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Kia ora tātou,

Being constructively Christian, in a changing culture

In countries dominated by western culture, there continues to be admiration for compassion, and respect for honesty, integrity, and humility. But there is no doubt that recent cultural trends in western countries no longer give general support to Christian faith and to many other Christian values. This affects how Christians and churches are viewed, and also how many Christians themselves think and act.

Scepticism about Christianity (on both scientific and ethical grounds) has become increasingly fashionable, and Christians in public life are increasingly subject to suspicion. Contemporary post-modernist thinking assumes that truth is subjective and uncertain, and that truth is whatever you choose it to be. Christian truth claims can thus be seen as over-confident, or arrogant.

Individualism and consumerism emphasise the centrality of self and the primacy of individual choice. The priority of personal happiness and pleasure is rarely questioned. Calls to holiness or righteousness are mocked. Christian beliefs about gender, sex, or marriage (views which were shared by most societies until very recently) are increasingly reproached as unloving, harmful, and unable to be tolerated. Churches can variously be regarded as outmoded, empty, irrelevant, narrow-minded, or dangerous.

In the context of our changing, less Christian-friendly context, Christians should not be intimidated, or become weakened in faith. We must remain faithful to Christ and the word. We must also think carefully about what we believe, and how we live and express that. We need...

- to beware of becoming conformed to this world (Rom 12:2)
- to be deeper into the scriptures (Ps 119:11)
- to be a people of constant prayer (Eph 6:18)

- to reflect Christ in all we do and say (Matt 5:13-16)
- to be loving, not a clanging gong (1 Cor 13:1)
- to be humble (James 4:6)
- to be thoughtful, gentle, and respectful in how we speak about our faith (1 Pet 3:15)
- to be good citizens (Rom 13:1), above reproach (1 Pet 3:16-17, 4:15)
- to be peace-makers (Matt 5:19)
- to live peacefully with everyone so far as it depends on us (Rom 12:18)
- to overcome evil with good (Rom 12:21)
- to recognise all Christians as part of the same body of Christ (Eph 4:3-6)
- to receive the wisdom that comes from above (James 3:17), which is 'pure, ...peace-loving, considerate, submissive, full of mercy and good fruit, impartial and sincere'.

Mā te Atua koutou e tiaki e manaaki i ngā wa katoa

May the Lord bless and keep you at all times



Dr Stuart Lange

National Director



Gayann Phillips

General Manager

and the NZCN team

--- Churches united in cities ---
Invitation

5 key things from the last 10 years that took unity to a new level here in Australia

A one-hour webinar with Ian Shelton of One Heart

NZ: 11am, Thursday 11th August, 2022

Au / AEST: 9am, Thursday 11th August, 2022

Address: www.zoom.us/j/88193400320 Passcode: 210040



CityCity
AUSTRALIA - NEW ZEALAND

**ONE
HEART**

shiningLIGHTS
TRUST

**NZ CHRISTIAN
NETWORK**
Go where faith has one

Join us 11am NZ / 9am AEST Thursday 11 August

Next up...



A message for our community

DAVID DISHROON
TAURANGA

We will be sharing communion together as we close the session

Click here to join us on Zoom, 8–9pm Mondays



SEBASTIAN GRAY

NEXT GEN

SOUL EDGE

Originally from the UK, Seb Gray moved to Christchurch two years ago to launch an intensive Christian discipleship gap year program called [Soul Edge](#) and a men's ministry called the [Xtreme Character Challenge](#).

Soul Edge runs leadership training programmes in Canada and New Zealand. Equipping young men & women to rise up as a generation of Christian leaders capable and passionate about the global church & bringing change to the world around them.

The current 5-month Soul Edge model is incredible for students but poses a few significant problems.

- staff don't get paid
- staff can't do anything else for 5 months

- staff can't pursue a career and have to struggle to find something to do for the rest of the year
- the above problems make holding onto leaders almost impossible. Marriage, kids, careers all stop leaders from coming back to us.
- this means our leaders are often younger and less experienced in leadership but also their own faith journey. We desire leaders to have wrestled with their faith and gone through years of growth and development.

PRAYER POINTS:

1. Wisdom and creative solutions as we ask God for a new model that achieves life transformation in students while providing for our leader's financial, social, and long-term health goals.
2. A new model we can grow other avenues of ministry like multiple XCC's, father-son and father-daughter weekends, women's adventures, etc, giving rise to greater transformation in people's lives and an income for our committed leaders.
3. A base for the leadership team of Soul Edge, XCC to be able to live and work and grow other ministries from.
4. For the right leaders to join the team.
5. Praising God for everything He's provided already!
6. The XCC is powerful because it takes real men's honest and vulnerable testimonies of God turning up in the hardships of life and share's them with the masses. Pray for the right testimonies to present themselves for this year's event.



Pray As One NZ

Every Monday night, from 8-9pm, we run a national prayer meeting on Zoom with 70-80 participants joining from throughout the nation. [Come join us!](#)



Directory of members

Helping to build awareness of different parachurch organisations serving the church in New Zealand and overseas.

NZCN featured member

Listed on our [Directory](#) by our Church and Christian Organisation members

FRANKLIN GRAHAM

GOD *Loves* YOU

TOUR

Rev. Franklin Graham has devoted his life to sharing the Gospel of Jesus Christ and meeting the needs of suffering people around the world. Franklin serves as president and CEO of the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association (BGEA). His first evangelistic event with the ministry was held in 1989, and since then, he has continued to spread the Good News through hundreds of outreaches around the world.

Franklin is continuing the lifelong work of his father, Dr. Billy Graham, who was honored to preach in New Zealand on numerous occasions between 1959 and 1969, with stops in Auckland, Wellington, Christchurch, and Dunedin. Franklin is returning to New Zealand 53 years after his father's last visit to the country, and just like his father, Franklin is working with local churches that are sharing the message that God loves the people of New Zealand and has a purpose for their lives.

[Visit the website](#)[Listing on NZCN](#)

Job Board / Situations Vacant

Connecting people for employment, internships, or voluntary roles in Christian organisations and churches. This can include looking for people to join governance boards or to fill a need for a specific skill/project.

Employment Opportunities

Listed on our [Job Board](#) by our Church and Christian Organisation members

Denotes a new or recently re-listed opportunity



St. Chad's Church Meadowbank

Music Director – *part-time*



Raumati Beach Church

Senior Pastor – *full-time*



Alpha NZ – Regional Coach positions (part-time)

Wellington & Surrounds

Auckland

Otago & Southland

Christchurch



Scripture Union NZ

Fundraising Manager

– *Wellington, full-time*



Tertiary Students Christian Fellowship

Communications Manager

– *location flexible, part/full-time*

Finance Assistant

– *Wellington, part-time*

Office Administrator

– *Wellington, part-time*

Staff Workers

– *locations nationwide, part/full-time*



MiCamp Trust

Camp Chef/Cook

– *Taupo, full-time*

Grounds/Maintenance & Instructor

– *Whakamaru, full-time*

Lead Activity Instructor/camp worker

– *Taupo, full-time*

Sanitarium Health Food Company

full-time opportunities in Auckland unless noted



Assistant Demand Planner - full-time

Key Account Manager - full-time



Beth-Shean Trust

Auckland

Manager - full-time



Christians against Poverty New Zealand

Penrose, Auckland

Supporter Engagement Coordinator - part/full-time

Communications Project Lead - full-time



Christian Community Churches of New Zealand

Palmerston North

National Administrator - full-time (40 hours)

Executive Assistant - full-time (32 hours)



Africa Inland Mission

Onehunga, Auckland

Office Manager - part-time



KingsWay Trust / New Zealand Christian Proprietors Trust

Auckland

CEO - full-time



Whangaparaoa Baptist Church

Whangaparaoa, Auckland

Pastor - General - full/part-time

Event Calendar

Numbers in brackets indicate the number of events currently listed in that category until the end of September. Some events have both online and in person options to attend.



Events

Listed on our [Calendar](#) by our Church and Christian Organisation members. In chronological order with **listings added this week highlighted**.

Attend in person (12)

Attend online (12)

the Arts

Camp/Hīkoi (1)

Community

Denominational

Equip (7)

Fundraising

Outreach

Prayer (12)



Community Chaplains Training

[New Plymouth](#) – 30 July

[Bay of Plenty](#) – 13 August

[Auckland](#) – 10 September

If you're passionate about building connections and creating real change in people's lives, particularly assisting them on their spiritual journey, this may be just the opportunity you've been looking for.



[TSCF Auckland Supporter Prayer](#)

9 August, 12:15–12:45pm

Repeats on 2nd Tuesday of every month

in-person AND online



[5 key things from the last 10 years that took unity to a new level in Australia](#)

11 August, 11am NZ / 9am AEST



A Whakapapa of Faith – conversations in stitch and poetry

12-16 August, 9am-2pm

This exhibition is the culmination of a Masters in Theology (creative works) through Laidlaw College by Miriam Jessie Fisher exploring the lives of two maligned women and two marginalised women in the Bible. It explores their lives and holy experiences through poetry, spoken word and stitched textiles. The stitched textiles comprise ten separate pieces with each woman receiving at least two pieces. The exhibition features all the stitched works and some of the poetic works.

The works invite contemplation about the lived realities of joy and despair of four ancient women. They chronicle their experiences of divine grace and personal difficulties and trauma.



Teens Camp – MiCamp Taupo

17 August, 7:30-9pm

Join churches from across Auckland at the upcoming GOD LOVES YOU TOUR Citywide Prayer and Worship Night!

On this evening, together we will worship and pray into the Tour, its preparations, and the needs of Auckland and NZ. Let's discover what the Lord will do when His people pray and work together for the sake of the Gospel.



Teens Camp – MiCamp Taupo

19-21 August

This will be a great weekend to hang out with your mates, eat some good kai, play some epic games and learn about God and worship Him too. So grab some friends and come join us, we look forward to seeing you there!



School of Evangelism Foundational Course

2-3, 9-10, & 16-17 September in Christchurch

OAC presents the School of Evangelism Foundational Course, run over 3 weekends (Fri 7-9.30pm and Sat 9 am -5.30pm).

The course comprises three modules – Personal Evangelism, Outdoor Evangelism and Reaching Kids and Families. You can do all three modules or choose to do one.

You will learn the theory, in an interactive class, and then practice your evangelism techniques in context.

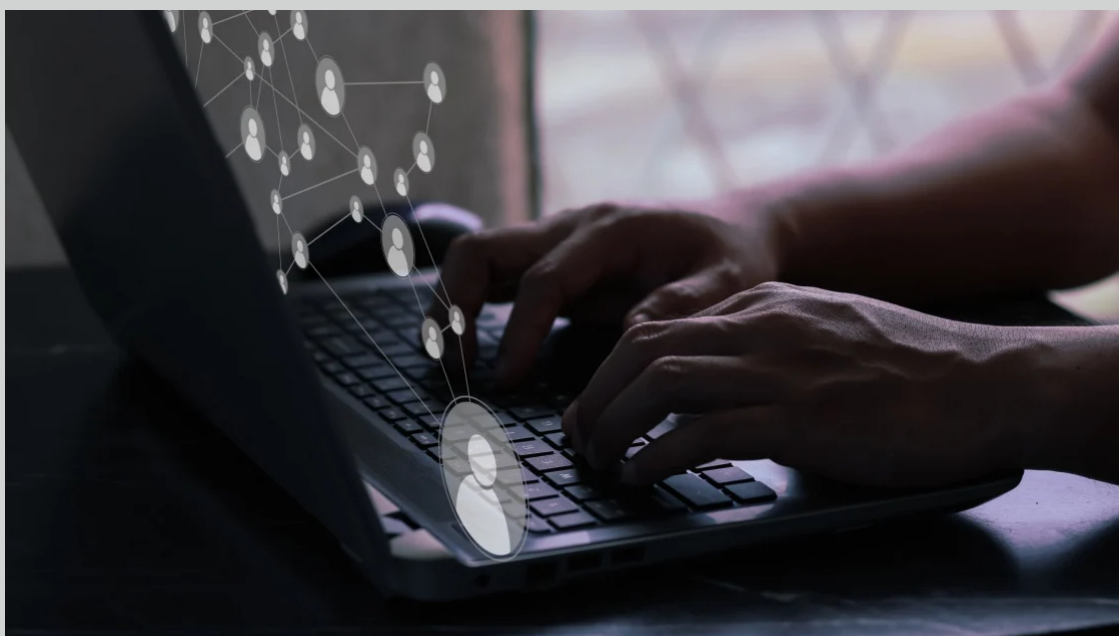


Children's Ministry Block Course

19-23 September in Auckland

How does your faith community view children and their place within the church? What do you believe about the faith formation of children, and the role of parents and the wider faith community in this? How does that inform your practice? If you love helping our tamariki encounter the love of Jesus, then this one-week block course is for you.

Would you like to have your organisation featured in our newsletter, post employment opportunities on our job board, or list events on our calendar?



You can! These are benefits we make available to Christian organisations and churches with current membership

[Click here to learn more](#)



How often do you want to hear from us?

☐ Weekly, even if it's just notices. I like to know what's going on.

☐ Only when there is a message i.e. an editorial or article(s).

Help spread the news...

New Zealand society is in a period of significant change, much of it away from the Christian faith and values. Christian voices in society are either ignored or scorned.

We need Christian voices which are positive, sensible, reasoned, well-informed, and clear.

Forward to a friend



NZ Christian Network

PO Box 16004, Sandringham, Auckland 1351

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