



Ministries of the Word



In his book on preaching, *Speaking God's Words*, Peter Adam reminds us that the weekly sermon cannot do all the heavy lifting needed for effective Word ministry in a congregation. He lists evangelizing unbelievers, training and equipping, pastoral counselling, and the public reading of Scripture as other kinds of Word ministries that are required. I have been reflecting on the varieties of Word ministry recently with respect to our mission

statement: "preparing people for effective Christian service".

It goes without saying (and therefore must be said) that the public proclamation of the gospel through the exposition and application of the Scriptures must remain as the main meal in the weekly diet of local churches. The gifting and qualifications for this central ministry are laid out clearly in Paul's letters to Timothy and Titus (and Acts 20). Paul says that

aspiring to this office is a noble thing and that great sacrifice is involved. In this group I would include pastors and associate pastors, and those in full-time Word ministry in missions and parachurch spaces. It takes most people about ten years to become a capable, week-in-week-out preacher-leader (in addition to completing a three-year degree-level course in Bible, theology, and ministry reflection).

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Preparing People for Effective Christian Service

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

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Paul also says that we all have a role in getting the Word of God into each other's lives:

Let the word of Christ dwell amongst you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns . . . with thankfulness to God in your hearts (Colossians 3:16)

This "teaching and admonishing" can happen in planned ways (one-to-one Bible and prayer catchups; choosing and leading sound hymns and songs; household devotions) and unplanned ways (post-church discussing, clarifying, applying; praying for wisdom and grace after a conversation). We can all broaden out the base of our knowledge of God and his Word so as to be more confident in speaking with one another. I thank God for our Certificate courses (Trinity at Night; Trinity in Town) which have ministered to 4500 people over the last 25+ years.

The final group of people who serve God's Word among us are those who, in addition to "teaching and admonishing one another", are gifted and give themselves to particular ministries (usually voluntarily or part-time). I am thinking of children and youth coordinators, evangelists, pastoral care coordinators, Youthcare chaplains,

Christian teachers, those who head into sensitive cross-cultural contexts as vocational workers, elders in our churches, and so on. This group is vital in the life of any church or parachurch ministry and needs solid foundations in understanding and handling the Bible, theological integration, and pastoral application. I am so encouraged to see recent adjustments to our one-year diploma courses and the introduction of the new Trinity Equip – Women's Training course this year. Fifteen women have signed up for the latter.

But whether we are able to enrol in a course or not, let us all serve God in whatever way we can by the "strength that God supplies, in order that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ" (1 Peter 4:11). And let us seek humility and grace from God to recognize others and receive ministry from them, including our leaders, clergy and lay. And please pray for the College, that we will be both faithful to God's Word and full of the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ as we serve him in equipping those whom he sends.

Yours in Christ 

Don West Principal


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14 MAY

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Celebrating with the Family

Commencement and Graduation was not just an important academic milestone but also a wonderful family celebration, a time of reflecting and praising God for all that he has done over the course of 2023 and looking forward to what he will do into the future.

What made this night special was being able to celebrate with our graduates, their family and the wider Trinity family. As soon as you walked in, you felt like you were joining a family reunion, meeting friends from all over Perth as well as those who travelled from the country. So many different denominations were represented; all united in a love for our Lord Jesus and a common desire to see Christ proclaimed. The excitement of meeting people and catching up was continual and flowed seamlessly into the first song, where we praised God.

As at all family gatherings there was a time for farewells, welcomes, achievements, and reflections. Of special note was welcoming our new Council Chair Murray Thornhill and farewelling Bruce Dodd, who served faithfully as the Chair for twelve years, following another twelve years on Council.

One of the highlights of our celebration was seeing the graduates walk across the stage, being cheered on by family. During the night seven people graduated from the Certificate of Christian Studies programme and 23 graduated from accredited coursework degrees. As each person walked across the stage, we were treated by hearing what they are doing now. While their ministries were diverse—from equipping people to lead Bible Studies, to working in children or youth ministries, to starting fulltime ministry as a pastor—the graduates' reflections on their time at College revealed some common themes: first, a thankfulness that Trinity had grown them in their faith through understanding and applying God's

Trinity at Night

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Word; second, a confidence to share their faith with others; and third, an appreciation of the depth of community and relationships with both staff and fellow students at the College. We praise God for using the College, in the words of the Apostle Paul, "to equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up" (Eph. 4:12).

This theme was reinforced through Will Murphy's interview. When Will was asked how Trinity prepared him for ministry, he answered that during the years of study he realised that it wasn't about being a great theologian or having an amazing ministry strategy. Rather, it was about God. For it is God who does the work, and he will do what he desires through him. Therefore, he concluded that he just needs to trust in him to build his church.

The theme of celebration continued through Rory Shiner's message which focused on Jesus turning the water into wine at the wedding celebrations in Cana (John 2:1-11). Rory reminded us that Jesus is the best that God gives. In turning the water into wine, Jesus did not hold back, providing an abundance, so much more than the wedding guests would ever need. Not only was it abundant, but this wine was also of the highest quality. Finally,

Jesus replaced the water that was used for Jewish cleansing ceremonies, hinting at the cleansing that Jesus would achieve for us. God did not hold back anything when he sent Jesus. So, while Graduation is a time of joy and celebration, there will be tough times ahead and it is during these tough times that we need to remember that God gave us Jesus. He didn't hold anything back.

As the formal part of the evening wound up in song, people continued to mingle, not wanting to rush off, but enjoying the moment, reflecting on the celebration shared, and congratulating our graduates. And like all good celebrations, we enjoyed the great food provided by Trinity's own caterer, Colleen! This was a celebration worth remembering. So, to those who attended, thank you so much for joining us to celebrate as family what God has done. For those who could not attend, we hope that you can join us next year to be part of this special evening! To God be the glory!

If you missed this great night, go to our website to see the video. 

Mike Webb

Missions Lecturer

Bachelor of Theology

Justin Fourie

Justin serves at Gosnells Baptist Church as an Associate Pastor, overseeing the discipleship area, whilst continuing his studies in a Master of Theology at Trinity. He says he's most valued how Trinity deepened his joy and confidence in handling God's Word faithfully, so that he might serve Christ and his people for a lifetime of ministry.

Carson Johnston

Carson serves as the Youth Director at Subiaco Church of Christ. He says that Trinity enriched his understanding of God's Word, which deepened his faith in Jesus and equipped him to teach and preach with confidence.

William Murphy

This year Will began a full-time internship at Westminster Presbyterian Church Maida Vale, where he'll serve for the next two years on the path toward ordination. He appreciated two things most about his time at Trinity: how it has caused him to become more in awe of God, and the wonderful friendships he made.

Jordan Musulin

Jordan ministers in the Christian Reformed Church at Connect Christian Church in Kenwick. He's currently doing further study at Trinity to prepare for ordination. He says that Trinity helped him see and teach Christ as the sum and substance of God's Word and the Christian life, something for which he will be forever grateful.

Jessie Owuor

Recently, Jessie took up the role of Youth and Young Adults Pastor at North Beach Baptist Church. He says he finishes college with a deeper love for the Scriptures and a stronger desire to see others know God through his Word.

Joseph Wilson

Joe recently started as Lead Pastor at Byford Baptist Church. He's thankful for the time spent growing in his love and knowledge of God at Trinity, as well as for the personal care and support he received from the staff and lecturers. He also wants to thank his wife, Victoria, because he would not have finished his degree without her constant prayers and support.

Master of Divinity

Lucinda de Vos Flores

Lucinda says her time at Trinity fostered a love of studying the Bible in its original languages and gave her the skills to interpret and apply the Scriptures faithfully. Currently, she is supporting her husband Jan Rey as he prepares to study for ministry in Canada, raising their son to know his heavenly Father, and loving her local church as she remains open to serving Christ, wherever he places them.

Joseph Hewitt

Joe serves part-time at St Barnabas Church as Associate Minister (Youth and Young Adults). He's also helping out in the Trinity Library while our librarian, Liz Staer, is on maternity leave. Joe says Trinity's theological stance drew him to the College, but he grew most as a Christian because of the evident love for Jesus. He sees Trinity's role in WA as a great blessing from God.

Harry Mengham

Harry serves as the Associate Pastor at Thornlie Community Church, a campus of Mount Pleasant Baptist Church. Harry strongly appreciated Trinity's theological convictions expressed through the expertise of the lecturers.



Back row: Justin Fourie, Joseph Hewitt, Carson Johnston, William Murphy, Jordan Musulin; Front row: Joseph Wilson, Harry Mengham, Lucinda de Vos Flores, Jessie Owuor

Graduate Certificate of Divinity

Madeleine Chaine

Madeline cares for her three children and serves Providence Bayswater Church on the crèche team. She was struck by the combination of rigorous study and pastoral encouragement in Trinity classes. And she was encouraged to grow in her knowledge of God's Word as well as her love of God.



2023

Graduates 2023

Hayley Hwang (in absentia)

Hayley appreciated learning the richness of the Bible which speaks of God's faithfulness to us.

Charles Roennfeldt

Charles greatly enjoys serving in gospel work as a ministry intern at Westminster Presbyterian Church Bull Creek. Charles finished off his bachelor's degree at Trinity before earning the Graduate Certificate. He sees his time at Trinity as a great privilege, which God used to grow Charles' knowledge and love for him.

Emily Shaw

Emily loved her time at Trinity! Although she's not in a formal ministry position, study helped prepare her to answer questions from her kids and friends about who our God is and the hope we have in Jesus. She says the lecturers have been insightful and pastoral, and that she's grown a lot through their ministry to her.

Diploma of Theology**Laura Hogan (in absentia)****Graduate Diploma of Divinity****Jack Gangemi**

Jack works as a physiotherapist and serves in his local church, Subiaco Church of Christ. Jack valued how Trinity taught him that theological concepts always have pastoral applications, and that theological study should always involve both the heart and the mind.

Fiona Gauntlett

Fiona is currently looking for voluntary service opportunities with an emphasis on pastoral care. She greatly appreciates the lecturers' commitment to each student becoming well equipped to handle God's Word rightly, while growing in love for God and his people.

Abby Johnston

Abby attends Subiaco Church of Christ where she serves as a youth leader alongside her husband Carson. Abby thanks

Continued on next page

Back row: Emily Shaw, Silas Lee, Charles Roennfeldt, Jack Gangemi, Sheridan Raston, Madeleine Chaine; Front row: Abby Johnston, Rebekah Wilson, Hayley Pearce, Matthew Palmer, Miriam Shaw, Fiona Gauntlett

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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 these for Word ministry

Wil Cooper is a current student at Trinity in the second year of his Master of Divinity.


"I, together with my wife, Jodie, and kids, Joseph, and Hazel, attend Gosnells Baptist Church. We moved to Perth after spending 6 years in Moora where Jodie and I worked as chaplains, to train for ministry.

I've long wanted to study at Trinity, as it has been highly recommended to me by friends and family. Although

its academically rigorous, Trinity maintains its focus on the Bible as the source of theology and life change.

My favourite things about Trinity are having time to learn the biblical languages and wrestle through differing opinions

myself in assignments; not because I enjoy wrestling but because I enjoy the privilege of having time to weigh the evidence in order to rightly understand the Word.

Once I graduate I aim to be involved in cross-cultural evangelism." 



Graduate Diploma of Divinity

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God for learning many things at Trinity: more about God, how to conduct research with real books and not just the Internet, and for answering questions she didn't even know she had about the Bible, church history, and theology.

Silas Lee

Silas works as a physiotherapist in the public hospital system as well as serving at Subiaco Church in several areas. Trinity developed his knowledge of church history and better prepared him for conversations around religion and the need for Christ in his workplace.

Matthew Palmer

Matthew serves at Rockingham Church of Christ in the leadership team for the primary aged youth group.

He says that before attending Trinity, he was unaware of reading Scripture in context, and did not understand church history. He deeply appreciates that his misunderstandings were challenged, and his knowledge was built through the course.

Hayley Pearce

Hayley serves full time as the Children's Ministry Coordinator at North Beach Baptist Church. She says that her time at Trinity became the nurturing soil where she grew roots of humility, resilience, and an increasing readiness to serve Christ and his people through ministry.

Sheridan Raston

Since completing the Graduate Diploma, Sheri continues serving at Providence City church and on the CRUWest Committee and the Ministry Training Strategy board.

Sheri loved the community at Trinity and the friendships she developed. She says she will forever benefit from what she's learned about God and his Word.

Miriam Shaw

Mim works part time teaching Year 6 at Rehoboth Christian College in Kenwick and attends Providence City church. She deeply appreciated being able to meet with other Christians and learn how the whole Bible tells God's great salvation story. She's come away with a greater understanding of her sin and desperate need for God each day.

Rebekah Wilson

Bek recently began working full-time with the Australian Fellowship of Evangelical Students at Curtin University. She's thankful for her time at Trinity and the opportunity it provided to grow in Christ and her understanding of God's Word.



Back row: Harry Mengham, William Murphy, Carson Johnston, Joseph Hewitt; Front row: Lucinda de Vos Flores, Justin Fourie, Jessie Owuor

Certificate of Ministry

Lucinda de Vos Flores

Justin Fourie, Joseph Hewitt, Carson Johnston, Harry Mengham, William Murphy,

and Jessie Owuor also graduate with the Trinity Certificate of Ministry alongside their accredited three-year degree.

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Prizes

Lucinda de Vos Flores *Master of Divinity Prize*

An academic prize awarded to the student who has the highest Grade Point Average whilst enrolled in the Master of Divinity and is provided by Westminster Presbyterian Church Bull Creek.



Prize winners: Lucinda de Vos Flores, Justin Fourie, Malachi Walker, Fiona Gauntlett

Justin Fourie *Bachelor of Theology Prize*

An academic prize awarded to the student who has the highest Grade Point Average whilst enrolled in the Bachelor of Theology and is provided by the Anglican Diocese of North West Australia.

Fiona Gauntlett *One Year Degree Prize*

An academic prize awarded to the student who has the highest Grade Point Average whilst enrolled in a one-year course. This is provided by Margaret Ellis in memory of John Ellis.

Malachi Walker *The Mike Horgan Community Service Prize*

This prize is awarded to the student recognised by the College community as having made the most significant contribution to College life through their service. The prize is provided by St Matthews Anglican Church Shenton Park and named in memory of Mike Horgan.

Certificate of Christian Studies

Eddie Guchu

Eddie thanks God for Trinity and every brother and sister who took the time to teach him God's Word through Trinity at Night.

Jared Mills

Jared helps run the Years 7-9 youth group at Kallaroo Anglican Church. He valued the scope of the Trinity at Night units that gave him a broader and deeper understanding of biblical truths.

Ilya Moukine

Ilya is a university student, and member of the Russian Baptist Church where he translates from Russian to English. Trinity at Night helped him see the Bible's beautiful complexity, which has humbled and encouraged him to build his relationship Christ.

Jordan Vandeppeer

Jordan is a full-time electrical engineer and part-time student. He says the quality of the Trinity at Night classes is second to none, and he would encourage everyone to attend. Through the Certificate he advanced in his understanding of Christ, the gospel, and the Scriptures; so much so that he's now started a Graduate Diploma part-time at Trinity. He told us, "I can't get enough of this place!"

Ilya Moukine, Jordan Vandeppeer, Robin White, Darren Broad (Advanced Certificate), Jared Mills, Eddie Guchu, Rochelle Oaklands (Advanced Certificate)



Robin White

Robin is a retired businessman and enjoys serving Rockingham Church of Christ by assisting with communion and Bible reading, as well as ground maintenance for the church. Trinity has given him a big-picture framework for deeper study of the Bible. And he gladly uses this knowledge to assist new Christians in their faith.

Advanced Certificate of Christian Studies

Darren Broad

Darren is a senior asset planner at the Water Corporation. The Advanced Certificate helped him better understand the Bible in relation to theology and ministry. He already sees how his studies help him in serving as a growth group leader at St Matthew's Anglican Church.

Rochelle Oaklands

Rochelle is a school teacher who attends Bunbury Seventh Day Adventist Church, where she serves the youth. She says that Trinity provided excellent lectures that have enabled her to not only understand how the Bible points to Jesus, but also challenged her to grow in her own faith in Christ. Rochelle completed this Certificate through audio recordings made available to those outside the Perth metro area.

Empowering the Next Generation: Join Us

Having just celebrated with our graduates, it's a great time to reflect on God's goodness; to each one of us personally, to every one of our graduates who have passed through the College and for the students who have just begun or are continuing. We are so grateful for his sustaining goodness that 27 men and women have graduated, many of whom have gone into ministry or paraministry roles.

But we cannot rest on these statistics; we need to continue to fulfill our vision to equip men and women for gospel ministry, far beyond the confines of our city, well into the future. There is an ever-increasing need for the good news of the gospel; people need to hear the hope that Jesus saves and that ultimately 'good wins'. As we nurture and equip our students with the gospel, our ultimate aim is to send forth skilled, compassionate ministry workers into communities far and wide. These


individuals are not just graduates; they are messengers of hope, heralds of the transformative power of Christ's love.

In order for us to accomplish this mission, we need to have your support in partnership with us. We need your prayers! And we need your generous financial support to enable this work to be as effective as possible and ensure that our future leaders are well-equipped for the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead.

To all those who pray faithfully and those who give financially, we extend our heartfelt gratitude. Your generosity has been a beacon of hope and a testament to the power of almighty God to see his Kingdom come.

As we look to the future, we invite you to join us in this vital work; either by responding to the Appeal Letter that you received in February or by using the response sheet in this publication.

Together, we can continue to make a significant impact, training and sending out ministry workers who are equipped to spread the gospel and serve their communities effectively. Let us unite in this cause, for the harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Your partnership can help bridge this gap, fostering a brighter, more hopeful future for all.

Thank you for considering this call to action. Together, we can achieve extraordinary things in the name of Christ. 

Colleen Mugridge

Development Assistant



Prayer & Praise

Give thanks for:

- The 23 new Degree graduates and 7 Certificate graduates now equipped to share the gospel message in their context
- Our 71 new and continuing students, diligently seeking to grow in their knowledge of the Bible and love for the Lord
- The many loyal and faithful individuals and churches who support the ministry training at Trinity through prayer and finances
- Council and College leadership making wise, godly decisions

Pray for:

- Our graduates currently in ministry positions and those seeking positions; that they will rely on God for their strength and perseverance in their efforts
- Trinity to remain faithful in providing students with a head/heart/hands model of ministry
- Faculty and staff to have good health and energy in diligently serving our students and the College community
- God to continue to provide for all our financial needs for 2024

Dates for 2024

- 20 Apr Trinity Enrich Conference
- 08 May Information Night
- 11 May Quarterly Prayer Breakfast
- 14 May Open Lecture
- 20 May Ministry Matters
- 03 Aug Quarterly Prayer Breakfast
- 16 Sep Annual Lecture
- 9-13 Oct Open Week
- 02 Nov Quarterly Prayer Breakfast