



# James Allaway's Prayer News

December 2007 edition

*"Today in the town of David a Saviour has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord" Luke 2:11*

Our academic year has drawn to a close and for that matter so is the year. So without further ado ...

## Wellington Team

The TSCF team in Wellington (me, Karen, Esther, & Stevie) is set to change a lot over the next couple of months. We have said farewell to Stevie and Esther (Ministry Interns) and are preparing for Ben Carswell (Team Leader) and Gina Wong (Regional staffworker) to join us in the New Year. We have a couple of exciting opportunities next year, so it is an answer to prayer that the staff team has grown. We are setting up a student house across the road from the main Victoria University. The vision is to see students developing relationships of quality and depth which multiply their impact on the university and lay good foundations in convictions and character for life after graduation. One of the frustrations of this year has been not having sufficient resources to give Massey University the input it needs. With the staff team growing we are now planning on a having a member of staff spend a considerable amount of time investing at Massey University which is another really exciting answer to prayer. With a new group started at a campus of Queensland (Australia!) just outside of Wellington city. Next year is looking very exciting!

### Give Thanks:

1. For Stevie and Esther and for all that God has done in and through them across their time in the MIntY program
2. For Ben and Gina as they join the Wellington team

### Pray:

1. For Stevie and Esther as they make decisions as to what to do next year
2. For Karen and I as we approach students about becoming part of the student House at Victoria and plan for the next academic year

## Computers and Internet

The Pacific Partnership Trust [website](http://www.pacificpartnershiptrust.org) is now completed. The address is [www.pacificpartnershiptrust.org](http://www.pacificpartnershiptrust.org). Why not take a look now? The TSCF website is due for launch at the end of January. More on that next time.

### Give Thanks:

1. For James (TSCF Grad, not me) and for his work on the PPT and that his work on the TSCF website is nearly complete

## Student Leadership Conference (SLC)

November the 12<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> saw SLC2007. Over one hundred students and staff gathered together from across New Zealand to study Nehemiah. We also split into three different streams: stream one for new students, stream two for continuing students and stream three for students who were graduating. We looked in our streams at a range of different subjects from how to study the bible, to how to engage with missional opportunities that a campus offers, to developing a theology of work.

The conference was a really encouraging time for all involved. It was great to see students reaching for their bibles when thinking things through. All involved came away with a deeper understanding of the book of Nehemiah. I was particularly struck by how Nehemiah responds to challenges by the way he acts, but also trusting in God. This is particularly evident in chapter four, where each person works with their sword strapped to their side, but Nehemiah is clear that they don't trust in their own strength but in God. For us we shouldn't be paralysed by whether what we are planning is God's will or not, but neither should we act as if it all hinges upon us. Ultimately this is God's world and what he wills will happen.

### Give Thanks:

1. For how well the students engaged with what they were learning. Next year is looking very exciting!
2. For how well the conference went

### Please Pray:

1. For students as they continue to wrestle with what they learned and seek to act on commitments that each person made as part of the conference

## Student Groups

The two groups at Victoria University held a combined retreat to plan for next year. This is the first joint retreat that has happened in living memory. It was really exciting to see both leadership teams work together as they planned a range of activities missional activities (from strategies to encourage personal evangelism, to dialogue dinners to more Ask God in the Quad activities). This combined with the student house we are opening. Next year is looking very exciting!

**Give Thanks:**

1. For how well the combined retreat went and for how much both groups benefited from the experience

**Please Pray:**

1. For the leaders as they seek to ensure that the plans become a reality
2. That the students summer break would not become a “break from God”

**Personal News**

There have been some changes in the TSCF office and as a result my job has changed a little. Basically I am responsible for keeping on top of TSCF's accounts. TSCF has not had an accountant on staff for five years and across that time small errors have crept in that we are working hard on rectifying. I am not trained in accountancy so I have had a lot to learn very quickly and I am very grateful for those who have spent time helping me begin to get my head round things. The change has given me the opportunity to spend some time working on some of our internal processes and simplifying them, which is helping in other areas.

It is not clear at present for how long I will be covering the finance role but I will be continuing my campus work next year at least two days a week.

I am very thankful for your ongoing prayer and financial support of my work. As I mentioned in my last prayer letter I now only have about 65% of my yearly support target raised. The recent visit to the UK was great (back to that in a second) but I did not gain any new supporters as hoped and planned. I have gained some new NZ supporters which is an answer to prayer. I still need to raise an additional £6500/\$17000 per year. I would really value your prayers in this area over the coming months as if I cannot find some new supporters I will have to take a decrease in salary in February. It is something that you think you could help with or If you know of people who may be interested in supporting me please do let me know.

Anna (if you don't know who Anna is, [go here](#)) and I had a great time running around the UK meeting each other's friends and family whilst I caught up with some of my supporters. We also got to celebrate Christmas with my family, which was really special for me (see [www.wellington-boots.blogspot.com](http://www.wellington-boots.blogspot.com)) for more details). Anna is, as we speak, making her farewells and preparing to leave on the 3<sup>rd</sup> January. But it would be great if you could remember her and her family in your prayers too. We finally heard today that the first part of her visa application has been approved which is a huge answer to prayer. A printable version of this letter can be downloaded [here](#).

The only final thing to do is say Happy Christmas!

**Some forthcoming events:**

- 5<sup>th</sup> January: Anna arrives
- 28<sup>th</sup> January - 1<sup>st</sup> February: TSCF Staff and families conference
- 25<sup>th</sup> February: Start of the new academic year

My thanks for your ongoing support

With love,

***James Allaway***

*To support the work of the Tertiary Students Christian Fellowship please contact: TSCF, P.O. Box 9672, Marion Square, Wellington, 6141, NZ. Tel: 0064 (4) 384 7274, Fax: 0064 (4) 385 0483*

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