

PARTNERS

Do you not know that in a race all the runners run, but only one gets the prize?

Run in such a way as to get the prize.

Everyone who competes in the games goes into strict training. They do it to get a crown that will not last, but we do it to get a crown that will last forever.

1 Corinthians 9:24-25



APRIL 2025

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Editorial- Jeremy Dempsey

Around the Nation - What's going on in the regions?

School of Evangelism

Eternal Opportunities

REGULAR MINISTRY

Street Work & Door to Door
Discipleship
Chaplaincy
Prison Ministry

High school & Kids Programs
Youth Groups
Preaching
Personal Evangelism



WHAT'S COMING UP?

APRIL

10-11 April Easter Program in schools

4-25 Kids Camps and Holiday programs

18-21 Auckland Easter Show

MAY

16-18 SOE Block Course

Connect & Communicate Training

JUNE

14-27 OAC International
Presidential visit to NZ

Connect & Communicate Training

JULY

7-18 Fiji SOE

7-18 School Holiday Kids programs

SOE students practicing their ladder lettering





Kia ora koutou

We are a quarter of the way through the year and so much ministry has already taken place and we have so many ministry opportunities still to come. In the last two months, our team ministered to over 7000 people through beach missions, camps, open airs, personal evangelism and partnering with local churches to reach their communities for Christ. We have also had the privilege of leading a number of people to the Lord.



Jeremy & Vicki-Lee

One of our evangelists shared the Gospel with a 16 year old on the streets in Napier a few months ago. He was very open and was impacted greatly with the Gospel, so much so that he wanted to start a Bible study to learn more. Unfortunately, contact with the teenager was lost, however, the Lord was still at work. Three weeks ago, out of the blue, this same teenager rang the evangelist wanting to meet up and chat. Through that meeting, the teenager confessed he was searching and ended up committing his life to Christ.

Waitangi

This year's Waitangi outreach from the 3-6 of February, started off a little slower than previous years, however, we still gave out approximately 7000 pieces of bi-lingual Gospel literature and had hundreds of Gospel conversations over the three days. We had three OAC evangelists and five volunteers from the Maori Postal Service completing shifts on the ministry stall, starting at 9 am till around 5 pm each day. There was such a sense of gratitude for our stall as people took Bible verses and Gospel stories in Te Reo Maori. We had the privilege of praying for many people. One 20yr old female grew up in church but was full of questions and doubts. Her Christian experience was a very legalistic one and no matter how hard she tried she would fall and feel like a failure. Judgment from others was not far away either. She believed based on what was taught to believed that God viewed her in the same way - that she was a failure and didn't deserve His love. After sharing the Gospel and praying for her many tears were shed, however, something amazing happened. What started out as tears of pain and hurt turned into tears of joy. A burden was lifted in the young lady's heart and mind as the truth began to set her free.

Enjoy reading our latest edition of Partners.





Lew & Philip

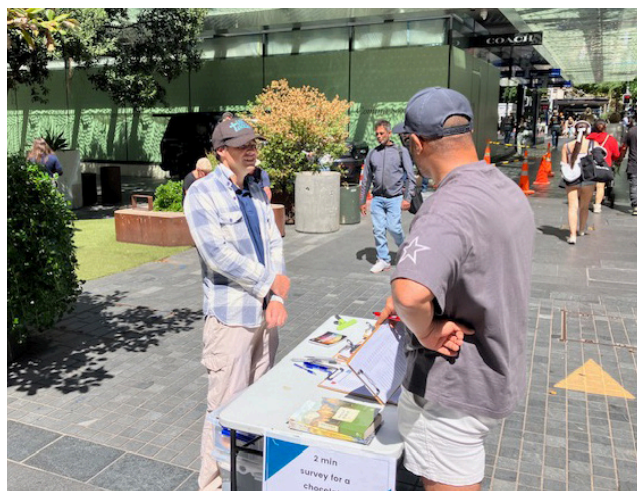
AUCKLAND

Leading a number of outreach teams has proven very successful. We trundle into the city, and set up various stations engaging people with a spirituality survey in exchange for a chocolate bar. Is it worth it? This strategy has produced hours of conversations bringing greater clarity of the Gospel.

Philip Williamson was leading the team recently. He wrote...

I asked an older man why he believed that he was going to heaven, and he responded as many do: by saying that he had lived a good life. So, I shared the Gospel with him and asked if he had ever heard that before - and he said, "I've lived a long time but never heard it like that." So, as we talked, I asked him if he would like to pray and ask the Lord Jesus for forgiveness, to be rescued from God's justice. And he said yes! I asked a couple of checking questions and found he had a clear but simple understanding. He said he had a bus to catch, but he really wanted to stay and pray to ask to receive God's forgiveness. So, we discussed the sinner's prayer at the back of the '10 things to know about God' tract and prayed it together. He said he goes to the Anglican church near him, and I encouraged him to go and see the leadership and share about this. As he left, he said he was keen to take the booklet with him because he'd like to show the prayer to others and see if they wanted to pray it too.

UPCOMING: Please pray as we look forward to our seminar for evangelists, Easter Show team training, Easter Show outreach stall, Manukau Institute of Technology outreaches, and ongoing street outreaches (Wednesdays, West Auckland, Fridays downtown and Hamilton Fridays fortnightly.)



Glen & Mark

BAY OF PLENTY

Evangelism testimony using CPR Doll

When God created this world, He was creative in everything He designed. Think of the variety within creation; from the lanky tall giraffe to the pudgy hippopotamus. We are made in the likeness of God. God is creative, and we can be creative too which reflects being made in the image of God.

In February, I had a great evangelistic encounter; I talked with 3 ladies and 1 guy. As I approached them to start a spiritual conversation. I pulled out my CPR doll put Him on the ground and said, "My CPR doll is dying he's going to hell. What can stop him from going to hell?" One of them answered, "Do CPR on them," and I said, "He's going to die anyway, but I want to know what can stop him from being punished in eternity for his sin?" They were quiet for a bit then the guy said, "Ask." "Ask for what?" I replied, "Ask for forgiveness." I pulled out my small pocket Bible opening it to Romans 3:23 and read the verse out. Do you know what this means?" I asked. They replied "No".

I explained who God is (perfect and holy) and how we have sinned and rebelled. Turning to Romans 6:23 then explained the consequences of our sin. I asked them, do you know what this means?" And they said, "If you sin too much you go to hell." I replied, "You only have to sin once and you are heading to hell". Then I read the rest of Romans 6:23 and John 3:16 showing the hope that Christ provides. After sharing the Gospel with them I asked, "Would you like to trust in Jesus now or do you need more time?" They responded with a yes and put their trust in Christ.

If you ever get new ideas for ministry I encourage you to give it a go- take a risk, act on it. The gains you get from acting on these ideas at times can far exceed the amount of effort needed to implement them. The inspiration for this CPR doll came to me about 3 years ago, unfortunately I only acted on the idea earlier this year. But I'm glad I finally did!

HAWKE'S BAY



Kevin, Maria & Andrei

Over the summer months, the Hawke's Bay team has traveled around a bit, from beach mission in the Bay of Plenty to camps in the lower North Island to witnessing at Waitangi. Maria met two young ladies at Waitangi, one of whom had recently become a Christian after her friend "forced" her to church and prayed for her – she encountered Jesus and gave her life to the Lord. The other one had then become interested in Christian things when the first girl prayed for her. What a joy to meet them, hear of the Lord's work in their lives, and be able to connect them with a student ministry at their university campus.

Back in Hawke's Bay, our biggest event has been Art Deco weekend. We were out for 12 hours a day, two days in a row, engaging with people on the streets. The second day we were joined by five eager young people who enthusiastically engaged passersby in conversation and sought to point them to Jesus. Kevin met a man who was baptised two weeks prior, after coming out of a Himalayan monastery 4 months before that. He told Kevin he was unrecognizable from his former life with bones around his neck and long hair. Somehow he had picked up a Bible and the Scriptures came alive and spoke to him so he turned to Christ.

For the last few weeks we have been involved in the School of Evangelism as it is based in our region – what a privilege to be able to train others to proclaim Christ by all means everywhere.



Evan Kangisher

MANAWATU

There is a lot of evangelism outreach that takes place in Palmerston North, among many Churches. Often, I hear of different people/groups doing different outreach and this is encouraging. I used Waitangi Day as an opportunity to take four teenage girls into town. They paired up and used the streets and shopping centre to talk with many

people and appreciated the conversations. My intention with them is to familiarize them with engaging with people and learning together how to think through and discuss their questions and responses. I am looking to expand this with them.

Personally, I am doing chaplaincy in three houses where there is an opportunity to bring God's truth into many troubled lives. This term I am doing a Christian Basics Course with my son as he thinks about baptism. I have had three part-time jobs for a while, all of which present me with the opportunity to be a witness for Jesus in conduct and word. It is very different to live and preach the Gospel in the workplace as opposed to on the streets, requiring me to get to know people more and be more thoughtful of my words.

I have also worked with a pastor on a four-part evangelism booklet, called Exploring Faith. The first publication has been done, possibly with some revisions to come in the future. Thank you for your prayer support for this region.





Steve, Marty and Roy

CANTERBURY

Steve, Roy and Marty have been getting into the square and onto the streets over the summer. They have had a few more on our side coming into the square willing to share and support us. We had some ex-OAC guys join us a couple of times, John Laing, Peter Fisher and Steven Pallesen.

Steve Williams enjoyed joining Shane and others in Dunedin for the university orientation week reaching out for six hours a day. Steve had a great chat with three young guys from Germany, they were happy to take Gospel tracts and a New Testament each.

Roy and Marty shared at Southwest Baptist Church Tuesday Fellowship again, Marty used his puppet Ziggy to talk about how we should use the word awesome only for God and not for everyday things: For the Lord Most High is awesome. He is the great King of all the earth. Psalm 47:2. Roy shared his experiences in the square and dealing with confrontations. His key verse was: To this you were called, because Christ suffered for you, leaving you an example, that you should follow in his steps. "He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth." 1 Peter 2v21-22.

Marty was at Curious Cove in January to speak at their senior kid's camp. He hadn't spoken there for 25 years. It was a small camp with 37 kids and 17 responded to the invitation. I shared the story of George Washington Carver. They had a great bunch of leaders including three from my church. Tony and Jane Ross have done a great job managing the camp for many years and still have a heart for reaching kids with the Gospel through the camps.

Coming up: 10-11 April Easter programmes at Dorie and Rakaia schools. 12 April Marty speaking at C3 church men's breakfast. 16 April Marty speaking at Bryndwr chapel holiday program.



Shane Louie

DUNEDIN

Our School Holiday Program went very well with 40 children per day coming for five mornings. Our theme was A Very Special Tent, which was all about the different places God would dwell with man. We started with the Tabernacle, then the Temple until we got to Jesus as being the place prepared for us in him. Then the day of Pentecost and finally the Millennial Temple. Overall, a great program with a bunch of new and familiar faces. Also, our teenage leaders are becoming more and more confident and taking on more responsibility each program we do, which is great to see. We have well in excess of 50 children on our roll now from all over Dunedin.

Ten of us from different parts of the country joined hands to reach out to students and others for six hours a day, for six days straight. We had a great time sharing the Gospel message and it was great to work with others. We do this each year and it's great to see these young people join churches and get baptized.

Our next holiday program will be only four days as this will also be Easter.

Some things to consider praying for would be:

- The next holiday program Easter time would be another great program.
- That many young people who heard the Gospel over orientation week would consider where they stand before God.
- That as Christians we would have a right reaction/response to the antisemitism that is so rampant down here.





SCHOOL OF EVANGELISM

Equipping evangelists for full-time evangelism

This year we had 17 full and part-time students register to attend the 3-week course. The students were taught how to share the Gospel in a variety of settings and were given the chance to put all that they learnt into practice.

As I watched these young and not-so-young folk stepping well out of their comfort zone doing Open Airs, sharing personal stories in class and dancing to weird songs in the Kid's program I was filled with joy and wonder.

What makes a retiree knock on doors and talk to strangers when they could be relaxing at home? What makes someone travel all the way from the other side of the world to better her communication skills? What makes a solo mum want to learn to paint up a sketchboard message to preach to strangers? What makes a cool '20 something' want to dance and do actions to kids' songs?

Jesus Christ does! Each of these people have a love for Christ that challenges and inspires them to leave the normal, step out of what is comfortable and put all their insecurities aside to share that love that saved and transformed them, with others.

It is a privilege and such a joy to see each and every one of these students grow in their confidence and ability to share Christ is a way that others, regardless of age, background or ethnicity, can understand. Maybe next year this could be you!



IT'S BACK!

Evangelist Fellowship Conference.

Looking forward to a time of refreshing, encouragement and up-skilling together!

This year we will be looking at **MISSION DRIFT**.

This annual event is a time for evangelists, and those with a heart for evangelism, to come together and encourage one another as we grow in the ministry together.



12-15 AUGUST 2025

CHECK OUT THE WEBSITE FOR MORE INFO
WWW.OAC.ORG.NZ

REGISTER NOW





Many Community Chaplains work in rest homes and retirement villages, regularly visiting residents. Often all that is needed is a few cheerful friendly words, but sometimes they get an opportunity to pray with them and speak to them about the Lord. Some residents are lonely Christians who cannot get out to fellowship with other Christians. Here are a few encouraging snippets from recent reports from several different Community Chaplains.

“Shared my favourite verse for the week. Also heard how she is feeling and read her some passages from her Bible. She is keen for me to go back soon.”
“Visited E and his wife. They both stay in different parts of the home and are very grateful for my visit.”
“D explained that he had taken a walk outside this morning which he wasn’t allowed to do. Had time to get to know him a little more.”
“C has been having episodes of not being able to breathe. A frightening thing. I prayed with her about her condition and getting help soon.”
“Had a brief conversation with the new CEO to let her know who I am. She is thankful that a Chaplain can visit their residents.”

<https://www.communitychaplains.org.nz/about/>

Eternal Investment Opportunities - UPDATED DETAILS

If you would like to support work in an operational sector or the general work in a particular region you can do so via the OAC website, www.oac.org.nz (note a small fee is taken from the donation to cover costs), or you can give directly via your [online banking](#). (Cheques are no longer accepted)

Please record your name in 'Particulars' and the appropriate code to direct your giving under 'reference'

For more information please call Vicki-Lee on 0800 467 735 or national@oac.org.nz

NATIONAL WORK 03-0149-0024916-00

Codes

- A National
- A1 Community Chaplains
- B National Training

REGIONS 03-0515-0138148-00

Codes

- D Auckland
- F Waikato
- G Bay of Plenty
- H Hawke's Bay
- I Manawatu
- L Christchurch
- M Otago/Southland
- O Overseas Mission Branch

OPERATIONS 03-0149-0024916-03

Codes

- D1 Lew Meyer AKL
- D3 Philip Williamson AKL
- E1 Robert Siakimotu OMB
- G1 Mark Breetvelt BOP
- G2 Glen Kriel (trainee) BOP
- H1 Jeremy Dempsey HB
- H2 Maria Henderson HB
- H3 Kevin Simpson HB
- I2 Evan Kangisher PN
- L1 Marty Scheib CHCH
- L2 Roy Ouwerkerk CHCH
- L3 Steve Williams CHCH
- L4 Andrei Tomkinson (intern) CHCH
- M1 Shane Louie DUN