

Kōrero

Newsletter of Eastwest College of
Intercultural Studies

[*kōrero*] (noun)
speech, narrative,
story, news, account,
discussion,
conversation,
discourse, statement
information

September 2019, Issue 8

2050!? ...

By Jenny McDowall, Lecturer

The dining room was buzzing with laughter and excitement. It was 2050 Day. We were all invited, by the Student Council, to dress up as if it was 2050, with prizes for the best costume. There were all sorts of creations ranging from futuristic, sustainable and environmentally friendly, to an angel, people dressed ready for the heat or for swimming with climate change and rising sea levels. For myself, I chose to wear a colander covered with tinfoil - to protect myself from mind control, in case you were wondering.

In the midst of the fun I reflected on 2050 and what lies ahead for us. Will we still be here? What will the world be like? We hear so much said about climate change, the need to be sustainable and to change the way we live. I can imagine the sea level rising, temperatures getting warmer and having more erratic rainfall as well as animal and plant extinctions and being overwhelmed by floods of plastic waste. I can also imagine a changed society with everyone more connected to the internet super-brain and less connected to each other. But can we imagine what the worldwide body of Christ will look like in 2050? Statistics from Europe show that the vast majority of young people aged 18-29 do not have a faith, never attend



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church and never pray. The default setting is “no religion”. In New Zealand, numbers of Christians continue to drop, particularly among young people.

The Christian Church is always only one generation away from extinction. What a challenge! Will the Son of Man find faith on the earth? (Luke 18:8) We need to nourish and maintain our own vital faith, and from that place of being rooted and grounded in love, knowing the love of Christ and being filled with the fullness of God himself, overflow Christ’s love to those around us. This authenticity in our own lives and in relationship with others is what demonstrates the reality of God at work in the world and reaches people from all cultures and generations. “Lord, may your kingdom come and your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.”

Ministry Teams

As Hamilton grows and expands people from many different countries are settling here. Our ministry teams are endeavoring to reach out with friendship to some of these groups. The Cambodian Ministry team from college meets each week to teach English to Cambodian immigrants. The Cambodian participants enjoy time spent with people from their own community, learn valuable language skills and experience the love and care of believers.



Pray with Us

Give thanks for the new students who started in July. Pray for them as they settle into community life here.

Please pray for students who graduated in July, as they move on and seek ways of using the training they have received here in sharing God's story across cultures.

Pray for students as they consider their futures: whether or not to do a second year and what place and line of work they would like to pursue following their studies.

Please pray for continued growth and unity within the college continuity.

Continue to pray for new students enrolling to start in February 2020.

Be in prayer for the deepening relationships during the Cambodian English classes.

Pray for Martin and Joyce Campbell as they work together to lead the college. Pray that they would have wisdom in decision making, and strength and energy for all that they need to do.

Pray for Mark Budenburg as he prepares for the **NZQA Consistency Review** of 30 September and 1st October. There is a lot of preparation needed.

Mark and Martin Campbell will also be coordinating the **2020 academic year preparation** in November and December this year. Pray for wisdom and attention to detail.

We continue to be so thankful to God for his blessing and provision.

Care Groups

Care Groups meet weekly to get to know each other better, support and encourage each other, pray and dig deeper into the Bible for our personal Spiritual growth.

This year the 2nd year students have been leading a study every second week from the book "Discovering our Spiritual Identity" by Trevor Hudson. As a community we have been challenged, encouraged and strengthened as we have come to a deeper understanding of God's love for us and how we can live out that love in practical ways.



Update on Past Graduates

From The 'T' family in South East Asia

"Three months in and we are feeling more established, but life can be a bit lonely at times. We miss family, friends, our home church, outdoor play grounds (they're all indoors here).

We have a great team we joined here, but life is busy for everyone so we don't always get much time to catch up. We're eager to establish friendships and community with Indonesians. We know it will take time, so pray we will have patience with the process.

Our language teacher, Rosi, comes to our house each day for lessons. She's wonderful and helps us with much more than language—Indo culture, the best noodle shops, paying bills and all kinds of issues we are clueless about."

"PRAISE POINTS • We can stay! God provided a long-term visa for us—it is good for one year and can be renewed.

• Getting settled - Our house feels more like a home and our health has been pretty good overall

• We can talk - Our language is improving SLOWLY

PRAYER REQUESTS • For more of Jesus - that we would seek Him daily and not get lost in how overwhelming life is here

• For friends - we need more language and opportunities to build meaningful relationships with Indonesians • For endurance & encouragement - so much is new and different, decisions to make, culture to understand...and PARENTING. Many days are long, hot and exhausting."



Block courses in 2019

Church Planting Across Cultures- 16-27 September

This two-week course overviews the process of starting churches and their subsequent maturation and growth with particular emphasis on indigenous churches in a cross-cultural setting.

Coaching Workshop- 10-12 December

Learn how to create powerful conversations to assist others to solve their problems, reach goals and develop leadership skills in the process.

TESOL- January 06-31, 2020

Course **Coordinator: Dr Geraldine Ryan**
(12 credits • Level 5) NZQA approved Training Course

Inquire at office@eastwest.ac.nz for more details.

Do you feel inspired to look further at cross-cultural training at Eastwest?

Do you know someone who would like to work across cultures and would benefit from training?

We would love to hear from you! Have a look at our website, send an email or come and visit.



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2050... where will you be? And what will you be wearing?