

NEW LIFE CHAPEL

16 June 2024

Dear Kingdom Builder,

On behalf of our New Life Chapel Eldership and Board, we wish to express our heartfelt gratitude for the overwhelming generosity and support that each of you has shown these last twelve months. Your contributions, whether in the form of time, effort, or financial assistance, have made a profound impact on our church and the wider community.

In times of need, it is your unwavering commitment and kindness that have enabled us to continue our mission and outreach programs. Your giving has supported a range of vital activities, from community outreach initiatives and support for those in need and so much more.

We commenced the year with the prophetic theme 'Raise the Standard' and began unpacking the relevance of this theme from Acts 2:42-47 (TPT). A great deal of this passage has to do with the spirit of generosity, which we as a church wonderfully practise.

"...their hearts were **mutually linked** to one another...all the believers were in fellowship as one body, and **they** shared with one another whatever they had. Out of generosity **they** even sold their assets to distribute the proceeds to those who were in need among them..."

It is truly inspiring to witness the spirit of giving that permeates our congregation. Each act of generosity is a testament to the love and compassion that defines our church family. Your willingness to share your blessings not only strengthens our community but also reflects the core values of our faith and the life of Christ.

The folio contains statistical data which provides an overview of the activity during the course of the year. In particular you will see that our influence in media has significantly increased. The contents and testimonies in this folio are broken down into the three categories which list the ministry initiatives we support: Local, National and Global.

There is also a section towards the end of the folio which outlines our future projections.

Thank you once again for your incredible support and dedication. May God bless you abundantly for your kindness and may our church continue to flourish as a beacon of love and hope.

Ps Zoran and Kate Paunovich Senior Pastors New Life Chapel

New Life Chapel

# **New Life Chapel**

**Kingdom Builders** 

**2024 Mid-Year Report** 





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## **New Life Chapel Church Statistics**

#### Weekend Engagement: (June 2023 - May 2024)

Salvations:	105		
Recommitments:	37		
Visitor Packs:	324		
Defence Force Gift Boxes	14		
New People Joined NLC:	260 (Includes Adults, Youth & Children)		
Children Dedicated:	10		
Baptisms:	13		
Church Involvement:	240		
Sunday Attendance:	Avg: 298 Highest: 383		
Online Attendance	Avg: 242 Highest: 558		
Chapel Kids:	Avg: 90 Highest: 121		
Youth:	Avg: 76 Highest: 105		

#### **Connect Group Statistics:**

Connect Groups:	25
Connect Group Attendees (Total):	168

#### **Pastoral Care Statistics:**

Phone Calls Made:	450
In Person Connections:	347
Total Individuals Reached:	634

#### **Events:**

Foundations Course Registrations:	154	
Women's Ministry Attendance:	186	3 events
Men's Ministry Attendance:	358	5 events



#### **NLC Media and Marketing**

**WEBSITE** 

Views: 18K (Total number of times pages were viewed)

Event Count: 42K (Times people ENGAGED/ACTIONED something on page)
Total Users: 5.8K (Total amount of people who accessed NLC Website)
New Users: 5.7K (How many have not been on NLC Website before)

**TRAFFIC SOURCE** 

Google: 45% of all traffic (Organic search)

Direct: 32% of all traffic (Physically typed in our web address)

Facebook: 18%

**YOUTUBE** 

Impressions: 234,709K (times shown up in searches & YouTube suggested feed)

Total Views: 17.4K Watch Time: 5.4K Hours

Countries Reached: 61
New Subscribers: 130
Total Subscribers: 710
Viewers Subscribed: 40.5%
Viewers Not Subscribed: 59.5%
Men: 50.3%
Women: 49.7%

Dominant Age Demographic: 35-44 - 66.3% of online viewership

Sunday Service Totals: 15.8K (209K Impressions)

**FACEBOOK** 

Impressions: 861.2k Reach: 188.7K Interactions: 10.3K **New Followers:** 245 **Total Followers:** 2K Event & Link Clicks: 6.2K Women: 67.3% 32.7% Men:

Dominant Age Demographic: 25-34 - 31.4% | 35-44 - 17.9%

Reels: 6,342 Views Sunday Service Totals: 19,829 Views

**INSTAGRAM** 

Reach: 6.2K

Interactions: 2.2K (100% increase on previous 12 months)

Followers: 962

Reels: 18,772 Views

Steve Leane - NLC Media Director



2023-2024 Kingdom Builders Distributions			
Local	National	Global	
New Life Care Food Relief Centre	Youth Alive Victoria	Believe PNG	
Christmas Gift Giving	Teen Challenge Drug & Alcohol Rehab Victoria	ICEJ - Israel in Crisis - humanitarian war relief.	
Street Ministry	Halls Creek Indigenous Ministry & Leadership Development College	EASTERN EUROPE REPORTS:	
Good Friday Easter Outreach	Everyman's Welfare Service	Leskovac Community Church, South Serbia	
Special Religious Education (SRE)		EUS (Evangelical Union of Students) Serbia	
98.3 theLight Radio Station			
Esencia Life Centre - Pregnancy Help & Counselling Centre			
Chaplaincy			
Bathroom Renovation - see Dec 2023 Report			



## **Local Report**

#### **New Life Care**

#### **Food Relief Centre:**

Food Relief Centre Recipients (Weekly Avg):	125	
Volunteers (Weekly Avg):	18	
Volunteer Hours (Weekly Avg):	52	
Hygiene Products (Total):	1,600	4,300 - 3 year total
Frozen Meals Given Out (Total):	2,500	6,300 - 3 year total
Food Given Out (Total):	30,000 kg	82,000 kg - 3 year total
Grocery shops per year:	2,000+	5,400+ - 3 year total
Winter Generosity Knitted items donated	120+	290+ - 3 year total
New Volunteers to Food Relief Team	5	
Hamper Closet - Emergency Food Hampers	120	
Social inclusion - people coming early for coffee & biscuits (Weekly Avg)	25	



#### **New Life Care Food Relief Centre**

We have had a wonderful year completing some goals we have set. We have streamlined our processes and made the shopping experience better.

Every week we are supporting clients who are doing their best to make ends meet. It is a privilege to assist with practical things that make a real difference in people's lives.

Social Inclusion - We have a dedicated Foyer Team to look after people who come early, where we run our Social Inclusion program. We serve coffee, tea & hot chocolate with biscuits, while they wait to do their groceries. The team regularly have encouraging encounters with clients & will often pray with them regarding their burdens.

Engagement - There have been a number of Food Relief Clients who have attended church services, the Men's Steak Nights & some Christmas events.

This year we were blessed to receive the largest single physical donation of goods ever. We received an entire pallet of very useful cans and jars that went directly onto the shelves of our Food Relief Centre.

We owe a huge thank you to everyone who contributes to the Food Relief Centre, with gifts of volunteering of time, gifts of finance, gifts of produce from the garden and gifts of logistical support.

Trudi Singh

Community Care Leader

#### **Christmas Gift Giving**

On Sunday 3rd December we had our annual Give A Gift service. As well as all the gifts that were purchased by our congregation, we were able to purchase additional gifts with the generous donations made to Kingdom Builders. These gifts go to local organisations that ensure they reach the most vulnerable children and teenagers in our community. Due to the increase in donations, the gifts are now going as far as Albury, Wodonga and Wangaratta. This year we were also able to engage with a third agency to be a blessing to local women in very vulnerable family situations. A total number of 860 gifts were distributed in our region.

Trudi Singh

Community Care Leader



#### **Street Ministry**

Hi everyone,

I can't believe it's been 12 months since we started New Life Chapel's, 'Street Ministry'. In that time we've impacted our community significantly.

I love the parable of the lost sheep in Luke Chapter 15. I feel like it captures beautifully what we hoped to achieve by providing a meal on the street. In that story Jesus was sitting eating and talking with the tax collectors and sinners. The religious scoffed and said "look at who he's eating with and talking to". So Jesus turned around and said to them, "Who of you having 100 sheep wouldn't leave the 99 to go after the one."

Through a meal and a conversation, many people on a Thursday night, down at Junction Square, have encountered the love, hope and compassion of Jesus.

I'd love to share some statistics with you to quantify the impact we're making in Wodonga. In our twelve months of operation 'NLC Street Ministry' has served:

- One Thousand Three Hundred and Fifty meals.
- Provided approximately 300 food relief packs.
- Given out essential items like sleeping bags, blankets, jackets and toiletries.
- Incredibly, twenty people have prayed the prayer of salvation.

It's obvious we're making a difference in people's lives.

Moving forward it would be awesome to have our own four door ute to tow the Food Trailer. It would also be incredible to have emergency relief funding for accommodation and bedding.

All the 'Street Ministry' team and Anne and I want to thank you! But we know the people who visit the Food Trailer would also want to say thank you for your incredible generosity and ongoing support.

God Bless Ya.

Richard Lourey

**Street Ministry** 



#### **Good Friday Easter Outreach**

Our Good Friday Easter Outreach was a huge success this year reaching around 4000 people. Our team of volunteers were outstanding and it was so good to come together as a church to serve our community.

The sun was shining & the Easter Eggs were plenty, but most importantly of all we preached the Gospel message of Jesus. What a joy it was to take our church and plant it right in the heart of our city on Good Friday. My favourite moment was during the Easter address by our youth pastor, Matt Barton. The entire outdoor space of The Cube was full of people and when Ps Matt began to speak, every person there stopped talking and turned to face the stage and listened to what Ps Matt was saying - it truly was an amazing sight!

Here are a few amazing statistics from the weekend:

- 20,000 Easter eggs given out yes, that is a lot of eggs!!
- 363 families registered for the event 273 of these families were first time registrations which is fantastic.
- 745 kids participated in the egg hunt the smiles & excitement on the kids' faces was truly wonderful.
- 147 families wanted to know more about NLC, which is fantastic.
- 1000 Hot Cross Buns were given out and they were delicious, & 350 drinks sold from the NLC Food Trailer.
- 297 children had their faces painted with an Easter theme design. The face painting zone was a hive of activity for sure.
- 78 Volunteers served across the event I truly love our servant hearted church community!
- AND the Gospel was preached in the open air by both Mrs Pam Schubert and Ps Matt Barton. Firstly, Mrs Pam shared the Easter story in the open this year and 100 'The Bible App' booklets were given out to children after Mrs Pam spoke, with many families staying to ask questions about the Easter Story.
- Our Youth Pastor, Matt Barton gave a brilliant Easter address to our community with
   12 Bibles and plus 8 'Why Jesus' booklets given out.

A huge thank you to EVERYONE who served before, during and after the event. Thank you to those who financially supported the event and thank you to all who prayed for this event.

We love and value every person's contribution to making this important community event happen. Now that the event is over, please continue to pray for those seeds that were sown in the heart of our community on Good Friday.

Ps Natt Cross
Executive Pastor



#### **Special Religious Education (SRE)**

Special Religious Education has continued to grow this year, in its 11th year of being taught across Albury High School, Murray High School and James Fallon High School. We thank the Lord for His continued favour and blessing and for your prayers and financial partnership from Kingdom Builders.

This ministry has become a respected subject within the school communities for students to learn about the Christian faith, discover their understanding of what it is to be a follower of Jesus and study the Bible. Students are encouraged with the curriculum set by Approved Providers of Thinkfaith.org that explore Christian Worldview topics, present Biblical Evidence and the salvation and hope of Christ. Students show curiosity, many of whom do not attend a church, and SRE provides an opportunity for many testimonies such as these for young people to grow in their own biblical understanding and faith journey.

2024 has seen enrolments of close to 100 students so far, many students enrolling from being invited by existing students. This grassroot and genuine transformation we are seeing take place in our students is quite amazing to witness, as students ask for enrolment forms for their friends or invite them along to meet me before a lesson to answer any questions. One particular student who was raised Buddhist, has now given her heart to Jesus and has in total invited close to 20 students to SRE. Another student from another school also began attending a local youth group and now attends church with their grandparents most weeks. High School SRE has been the doorway for students such as these to find Jesus and grow in their walk with Him. It is such a privilege and opportunity that we can teach the Bible in our public schools in NSW and we thank God for it.

SRE in our High Schools would not be possible without the continued support from Kingdom Builders and our regular givers. We do not receive any grant funding and the impact that Kingdom Builders make is invaluable as we see young people come to know Christ. The harvest is plentiful.

Thank you for your prayers, partnership, generosity, encouragement and heart on mission to see the next generation reached with the gospel message of Christ. Amen.

Yours in Christ,

Lendel Bakes
SRE High School Teacher



#### 98.3 the Light Radio Station

Dear friends of the Light,

Thank you for your continued support of the Light.

I do hope that you are enjoying the improved signal as we broadcast from our new site on 98.3FM.

In 2022, a successful grant application was made to Community Broadcasting Foundation (CBF) for new transmission equipment. A new transmission tower site was identified on One Tree Hill to the north of Albury, and negotiations with the tower owner started.

In October 2023, brand-new transmission equipment, fully funded through community donations and a CBF grant, was installed at the transmission site on One Tree Hill in readiness for the changeover to transmit on the new frequency of 98.3 MHz.

At 10:03 am on Wednesday, 6th March 2024, we began broadcasting on 98.3MHz, the new home of the Light in Albury Wodonga.

98.3 theLight now broadcasts as far north as Culcairn and Holbrook, as far south as Tallangatta South, as far east as Talmalmo and as far west as Corowa. This has increased the broadcast population to 130,000+ people. Limited coverage is also available past these places.

98.3 the Light regularly broadcasts ads for NLC Food Relief Centre.

Your generous contributions to this local ministry enable your station to continue to provide hope and a perspective on life that can only be found in one place: Jesus. We cannot thank you, our supporters, enough for your unwavering support. We are committed to maintaining our mission of playing Music With Meaning, and we look forward to continuing this vital ministry.

Report produced from the 98.3 the Light's annual report.



#### **Esencia Life Centre - Pregnancy Help & Counselling Centre**

#### Highlights:

- There has been a significant increase in clients, and client contact hours.
- Counselling hours provided have doubled since 2023.
- We have employed a licensed counsellor for two days per week and an administration assistant for one day a week.
- We have grown our online provision of counselling, particularly for abortion grief reaching women interstate.
- A significant increase in the provision of mother and baby goods has resulted from our new material support liaison volunteer. An estimate of 120 hrs spent coordinating material assistance and relief for those experiencing financial hardship.
- The counselling service has grown to provide general counselling for anxiety, depression, addiction, marriage, abuse and trauma.
- All pregnancy counselling is provided free of charge (approximately 250 plus hours of free counselling has been provided).
- Both principal counsellors have engaged in ongoing professional development courses for better service provision.
- The Wagga Esencia Life Centre pregnancy support centre has run several fundraising events to raise money to rent a space for potential face-to-face clients. Currently, they provide telehealth counselling.
- Liaison and networking with other organisations providing care for those who have experienced baby/infant loss (BLOSS Riverina)
- There has been some success in reaching out to members of churches and community organisations to support or partner with ELC.
- Increased referrals from General Practitioners for general counselling and pregnancy support.

#### The help we have provided:

- Free pregnancy testing.
- Free, confidential, and caring support.
- Education about pregnancy, abortion and parenting.
- Emotional support ongoing mentoring and assistance.
- Material support The 'Mumma and Bubba joy box' given to mums in need.
- After abortion support Keys to Hope and Healing and H.E.A.R.T programmes.
- Past trauma, addiction, abuse recovery Unravelled Roots programme.
- Non-diagnostic ultrasound.

#### **Future Outlooks:**

- Continued provision of general counselling as well as pregnancy services. General counselling is low-cost and helps support free pregnancy services.
- Increased provision of counselling for women after abortion.
- Increased contact and liaison with churches, community groups, and medical centres to promote our service.
- Launching online abortion grief support groups.
- Launching in-person trauma-informed groups.

#### Peta Evans

President - Esencia Life Centre



#### Chaplaincy

Firstly I want to say thank you for all your support and prayers.

My name is Sonja & I have been a born again Christian since 1993 & a part of NLC for over two years. For the last five years I have been working as a Chaplain in three different schools in NSW.

On Monday I am at Kandeer School, Albury. This school is for students in years 5-10, who have suffered trauma, often live in out of home care and who can't function in other mainstream schools.

On Tuesdays I work at Holbrook Public School, a small Public School, with just under 130 students. Holbrook is the only one of my 3 schools which did not receive any Government funding for this year, but thanks to your generous donations, I am still able to continue to work with the students, parents/carers and staff at this beautiful country school.

On Wednesdays and Fridays I work as Chaplain at Billabong High School in Culcairn. Billabong is a rural High school with over 430 students. Some of the work I do as a Chaplain includes:

- running breakfast club,
- making school luncheons for the students (prepare meals and place them into the freezer to be accessed by the students when needed),
- running small groups, e.g. Seasons for Growth (grief & loss program), Shine Girls (self esteem & wellbeing program), Drum Beat (wellbeing program using Rhythm on Djembe drums),
- Friendship and Leadership programs,
- Gardening groups,
- I work closely with parents/carers and the greater school community and offer pastoral care and referrals to outside agencies, if the need arises.
- I organise and prepare weekly welfare food parcels, which I distribute to school families in need, as well as annual Christmas hampers.

On Thursdays I work as an SRE teacher at Billabong HS and Culcairn Public School. At Billabong HS I teach two classes, a year 8/9 class with 8 students & a year 7 class with 13 students. I have students from diverse religious backgrounds. It ranges from children born into Christian families, who know everything about Jesus, to children who know nothing and God is new to them. At Culcairn PS I am teaching the year 5/6 class with a great number of year 6 students going to Billabong HS next year. I volunteer my time to teach the primary school students, because I believe it is vital, especially for the senior classes, to learn about the love God has for them and how Jesus died for them, and the miracles of Jesus, before the students go to Highschool & often never hear about the Lord again.

Sonja Dionysius - Chaplain & SRE teacher



### **National Report**

#### **Youth Alive Victoria**

Last year was an incredible year for Youth Alive Victoria that has seen us reach many thousands of teenagers through evangelistic events and also partner with Youth Ministries to see leaders trained and resourced.

Throughout the year, we have seen a significant increase in engagement and continued effectiveness through this ministry. We are ecstatic to have seen our annual state rally Main Event grow to the point that in 2024 we are moving to a larger venue. We are also pleased to see strong growth across our Bible College, Young Adult outreach & Undivided, which is our Regional youth events.

In 2023 we saw 3394 teenagers respond to the Gospel and choose to make Jesus their Lord & Saviour with 969 of these teens never having done this before! We gave out 1800 Bibles to teens who responded but didn't have a Bible.

We trained 689 leaders across Victoria and presented the Gospel in person to 21,639 people.

We're so proud to have seen this ministry and each of the youth pastors and leaders around the State take a step forward toward reaching more young people across Victoria and enlarging their vision for the future.

We'd like to thank you as a church & each of your Kingdom Builders who contribute financially and in prayer to help make this possible. Together we share a vision of reaching young people with the message of Jesus, and together we are laying the foundation for increasingly strong youth ministries across the State of Victoria for years to come. Thank you New Life Chapel.

For more encouraging stories & stats from the last 12 months visit: www.youthalivevictoria.com.au/impactreport23

With love,

Dave & Ailen Edgar

Youth Alive Victoria



#### Teen Challenge Drug & Alcohol Rehab Victoria

Teen Challenge is a Christian ministry helping men to break free from addiction. Its core values are Integrity, Compassion, Community, Vision, Stewardship, Faith & Servanthood. The program is designed to help men grow physically, emotionally & spiritually so that they can live with a sense of dignity, value & purpose. In March this year Teen Challenge appointed a new CEO, David Hunter, & are looking forward to continuing to build & improve on the success of what they are already achieving. The program continues to have between 15-20 permanent students participating. The following are 2 testimonies from men who are in the program at the moment.

Teen Challenge Kyabram

Anne Lourey

Cole (22 yrs old) - "TC has helped me by saving my life. They have helped me find my identity in Christ & stabilise myself mentally. I'm still dealing with a lot of mental issues & emotions but through Christ & the mentors & students here I feel I can do it. They are helping me with my abuse history from my dad with my sexual abuse, mental abuse & trauma. I feel like I can dive into the causes of my problems of why I turned to drugs."

Tyron - TC has helped me to learn how to love again. I've learnt how to be good. I've done prison & I've never really known what my emotions are. All sorts of bad things happened to me as a kid & I have never really learnt how to live as a person. TC taught me how to talk properly. I have learnt how to read & write here. How to love my partner well & how to be a good father to my daughter. She is two years old & there was a protection order in place so I could not see her until 2027 & now I can see her anytime. My partner is happy with me. I am close to my dad now as I did not have a relationship with my parents at all until coming here. Now I have got them to come to church as well. I am just learning how to be a normal person again after being an addict for a long time. What you are taught in prison to survive you cannot use in the outside world. What I am now learning about my habits & how I reacted to things is not the right thing to do. I am learning how to be accountable to that & how to live life humbly. The staff here have shown me how to act & how to put away all the childish things. I have learnt how to be a man, how to treat women, how to be a good father, how to understand my child & how to discipline her properly. I want her to grow up & know God.



#### Halls Creek Indigenous Ministry & Leadership Development College

Let me start this report by saying how thankful Ps Max Wiltshire, the newly appointed pastors & the congregations of Halls Creek, Wyndham & Billaluna are for the ongoing financial support for the development & building of the Church of Jesus Christ in this great harvest field.

There are currently 45 First Nations students doing Bible College in these churches. Some are first year students & some have returned as second year students. In this month of June, I returned to the Kimberley to sign up students for the second semester, among other things.

From the student body so far, we have appointed five pastors to senior positions:

- Jack & Skye Wiltshire, overseeing the Eastern Region of the Kimberley,
- Patrick & Joslyn , Pastors of the Halls Creek Church,
- Elton & Karen, Assistant Pastors in Halls Creek,
- Timothy & Karen, Pastors in Billaluna,
- Itu & Shaye, Pastors in Wyndham.

We have also appointed MaryJo to be the administrator of the churches & Planetshakers Bible College. This is a major part of seeing the work of God moving forward.

We are targeting three other communities & towns to commence new churches in the next 12 months. These are Balgo, Mulan & Kununurra. We are confident that God will raise up pastors & other key team members from the Bible College to get these churches underway. These communities have reached out to us & want us to come. This is a remarkable turnaround in just the few short years that we have been involved in the Kimberley.

In August we have a team, including pastors & business people, going to Halls Creek for their annual convention. The aim is to further promote this unique & special work of God.

There are many challenges & opportunities going forward & we are up for each of them. Let's continue to work together to see the work advance.

Pastor Warren McMartin
Outback Australia Ministry



#### **Everyman's Welfare Service**

Everyman's Welfare Service has had one of the most blessed years in the last 12 months, more than it has had for some time. In July 2023 we were able to do outreach at the biggest military exercise ever held in Australia. We were able to field 4 of our brew trucks during the months of that exercise held near Townsville. We ministered to soldiers, not only Australian, but French, German, Malaysian, American and others. The 'brew trucks' are refreshment vans, usually Toyota Landcruisers, especially fitted out to take tea, coffee, chocolate and all manner of 'goodies' to build relationships with Defence personnel. Around a 'cuppa' or coffee, which are called 'brews' by the ADF, our missionaries build relationships via normal greetings and natural conversation. On our trucks we carry ADF Bibles, which the Bible Society of Australia very kindly provide, along with evangelical tracts. One of those tracts called "Stoppage" was written by one of our own Senior REPs Ben Ridley. Whilst much of our ministry is seed sowing of the Gospel, as we are right at the coal face of bringing the Gospel to people for the first time, who for the most part don't even think of a relationship with God, our REPs are always ready to lead folk to Christ. Right at the end of this exercise we had two of our evangelists lead a young American serviceman to the Lord. One of our Everywomen's REPs Leanne, came over from her ministry in Darwin in her brew truck to help out. In the last 12 months we have brought 3 new people into the work to assist in our evangelical outreach, 2 gentlemen, and one lady.

At Kapooka near Wagga Wagga in NSW, the Army is building us a new huge state of the art Recreation Centre, such is their keenness for our ministry. Though this may not be completed for another 5 years, this Rec centre is in the very epicentre of the base, right next to the regular March Outs at Kapooka, where large crowds of friends and families of graduating soldiers attend. Our outreach potential is enormous. The Rec Centres virtually work the same as the brew trucks in that we also have, apart from normal Rec Centre equipment and "brew points", Bibles and tracts made available. We build friendships with soldiers, sailors, and aviators with a view to bringing them to Christ. Our team at Kapooka has also been invited more and more to do ministry at the RAAF Base at Forest Hill nearby, by squadron Commanding Officers. At the time of writing we have 3 Rec Centres on the bases near Albury Wodonga, 1 at Kapooka near Wagga Wagga, 1 at Simpson Barracks in Melbourne and 1 at RAAF Base Amberley near Ipswich in Queensland.

We currently have 26 workers all up who are accredited by the ADF to do this work. We also have 12 brew trucks operating around the country. Our outreach locations are on bases at Simpson Barracks Melbourne, Army Logistics Training Centre Albury/Wodonga, Recruit Training Battalion Kapooka near Wagga Wagga, 1 Recruit Training Unit RAAF Base Forest Hill, 2 Division Randwick Barracks Sydney, 2 Combat Engineer Regiment Enoggera Brisbane, 8/9 Battalion Enoggera, RAAF Base Amberley. We also have a ministry in Brisbane, Everyman's Veterans League, that reaches out to ADF veterans both still serving and retired.

Everyman's is a faith mission, so most of our workers do not get paid to do the outreach but must find support from Christian friends and churches. All the trucks we use have to be purchased and maintained. We would greatly value your prayers, for workers for the harvest, and resources to keep up this ministry, particularly the huge and on-going expense of vehicles.

We ask you to pray mostly for opportunities to share the love of the Lord and bring ADF members to Christ.

Ken Mattews - Chief Commissioner (Mission Leader)



## **Global Report**

#### **Believe PNG**

Believe projects and initiatives have continued to grow in influence in the Pacific region over the past year. The first Believe Community Hub in the Gazelle District is up and running, with weekly programs, including our Kids Club, which sees over 200 children attend every time! We have also started a Flexible Open Distance Education (FODE) pilot program, designed to help high school drop-outs with intensive teaching sessions so that they can still further their education. In a community where only 60% of students finish high school through the formal system, FODE is crucial. This year, we are working with the Provincial Health Authority to open an antenatal clinic in our facility to assist with maternal health and neonatal care. We also look forward to opening a second Community Hub in Kupiano and breaking ground on a third site in June.

The Believe Institute is expanding rapidly with the Future Leaders Program being implemented in 12 schools across 2 provinces this year. Over 7000 high school students will complete our program this year! Our Future Leaders Conference now takes place in two provinces in Papua New Guinea and we are launching our first one in Fiji in August. We are so thankful for this unique opportunity to speak into the mindsets of the next generation in such a broad and systematic way.

We are sending mission teams to Fiji again this year and holding national outdoor events in Lautoka and Suva. We believe that we truly can disciple nations as we partner together for the cause of Christ.

**Neil Smith** 

International Director Planetshakers



#### **ICEJ** (International Christian Embassy Jerusalem)

ICEJ wishes to thank New Life Chapel for its generous financial assistance (\$20,000) towards Israel's humanitarian efforts post the Hamas massacre of October 7th. NLC's contribution has gone towards assisting staff on the ground in Israel with evacuating families, providing housing, food, clothing and emergency aid.

The information below contains a more comprehensive report of NLC's contribution towards the ICEJ Israel in Crisis response:

- A delivery truck to distribute food packages to evacuated families, as well as a second truck for food deliveries to disadvantaged families.
- Respite accommodation for rest and respite which benefited some 450 evacuees, including new immigrants living near the Gaza Border and those hosted in temporary shelter from the southern communities.
- Basic needs for evacuee children, including games, mattresses, first aid kits, and food. Plus 250 bags with toys packed and distributed to evacuated families from the northern border.
- Educational support and equipment to set up temporary classrooms and helped establish ten classrooms.
- Provided computers for evacuee families.
- Printed books to help traumatised evacuated children with resilience. The books will be printed at the reopened Beeri Printing House which is helping them in the community's rehabilitation.
- Therapeutic activities and emotional support plus activities for some 980 evacuee children, some with disabilities.
- Provided additional recreational activities, therapeutic and educational support for immigrant families affected by the crisis, yet who remain within their communities.

#### ICEJ also participated in:

- The packing of 11,800 food boxes for evacuated families and over 2,000 boxes of toiletries and basic needs for IDF soldiers.
- Visiting wounded soldiers and others with gift bags and visiting families of Kfar Aza, sitting shiva with them.
- Helping with the harvest for farmers in the southern area.
- Providing emotional and physical support to elderly individuals and families during this crisis time through the Homecare Program.

Sarah Way

ICEJ Australia National Director



#### **EASTERN EUROPE REPORTS**

#### **Leskovac Community Church**

Dear New Life Chapel,

I send you greetings from our church, The Roma Community Church, in Leskovac Serbia. We thank you for your generosity and kind donation towards the building of our church. The Lord has given us a vision to build a building that will serve as a hub to train, disciple and send out people to plant new churches and make disciples all across Europe.

In the last 18 months, the Lord has planted with us and through us, 7 new churches in Serbia. We have seen 1000+ leaders trained and discipled in leadership and pastoring in Serbia, Bulgaria. Northern Macedonia, Albania, Germany and Sweden. On top of all this, the Lord continues to multiply our church family which together with the Leskovac church plants (seven of them) and with the children, counts for over a 1000 people directly involved in our ministries and over 100 baptised in the last 24 months. Glory to God for He is good!

It took us 7 years to clean and fence the property and two years ago, we started building the hub. By the grace of God, we successfully completed the foundations and the walls of the building. The remaining phases are the roof (phase no.3) and the interior of the building (phase no.4).

The Roma church, with its 98% unemployment has so far given \$8000 for the building. To put things into perspective, our annual income is about \$4000, which means the Roma people have sacrificially given two years' worth of support in one day.

Any further assistance from New Life Chapel towards the completion of our building would be gratefully received.

I pray that the Lord lead you, guide you and grant you peace and prosperity. Be blessed in the name of Jesus.

Misha Bakic

**Associate Pastor** 



#### **EUS (Evangelical Union of Students) Serbia**

We wish to thank New Life Chapel for its generous contribution that assists us in reaching 250,000 university students. We run 3 camps a year for university students, 90 in each camp and see 20 come to Christ in each camp. Many of these students become fully devoted followers of Christ and then in their field of service. Our team recently ran an event which drew 3000 people and we saw 100 people make decisions for Christ. Our speaker was Nick Vujicic who shared his inspirational and life transforming testimony.

#### WHO WE ARE

Our mission among university and high school students with the aim of evangelising, discipling, motivating, and empowering them to become witnesses for Jesus Christ in their student culture, speaking and living the principles of the Gospel.

#### WHAT WE DO

EUS helps university and high school Christian students in their spiritual growth through various seminars and camps to pass on the message of the gospel to their colleagues and friends more easily and accessible. Our focus is on university students, professors and high school students. Hundreds of university and high school students from our country have the opportunity to take part in the annual EUS conference, where students can hear good speakers and can go to various seminars and workshops. The EUS conference is a great encouragement for students, especially for those where there are only a small number of Christians.

#### **EVANGELISM**

Through various events, EUS equips and helps students to grasp the importance of personal evangelism. EUS also organises evangelistic camps, small groups in student residences and faculties, concerts, debates and much more in order to spread the gospel, in cooperation with local churches.

#### **EDUCATION/DISCIPLESHIP**

EUS motivates students through seminars, lectures, weekly Bible studies, personal visits and prayer meetings to live the Christian life. EUS motivates and calls students towards mission at home as well as all around the world. EUS publishes books as well and provides Christian literature for spiritual growth.

#### **WORLD MISSION**

EUS motivates and calls students towards mission at home as well as all around the world. Students have the opportunity to go on mission trips with EUS staff. EUS also organises mission work in student movements and churches overseas for its students.

Samuil Petrovski

**EUS National Director** 



## **Future Projections 2024-2025**

#### **PURCHASE OF NEXT-DOOR PROPERTY**

The following property update was presented on Sunday June 2nd.

For some years the leadership of the Church has been looking at options for creating more space for parking, New Life Care, our kids ministry and to reconfigure how we flow into and out of Church. In other words, creating a foyer for before and after church services.

Since late last year we have been exploring the possibility of purchasing the old bakery next door. The board appointed UXD and Witbreuk Services to carry out a due diligence examination of 60 Chapple St. A group of people from within the Church with experience in business and property were also put in place to widen the knowledge and experience base of the Board. During this process several options were explored and it became evident that the owner was not interested in selling the entire property. The part of the property that is most desirable to us is the triangle that Rangedale Plumbing is currently renting. The owner has indicated that he would consider an offer for this triangle. This part of the property would give us:

- an additional entry point,
- extra parking,
- connect us with Chapple St and quite a bit of on street parking,
- building space for New Life Care and possibly kids ministry.

The whole process has had several overriding principles:

- To be an ongoing legacy for those that follow after us,
- To be a blessing and not a burden.

Breaking off part of the property would require a subdivision and UXD is providing costings for this. It is likely that we will then make an offer. It will then be up to God. Could you please pray for favour from the owner and for what this will allow us to do in the community.

Garry Rutland
NLC Board Secretary



#### **OTHER INITIATIVES 2024-2025**

As well as continuing to support the initiatives in this report, we will also support the following initiatives in 2024-2025:

- Halls Creek Leadership/Bible College and upgrade of facilities.
- Youth Alive North East Victoria Youth festival and rally event at The Cube.
- Eastern Europe:
  - Romania: Pastors and Leaders October Training Conference 700 pastors and leaders are expected to be in attendance.
  - Serbia: Meet with heads of churches to convey National Youth Alive Vision. Put preliminary planning in place for 2025. Also visit Roma Leskovac Community Church, which is experiencing revival, and see how we can help in building their church a children's facility. The church is a ministry to Roma people in an area of 90% unemployment.

#### **HOW TO DONATE**

Kingdom Builders Donations can be made by scanning the following QR Code and clicking on "Kingdom Builders Donations" or referring to our website on the following link. <a href="https://www.newlifechapel.org.au/giving">https://www.newlifechapel.org.au/giving</a> Please use either the AWRCC or Foundation Fund links and ensure you include your name for tax deductible receipts. If you are using Direct Bank Transfer, please include your name in the description.



"I thank my God every time I remember you. In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now, being confident of this, that He who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus."

Philippians 1:3-6

#### **Board and Eldership Representatives**

#### **NLC BOARD**

#### **Pastor Zoran Paunovich**



Pastor Zoran took on the senior pastor's role at NLC in October 2020. Together with his wife Kate they have over 39 years of ministry experience in leading teams and pastoring churches. Pastor Zoran is also an accredited trainer with ISEI (Institute for Social & Emotional Intelligence) and was formerly on staff at Planetshakers as Campus Pastor and Vice President of Planetshakers College. Kate is passionate about people discovering their value and God given potential. She holds a 'Diploma of Counselling' and a 'Certificate IV in Youth Ministry', as well as training with ASSIST in suicide prevention. Kate has worked with young people at risk for over 14 years and has been integral in raising up teams and introducing new programs into schools. Kate was also on the board and helped establish Lazarus Community Centre, a homeless shelter in Geelong. Pastor Zoran and Kate have 3 adult children who are all happily married, and a total of six grandchildren with more on the way.

#### **Daniel Lauridsen**

Daniel is a strategic management consultant serving businesses, churches, and nonprofits across Australia. He has been connected to and part of New Life Chapel for the past seven years. Daniel is a CPA qualified accountant with a Bachelor of Commerce from the University of Otago (NZ) and a Post Graduate Diploma in Entrepreneurship from Cambridge University (UK). Daniel is also a Certified StratOp Strategic Planning Practitioner with the Paterson Centre in the USA.

#### **Brandon Howard**

Brandon has over 25 years of executive and senior leadership experience and previously was the Executive General Manager of Community & Pathways at genU, a national disability, aged, employment and training organisation. Previously, Brandon has held Chief Financial Officer (CFO) and operational roles in public and private health, including Business Operations Manager Epworth Hospital Richmond, St Vincent's Public Hospital Melbourne and University Hospital Geelong. Brandon is currently a Board member of Baptcare and YMCA Geelong and previously was a Board member of Churches of Christ Victoria & Tasmania. Brandon is our only external board member who has personally known Ps Zoran and Kate for close to 30 years, having worked with them in youth leadership many years ago. He brings extensive experience and knowledge in the areas of financial management, leadership, strategy, and operations.

#### **Greg Boehringer**

Greg started B&B Joinery in 1988 and built it into a highly successful business until 2019 when Greg handed it over to the next generation. Since then, Greg has been enjoying retirement by taking long bike rides and spending time with his beautiful wife Allison. Greg and Allison have called NLC home since 1983. Greg previously served on the NLC Board from 1992 to 2019. Greg has a real understanding and knowledge of the NLC building and grounds, and uses his skills, knowledge and connections to advise and undertake different building projects.

#### **Garry Rutland**

Garry, after working for 21 years as an engineering manager, owned and managed Mr Stoves Pool World for 15 years. Garry, and his wife Michelle, sold their business in 2016 and started Seasons Furniture, a custom furniture manufacturing business. Garry, Michelle, their children and now their grandchildren have been firmly planted in NLC since 1997. Their heart for family has also influenced them to love many other people as their own family. Garry has a passion for helping the community and currently serves as a volunteer with the SES. Except for a short break a few years ago, he has served on the NLC Board since 1999.

#### **Scott Parslow**

Scott came to Albury Wodonga in 1989 and after completing an apprenticeship as a Carpenter, went on to become a reputable local builder working as a sole trader in the local domestic building industry. Married to Machelle for 29 years and father to three children. Scott is also a SES volunteer of six years contributing to the community in their time of need. Scott and his family have been part of NLC since 2007 and have embraced the challenges and growth of both their family and NLC. Joining the NLC board in 2023, Scott's heart is that we as a united family church can give our community every chance to experience a God centred life.



#### **NLC ELDERSHIP**

#### **Pastor Zoran & Kate Paunovich**

Pastor Zoran took on the senior pastor's role at NLC in October 2020. Together with his wife Kate they have over 39 years of ministry experience in leading teams and pastoring churches. Pastor Zoran is also an accredited trainer with ISEI (Institute for Social & Emotional Intelligence) and was formerly on staff at Planetshakers as Campus Pastor and Vice President of Planetshakers College. Kate is passionate about people discovering their value and God given potential. She holds a 'Diploma of Counselling' and a 'Certificate IV in Youth Ministry', as well as training with ASSIST in suicide prevention. Kate has worked with young people at risk for over 14 years and has been integral in raising up teams and introducing new programs into schools. Kate was also on the board and helped establish Lazarus Community Centre, a homeless shelter in Geelong. Pastor Zoran and Kate have 3 adult children who are all happily married, and a total of six grandchildren with more on the way.

#### **Natt Cross**

Natt Cross has been a part of New Life Chapel for 27 years. Within that time Ps Natt has held a variety of positions, including Worship & Creative Pastor, Womens Pastor, Services & Events Pastor and NLC Beechworth Campus Pastor alongside her husband Marty. A valued member of the eldership, Ps Natt is a former NLC Board Director and in October 2023 was appointed to the role of NLC Executive Pastor. Ps Natt is also well known in the wider community as a speaker, stylist and blogger. In January 2024, Ps Natt was named by the Border Mail as one of 15 of the region's most influential women. Passionate about building your life on the word of God, Ps Natt encourages and inspires all those she meets to live with strength, dignity and confidence. Married to Marty for 25 years and mum to three adult children, spending time with her family is Ps Natt's favourite thing to do.

#### Nathan & Rachel Schubert

Nathan and his wife Rachel have both grown up in this church with a long-standing history and involvement at NLC. Nathan currently holds a senior management position at Mars where he has worked for over 20 years. Rachel works at the Tax Office as a Tax Manager for ATO Finance and runs her own Interior Design business. Nathan and Rachel have a tremendous heart for the church and a love for God's word and will for their lives and family. Nathan and Rachel are committed to seeing people empowered in their purpose, believing that every person is unique, gifted and highly valued.

#### Leigh Wolki

Leigh, her husband Terry, and their family have been part of the NLC family for 26 years. Leigh and Terry have had multiple local businesses since marrying 35 years ago. As well as being an Elder, Leigh is a Board member for the 'Albury Wodonga Prayer Breakfast', leads a weekly 'Women's Connect Group' and Co-leads 'Business Connect NLC'. Leigh has a heart for God's Church and loves to connect, encourage, inspire and mentor.

#### **Kevin Ward**

Kevin has been married to his wife Christine for over 50 years, they have 3 children and 6 beautiful grandchildren. He is currently retired after working 31 years at Latchford Barracks as a TAFE teacher. Kevin has been on the NLC Eldership for 18 years, and has also previously pastored the 60+ age group. Kevin and Christine previously pastored Connect Church Beechworth for 4 years where they served and loved the Beechworth community. They have a love for the extended church family and outwork this with their wonderful gift of hospitality.