

Dear Friends and Prayer Partners

The passing of the Sep-Dec quarter marks the closure of semester 2 of the year and wraps up 2021 with gradation ceremonies of our students. This quarter has brought us the heat and shine of the sun of Australia's summer. Having strived to stabilize the COVID impacts due to the Delta variant, we enjoyed a relative peaceful period only until mid December. The Omicron variant strikes us with a surprise. With the looming threat, it triggers a pandemic déjà vu. Thus Ken and Florence would like to begin this newsletter with a prayer of petition for healing: *"Your light will break forth like the dawn, and your healing will quickly appear; then your righteousness will go before you, and the glory of the Lord will be your rear guard."* (Isaiah 58:8).



The LORD is My Banner



As we enter into a favorite time of the year – Christmas and New Year. It is not the bells and tinsels people like. It is not the commercialism presented to people. It reminds us of how much God loves us and how much Jesus did for us. While it seems like we have been fighting the invisible enemy of COVID,

God's love with Jesus' grace remains steadfast, we can stand firm unwavering because God's purpose stands firm as described in Exodus: *"Moses built an altar and called it The Lord is my Banner."* (Exodus 17:15) Yahweh-Nissi was called by Moses when the Israelites won the battle against the Amalekites. When the light will break forth like the dawn as we will come to a quick turn of the year, we write this newsletter with the theme 'The LORD is My Banner' to remind us that God's presence is always with us and He will not forsake us (Hebrews 13:5). And that Jesus is victorious and He will give us the victory (1 Corinthians 15:57).

The Summer Projects

The closure of the campus season marks the beginning of the summer projects of Power to Change where we can get prepared in advance for the new campus season the next year. The vision of summer projects is seeing students "Equipped for Mission and Equipped for Life". The mission is to nurture students to be disciple-makers through missional communities, who will learn, grow, and serve communities in Australia and overseas.



On the Coasts and In the Campuses

Summer Projects are run to reach out high school leavers who celebrate on the coasts and to welcome university newcomers who start in the campuses each year.

Schoolies on the Coasts

Gold Coast Schoolies is a QLD project run on 20 Nov-4 Dec 2021 to share Jesus' love and truth with high school leavers, together with uni students from across Brisbane.

Summer Project Rye is a VIC project run on 22 Nov-6 Dec 2021 to share the hope of the Gospel with schoolies by asking questions about life and God.

SummerSalt Fremantle is a WA project run on 1-12 Dec 2021 to connect people in Fremantle and to share the Gospel with young adults throughout Perth.

SummerSalt Central Coast is a NSW project run on 27 Jan-8 Feb 2022 to engage beachgoers and holidaymakers with questions and see how Jesus provides the answers.



Freshmen in the Campuses

Beyond Brisbane is an International Student Ministry (ISM) evangelistic and discipleship project in QLD run at the start of each university calendar planned by our ISM team. This year it will be on 31 Jan-12 Feb 2022.

Beyond Brisbane 2022 aims to equip students with skills, knowledge and experience to become disciple-makers, reach their campuses and the world for God's kingdom. Here are what some participants saying:



Edwin says: *"I am taking on a two-week mission in a goal of reaching many university students on campus through sharing God's work!"*



Ocean says: *"I like flying planes but what I love doing is reaching international students! It's great to be able to support them by sharing the Gospel in hopes."*



Sandra says: *"It is a privilege to join the team and see how God uses us to grow his Kingdom and for people to experience His love, mercy, forgiveness, joy and hope."*



Bella says: *"Being on the receiving end of the saving grace from Christ, I realize the importance of being equipped and to spread the Gospel of Christ."*



Welton says: *"Deepening my relationship with Christ, Beyond Brisbane has urged me to be equipped in sharing the Gospel to others as others have done unto me."*

Last Catalyst Meeting

28 Oct was the last day of our Catalyst fellowship. Thereafter students would start their final exam preparation. We uttered well wishes to our students as ISM will adjourn at UQ.



Final UQ ISM Team Meeting

We had the final team meeting on 3 Nov. Indeed, we agreed it had been a challenging year. We had lunch afterwards as it would be the final gathering of this great missionary team.



Year End Brisbane Social

Missionaries from the Brisbane Mission Team came together at 17 Miles Rock Park on 5 Nov to celebrate the year's end. The meeting was closed with a brief on team structure change.



Beyond Brisbane 2022 Launch

Beyond Brisbane 2022 is co-run by Josh and Ken. It will be held at UQ and QUT in the first 2 weeks of February of 2022. A launch meeting was held on 22 Nov. The program was outlined. The Ministry Partner Development was explained by Chris who also commissioned the project.



Students Receiving Christ

Praise the Lord that we saw students receiving Jesus Christ as their personal saviour. They are Claire and Edwin. As new believers, we pray for them to continue to grow in faith and live in Christian life.



Team Structure Changed

A substantial change in QLD Mission Team will take place next year. Florence will join the new Southern Brisbane Team with ISM focus at UQ. Ken will apply for chaplaincy at UQ serving Power to Change.



Movements of Graduated Student

Florence came across 7 students in their graduation year at UQ this year. They were a mix of believers and non-believers who came to Bible study with Florence. Some turned from lukewarm to passionate and some decided to follow Jesus. Florence is grateful everyone graduated. Della, Bingbing, Claire and Karlie returned home; Sia and Henry moved to South Australia to continue study; and Jasmine decided to participate in Beyond Brisbane 2022 short-term mission training.

Family News

2021 is certainly a year of challenges, yet it is also a year of perseverance. In the midst of lockdowns and restrictions, life still goes on. Often spiritual conversations with students turn into deeper questions about their lives. Many such encounters would result in a pastoral care relationship. While we care for the students, we would be stressed and drained at times. Ken and Florence are blessed and thankful for having Jim and Joy as our mentors respectively. Finally in this newsletter, Ken and Florence are gratefully to greet you with the joy in celebrating the Christmas season and to wish you with the hope in receiving the New Year.



Praise & Prayer

- Praise the Lord! After Ken has coached Allan to disciple Edwin for some time, Edwin received Jesus in Nov. Pray that God helps Edwin grow in spirit. Allan and Edwin have joined Beyond Brisbane 2022.
- Pray for the graduates who have returned home and ask God to strengthen their faith, and pray that they can find suitable churches and jobs.
- Pray for Ken and Josh who plan and run Beyond Brisbane 2022 (31 Jan to 2 Feb). Also pray for the 13 participants to raise support fund for the training. Ask God to help them be equipped effectively for evangelism and discipleship through the program.
- Pray for Ken and Florence for their changes in ministry positions in 2022:
 - After finishing Beyond Brisbane, Ken will apply for a chaplain role with Student Services representing Power to Change at UQ. Ask God to accomplish.
 - In 2022 Florence will transition to a new Southern Brisbane Team working with local missionaries serving both local and international students at UQ. Ask God to help her be able to cope with the change and serve with strength.
- Pray for the progressive recovery and ongoing protection from COVID in Australia and the world.

For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. He will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

Isaiah 9:6

Yours in Christ,

Ken & Florence

Kenneth and Florence Chan