

**APRIL 2024**

**"If you are always racing to the next moment, what happens to the one you're in?"  
Nanette Mathews**

## **INSIDE THIS ISSUE**

Editorial- Jeremy Dempsey

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

Evangelist Fellowship Conference

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Kia ora koutou

What a privilege it is to be sharing some of the highlights of our hard-working team from around the country. I am reminded of Paul's words to the Corinthian church concerning his work in Ephesus when he said he would stay there "because a great door of effective work has opened up for me."



This summer period has been extremely fruitful. Over the last 4 months we have been able to minister the word of God and the gospel to over 13 000 people around the country.

Jeremy & Vicki-Lee

In February we held our first formal Waitangi mission at Waitangi. We had seven on the team and for 2 and a half days we were run off our feet giving out resources and sharing who Christ is. There was much confusion in people's minds about Christ but at the same time an openness to engage and consider who He is and what He has done. Over the course of this event, we gave away 3450 bilingual Christian calendars, 1120 gospel comics (From Creation to Christ), 3000 large text Bible verses, 2000 medium text Bible verses and Karakia, 200 Gospels of John and about 400 Tārore stories with the Gospel of Luke.

I also want to say a big thank you for all your support. We feel so privileged to be part of the Lord's work in transforming lives. I hope this latest update will be an encouragement as you are too us.

Jeremy Dempsey

A young Māori man in his 20s was asked what he knew about Jesus? After some conversation, he confessed he has been considering Jesus for months. That day after hearing about our Lord he decided to receive Him into his life.

Youth Mission in Fiji



## REGULAR MINISTRY

**Preaching  
Personal Evangelism  
High school  
Kids Programs  
Prison Ministry**

**Training  
Street Work & Door to Door  
Youth Groups  
Chaplaincy  
Discipleship**

# AUCKLAND



Lew & Philip

Summer was busy for us. Philip and Lew were both involved in Beach Mission teams, Lew lectured at Lake Learning, then a weekend of outreach called 'Love Auckland'. Then Lew was at our Festival One outreach.

Philip Williamson is a great asset to our evangelism team. His great knowledge and [zeal to win and disciple](#) people inspire us. Philip is no longer serving as part time pastor with Waitakere Bible Church and so we are seeking to raise support for him to be part time with OAC, and three churches (at time of writing) are interested in involvement with them in evangelism, teaching and discipling.

Our voluntary team outreach in the CBD continues to be a highlight as we engage people from all sorts of beliefs, and levels of mental health. We usually have a team of at least six but are always willing to have you join us!

Our consistent prayer is that the love of Jesus will be seen in us, and the good news of Jesus will be heard from us. This is a soul winning combination.

Coming up:

Apart from our regular outreach and church related activities, we have a series of outreaches at universities coming up.

We also have an Easter Show Outreach. This is an 'Easter Walkthrough' in the market area where people see the main points of God's Easter Rescue plan. Various objects and art and writing will remind people who walk through of the key points of the gospel.... creation, the fall, the cross, the empty tomb etc.

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# WAIKATO



Paul Tabrum

Wow, the year is flying along. We're still working at Springhill prison twice a week and in the last 3 weeks 3 men prayed to receive Christ. Although I can't always get to where I want to go in the complex, I continue to experience the Lord's leading and end up where He wants me to be. Discipling of those who've made decisions for Christ is ongoing.

We had a great day at Pukekohe market a few Saturdays back, working with a few from Franklin Bible Church. Four who did the "What People Believe" surveys asked for follow-up literature. Two of the team came from a home fellowship which had completed an evangelism workshop with me some months before. It was great to see them connecting with the folk in the market.

I've had two thousand of my latest booklet printed. "Something's very wrong" is for our NZ farmers. These dear folk are isolated and under huge pressure. They'll be distributed via Rural Delivery within a week or two and eventually we'll cover the Waikato and beyond as we have more printed which will be soon. Please pray for souls to be saved from these. Joanne and I have been encouraged by offers to support this work.

Thank you to all who've supported us and the gospel work over the last months. The world grows darker, but the Lord is coming.

Blessings for 2024,  
Paul & Joanne

# BAY OF PLENTY



Glen & Mark

Opportunities to share the gospel abound in Rotorua! One such opportunity is weekly at the Kuirau Park Market on Saturday mornings. Last Saturday Mark put up the OAC sketchboard just outside our tent and stood there, wondering what he should present this time around. The story of the Prodigal Son came to mind.

A young lady came into our tent asking for prayer. As it happened, she had been looking our way and took a while to build up the courage to come in. As we heard her story and prayed for her, she expressed her desire and prayed to come back to Jesus having drifted away from Him over the last two years! She has a church to which she will now return.

Mark is still doing a little teaching at the local Catholic High School – John Paul College. *It's really a privilege to be in a place where I can be open about my faith in God!*

My hope is to be released for more time in evangelism as time goes on.

Glen had an evangelism encounter with four teenagers at the Lake Front in Rotorua. After a few questions one of the girls asked with a sense of urgency; "Is Hell a real place...? What can I do to be saved?" He showed them a picture of Jesus on a cross; and said, "The bad news is that we deserve to be punished for our sin; but the good news is that Jesus died on a cross for us in our place, taking the punishment we deserve for our sin." "Whoa!" One of the girls said as she opened her mouth wide in amazement; and it was all quiet and you could sense there was conviction there; not only that they were sinners; but that Jesus died for them in their place. Glen shared, "When I was 10 years old, I prayed to Jesus, saying; 'I'm sorry for my sins, please forgive me for my sins.' You can pray to Jesus before you go to sleep tonight; and you can ask Him to forgive you. There're no magic words; it's just trusting in Jesus, and asking Him to forgive you."

It was encouraging to see the Holy Spirit bringing conviction;



God's Word is powerful; and will not return void (Isaiah 55:11)



Kevin & Maria

# HAWKE'S BAY

The year has started off well with a number of events to be at as summer comes to an end. Whether it's a weekend at Art Deco, Flaxmere night market or International Cultures Day, we try to adapt to the nature of the event while keeping our message the same – **focused on Christ**.

Some people hear it is a religious thing and walk on while others welcome the free resources (like Bible calendars) we have and gratefully take them home.

We have also been going around town often, especially outside of school hours, to engage with people. At a **bus stop** we had good interaction with some teenage boys as they asked questions out of objection or curiosity to what we were saying about Jesus.

We are heading into a busy few weeks as Kevin and I each coordinate the Hope Booklet Delivery in our respective cities. This is a **rewarding job** as we have many opportunities to network and encourage people across churches in our area.

We have appreciated a number of volunteers joining us in various forms of ministry and would love to see the team grow some more. **Please pray with us to that end.**

One young person recently shared with me how she wouldn't be where she is today if it wasn't for the outreach training and opportunities she has had with OAC.  
**JOIN A TEAM TODAY!**



International Cultures Day



Evan Kangisher

# MANAWATU

In this first part of the year, I've tried to concentrate on my family and my neighborhood. Some time, however, has been spent out in Palmerston North city, particularly with a friend of mine, and at two houses that I do some chaplaincy in. I have found that I have been able to have **many conversations** with a lot of people just by walking around our immediate and larger neighborhood. I have been able to meet many people and where possible engage in meaningful conversations. In the community houses, people come and go regularly, but there is enough stability among the majority to get to know people and become acquainted with their personal circumstances.

Community meals are still held every Monday where **250-300** people get a meal. It is a big investment for the church, but people get to hear the gospel and talk with others just like me where they are open to share their personal circumstances more freely.

I need to spend some time in physical rehabilitation over the next few months and am expecting this to open conversational opportunities at the local pool/gym. Also, I had some opportunity with a friend several months ago to do some door-to-door work and I will be looking to try reestablishing that over the next few months.



In the city I meet all sorts of people, and without wanting to discount any conversations, I do occasionally get to speak with someone that seems to have been really impacted by our encounter.



Steve, Marty and Roy

# CANTERBURY

**Square ministry** is always a challenge! We usually go on Fridays to preach and share. One of the guys who argues with us has been preaching against us. Recently, he gave some reasons

why Noah's ark was impossible. The following week Marty gave answers to those objections and went on to share the gospel using Jesus words, "I am the door."

Steve and his family have had to shift to temporary accommodation, but the good news is they have found a suitable rental to shift into soon. It has been stressful, and they are looking forward to settling in.

Andrei came with Steve and Marty to the OAC conference at Forest Lakes camp recently. It was good to get to know him better. He and a friend have been going to Canterbury University twice a week to share the gospel and hand out tracts. They try to gauge common factors in student's lives and take it from there. On the flight home from conference, Andrei sat next to a tourist from Denmark, they talked the whole flight. **He shared the gospel** and answered her questions and objections.



Andrei shared with a guy whose family is Muslim. The gospel made sense to him, he was open to who Jesus is and how he can be forgiven.

Sadly, Roy's dad passed away. He and his mum would appreciate prayer support at this time.

Marty has been invited back to **Curious Cove** camp in the Marlborough sounds to speak at junior camp in the next school holidays. Marty used to speak at camps there many years ago.

# DUNEDIN

Hello from sunny Dunedin. Don't tell anyone or everybody will want to move here.

The last week of the school holidays we spent five mornings with 35 children from all over Dunedin. We had a great time learning about God's amazing animals. After the program I took some holidays as December/ January had been busy.

Shane Louie

I came back straight into a week-long evangelism mission around Dunedin.

It was Orientation week and Operation 513 from Christchurch came into town. One guy from Whangārei, three from Christchurch, three from Southland, and some of us from Dunedin. Many spiritual conversations were had, and many gospel tracts were put into people's hands. It was a real blessing to have those guys to partner with. They did some evangelism training on the Sunday afternoon before the **weeklong outreach**. They are planning to come each year so if you would like to partner with us you could donate to the Otago Region through the web site.

Coming up in April we will be running a holiday club for the first week of the holidays so that we don't clash with ANZAC Day. This program we will be focusing on the festivals of the Bible and how that relates to Jesus. There is a lot happening in the Brockville area and kids have all sorts of after school things on in general, but I hope to kick off again maybe next term.

The After School Club on a Tuesday is on pause until we get more helpers from the community.

KEEN TO GET INVOLVED?

[s.louie@oac.org.nz](mailto:s.louie@oac.org.nz)



## OVERSEAS MISSION BRANCH

The Simple Gospel of Jesus...



Robert Siakimotu

During my recent ministry trip to Fiji, it was good to work alongside some of the SOE students from last year's school. Listening to them sharing how the SOE training impacted them and what is happening now after attending the SOE. A common thread in their stories...back in their provinces and working with their local churches but, the highlight for them is the ongoing opportunities to 'share the simple gospel of Jesus' with their families and friends and be involved in the evangelism program of their local church. Some of them are initiating and leading some of those evangelism opportunities of reaching the people in their communities with the 'simple gospel of Jesus.'

Apo Ting, one of the students, collaborated with our staff evangelist, Samu Civo before he attended the SOE and is still working with Samu as a volunteer with OAC Fiji. He left behind his 'old life' and decided to follow Jesus. He shares his testimony and combines that with the 'simple gospel message of Jesus' regularly with people on the streets of Lautoka. He preached the same message in the open air at the market when we worked together recently. His passion and enthusiasm about telling people his story and connecting that with God's story – the gospel of Jesus is a real blessing. Praise the Lord!

Robert Siakimotu

Apo decided to trust and follow Jesus after hearing a 'simple gospel message of Jesus,' He was a former drug dealer, convicted by the Holy Spirit about his sins and wrong doings.





The Evangelist Fellowship Conference is back again this August at El Rancho Christian Camp in Waikanae.

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.

**Monday 26 - Friday 30 August**



**SAVE THE DATE**

## INTRODUCING



## GLEN KRIEL

Glen has recently joined OAC working as a trainee. He completed his internship a few years ago and has come to work in Rotorua. Glen is very gifted at personal evangelism and goes to the waterfront weekly with a team sharing the gospel with many that he meets.

Glen fellowships at Fenton Park Bible Church in Rotorua. He is currently working part time as well as fulfilling the trainee process. It is great to have Glen joining Mark in the area working hard to reach a variety of people.



One of our Community Chaplains (Jaewyn) in the Auckland CBD writes about another of 'God moment' as she calls them: "I had an **AMAZING** God moment at the central library today. As I was leaving the library I got talking to one of the regulars there. I first got to know him at Merge cafe in K Rd about 3 years ago. This man is an **AMAZING** self-taught artist and was working on his latest art piece. After commenting to him about it we had an **AMAZING** conversation. Having that Community Lanyard around my neck got him asking questions, which also lead me into sharing part of my faith journey. For ages I've been praying that I would have an opening to share with him."

#### Remaking Community Chaplains training

After 4 years of training Community Chaplains, we are taking a break and making some changes that will help the ministry grow towards its huge potential. The training will be expanded, which will give it greater credibility in the Christian community. The training will be professionally filmed so as to be able to shown by facilitators around New Zealand. This will take time and effort so we are putting training events on hold to invest in a better product. Please pray for this process.



<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](http://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 0800467735 or [national@oac.org.nz](mailto: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

### **EVANGELISTS** 03-0149-0024916-03

#### Codes

- D1 Lew Meyer
- D3 Philip Williamson
- E1 Robert Siakimotu
- F1 Paul Tabrum
- G1 Mark Breetvelt
- G2 Glen Kriel (trainee)
- H1 Jeremy Dempsey
- H2 Maria Henderson
- H3 Kevin Simpson
- I2 Evan Kangisher
- L1 Marty Scheib
- L2 Roy Ouwerkerk
- L3 Steve Williams
- L4 Andrei Tomkinson (intern)
- M1 Shane Louie

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