

Summer 2021 - Issue #97

### Praying and Trusting for Gospel Growth

If the number of ministry positions advertised on our website is any indicator, demand for people equipped for gospel-shaped ministry continues to expand. More interesting is the fact that many of these positions are planning for future growth.

According to Scripture, two things work together as God enlarges the number of people who dedicate their lives to proclaiming and equipping others in the gospel. The first is prayer:

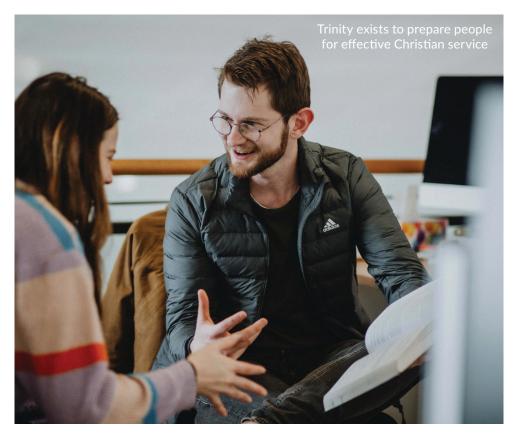
"ask the Lord of the harvest to send out workers into his harvest field" (Matthew 9:38).

You probably guessed I would quote that verse(!), but let's remember the preceding context of this text:

When [Jesus] saw the crowds, he had compassion on them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. (Matthew 9:36)

Our passion to plead with God to raise up labourers arises from the compassion of our Lord Jesus for the lost and needy (including us). The Chief Shepherd seeks under-shepherds after his own heart through those who continue to receive his mercy every day.

Alongside mercy-driven prayer, God appoints Christian leaders as stewards of the gospel to hand it on to others who are able to hand it on to still more suitable people:



And the things you have heard me say in the presence of many witnesses entrust to reliable people who will also be qualified to teach others. (2 Timothy 2:2)

Paul encapsulates Jesus' own discipleship pattern, and so Christian leaders are always on the look-out for the "reliable people" God has placed before them in their churches and ministries.

Timothys are vital in God's salvation plan as they pour their hearts and lives into others with prayer and compassion for the lost and needy, and equip them (via colleges like Trinity) to lift up the Name of Christ in other parts of the harvest field. This is gospel generosity at its best!

As we head into our main enrolment period at Trinity, please pray for pastors and Christian leaders within Western Australia and beyond. Let us ask God to grant them wisdom, patience, and love to prioritize this vital task of "entrusting" amidst their many demands.

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### **Prayer and Trust**

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#### The Bull Family

Next semester our Lecturer in Theology and Ethics, Thom Bull, will be heading off to Moore College in Sydney, with Mary Jane and their four children, where he is enrolled in a PhD on the ecclesiology of Italianborn reformer, Girolamo Zanchi. The family will be flying out late January and returning early May, renting a unit



Thom Bull

at the college for their stay. This is a marvellous—and challengingopportunity, and your prayers are appreciated as they prepare and manage their travels, settling in, and homeschooling, and for Thom's research progress. We are

excited that Canon Dr Peter Adam will take Thom's theology classes in his absence. Peter will also be our Graduation Speaker on 23 February at North Coast Church.

Thank you for your continued prayer and support of the College.

With every blessing in Christ 🙏



Don West

Principal

### **Open Week at Trinity**

inistry is about relationships: relationships with people for Jesus' glory because of our reconciled relationship with God through Jesus' cross. Since ministry is about relationships, training for gospel ministry at Trinity is focused upon these relationships.

That is why Open Week 2021 was a highlight for the College: a vision of new and deepening relationships in the gospel for Jesus' glory in Perth, Western Australia, and beyond.

Every semester, Trinity hosts an Info Night where people considering study for gospel ministry can visit the College to

learn about the courses and people. This semester, we tried something new. For three days in October, people considering study were able to join us for chapel and community lunch, lectures in foundational subjects, as well as attend Info Night. All told, the College welcomed 50 people and 70 total visits during the week (some guests attended multiple events)! We welcomed people from around Perth, and brothers and sisters from Bunbury and Albany. Praise God!

If you were to ask the staff about the week, the highlight will most likely be that we rejoiced to see our current students welcome the guests, chat to them about their lives and ministry, and bring them into the College community. It was a fantastic testimony to God's grace in our students' lives, and their



Grant enjoying lunch with students and visitors

excitement about the training they are receiving at the College. The students did more than we could ever tell someone about Trinity: they showed our guests what training for effective gospel ministry in a caring community looks like.

We can thank God for the great success of Open Week. Yes, it was wonderful to see so many people visit the College. Yes, it was thrilling to consider how many new students God may bring

Info Night allowed many to hear about the College



in 2022 (and we ask you to pray for them!). But even more, it was deeply encouraging to witness men and women who want to give their lives to gospel work. Our students have a passion for Jesus and seeing others trained in effective ministry of his gospel. That seriousness and excitement encourages others to join in.

We want to see many more men and women join the College community—not only taking classes, but joining as full-time students in the experience of study, fellowship, service, and mission that College provides. This experience shows students the model of ministry we want to hand down: a ministry of the gospel that is all about relationships. We thank God that Open Week allowed us the opportunity to show that ministry model to 50 more people. We plan to host it again next year! Until then, and especially before 2022 begins, please join us in praying for our fantastic students, and that God will bring many more men and women to join them.

Grant Taylor

Academic Dean and Lecturer in New Testament

A full house at Open Day Chapel





### Pastoring in the West

t's impossible to be objective about anything we are immersed in – but it seems clear to me that our God who is 'able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine', is especially shaking things up in recent times.

The buzz word of the pandemic, 'unprecedented', seems to apply equally well to so much of what is unfolding morally and socially around us, and in international politics (especially the rise of the East), and in Christian leadership. So much is happening at a pace and scale that we haven't seen before, and we know that God is sovereign over it all.

I have had the privilege of leading the ministry of North Beach Baptist Church

for the past ten years, and Busselton Baptist Community Church for the fourteen years before that. I came to pastoral ministry having already had a high exposure to the inner workings of churches and some experience with staff and financial management. I don't say lightly that my church leadership journey is a privilege at there is nothin

privilege - there is nothing that I would rather have done or be doing. But I have always found the unrelenting cycle of pressure, conflicting expectations, encouragement, discouragement, and resource challenges, superimposed over massive society-wide changes, to be intrinsically challenging to navigate.

**Grant Hendry** 

With God supremely in control, we have nothing to fear but everything of significance to invest our lives in. We must have competence in understanding the Scriptures and confidence in their sufficiency, especially in these times of increasing secularism. And those very Scriptures



North Beach Baptist Kings Club leaders led by Trinity student Hayley Pearce

must more deeply than ever shape our own character. My observation is that the current church at large is woeful at

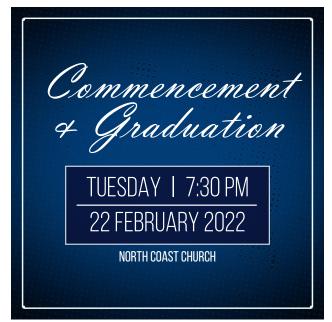
> fostering and training men and women with what is so urgently needed. I rejoice in the ministry of Trinity – Trinity couples so well with church-based discipleship and encouragement, to raise up gospel workers equipped to love, evangelise, and disciple in the name of Jesus.

We need specialists and generalists that know, live, and faithfully apply

the Scriptures. There are opportunities with children's ministry, youth ministry, women's ministry, mission work, church planting, pastoral leadership - you name it, there are massive ministry needs and opportunities for gospel workers with character and convictions, coupled with drive and confidence in the Scriptures. We eagerly partner with Trinity to further ministry well beyond our own community, seeking to identify, encourage and

support the many around us that God is calling to strategically serve in growing his kingdom. Trinity plays a big part in our ecosystem – our MTS'ers and some staff members are studying at Trinity part time. Some members are studying full time. We enthusiastically recruit through Trinity networks, and we rejoice in and support the ministry of Trinity@Night. May we and us all, partner with Trinity with greater intentionality for the spread of God's glorious kingdom.

Grant Hendry
North Beach Baptist



# **Unichurch and Trinity**

eff Hunt is a Trinity Alum and serves on the staff team at St Matt's church in Shenton Park, and as the minister of St Matt's

Unichurch. We spoke to Jeff about his work, and how he sees Trinity's place in that.

#### Tell us a bit about St Matt's Unichurch.

The student age group is pivotal time of life where people are emerging into adulthood, forming beliefs, and starting to shape their lives. Our work is primarily evangelism to campus students and maturing and discipling young

people who are Christians. Unichurch has an opportunity to bring the gospel and help these people spiritually, but also for those who become committed Christians to consider the path of being a ministry worker. We run our own Sunday service, and are integrated with wider church activities, so Kids and Youth ministries are run by Unichurch members. This gives our volunteers opportunities to lead study groups, teach kids, evangelise, etc.

#### How do you see Unichurch's role in raising up future ministry workers?

We like to start people off by serving on a Sunday in church. Those that demonstrate faithfulness and godliness - as well as the necessary skills - are asked to join one of our ministry teams which gets them involved in teaching the Bible to others. Where we see that God has given people gifts and capacity to do that ministry well, we'll have the conversation about more vocational ministry and perhaps encourage them to get involved in Trinity.

#### Why do you recommend Trinity?

The confidence to recommend Trinity comes from knowing the quality of the teaching staff and seeing that the training and teaching is directed towards actual ministry. This was my experience when I studied with a cohort of students from

> 2009-2011- it was (and is) a community that is about devotion to Jesus, living for him and serving him, and shaped around preparing people well to engage real people with the gospel. Trinity

is training people in the ways that gospel work needs.



Conversations on campus at UWA Open Day

#### How does your work benefit from Trinity's existence?

There are lots of ways that people from Unichurch and St Matt's benefit from having Trinity in Perth. Being able to direct people to the Certificate of Christian Studies is a good way to help people along in their maturity and grasp of the Bible, and that then has an immediate impact in the quality of Bible literacy in our church. I personally benefit from being a part of the Alumni community, connected to others in ministry.

There is a hunger in young people to investigate Jesus, so there are real gospel opportunities out there and we need more people to do that work. The growth of the gospel in Perth won't happen with any one church or organisation, but from all of us in community working together - and Trinity is an important part of that.

#### Jeff Hunt

Minister, St Matt's UniChurch



#### Yes. I want to donate

I want to give:	☐ \$100 ☐ \$250 ☐ \$500 ☐ \$1,000
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All donations of \$2 or more are tax deductible

#### **Lasting Support to Future Ministry Workers**

One way of a 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

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### 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 TJ for Word ministry

My name is Emma Chin and I am married to Kim. We are both involved in our local church, Dalkeith Anglican, with the young adults and music ministries. I became a Christian through faithful youth leaders who were patient in sharing the gospel with me.

I have known about Trinity since I was in high school and have benefited from pastors that trained here. I am studying for my Grad Dip Div to be equipped for a lifetime of ministry with my husband: the plan



being to serve in the local church. Whilst at Trinity I have enjoyed growing friendships with like-minded people and processing what we are learning about God together. I am amazed at God's timing teaching me things that are immediately applicable in my own life and with people to whom I'm ministering.

Thank God that I can receive such good training through Trinity and pray that the truths I learn will hit my heart and that I will grow in service of others.

Emma Chin

**Grad Dip Student** 

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### **Trinity Women**

On a recent Saturday, 18 past and present women of the Trinity community met for the October Trinity Women's breakfast.

Our speaker, Bon McFarlane, generously talked openly, honestly, and joyously about her life – how her family spoke to her of the Scriptures at a young age, nurturing in her a desire to speak of Jesus to others through a variety of different circumstances in life including university student, campus worker, ministry wife and mother. She detailed the lessons she has learnt along the way - defining what her role is and isn't, and how God has

strengthened her and guided her through the difficulties and joys. She finished by stressing the importance of embedding God's Word at the centre of it all and to pray, pray, pray.

Time was also given to hear from and pray for female students and wives of students who are graduating this year.

Trinity Women seeks to encourage women from the Trinity community in the centrality of the Bible for Christian life and ministry. It does this by providing opportunities to hear from the Scriptures while building ministry and friendship networks. It also gives a chance for students and spouses to practice some ministry skills in organising, leading, and speaking at events in a supportive environment.

Megan Kummerow and Emily Cole

Co-Chairs, Trinity Women Committee

Trinity Student Ashlynne Davis (I) and Becca Taylor



Bon McFarlane (centre) with Jacinta Patterson and Natalie Iswariah



# Long-Term Support for the Gospel

y name is Roy Sarmidi. I'm married to Lucy and have two children Abby and Elliot and I have a dental practice in Joondalup. I serve as an elder at Westminster Presbyterian Church Bull Creek where I have been attending for around 30 years. Trinity started as a ministry of WPC Bull Creek, and even back then we could see that there was something good going on! I have been supporting Trinity since then, and around

2016 I agreed to become a Trustee of the College.

I was born and raised in a Roman Catholic family in Jakarta, Indonesia, and while I was doing a lot of religious activities, I hadn't really put my trust in Jesus Christ as my Lord and Saviour. After learning from

the Bible through several more mature Christian friends, I realised my need of a Saviour to save me from my sins and came to faith in Jesus during an evangelism youth camp during my first university study here in Perth.

I've always wanted to deepen my knowledge of God's word, so in 2005 I began studying with Trinity@Night. After a long and worthwhile journey, I am pleased to have completed my Advanced Certificate in Christian Studies this year.

I am passionate about teaching

God's Word to others so I'm looking for opportunities to be able to serve God in both my church and other places as needed by doing more teaching-related ministry. At present this means leading small groups and Bible studies in church.

Please pray for a deeper longing to serve Him by ministering to God's people and by having heart for the lost, in line with the deeper

knowledge and understanding of the gospel in my life. &

# Prayer & Praise

#### Give thanks for:

- A total of 50 people visiting the College during Open Week
- Students completing the year well and those who will graduate
- The work being done by faculty and staff to continually improve Trinity
- Wise and godly leadership from Council and within the College

#### **Pray for:**

- An increase in giving from current and new supporters; with additional students come additional costs
- Many applications for enrolment being made before 17 January from people seeking to be better equipped for gospel ministry
- Students graduating; that they will find suitable ministry positions for their giftings
- Prospective 2022 students currently being interviewed; that they will have clarity on the direction to take



Roy Sarmidi

# Trinity@Night

Certificate in Christian Studies

Short evening classes to help you dig deeper into God's Word

**Term 1 2022 Begins in February** 

For more info and to enrol online: ttc.wa.edu.au/certificates

Feel free to contact our CCS Coordinator on 08 9228 9067 or at CCS@ttc.wa.edu.au



## Serving and Loving People

There is a real buzz around the College, even as we round out the academic year and students head into their well-deserved break. From Open Week, the stories we as staff and faculty share at staff meetings and in the hallways, and of course the always-fun trips to

Level 3 to share lunch and conversations with students, it's an exciting time to be involved in Trinity.

The reason for this is obvious to me; it's the emphasis placed on people, and relationships. From

our Council, Trustees and Principal on down, there is a focus on making personal connections and engaging beyond the classroom and the library. Trinity serves God by equipping those who seek his service with what they need to be effective: strong foundations in the Bible, a deeper relationship with him, and a profound love for people. It's lived out in every interaction, every song we sing in Chapel, and every word spoken in the classroom.

On this page you'll see a QR code. If you point your smartphone camera at

it, you'll be taken to our Trinity YouTube page where an excerpt from Info Night shows Thom chatting with two of our students about their experiences. Enjoy this 'from the horse's mouth' glimpse into the College (and feel free to check out some of our other videos, and, as the kids say, Like and Subscribe!)

If you're considering supporting the College financially, there's no better way to see if and how your money is being used by getting involved! Sign up to Trinity@Night and experience the teaching, come along to our next Info Night and meet some people, or give me a call

and we can arrange a visit.

For those of you who are supporters of the College, be it in prayer, by sharing about the College with those in your circle, financially, or any combination of these, thank you so much.

We truly couldn't do what we do without you.

#### Nathaniel Brown

Development & Communications Coordinator

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### **2022 DATES**

24 Dec-3 Jan College Closed

17 Jan Applications Close

29 Jan Quarterly Prayer

Breakfast

22 Feb Commencement and

Graduation

9 April Trinity Women

**Enrichment Day** 

2 May Ministry Matters

4 May Information Night

10 May Open Lecture

14 May Quarterly Prayer

**Breakfast** 

4 July Applications Close

8 Aug Annual Lecture

13 Aug Quarterly Prayer

**Breakfast** 

11-13 Oct Open Week and

**Information Night** 

12 Nov Quarterly Prayer

**Breakfast** 



### **YOUR SUPPORT**

Giving towards training men & women for the Gospel

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