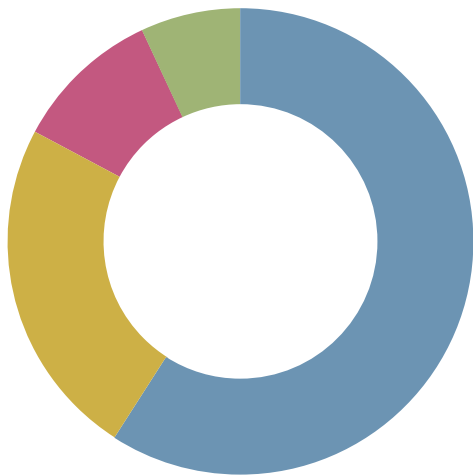
We give thanks to God for His work in and through this precious ministry and pray that He would continue to work in us and through us for many years to come. We also give thanks to you for every part you play in reaching students for Christ, changing students for life.



2025 Financials

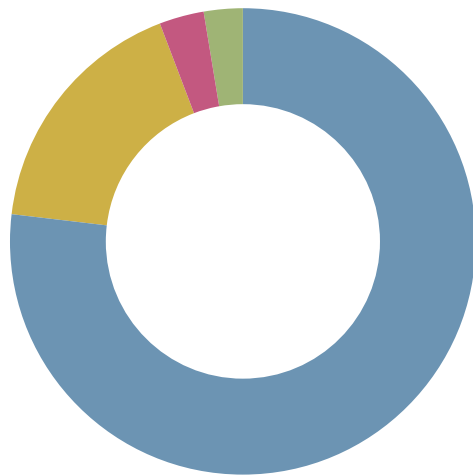
Donations by Source*

**Excluding The Well & Legacies*



\$954,398	Individuals	\$388,795	Overseas Support
\$167,600	Trusts	\$112,215	Churches

2025 Expenditure



\$1,338,070	Programme costs – Local ministry incl. field staff & expenses	\$294,759	Resourcing, leadership & governance
\$55,364	Student Communities	\$43,748	Events

Income	2025	2024
Donations	\$1,623,008	\$1,455,107
Revenue from student events & ministry activities	\$97,058	\$80,182
Revenue from other sources	\$62,751	\$70,016
Legacy gifts	\$557,056	\$19,051
Gifts to <i>The Well</i>	\$4,591	\$10,410
Total Income	\$2,344,464	\$1,634,766

The Well Mortgage	2025	2024
Remaining mortgage as at 31 December	\$179,812	\$278,855

Expenditure	2025	2024
Programme costs – local ministry costs including field staff & expenses	\$1,338,070	\$1,185,348
Resourcing, leadership and governance	\$294,759	\$266,962
Student communities	\$55,364	\$57,507
Events	\$43,748	\$50,295
Total Expenditure	\$1,731,941	\$1,560,113
Surplus	\$612,523	\$74,653
Surplus less legacy gifts	\$55,467	\$55,602

Meet the Team

Staff Team



Abigail Ninham
Admin Assistant



Aina Eckert
Lincoln &
The Well



Anita Nolan
Finance Manager



Anna Jacobs
Auckland



Ben Carswell
National Director



Caitlin Ormiston
Chief Operating
Officer



Chris Hay
Lincoln



David Hodgkinson
Waikato/
Bay of Plenty



Esther Chu
Wellington Staff
Worker & Admin
Special Projects



Josh Irving
Auckland



Katie Knight
Auckland



Kate McClelland
Lincoln



Kathryn Wu
Auckland



Lance Knight
Auckland



Mark Santich
Canterbury &
True Witness
Coordinator



Mike Doragh
Systems &
Projects



Nadine Liddle
Waikato



Natasha Brown
Bay of Plenty



Renée Santich
Canterbury



Robyn Drake
Auckland & Head
of Resource
Development



Simon Sim
Otago



Tim Hodge
Head of Training
& Development



Wilma Reinders
PA to National
Director

Associate Staff



Ani Kartikasari
Lincoln



Annette Lane
Auckland



Chris Northcott
Auckland



Dwayne Tongamohenoa
Auckland



Hanli Liu
Auckland



Jeff Lane
Auckland



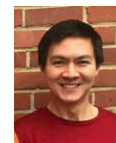
Jordan Simmonds
Christchurch



Mei Rideout
Wellington



Nick Goodwin
Waikato



Timothy Marshall
Otago



Wayne Lam
Auckland

Farewelled



John Riley



Kate Irving



Kim Shaw

WITH THANKS TO

Rachel Turner (Editorial Team)

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Ruth and Josue Hicks
Olmedo (CECE Ecuador)

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Hilary Hague
Jessica Palmer
Rabee Yee
Stuart Lange





**He ākonga ki ngā ākonga hei ara
whakawhiti mō te Karaiti**

Reaching students for Christ,
changing students for life.



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