



Student Alex Moile preaching in the Banz market.

## Missions Week 2025: Team Destinations



# Missions Week 2025: Faith in Action

This year's Missions Week saw CLTC teams travel across Papua New Guinea – and even to the Solomon Islands – with a combined goal: to share the gospel and to encourage local churches to be involved in God's mission, both near and far. It was a bold plan, especially in terms of travel and funding, but God provided. Through prayer and practical fundraising efforts, all teams were able to go.

Destinations included New Ireland, Port Moresby, Angoram (Sepik), Nipa, Mendi, Tabubil, Baiyer River, Banz, and the Solomon Islands. In each place, the teams helped mobilise churches, encouraging believers to take a fresh look at their role in missions. For CLTC students, the experience offered valuable cross-cultural engagement and new ministry motivation.

One team stayed close to home, focusing on the nearby town of Banz. Their theme was *Clean Heart, Clean Place*. They shared the gospel at the local market and helped clean the area – removing over 20 cubic metres of rubbish.

Diploma student **Colleen Gande**, part of the Banz team, reflected on the experience:

"Throughout that week, I saw the hand of the Lord upon our lives – especially the women. Women who were once shy and hesitant found the courage to speak boldly.

On Monday, the people hardly responded. But by Friday, something had shifted. They were listening, they were convinced.

We didn't just preach the theme *Clean Heart, Clean Place* – we lived it. We did the dirtiest work, and God gave us strength.

At the end of each day, we came back full of joy, not tired. We were ready to go again the next morning.

**Missions Week is something I will never forget."**

Missions Week continues to be a meaningful part of life at CLTC – shaping students and strengthening the church across the region.



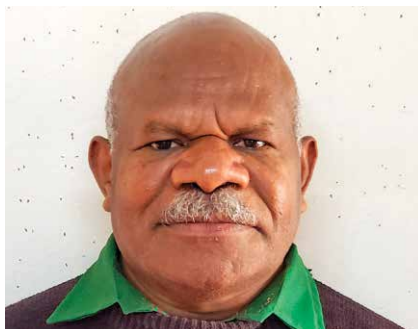
Rubbish cleanup.

## The Gift of People

**Someone said, "The success of a story is the people in the story." I'm not sure where I read it, but in many ways it is true.**

When I reflect on my own life-story, it tells of the gift of people – through my education journey, employment, career choices, corporate and social relations, family life, and especially Christian ministry. The capacity, the talent, the volunteering, the selflessness, the giving, the counsel – so many human contributions help create a meaningful story.

As I ponder CLTC's journey since its inception in the early 1960s, I see the same: the gift of people in CLTC's story. In my four, going on five, years of leadership at the college, I have come to recognise the importance of embracing the people who make the story a story. CLTC is surrounded by the gift of people: Christian supporters who send students, raise



**Principal Dr Maxon Mani**  
*Greetings to all our generous supporters in the ministry of Jesus Christ at CLTC.*

funds, provide governance, offer services, serve on faculty, support in management, uphold friendships, pray, and form the families and communities that surround the college.

In the past four years, CLTC's story faced unexpected turbulence. Yet the

throng of people – this gift – defied the turbulence and refused to let the story end. Such is the wonder of the people God brings to us each day. I have cherished, admired, loved, trusted, and even doubted some of those God brought into the journey. Yet they are all gifts from God.

As Esther Tolu Adedibu framed it:

"May I never see another with my eyes, but with the eyes of God... a gift to make me better and grow, or a gift for me to tend and groom... Even those who seem like thorns may be gifted to me – to form my character through patience into an unshakable hope."

Such is the awesomeness of the gift of people in our stories – especially in CLTC's. Embrace the gift of people, for they are a gift from God.

**Maxon Mani (PhD)**  
*Principal CLTC*

## Praise God for our New staff

**Lidis Lemos**  
– **Business Skills Lecturer**

Mr Lidis Lemos is our new Business Skills teacher. He holds a Bachelor's Degree in Communication for Development Studies from Unitech in Lae. His professional background includes

serving as a Good Governance Officer with CARE International. Before joining CLTC, he was the Program Coordinator for the Community Transformation Agency in Lae. He has completed half



of a Master's degree which CLTC will help him complete.

Mr Lemos says he took on this role to equip students with practical knowledge and skills that will enable them to become valuable contributors in their communities after graduation. He is married to Hadasha, and they have four children. Outside of work, he enjoys playing music with friends and family and relaxing with good music.

**Albert Siriga**  
– **Equipping Leaders for Community Transformation**

Mr Albert Siriga has joined the faculty this year as a Community Transformation teacher. A graduate of CLTC's Bachelor of Theology, Albert

returns with a passion to equip future leaders to bring lasting change to their communities.



He is currently pursuing a Master of Transformational Leadership through Eastern University in Australia, supported by Local Leaders International. Albert says he accepted the teaching role because he sees the urgent need to train students to become effective leaders and community facilitators across Papua New Guinea.

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**Please consider supporting CLTC.** To join us in supporting a student, please reach out through the contact information in this newsletter, or sign-up online at Beacon Partnerships in **New Zealand** (<https://www.beaconpartnerships.org/sponsor-leaders/>) or Local Leaders International in **Australia** (<https://localleaders.org.au/programs/student-sponsorship/>).



In his spare time, Albert enjoys reading and researching to stay current and better serve his students and community.

**Paul Donald**  
– Teaching  
Farm Practice

Mr Paul Donald joined the faculty teaching agriculture. A recent graduate, Paul completed

both an Advanced Diploma in Community Transformation and a Bachelor of Theology at CLTC between 2019 and 2023. Paul brings a deep love for farming and a passion for working with the land.

"I find joy in discovering the wonders of agriculture and how it fits into God's creation," he shared. "CLTC is a strategic place where I believe God has called me to fulfil my desire to contribute to the church and wider community."

He also brings experience working with youth and community projects, aiming to inspire responsible living and practical service. In his free time, Paul enjoys gardening, playing soccer and basketball, reading, and exploring the outdoors.

**Reuben Kimopa**  
– Vice  
Principal  
Operations

Mr Reuben Kimopa from Madang has been appointed Vice Principal Operations. His wife Fiona is the new Assistant Librarian.

Mr Kimopa holds a Master of Leadership in Business Administration from Divine Word University. With a strong background in both the corporate and non-profit sectors, he brings a wealth of experience to CLTC. His previous roles include Lecturer at IBS University, Branch Manager for Pacific Corporate Security Services



in Madang, Group People and Culture Manager with Ela Group of Companies, and HR Manager with EBC Health Services in Goroka.

"I joined CLTC to serve God," Mr Kimopa shared. "My priority is to strengthen the College's operational systems by promoting effectiveness, efficiency, and leadership. I also want to foster a God-honouring culture that supports all staff and students."

Looking ahead, he hopes to contribute toward CLTC's growth and long-term vision. Reuben and Fiona are excited to be part of the CLTC community with their two children and are already making a meaningful contribution to the life and mission of the College.

**Ilma Siriga**  
– Communications Officer

Ms Ilma Siriga is our new Communications Officer. Ilma has wide experience in journalism and media, having worked across print, television, and communication roles within government, non-government, and private sectors.

She holds a Bachelor's Degree in Journalism and joins CLTC with a strong sense of calling. "I believe God has a divine plan to prosper CLTC," she shared. "And I'm grateful to be part of that purpose."

Beyond her professional expertise, Ilma is passionate about encouraging young people to choose life through God's Word. She also actively supports worship ministry and cares deeply about protecting the environment.

**Julius Tali**  
– Technical Services Manager

Mr Julius Tali is our new Technical Services Manager. Originally from Morobe Province, Julius holds an Advanced Diploma in Engineering from Swinburne University of



Technology in Melbourne.

He brings nearly a decade of experience from the Oil & Gas industry, including roles with Oilmin

Holdings and Wood Group PNG, where he coordinated maintenance for the PNG LNG pipeline and Central Processing facility.

Julius joins CLTC with a strong sense of purpose: "My goal is to strengthen the Technical Services Department to ensure excellent service that supports CLTC's mission."

Outside of work, he enjoys Bible quizzes, playing guitar, gardening, fishing, and roasting food over an open fire – always with a cup of kande kulung tea. He is married to Floran and they have 3 children.

**Nathan Kwasam**  
– Executive  
Dean

Mr Nathan Kwasam serves as Head Librarian and Executive Dean – Services, overseeing the Library, IT, and Distance Education at CLTC. He holds a Master of Librarianship and Graduate Diploma in Information Management/IT from the University of New South Wales, along with degrees from UPNG in Political Science and Library Science. He also earned a postgraduate certificate in Higher Education Teaching from Divine Word University. Nathan has held senior roles at DWU, IBS University, and UPNG. Passionate about team leadership and quality library services, he values CLTC's Christ-centred community.

He is married to Rhody and they have three grown-up children. In his spare time, he enjoys gardening and reading.



## Smiles, Service, and the Love of Christ: CLTC Dental Ministry



*Before and after photos of three patients.*

**At the heart of Christian service, the CLTC dental ministry is transforming lives, one smile at a time. Founded and managed by Jill Tait, the CLTC dental clinic is becoming a vital hub for people seeking quality, compassionate dental care.**

From May 25th to 30th, the clinic hosted the second stage of denture training in partnership with mPower Approach USA. Dr Jason Potrykus and Dr Tim Williams returned to lead hands-on sessions on "wiring," a technique that secures dentures along the gum-line.

CLTC's own Dental Assistant, Cyril Lakir, was joined by two dental assistants and a dental therapist from Kudjip Nazarene General Hospital. Cyril expressed his joy at learning how to wire a full set of teeth, saying, "I believe God is equipping me to serve the people of Jiwaka and beyond."

Word has spread quickly. People are now coming from across the Highlands – many even from Mt Hagen, where local anaesthetic is not always available for tooth extraction.

The week ended with a joyful

certificate presentation. Dr Williams thanked CLTC for its hospitality and reminded participants of their calling: "A dentist is a calling God gave us for His glory. When people come to you in pain, they also need God's love. Show them Christ through your care."

Through its partnership with mPower Approach USA, CLTC continues to equip Christian workers to meet both physical and spiritual needs – offering a ministry of hope where it's needed most.

## New Bus a Timely Blessing for CLTC Port Moresby

**CLTC Port Moresby recently celebrated the arrival and dedication of a brand-new 15-seater bus – an answer to prayer and a testimony of God's timely provision.**

The campus had been without a functioning vehicle since January 2025, limiting transport for staff and students. But through the faithful support of CLTC's prayer network, help came from afar. A prayer supporter in Australia read about the need and contacted Dr David Price in Melbourne. Soon after, arrangements were made for the donor to purchase a vehicle directly through Ela Motors.

Campus Administrator Ruth Akia shared her joy and gratitude: "The bus was something we were planning to fundraise for – but God provided it just when we needed it most."

The vehicle arrived just in time to support preparations for a major fundraising event scheduled for August. CLTC Port Moresby extends heartfelt thanks to the donor, Dr David Price, Mrs Margaret Rickard, and OCA for making this possible.

It's a reminder that even in challenges, God provides – through His people, in His perfect timing.



*POM Team pose for a picture with their new bus.*



*Dr George Mombi and Kalmasing and Lynrose Tolish in Vanuatu.*

## Pacific Theological Training

**CLTC is strengthening theological education in the Solomon Islands and Vanuatu through partnerships with Local Leaders International (LLI) and regional institutions.**

In the Solomon Islands, CLTC is helping Saura and One Pusu Bible Colleges of the South Seas Evangelical Church (SSEC) establish Bachelor and Advanced Diploma in Ministry programs. In Vanuatu, CLTC is supporting Talua Theological Training Institute (TTTI) in developing English courses and providing academic resources.

CLTC's Dean of Affiliate Colleges, Dr George Mombi, visited both countries in 2023 and 2024 to explore partnership opportunities. He met with church leaders and college staff to assess needs and offer guidance. At Saura, he recommended shifting from competency-based training to assessment-based learning and provided a roadmap for launching accredited programs. At One Pusu, he supplied CLTC course materials to support the launch of the Advanced Diploma. In Vanuatu, TTTI requested help with English curriculum development and the implementation of Classter, a student management system. CLTC's registrar is now assisting with the system setup.

These initiatives reflect CLTC's ongoing commitment to equip and empower Melanesian theological institutions in their mission to train Christian leaders.



*Don McLean with Emmanuel Titus and Philip Sparky.*

## Reliable Solar Power

**CLTC Banz Campus is on the verge of securing a reliable and efficient power supply, thanks to the vision and support of a group from New Zealand and Australia.**

Don McLean, an electrical engineer from Australia, has been leading the system's design and installation. He is now at CLTC to complete and commission the campus-wide solar power system.

The heart of the system – a high-capacity battery imported from Germany – has just arrived. While the 998 solar panels already generate enough power to run the campus during daylight hours, the battery will enable power supply at night.

This development is expected to resolve long-standing issues with the unreliable national grid and reduce the high costs of running diesel generators. It will also stabilise voltage levels, protecting sensitive equipment that has previously been damaged by power fluctuations.

Once operational, the system will be fully automated. The generator will activate only when needed, and the entire setup can be remotely monitored and controlled – bringing long-term sustainability and much-needed reliability to CLTC's operations.

## Practical Elective Courses

**At the end of term 1, students and staff took a one-week break from their academic courses to learn some practical skills.**

### Small and Medium Enterprises

"What I learned was practical and life-changing. These skills will help me and others in my community. Coming from the urban settlements, I plan to share the Whole Gospel to the whole person – addressing spiritual and practical needs."

*Billy Timumbé, 1st Year Bachelor of Theology student*

### Publishing

"In the Bloom class by SIL, I learnt how to create different sizes of booklets and how to translate English texts to Tok Pisin. We also learnt how to publish our book online so that people in other countries can have access to our books through the Bloom library and read our books. So I think this is important when we go out for ministry especially in the rural areas to use Bloom to teach God's Word."

*Catherine Kokie  
– CLTC Admissions Officer*

### First Aid

"It was amazing and very encouraging for me because I learnt how to help the injured – this will be useful in the rural places where I go to minister."  
*Gebi Ranu, 2nd Year Advanced Diploma in Ministry student*

### Early Childhood Teaching

"Learning at this level is a great experience. We now have skills to teach young children and we learnt how to simplify Bible Scriptures to the children's level of understanding."  
*Kaysie Tinny, 3rd Year CBM student.*

# Student Testimonies



## Growing in Faith and Confidence

**Zillah Benson, originally from Morobe Province but raised in Jiwaka, is currently pursuing a Bachelor of Theology degree at CLTC.**

Inspired by her father – a CLTC graduate with a Master of Theology – Zillah followed in his footsteps. After finishing Grade 12, she enrolled in the Diploma in Community Transformation program in 2020 and graduated in 2022 before moving into degree-level studies.

Her journey hasn't been without challenges, but Zillah says she has clearly seen God's hand at work – especially in providing for her fees, sustaining her health, and deepening her trust in Him.

"When I was down, God taught me to draw near to Him and depend on Him alone," she shared. Zillah also credits CLTC's programs for shaping her thinking and helping her grow holistically. "One major change I've seen is in my confidence. I was once shy, but now I can speak in public and relate to people from different cultures and denominations."

As a young woman training for ministry, Zillah is deeply thankful for her time at CLTC and looks forward to taking the Gospel into the wider world once she completes her studies.



## From Trouble to Transformation

**Kip Simon, from Banz in Papua New Guinea's Jiwaka Province, once dreamed of becoming a nurse or doctor. But when his family couldn't afford college fees after Grade 12, frustration led him down a troubled path. "I felt like I was nobody," Kip admitted. "And the more I felt that way, the more trouble I caused."**

For three years, Kip drifted – until a persistent desire for change led him to apply to CLTC. Twice he was rejected. He briefly enrolled in nursing school but dropped out. Finally, in 2023, he was accepted into CLTC's Diploma in Community Transformation program.

Overjoyed, Kip returned home with the news – only to be met with sarcasm and rejection from family members who didn't believe ministry would support them. Heartbroken, Kip turned to prayer. In a moment of quiet reflection, he heard a voice: "We are just ordinary people, but we are called by an extraordinary God... Your disappointment is God's appointment." It was the turning point he needed.

Determined, Kip worked odd jobs and raised fees with the support of his mother and local women who once feared him. He arrived at CLTC with K1,500 and a heart ready for change.

"I had no experience in leading prayer, singing, or preaching," Kip said. "But God changed me quickly. Now, I have no doubt He will provide."

At CLTC, Kip has learned to interpret and teach the Bible, as well as practical life skills. During his practicum, he returned to his village to preach and teach local mothers about composting, organic farming, and crop nurseries.

Now in his final year, Kip dreams of launching a community cooperative and produce business to bring food security and jobs to his village – and, eventually, to serve in missions.

"I used to see myself as a problem," Kip reflects. "Now, I see myself as a valuable man in my community. I'm grateful to God – and to CLTC – for this new life."

**Would you like to RECEIVE College News or Prayer Notes BY EMAIL?**

If so, please send an email to the CLTC contact in your country (addresses below).



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