



Written to Teach Us

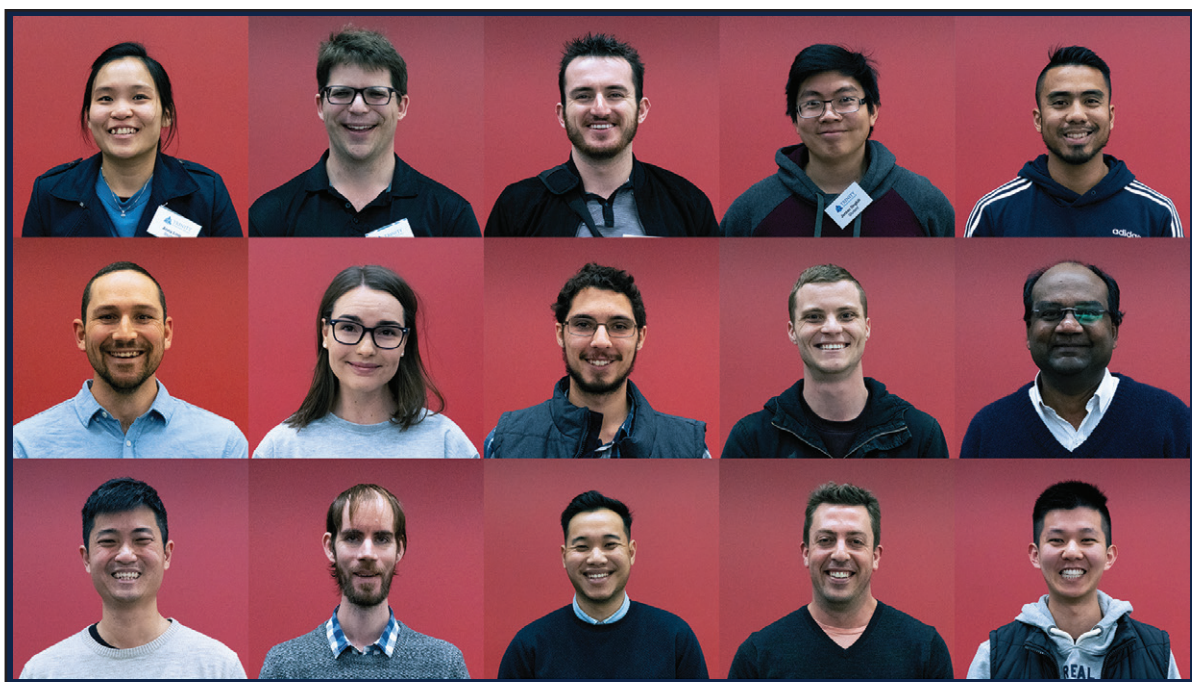
With you I register my thanks to God in enabling the College to continue its teaching and training last semester through the coronavirus restrictions here in WA. The students, faculty, and support staff displayed much patience and grace during this time. It was, however, a draining experience with additional steps needed to complete even basic tasks.

Fast forward to the start of second semester: the buzz is deafening. New students to welcome, a new classroom on level 1, the sound of laughter as pastoral care groups recommence, library desks full—and even the new sanitising and distancing regimes are followed without a murmur. Yes, glad to be back.

This semester we also welcome Rory Shiner as a guest teacher in our 2nd/3rd year Certificate of Ministry course and Mike Webb as a missions advisor. Rory will be known to many of you as senior pastor of Providence City Church here in Perth, and as

a keen observer of our Australian gospel context. Mike and his family recently returned from 15 years serving in Indonesia with Pioneers. Mike will help the faculty reflect wisely about equipping people for local and international cross-cultural ministry. Mike will also provide guidance to

the vulnerable church members no longer able to be visited, pressures mounted up—and continue to do so. By comparison with many countries (for whom we pray), things here in Australia are relatively stable; yet anxieties are growing under the surface, and our Enemy is not inactive.



New Students to Trinity in Semester 2

students and others this semester as they consider how God might use them in the global growth of the gospel.

There is no question that the coronavirus pandemic has increased pressure upon us all, and especially upon Christian leaders. From the impacts of distancing regulations on the Sunday service to isolation of

In Romans 15:4, Paul reminds us that “... everything that was written in the past was written to teach us, so that through the endurance taught in the Scriptures and the encouragement they provide we might have hope.”

Continued on Page 3

In this edition:

- 2. Return to Face-to-Face Teaching
- 3. Missions at Trinity
- 4. Practical Christian Ministry Training

- 5. Prison Ministry
- 6-7. Certificate Studies
- 8. Partnership in Raising Gospel Workers

Preparing People for Effective Christian Service

Laying foundations for a ministry that upholds, proclaims, and is shaped by the gospel.

ttc.wa.edu.au

Return to Face-to-Face Teaching

By God's grace, and after most of a semester of learning remotely, we have been able to start Semester 2 with in-class teaching, albeit with some modifications. A rigorous cleaning regime, social distancing, and personal hand sanitisation procedures have been put in place to ensure the safety of our students and staff.

Here are some snippets of what life has been like at College during the last six months, and since returning to Trinity House.

"The last six months have been a tremendous trial due to life circumstances, COVID and doing 4.5 units via technology. I was initially fine with remote learning but as it went on I realised many aspects of my life were negatively affected. I am so grateful to the Lord for enabling Trinity to be so flexible, professional, accommodating and caring during this time. I am incredibly glad to be back. Please pray that the Lord would allow myself/us to know Him more." Jordan Stevensen, BTh Student

"I was skeptical at first as to how classes would go over Zoom, but I was pleasantly surprised! Although I missed the face-to-face contact and the relationships that are built by learning together, I was grateful to God that we could still continue at college, and thankful to the staff and faculty who made the process of transitioning online very clear and easy. Although there were some advantages to being online, such as less travel time and a hidden mug of coffee behind the screen, it is a joy to be back!" Ashlynn Davis, MDiv Student

"There are so many reasons to thank our Lord for being physically back together as a college community. Even with the amazing technology we've got, it can't replace the deep digging into God's word that we're able to do week by week in the classroom together. On top of that, being together gives so many more opportunities for sharing life, fellowship, and prayer together



Students, staff and faculty grateful to have returned to face-to-face teaching in Trinity House

that are so important in preparing for a life-long ministry of the gospel." Dan Cole, Lecturer in New Testament

"Life has been busy since COVID-19 happened. Lots of learning about Zoom and trying it out for bible studies as well as organising the study room so it becomes a good study space. When COVID-19 happened, I felt initially glad that I would spend less time on public transport but unsure about what that meant for lectures and exams. However, the COVID-19 Response Team at Trinity was regular and clear in their updates on what was happening so the transition was not difficult. On returning to the building, I felt more engaged and part of the community at Trinity which has been a great blessing!" Shawn Tan, MDiv Student

"There was an eeriness at Reception during the online period of teaching. We knew lectures were taking place, assignments being submitted and books being read, but there was no sound, no notes to print and no people. Debbie and I continued to support the faculty and provide student support, but where were the students? Needless to say, we are both super excited to reconnect with our friendly students and prepare for the new and returning students. There is once again a sense of life, vitality, fun and friendship as we greet our students and visitors at Reception and we are very happy!" Neridah Deering, Administration Assistant

"Like a lot of people, life for me in the last 6 months has been tiring, stressful, uncertain, but also full of small moments of joy and thankfulness. I was pretty devastated when College was forced to go into remote learning—a huge reason why I decided to study at Trinity was because I wanted to build relationships and networks with the people I'd be doing ministry with when I graduate. When I heard that we would be back in person this semester, I think I cried with joy a little bit and was so excited to come back to College and set up my study space again and get settled in; I felt like a new kid on the first day of school, all full of excitement and anticipation! I'm so glad to be back in the library, back to in-person classes, and being able to hang out and chat with students again. Given the suddenness of the the situation with COVID-19, I've been so thankful for how College has handled it, and the priority that has been student safety while returning to in person learning" Liz Shanahun, MDiv Student

"It's great to be back to a physical classroom again. It means I get a whiteboard back! Students are again able to ask questions at any point. We are able to "bump" into one another outside of class. To begin second semester in the way we have, we are all very thankful" David Kummerow, Lecturer in Old Testament



Missions at Trinity

This semester Mike Webb has come among us to raise the profile of missions at Trinity and help our leadership think and pray through this important area. Trinity News caught up with Mike.

Hi Mike, please tell us a bit about your story.

My name is Mike Webb and together with my wife, Fiona and our kids Angus, Lachlan, Max and Amelia I have just returned from SE Asia where we had the joy of serving with Pioneers for the last 15 years.

It was during this time that I was able to pastor, train and mobilise teams to be gospel bearers to isolated people groups in a large archipelago, working with people from Pakistan, Papua, Australia, Brazil and the USA. The highlight of our time was praying together - each person petitioning God in their own tongue.

God's heart for the lost is strong in my own heart. Combine this with my God-given love for teaching and journeying with people, we could see God directing me into equipping future missionaries, and he has opened the door for me to study a PhD in Intercultural Studies at Biola University in California.

What are you hoping to accomplish at Trinity?


My journey to join Trinity started last year with many conversations and prayer with Don about life and missions. In July Don called me and asked whether I would be willing to spend four months putting together a proposal for incorporating missions into the College. Needless to say, I was excited! Being at Trinity this semester, meeting up with students and the staff and hearing their journeys has been such a joy.

As we pray and work through this process, what has emerged is the importance of working with our gospel



Mike and Trinity student Scott Howard addressing Chapel in Week 4 of semester

partners both in WA and Australia. Through talking with these partners, we are gradually gaining an understanding of how Trinity can be part of equipping people with a strong theological missiology from which they can draw to help reach the world! Please join us in

prayer as we continue this process and seek God's wisdom. Pray that God will be in every step as we seek his glory. 

Mike Webb

Written to Teach Us

Continued from cover

The psalmist says something similar in Psalm 119, over 170 times! Much of this great psalm is a prayer for deliverance and help (and ultimate vindication) provoked through meditating on God's Word. The Scriptures feed us and teach us how to have faith and hope in God: they encourage us to endure.

In Western contexts, "meditation" is thought to be a wordless practice. Not in the Bible. In his comment on Psalm 1:2, Martin Luther affirms Augustine's translation of the word "meditates" as "chatter." To meditate on God's Word is to speak it out loud and chew on it so that it sinks into our minds and hearts and begins to shape us. Through this, God's Spirit puts our anxieties (and their overflow [resentment, etc.]) into place and turns us towards our heavenly Father who addresses us. And there are no more important words from God for us in these times than the prayer that our Lord taught us and the Psalms upon which he drew and in which we see his sufferings and his glories. Let us go on learning of him not only with our ears but with our lips, that "we might have hope."

With every blessing in Christ, 

Don West Principal



Don West

Practical Christian Ministry Training

I love Jesus, and I love thinking about culture.

This semester at Trinity, I get to think with students about both.

Early this year, [Academic Dean] Grant Taylor reached out to ask if I'd be interested in teaching one of the College's Christian Ministry subjects. These are units that sit alongside the academic course and help to form students in the practical aspects of ministry: how to preach, how to lead, how to disciple others and so forth. I jumped at the opportunity.




Rory Shiner in class at Trinity

We have devised a new course called "Mission and Ministry in Secular Australia." The premise of the course is that Australia in 2020 is a missionary context, and to reach it effectively, we need to think like missionaries. Missionaries ask questions such as: What is the culture here? What do people love? Fear? Worship? Long for? Trust in? What are the alternative gospels against which the gospel of Jesus will be heard and understood?

Each week we explore some aspect of Australian society and culture, we "meet" a conversation partner—someone who has thought deeply about the modern West as a missionary context. So far, we've learned from the great missionary, Lesslie Newbigin, the Canadian philosopher Charles Taylor, and the Australian cultural observer Mark Sayers. Still to come is exploring some of the dynamics of mission and ministry in the Australian suburbs, the

inner cities, and in underprivileged areas. We'll think about consumerism, gender identity, and individualism.

It's been a thrill to work though the material with such an engaged and passionate group of students. I look forward to hearing what God does in and through them in the future. 

Rory Shiner

Senior Pastor at Providence City Church

TRINITY INFO NIGHT

Integrating head, heart and hands for long-term ministry

15 October | 5:45pm

Trinity House, 632 Newcastle St, Leederville

Come and learn how you can be equipped for effective Word ministry and explore the unique training experience at Trinity

Trinity Theological College is an affiliated college of the
Australian College of Theology: ACT CRICOS Provider Code 02650E



Prison Ministry

During my 10 years as a Prison Chaplain I have encountered many different types of prisoners; white collar, murderers, sex offenders and even professors and psychiatrists.

Prison Ministry is very different to any other ministry I have experienced. I pastorally care for broken people, who are lost in many ways. Most prisoners are serving time for drugs or drug related crimes and many are institutionalised. At present I work 4 days at Bunbury Prison and 1 day at Banksia Hill each week.



Tony Walker


Banksia Hill is the only Juvenile Detention Centre in WA and has a mixed gender population. Detainees' ages are between 10 and 18 years of age. 75% of the detainees are indigenous.

Many detainees at Banksia Hill have an intellectual disability and many are suffering from mental illness. Fortunately, most detainees know about Jesus due to their grandparents. We have run many "Youth Alpha Courses" and Ben, the commentator on "Youth Alpha," came and spoke to the detainees about Christ. We have a well-attended Church Service with around 30 percent of detainees attending.

Bunbury Prison is a Medium-Low Security facility. Again, many prisoners suffer from mental illness. WA has a huge drug problem which is the main cause of incarceration. The one thing

the prisoners need is hope and I try to give them hope through the gospel message. It could be very easy to lose focus of the gospel because a lot of prisoners need a lot of social help. However, Romans 1:16 has kept me grounded. It is very tempting to water down the gospel or to move away from it but the gospel is all powerful and it's the only thing that can offer true hope. I run two bible studies a week, one for main stream and one for sex offenders.

The reason I know the gospel is all-powerful is because I have experienced its power. Richard was a lifer in Bunbury Prison and a very angry man. Every time I came in to BP he would tell me what a load of rubbish the Bible was. According to him it was just a made up story from different people. I would say "God loves you, that I know, because the Bible tells me so". Richard never changed his view but we become good friends. Later, I left Bunbury Prison and did not see him. Two years later another chaplain told me that Richard had recently been baptised and wanted to see me. I asked him what had changed and he replied that God had touched him. He told me that he knew everything I had said was true but he was too angry to let God in. He is now at Casuarina Prison running his own Bible Study, praise God!

Prison Ministry is not for everyone, however I have to remind myself each day that we are all made in the image of God and there is no one beyond God's redemption. I am thankful to Trinity Theological College for giving me such a good grounding. Without Trinity I don't think I would be serving God in this way. 

Rev Tony Walker

Trinity Graduate (BTh, 2010)

I want to give: ☐ \$100
☐ \$250
☐ \$500
☐ \$1,000
☐ _____

Regularly: ☐ Weekly
☐ Fortnightly
☐ Monthly
☐ Annually

Please use my donation for the:

☐ **General Fund:** BSB 086 006 Acc No. 730 449 707
☐ **Library fund:** BSB 086 006 Acc No. 560 085 401
☐ **Building fund:** BSB 086 006 Acc No. 560 097 779

My Address

Title _____ Today's Date _____

First Name _____

Surname _____

Company (if applicable) _____

Address _____

Postcode _____

Email _____

Phone _____

Payment Authority

I am paying by: ☐ Cheque* ☐ Visa ☐ Master Card

* Make cheques payable to "Trinity Theological College"

Card No.

□ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □

Expiry: □ □ / □ □

Name on Card _____

Signature _____



**All donations of
\$2 or more are
tax deductible**

Lasting Support to Future Ministry Workers

One way of making a lasting investment in raising future ministry workers for generations to come, is by including Trinity in your will (bequest).

☐ Yes, please send me information about bequests

Thank you for your active support

Visit our website to Donate Online

www.ttc.wa.edu.au

or, please return this form with payment to:
 PO Box 115 LEEDERVILLE WA 6902

Student Profile

Our Purpose: Preparing people for effective Christian service

It is only with your partnership in financial support and prayer that we can prepare men and women like Tom for Word ministry

I grew up in a Christian household and was blessed to have a great foundation through that. After coming to Perth in 1998, I joined St Matthews, before going to UniChurch and then being part of the founding "splinter cell group" that left UniChurch to help form Providence City Church where I currently attend.

I am so grateful for the continued growth God has challenged me with. Through some highs and lows across secular leadership roles, I am thankful God called me to serve the gospel in a full-time capacity and come to Trinity.

Having attempted my MDiv 8 years ago but dropping out as I didn't have the maturity and clarity of focus I have now, I always knew that when I was to return to study Trinity was where I wanted to come.

The best thing about Trinity so far is the opportunity to study God's Word in fellowship with incredibly insightful and Christ-centered lecturers and students all keen to lift one another up in service to God. It is pretty amazing...

When I graduate I'd love to dive into a church-based or city-based ministry where I can care and publicly speak/share God's Word. Ultimately though, I am open to God's direction and how my time at Trinity further clarifies that direction. 🌿

Tom Kooy

Student (1st Year, MDiv)



Please donate now
and support us in training
students for Word ministry

See website to Donate Online

ttc.wa.edu.au

Or return the form overleaf with payment to:

PO Box 115 LEEDERVILLE WA 6902
info@ttc.wa.edu.au • Fax: 08 9228 3862

Adapting to Change

With the challenge presented to us by COVID-19, we were grateful to God for his provision of a novel way to help people continue their studies of his word – releasing audio lectures of past units!

The two units we were able to offer were The Framework: Seeing Christian Truth as a Whole (A02), and The Unstoppable Gospel: Acts (B06), and these were made available to enrolled students through the Trinity website. We are grateful to Jon Rumble and Larry Travis for being available to students for questions and marking the assessments for these units. Larry also re-recorded one lecture for which the audio was sub-optimal and cheekily announced the class was the best looking he had ever taught!

We are pleased to report that we had 39 people study in Term 2 via this method. What a fantastic way of staying grounded in God's word even under the trying circumstances of this year. And what a blessing that as restrictions started to ease students were able to get together to listen and encourage one another!

Here's what some of our students had to say about the experience:

"Having access to prerecorded lectures was a delightful way to continue studying amidst the chaos of COVID-19. While we missed the broader fellowship, we enjoyed the perks of pausing to discuss the

content, starting the session in our own time depending on the timing of dinner and stopping for a cuppa whenever needed. We are grateful to Trinity for providing us a way to continue our studies!" Rachel Fildes

"Last term I listened to the audio recordings for "The Framework: Seeing Christian Truth as a Whole". Not being able to attend lectures in person made things harder, but I was able to meet with a few friends and we listened to the recordings together. This helped us maintain motivation and allowed for discussion as we looked at some big topics and how they all fit together. Trinity at night, at home, with friends, was a great source of encouragement as we grew in a deeper knowledge of God and his will by thinking through topics scripturally and systematically."

Jesse Lansdown 🌿



Rachel and her mum Janet enjoying their studies

Psalms One Day Unit

Don West, Principal of Trinity Theological College, had agreed to and was preparing for a trip to Busselton for a Trinity in Town event to teach our Certificate in Christian Studies (CCS) unit Prayer, Praise & Jesus! The Book of Psalms.

But with the Coronavirus putting a stop to that, he instead "Zoomed" all over the state from Karratha to Tenterden and many places in between!

Don was sustained through the day by the Holy Spirit (and some 70% Lindt), and he put the students to work in breakout rooms to identify elements of the Psalms and work through how they point to Jesus.

It was so encouraging to see that the down-up pattern of many of the Psalms (Lament to Praise) was also the pattern of Jesus' life and is the pattern of the Christian life.

Here's what some of the students had to say about their experience of the day:

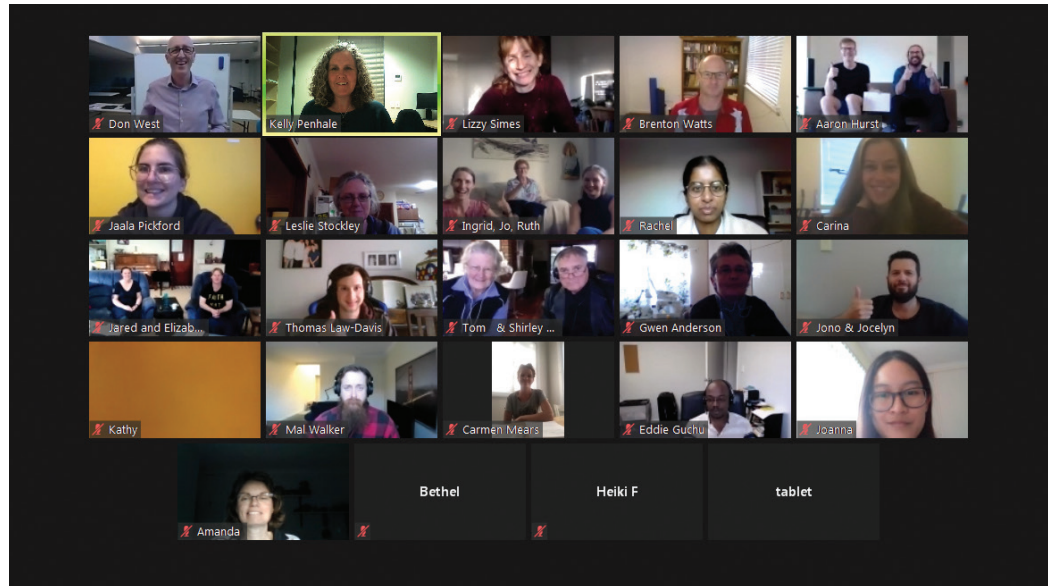
"It encouraged me to keep walking with my gracious Lord, ever thankful for his great provision to us. I was so encouraged that humble, faithful and engaging teaching is around. I pray that TTCs influence grows and grows." – Jo

"As I better see which Psalms fit into each part of the pattern - and read them - I gain more language to express my feelings and thoughts to God in prayer, something that is often quite difficult to do." - Mal

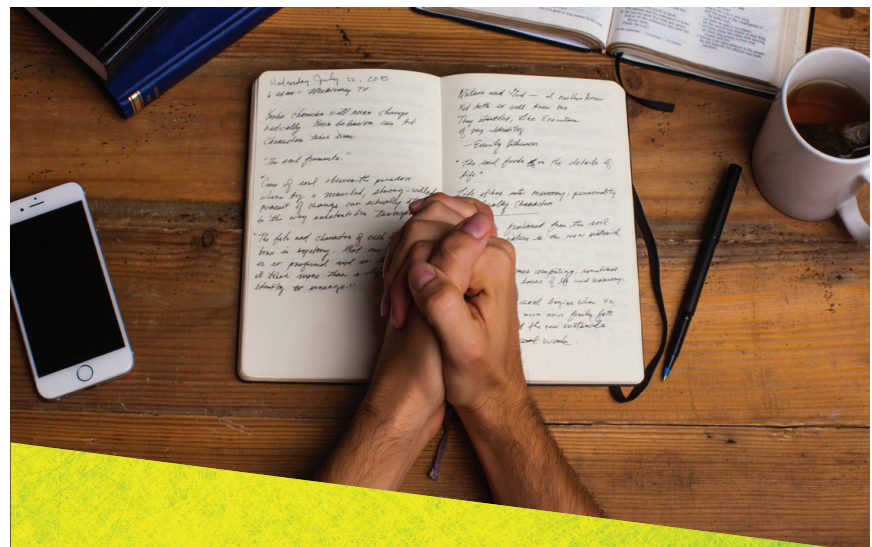
What a joy to be able to learn together despite the challenges of the last few months! We are so grateful to God for his grace over the College and the Certificate studies programme, and look forward to a great rest of 2020!

Kelly Penhale

Certificate Studies Coordinator



The Psalms one-day unit took place via Zoom



Trinity@Night

Short evening classes for anyone who wants to dig deeper into God's Word

Term 4 begins October 20

ccs@ttc.wa.edu.au | www.ttc.wa.edu.au


Partnership in Raising Gospel Workers

There are so many reasons for gratitude at this time in the College's history.

We are so grateful to God for our students being able to come back to Trinity House as a community. Our 2020 mid-year student intake has been the strongest in many years, meaning our current student numbers are the highest we've seen, perhaps ever! Not to mention that our Mid-Year financial giving Appeal, while down on previous years and less than budget, was remarkably strong given the current economic climate.

As supporters of Trinity Theological College, your prayers help sustain us by God's grace. Thank you for everything you do that allows us to train ministry workers for the field. We are committed to keeping this momentum going into 2021; we are praying for even more new students that we might break the elusive "100 barrier" – having 100 students enrolled in the College.

So please do continue to pray for us. Please consider who in your world you

could have a conversation with about studying at Trinity, and refer them to our Info Night on 15 October. And please also consider whether you could partner with us financially, and refer to the form on page 5. A monthly gift of \$20 or more is a continual reminder of our connection and forges a strong sense of partnership between you and us as we move forward with helping God build his kingdom. 

With every blessing,

Nathaniel Brown

Development & Communications Coordinator

☎ 08 9228 9067

✉ development@ttc.wa.edu.au

2020 DATES

15 Oct	Information Night
20 Oct	Open Lecture
7 Nov	Quarterly Prayer Breakfast
24 Dec – 3 Jan: College Closed	

Prayer & Praise

Give thanks for:

- Praise God for Semester 2 commencing face-to-face and with 16 new students
- Praise God that we had unleashed space on Level 1 that has been converted to an additional Lecture room to adhere to space restrictions
- Praise God for technology that has allowed the College to continue equipping students and facilitate this year's Annual Lecture with Dr Peter Orr on 24 August
- Praise God for the number of people registering to be better equipped as ambassadors of the Lord Jesus Christ through Trinity@Night units

Pray for:

- Pray for our Nation, our PM, Scott Morrison, and the leaders of each state and Territory as they navigate through the COVID-19 pandemic; that they would seek God's wisdom in all the decisions they make
- Pray for our students; that they would continue to dig deeply into God's Word to grow in their love and knowledge of him
- Pray for Faculty, staff and students; that they would remain healthy during this challenging COVID-19 time
- Pray for God to provide for the financial needs of the College for 2020 through our faithful supporters



Trinity Theological College exists to equip people for a ministry of the Gospel that is shaped by the Gospel—people who will be grounded in the Bible, devoted to Christ, and focussed on people.

We all have a role to play in raising up the next generation of ministry workers.

Feel free to get in touch if you want to know more:

08 9228 9067 | info@ttc.wa.edu.au | www.ttc.wa.edu.au

**RAISING
UP
THE NEXT
GENERATION**

TRINITY THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE INC ABN 70 006 203 227 ACT CRICOS provider code: 02650E
PO Box 115 LEEDERVILLE WA 6902 • 632–634 Newcastle Street, Leederville, Perth, WA 6007
info@ttc.wa.edu.au • Phone: 08 9228 9067 • Fax: 08 9228 3862 • ttc.wa.edu.au

Trinity Theological College is an affiliated college of the Australian College of Theology