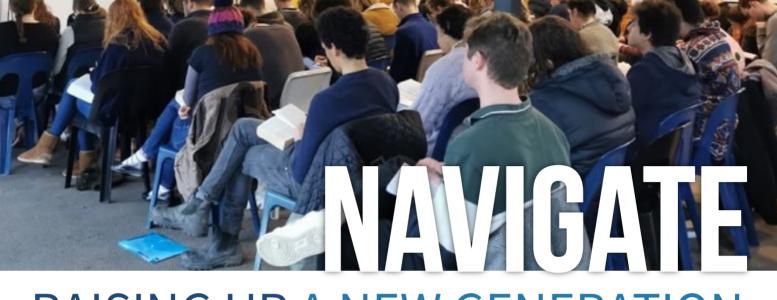
A NEWSLETTER OF THE NAVIGATORS OF NEW ZEALAND

SPRING 2021

navigators



RAISING UP A NEW GENERATION

Our Navigator vision describes labourers and leaders as people with an *increasing passion for Jesus Christ* and who *demonstrate faith and courage as they live and move among their friends and families*. I am stirred in my heart to grow my passion to know, love, and become more like Jesus. I also long for my life to be marked by faith and courage in Jesus. A faith and courage that moves me to reach out to serve, love, and share Jesus with people. This is something I, and we, need God's Spirit to inspire and empower us in.

I see in our Navigator student workers a passion for Jesus, and a deep commitment to love and invest their lives in the lives of students. The 'soil' in people's hearts on our university campuses contains rocks and weeds. It is not a rich silt loam just like Juliet and I have on our property. Developing friendships, practicing hospitality, sharing Good News, persevering in prayer, and depending on the Holy Spirit are all needed to see transformation in the lives of students.

This issue of Navigate features stories and opportunities in our National Student ministry and provides a challenge for us all to be actively involved as workers in Jesus' kingdom. In our student ministry, new people are stepping out in faith to work with students and there are new initiatives to grow our work among students. This requires people and resources. Juliet and I partner financially with many of our student workers and are delighted to be virtual flatmates in the Christchurch Uni house.

A phrase we often hear concerning the COVID-19 response is *out of an abundance of caution*. I applaud this approach in the context of physical health. In the area of spiritual health and walking with Jesus we need an *abundance of courage*. The courage to invest our lives and our resources in the growth of Jesus' kingdom across Aotearoa and out into the Nations.

We pray that the stories in this issue of Navigate encourage you. Join us in praying for God to raise up a new generation to reach Aotearoa with the gospel and to invest their lives in the spiritual growth of others.

Yours,

Simon Cayzer National Director



INVESTING IN A NEW GENERATION

INVESTING IN STUDENTS PROVIDES THE SEEDBED FOR A NEW GENERATION OF LABOURERS



BY TIM SIMPSON

Do you believe that God wants to use you and your life for his kingdom? He does. Each one of us - right where we are, amongst our family, friends, neighbourhoods, and networks. God has us all on mission. And our response? To pray for "sufficient courage so that now as always Christ will be exalted in my body, whether by life or by death. For to live is Christ and to die is gain." (Phil 1:20-21)

This is one of our primary motivations to continue investing in students and raising new generations for Christ. Every year on university campuses around New Zealand, fresh-faced students arrive on campus with dreams of their future careers and for many, this is the first time they will consider their faith in Jesus as an adult. In fact, every year at clubs' recruitment we ask students this question: "Have you considered the claims of Jesus as an adult?"

For the Navigators in New Zealand, the student ministry remains a key on-ramp for raising up new labourers and leaders in our movement. In the last 10 years there has been huge investment into our campus work as we seek to grow workers for God's kingdom in New Zealand and beyond.

We want students to begin to see that God wants to use them to reach others. And as they learn to walk with Jesus and reach their friends for Christ, we are trusting God will reach our nation and beyond into other nations. We seek to raise up new generations of young people willing to give their lives to making Christ known. We are also trusting God for new leaders of our Navigator movement. As we considered how to raise leaders, we had a clear sense that as Jesus led his disciples, they were first and foremost followers. "Come follow me," Jesus said, "and I will send you out to fish for people." A leader is first a follower. In response to this, the annual National Student Gathering that brings students together from Auckland, Palmerston North and Christchurch focused on: "Marks of a Disciple: being a follower of Christ." The challenge was to be Disciples who Know, Grow and Go.

<u>Disciples who Know</u>. Followers of Jesus don't just know things about Jesus, rather they know him personally. He is their shepherd, and they are his sheep who listen to his voice and respond. They grasp and experience the width, height, length, and depth of his love.

<u>Disciples who Grow</u>. Followers of Jesus seek to grow in their relationship with him through abiding deeply in his word and holding fast to his teaching. They are doers of the word and not just hearers and stick with Christ no matter what life throws at them.

<u>Disciples who Go</u>. Followers of Jesus seek to fulfil the great commission and bear fruit by sharing the good news of Jesus with their family, friends, classmates, and neighbours. They are intentionally living their lives among the lost.

So as students come to university looking to be equipped for their career, we seek to equip them in their walk with Jesus so that they are followers who know, grow, and go. We also continue to pray that God will raise new leaders to help others do the same. We invest in them not just for their growth and benefit but for the lives of the people they will know, impacting new generations for Jesus. Will you pray with us for new generations of students to know, grow and go?

A NEW GENERATION LABOURING

BY LOGAN CLARKE

My time with the Navigators as a student really taught me the importance of discipleship, so I was very excited as I left my student life to jump into my church and begin discipling others. I started up a youth group as that is the age group where I was particularly influenced while growing up.

Following some initial discouragement with a group that I tried to begin discipling relationships with, I started discipling one guy right before lockdown last year. He was on his Learners driving licence, so after I finished work, I would pick him up and then take him for a driving lesson. We would follow this up with going and grabbing food and reading the Bible together. It was great to spend this time with him. I was able to help him with something practical in life as well as something which is significant in his life. Over the last two years I have seen him grow and get more and more excited about the Gospel and getting into the Word.

There have also been a couple of younger guys that I have been able to meet with who are going through tough points in their faith. It has been really cool to be someone they could talk to. We have been able to tackle some of the tougher questions and probe into their relationship with God – conversations that they would struggle to have with their parents.

These opportunities have come at a cost of my time and personal sacrifice. However, when I look what at what God has done with these guys, I think that it is the most important thing that I could be doing with my time.



A NEW GENERATION TRUSTING GOD

BY LEAH SIMPSON

"I have a vision for a home where the doors are as open as possible. I would love to live in a way that is a lot less individualistic, but focus on serving my flatmates, and through that practice, that we would be able to serve everyone who walks through our door," said Meg, an Auckland student.

You see, after reading a book about how Jesus lived like this, in and out of people's homes, Meg then happened to visit the Christchurch Navigators student flat on her way to our annual Student Gathering. She observed how she wanted to live - four flatmates living missionally. Meg heard how the flatmates eat together, have people over to dinner, host the weekly Navs student Bible study and spend time discussing how to live for Jesus amongst their friends. Meg was inspired.

As it turned out Meg wasn't the only one God was impressing a similar thought on. Another Auckland student, Emma, on her way home from that same Student Gathering, spent the afternoon before her flight with one of the Christchurch flatmates. The flatmate took time to show Emma around Christchurch and this love and care caught Emma's attention. Emma was inspired. In lockdown these two women took their idea to

Kristina, our student worker in Auckland. And they began dreaming that they could combine two ideas: Meg and Emma's desire to live intentionally and the Auckland Navs student team's desire to address the hurdle of travel. One of the major barriers for the Navs student ministry at Auckland University is that the city is so spread out and students live far and wide. If they cannot catch public transport easily or if the transport is too long, students are unlikely to attend any event, Bible study or even a weekly meet up. A Navs flat close to Auckland Uni would help address these hurdles. The next step is to invite two graduate workers to consider joining Meg and Emma in this house and to begin a search for a suitable home to rent close to Auckland Uni - no small feat! An ideal house would include 4 bedrooms and a space that could be used for student ministry.

We're excited about this idea and its possibilities. "Our flat could offer a little taste of the kingdom on earth for people that come to it," said Meg. We are so encouraged to encounter students who think like this. Would you pray for Meg and Emma, as well as our Auckland student team as they all take the next steps towards having a flat like this in Auckland?

A NEW GENERATION OF STUDENT WORKERS PLEASE WELCOME STUART MOORHOUSE AS HE JOINS STUDENT STAFF IN CHRISTCHURCH

Stuart Moorhouse has a background in Agriculture, previously working for Dairy NZ and has just finished training at Laidlaw College. He's a new staff member with the Navigators student ministry in Canterbury and will relaunch the work at Lincoln University in 2022.

What led you to working with the Navigators? In 2017, I felt a call on my life to lovingly shepherd God's people, with John 21:15-17 deeply resonating with me. As I sought to understand what this may look like, I was introduced to the Navigators through my now wife, Rebecca. God has taken me on a journey of placing The Navigators calling on my life. Little did I know that people were praying for more Kiwis to feel called to on-campus work, which was a calling the Lord placed on me. Part of shepherding is assisting people to mature in their own walk with Jesus. This development includes equipping students to intentionally and relationally share the gospel of Jesus and His Kingdom with others, through all of life's seasons, which really excited me.

What excites you about doing ministry with students? The university years are ones where students from both Christian and non-Christian backgrounds are asking big questions. I want students to profoundly know that the gospel holds the answers to these questions. I desire to see students, the next generation of labourers, not be stuck in the kiddie pool of their faith for their whole lives. Instead, as we wrestle with the hard questions, I trust the Spirit will help them grow in their grasp and realisation of their need to abide in Jesus, so that they may bear fruit throughout their lives.



What are you trusting God for at Lincoln University? Firstly, I am trusting the Lord to open doors and make way for exciting conversations and ongoing discipleship. My previous work and agricultural studies have given me a big heart for the rural community. I am hoping to see the student work at Lincoln have rippling impacts in the rural communities. Many of these students will be the ones that are sitting at the dining tables, or rubbing shoulders with others on the farms, and be able to share the hope that they have within them. Before Covid, Lincoln typically had a large number of international students, regularly over 40%. I am also trusting that God would use the work at Lincoln with students as they engage with their communities overseas.

WOULD YOU JOIN US BY PRAYING FOR THE NEXT GENERATION? OVER THE NEXT 1-3 YEARS WE ARE TRUSTING GOD FOR:

NEW KIWI STUDENT INTERNS TO BE TRAINED UP TO DISCIPLE OTHERS ON OUR CAMPUSES AND AROUND OUR COUNTRY

TWO NEW NAVIGATORS CAMPUS WORKS...THE FIRST STARTING AT LINCOLN UNIVERSITY IN 2022 AND THE SECOND AT MASSEY ALBANY UNIVERSITY STARTING IN 2023

FOR A NAVIGATORS STUDENT LED FLAT IN AUCKLAND CITY TO SERVE THE AUCKLAND UNI WORK AND BECOME AN INTENTIONAL TRAINING GROUND FOR LIVING AMONG THE LOST

STUDENTS LEAVING OUR CAMPUS WORKS WITH A VISION THAT GOD WANTS TO USE THEM TO REACH OTHERS WITH THE GOSPEL AND USE THEIR LIVES TO ADVANCE HIS KINGDOM



To Know Christ, To Make Him Known & Help Others Do the Same.

The Navigators of New Zealand Incorporated is a registered charity in terms of the Charities Act 2005. Registered Charity Number CC11416. All donations over \$5 qualify for tax credits. Donate online at: www.navigators.org.nz/donate *Navigate* is a publication of: The Navigators of New Zealand Inc. PO Box 5344 Papanui, Christchurch, 8542 Email: info@navigators.org.nz Web: www.navigators.org.nz Phone: 022 351 1355