



CAPERNEWRAY
NEW ZEALAND

ANNUAL
REVIEW
2025



CAPERNRAY
NEW ZEALAND

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VISION: WHY WE EXIST

Our vision is for every person to know God personally, empowering them to serve Him and impact the world.

MISSION: WHAT WE DO

Our mission is to embrace Jesus Christ, through Biblical teaching and practical training, seeing people renewed into Christ's image, and equipping them for life and service in the world.



NATIONAL DIRECTOR REPORT

God is at work. Students arrive, are transformed and leave with purpose. He is glorified and we are blessed.

One of our main values is **Holistic Growth Through Discipleship and Community**. This means we have the privilege of seeing and experiencing up close the genuine life changes in both our students and those who serve alongside us. A strong sense of community defines Capernwray New Zealand and permeates all aspects of our ministry.

There are areas in which we are thriving. Our team has a strong commitment to the God-given vision before us. As I reflect on the past year, I see growth through our new Mini ABS programs and our first biblical tour through Greece and Turkey, the "Journey in Paul's Footsteps." From students to senior staff, there is creativity across generations, evident in projects like our one-take promotional video. We are excited about new lecturers from New Zealand and abroad, as well as an increasingly external ministry into our local community. Daily inspiration comes from our young volunteers and staff who serve with passion.

At the same time, some areas require intentional focus as we restore what was "lost" over two years of little ministry activity

during the pandemic. Impacts are felt in our staff energy and capacity, systems and processes, internal and external communications, buildings and finances. It's an unusual place to find ourselves as a ministry. Why? Because the way we now operate is new. This level of change doesn't come with a clear script.

What is not new are the purposes of God: He alone is our sovereign Lord. In times of change, we lean into Him. It is the same Word, the same empowering Holy Spirit and the same Lord who existed with the Apostles in whom we live, move and have our being today.

Recently, I lectured on the Acts of the Apostles. This story reminds me that perhaps we do have a script after all. The early Church faced many challenges, yet the Lord added to their number daily. Opposition of every kind, imprisonment, conflict, external pressures and even death could not hinder the works of God. Peter and John declared amidst their difficulties "As for us, we cannot help speaking about what we have seen and heard." (Acts 4:20) We too are compelled to share the gospel of Christ no matter the challenges surrounding us. The message of "Christ in You" must always remain our focus.

Thank you to our students and those who support them, our alumni, our many volunteers, the churches near and far who partner with us, our staff and our board. Your commitment to building His Kingdom through Capernwray New Zealand means so much and we are truly grateful. Your contribution fills our hearts, and we are expectant of what God will do in the next year.

In His care,

Ross Georgiou



CHAIR REPORT

As I reflect on the year that has been, I find myself moved by gratitude to our Lord who is faithful in every season, and to the remarkable people who make this ministry what it is. This has been a year of steady progress, challenges, and moments of grace that remind us why Capernwray exists: to see lives transformed through an encounter with the living Word of God. We boast in the hope of the glory of God (Romans 5:2).

We continue to appreciate the servant leadership of Ross at the helm. His wisdom, steadiness, and quiet resolve have been a constant for the whole team. He gives of himself generously and without fanfare, and the Board is deeply grateful for the trust he has earned and the culture he helps cultivate. He continually keeps us focused on the ministry of Capernwray.

Behind every ministry is a team who faithfully and diligently get on with the job, often without recognition. This year our staff

have worked hard, served wholeheartedly, and carried their responsibilities with grace. To every member of our staff: thank you. Your work is valued more than we show, and it matters deeply.

It has been a joy to welcome new Board members this year. Clive Martis has rejoined, Sheryn Brownlee continues to contribute across many areas, and Mark Dickinson has agreed to join, effective 2026. I also recognise Ross Porter, who served faithfully on the board for many years and continues to contribute to the ministry.

Highlights this year include our 'Bridging the Gap' Open Day, which brought key people through our doors; seven staff attending an international Capernwray conference; and the implementation of the TrustBridge Donor Advised Fund for overseas donors. Above all, the real highlights remain the stories of God restoring and transforming lives, this is what we are about.

As we look ahead, we do so with confidence not in our own strength, but in the faithfulness of the God who called us to this work. He who began a good thing at Capernwray New Zealand is faithful to bring it to completion.

With warmth and gratitude,

Jeff Rowan

OCTOBER 23-26

Celebrating

60

years

OF

CAPERNWRAY

IN NEW ZEALAND

1966 - 2026

30 years
at Monavale

20 years
at Horahora



MILESTONE CELEBRATIONS REPORT

WELCOME HOME: NAU MAI RĀ HOKI MAI RĀ

Celebrate God's enduring faithfulness and continual grace as He transforms generations through Capernwray New Zealand

23 - 26 October 2026

Capernwray New Zealand is marking several significant milestones in its history, including 60 years of ministry within New Zealand, 30 years at the Monavale Homestead, and 20 years of operation at the Adventure Bible School Lodge. These anniversaries provide an opportunity to reflect on the organisation's heritage, acknowledge its present activities, and step into what the future holds.

The origins of Capernwray trace back to the United Kingdom, from where the ministry expanded throughout Europe and subsequently to other parts of the world. The New Zealand branch was established in the late 1960s, initially operating through a combination of holiday programmes and Bible training schools based in Howick, Auckland.

In 1981, the organisation relocated to Henderson, Auckland, where it continued to develop its programmes. Further growth led to another relocation in 1995, when Capernwray New Zealand established its current base at the Monavale Homestead in Cambridge. This move marked a significant step in providing a more permanent and suitable environment for its ongoing activities.

Peter Thomas who was the National Director back in the 1990's reported to his Dad, Major Ian Thomas (Torchbearer Founder),

on what the options were for us to relocate because the centre in Glendene, West Auckland was getting too small. Peter gave him information on several properties he had been looking at, and the last one was Monavale Homestead which he said was 'impossible' due to the cost as Monavale had already been turned down at an auction for over \$1M.

Major Thomas said 'it didn't have to be possible - it just had to be right!... God is in the business of doing the impossible!'

There were many other challenges though along the way - but yes 'it didn't have to be possible... it just had to be right!'

The Adventure Bible School programme was introduced in 1999. To support this programme, a dedicated facility known as The Lodge was established at Lake Karapiro, officially opening in 2006. This development further enhanced the organisation's capacity to deliver specialised training and outreach programmes.

To commemorate these milestones, a series of events has been organised. Activities at the Monavale Homestead include a formal banquet and a Service of Thanksgiving. Additional events are also scheduled to take place at The Lodge, incorporating celebration and engagement across both key sites.

Overall, these commemorations serve to acknowledge the faithfulness of God at Capernwray New Zealand over six decades, highlighting its growth, impact, and continued commitment to its mission.

MINISTRY OVERVIEW



MONA VALE BIBLE SCHOOL

The Monavale Bible School (MBS) programme guides students towards the indwelling person of Jesus through teaching and the practical application of God's Word. Located at our Monavale Homestead Campus, this course prepares students for joyful Christian living and effective service. Situated in 20-week or 30-week blocks, students take time to deepen their knowledge of and relationship to Jesus.



ADVENTURE BIBLE SCHOOL

The Adventure Bible School (ABS) programme is a 5-week outdoor-based Bible School that aims to develop students as a whole - spirit, soul and body. The sea, mountains, caves and bush are our classroom as students are stretched to explore their relationships with God, others and themselves. With our Adventure Lodge as its home base, this programme is an incredibly unique experience.



JOURNEYING IN PAUL'S FOOTSTEPS

This biblical sites tour offers a unique opportunity to walk in the footsteps of Paul and the early apostles, experiencing the rich history and divine truths that shaped our faith. Through inspiring locations expert guidance and meaningful fellowship, you will deepen your understanding of scripture and grow closer to Christ. Whether you are looking to strengthen your personal faith, enhance your teaching or simply explore the roots of biblical history, this journey promises to be transformative.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH AND EVENTS

Our Monavale and Adventure Lodge campuses host many outreach opportunities that allow us to share the love of Jesus with our community.

- **BREAKTHROUGH:** A vibrant, immersive experience with local youth joining for two epic evenings of fun
- **CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT:** Our annual Christmas celebration to celebrate the Christ event through song and drama, uniting people in faith and fellowship
- **PASSOVER:** A full Seder dinner where participants live the tradition through eating, drinking, singing, dancing and celebrating God's grace
- **CONFERENCES:** Hosting people from churches, organisations and youth groups for exciting and refreshing gatherings
- **FELLOWSHIP:** worship, teaching and testimony, attended by both students and community members

MONA VALE BIBLE SCHOOL

**“You are good, and what You do is good”
(Psalm 119:68a)**

When reflecting on another year at **Monavale Bible School (MBS)**, it is difficult to know where to begin. Looking back on all that the Lord has done, we cannot help but join the psalmist in declaring, “You are good, and what You do is good.”

Throughout the year, students engaged with three key themes, each centred on a Scripture passage committed to memory:

- **Compelled by His Love** (2 Corinthians 5:14–21)
- **Empowered by His Life** (John 15:5–17)
- **Enjoying His Presence Forever** (Psalm 16)

God has faithfully established these truths in the hearts of our students, and it has been a joy to witness their growing understanding and spiritual maturity. They have discovered afresh that it is only through Christ’s life and power that we are able to live and serve effectively. They have also experienced the profound privilege and delight of abiding in His presence and cultivating an intimate relationship with Him. From this place of rest and dependence, obedience becomes a joy rather than an obligation. His yoke is indeed easy because He Himself accomplishes the work through us.

We continue to be deeply grateful for the outstanding lecturers who invest so generously in our students and faithfully teach God’s Word. We also appreciate the support of fellow Torchbearers Centres, along with local and international churches,

who release their leaders and teachers to serve in this capacity. Throughout the year, students were challenged to deepen their understanding of Scripture through teaching on topics such as the Jewish foundations of the Christian faith and a practical, convicting study of the Book of James. Their faithful teaching, encouragement, and ministry have enriched the student experience and helped students engage more deeply with God’s truth. In addition, we were pleased to welcome several new lecturers, reflecting the growing network of gospel partnerships for which we are thankful.

Another significant aspect of the MBS experience is the opportunity for students to serve alongside churches and ministries throughout the North Island. We are grateful to the many organisations that welcome our students, providing meaningful opportunities to minister, grow, and develop their gifts. These experiences play an important role in shaping students as Torchbearers, equipping them to carry the light and message of Christ wherever He leads them.

This year’s student cohort has also experienced the richness of authentic biblical community in a particularly meaningful way. They have embraced the freedom that comes from genuine belonging and have benefited from being known, supported, and encouraged in everyday life. Together, they have journeyed deeply in their faith while learning what it means to walk alongside others who wholeheartedly love and follow the Lord.

As we reflect on the year, our hearts are filled with gratitude for all that God has done and for what He will continue to do in the years ahead. His faithfulness remains constant, and His goodness is evident in every aspect of the life and ministry of Monavale Bible School. Truly, He is good, and everything He does is good.



ADVENTURE BIBLE SCHOOL

Adventure Bible School (ABS) is aimed at developing the whole person – body, soul and Spirit. We experienced another year of students encountering the transformative presence of Christ through this adventure based programme. Our students ranged from ages 18 to 35, representing diverse backgrounds. There was a unique depth to group dynamics. Intergenerational and multicultural learning brought opportunities for peer mentoring and holistic growth. Christian leadership development is a cornerstone of ABS, alongside outdoor challenges, group initiatives, intentional discipleship and teaching. Students are placed in an environment that develops resilience and fosters trust.

THE ABS PROGRAMME CONTINUES TO GROW AND DEVELOP, WITH KEY AREAS OF FOCUS INCLUDING:

- Living as a family in Christ through shared community life and team-based initiatives
- A five-week period of intentional restriction (including limited technology, a demanding schedule, and minimal outside input) to reduce worldly influences and strengthen Kingdom living

- Practicing faith in uncertainty by relying on leadership, with information shared only as needed
- Linking physical challenges with spiritual principles
- Intentionally reflecting on lessons learned through these experiences

These intentional structures have proven to create a special, secure environment for students to receive healing and exponential spiritual growth. As students embrace and engage with the heart of the programme, lives are transformed - marked by greater confidence, improved emotional health and a commitment to abide in Christ. Students leave better equipped to serve a world in need, with ABS continuing to be a distinctive and impactful pathway for growth through the adventure of living life fully in Him.

IN ADDITION TO ABS, WE HOSTED 129 NEW ZEALANDERS FROM A VARIETY OF GROUPS AT THE ADVENTURE LODGE:

- Youth Camp
- Youth Group
- A Family Retreat
- A Rowing Group
- Moto-x Camp





OPERATIONS

We have been encouraged by the addition of more team members who support the practical work needed to run our facilities for Bible School programmes, conferences, camps, and events.

At times, student numbers exceeded our usual capacity, and our staff rose to the challenge to ensure everyone had a comfortable bed, clean living areas, inviting gardens to enjoy, and superb meals to nourish body and soul.

2025 was a year of steady progress in property maintenance and improvements, including:

- Water bore pipework and pump replacement
- Adventure Lodge effluent reed bed restoration
- Monavale campus Wi-Fi hardware upgrade
- Swimming pool pump replacement
- Adventure Lodge staff house heat pump installation

We hope to grow our capacity to support more areas of our ministry. We are deeply grateful to everyone who feels led to partner with us financially. Visit our website to give to any of the following areas:

- One-off general donations
- Regular support giving
- Specific project funds
- Student sponsorship fund
- Bequests & legacies

As a charitable trust, we issue tax-deductible receipts for all donations over \$5. We can also provide tax-deductible receipts for overseas donors who choose to give through our new TrustBridge donor fund.

Thank you for your generous support.

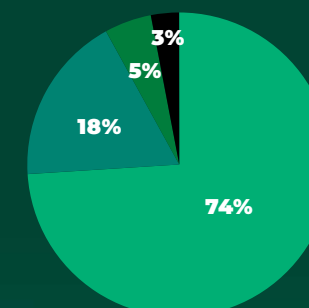


FINANCE

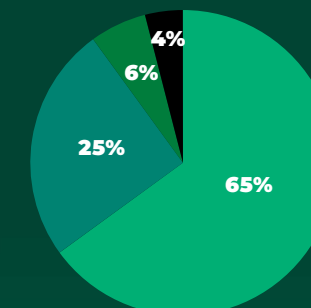
INCOME

	2025	2024
Conference & Camps	\$46,142	\$48,811
Gifts Received	\$265,676	\$370,560
Student Fees	\$1,122,345	\$951,118
Other Income	\$75,089	\$92,584
Total Income	\$1,509,252	\$1,464,073

INCOME 2025



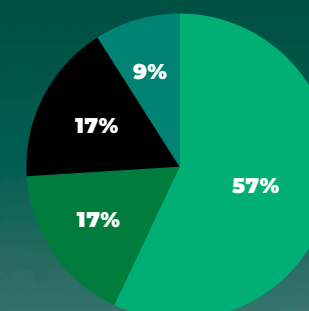
INCOME 2024



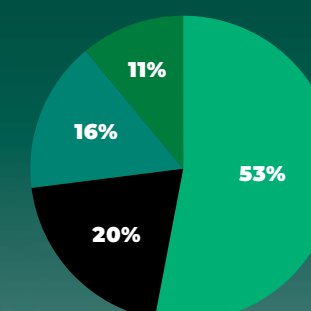
EXPENSES

	2025	2024
Operating Expenses	\$261,849	\$298,870
Property Expenses	\$139,905	\$166,450
Staffing	\$891,908	\$785,665
Student Services	\$259,756	\$234,780
Total Expenses	\$1,553,418	\$1,485,765
Surplus / (loss)	-\$44,166	-\$21,693

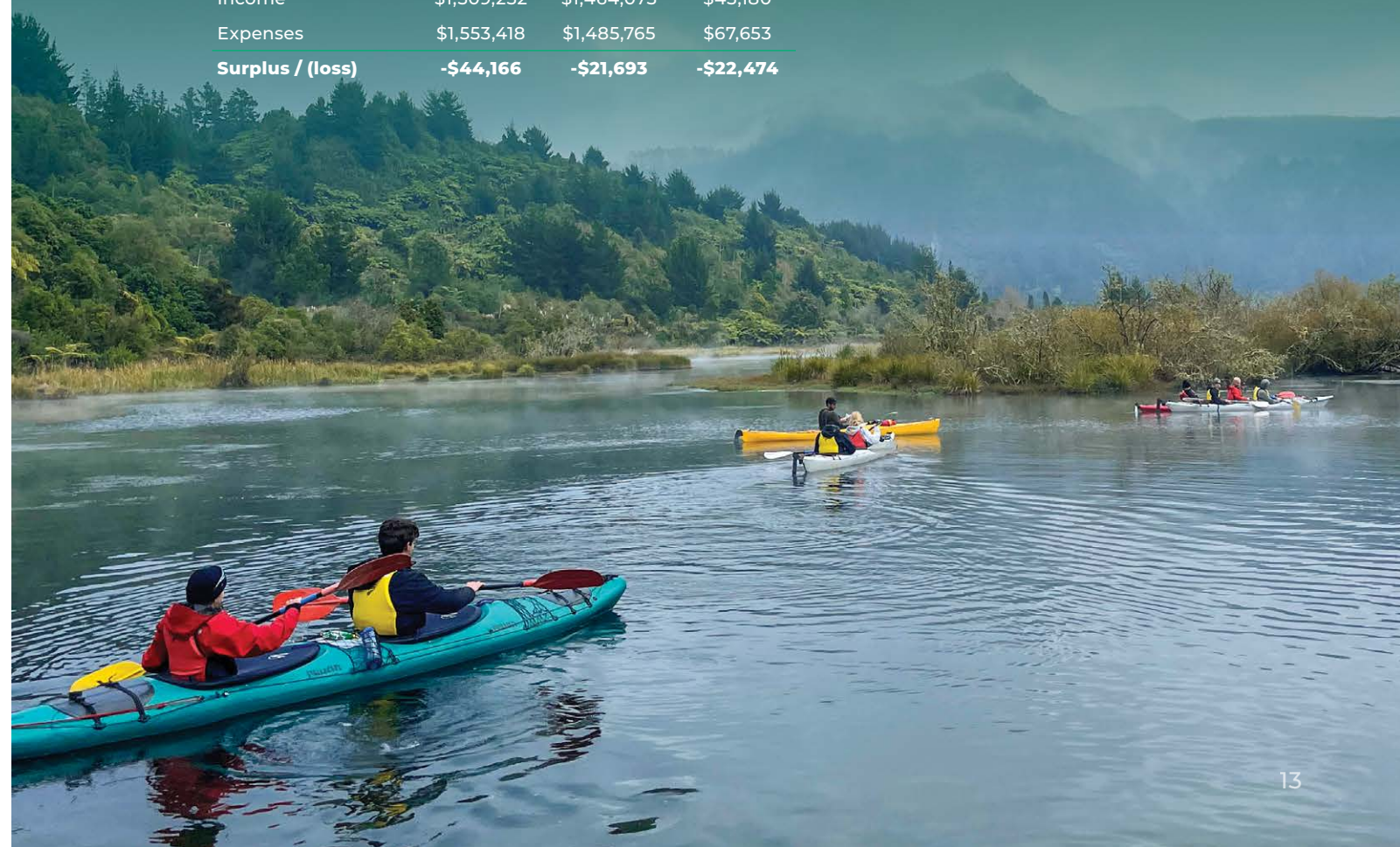
EXPENSES 2025



EXPENSES 2024



	2025	2024	Difference
Income	\$1,509,252	\$1,464,073	\$45,180
Expenses	\$1,553,418	\$1,485,765	\$67,653
Surplus / (loss)	-\$44,166	-\$21,693	-\$22,474



OUR PEOPLE

72 TOTAL STAFF

11 FULL TIME STAFF

Housekeeping, leadership, finance, administration, faculty, ministry coordination, facilities, catering and adventure programmes

5 PART-TIME STAFF

Housekeeping, administration, catering, and groundskeeping

21 CONTRACTED STAFF

Lecturers, media, kitchen, and adventure ministry

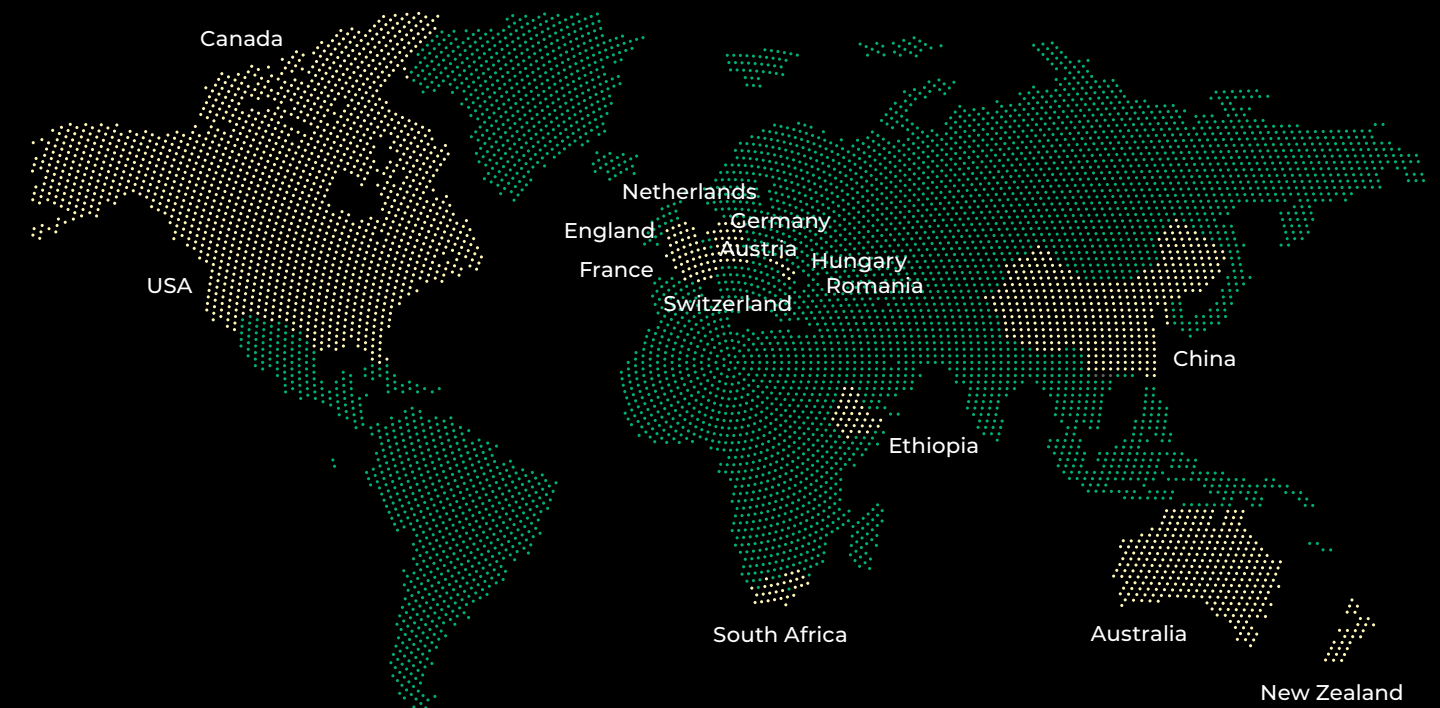
35 FULL TIME & PART TIME VOLUNTEERS

Discipleship, Resident Assistants, catering, housekeeping, maintenance and adventure ministry

LOCATIONS WE'VE SERVED IN NEW ZEALAND

Cambridge	Kaikohe
Te Awamutu	Kawerau
Hamilton	Manawaru
Ōhaupō	Taumarunui
Tīrau	Taupō
Te Kuiti	Tauranga
Auckland	Mt Maunganui
Whangārei	

WHERE OUR STUDENTS ARE FROM



HOW OUR STUDENTS ARE STUDYING

100
MONAVALLE
BIBLE
SCHOOL

54
ADVENTURE
BIBLE
SCHOOL

9
TOURING
BIBLE
SCHOOL



OUR LOGO



Our logo has meaning and purpose. Last year, we revitalised our branding to honour our past and take us into the future.



Central to our new logo is **the Cross of Christ**, positioned at an angle to symbolize two important aspects. First, it represents our life in Christ, who bore His cross and our sins. Second, it signifies our mission with Christ, acknowledging we also carry our own cross as we follow Him.



The Word of God has always been at the heart of Capernwray - from our founder's initial focus, named "The Main Thrust," to the foundation of all our programmes. The top portion of our logo symbolizes an open bible, as scripture remains central to our identity and purpose.



We have been called by the Lord to serve and steward **the beautiful land of New Zealand, Aotearoa**. Our desire is to enjoy New Zealand, worship its Creator and share it with others who come to experience its splendour. You can see the left side of our logo shares a similar shape to the North and South islands of our country.



A vital part of the Capernwray experience is our **Adventure Bible School**. The mountain symbolizes both adventure and the journey of being on the path with Christ. Furthermore, this shape reflects the architecture of our facilities at the Monavale Homestead and the Adventure Lodge. They serve as metaphors for the intentional community and discipleship cultivated at both locations.

OUR NZ & GLOBAL FOOTPRINT

STUDENTS AND GLOBAL IMPACT

Each year, around 20 to 30 New Zealanders engage with Capernwray's programmes, either in New Zealand or at one of our international campuses. The long-term impact is seen as these individuals return to serve and lead in New Zealand churches, youth ministries, workplaces, and communities, applying the faith, character, and leadership skills developed through their Capernwray experience.

In 2025, our student cohort reflected a truly international community, with students travelling from New Zealand, Canada, Australia, Germany, Ethiopia, the United States, Hungary, Romania, Austria, and Switzerland.

While students joined us from across the globe, the majority came from North America, particularly Canada and the United States.

Over the previous 15 years, we have also welcomed students from a wide range of countries, including China, Paraguay, Fiji, Egypt, the Netherlands, South Korea, Chile, Israel, Papua New Guinea, Malaysia, the United Kingdom, Ireland, Denmark, France, South Africa, and Italy.

The broad range of nationalities represented over the years highlights the international appeal of our programmes and creates a rich multicultural learning environment, where students can connect with people from not only their rich and diverse background but other cultures and experiences.

STAFF

Our staff team also reflect a rich diversity of backgrounds, with members coming from a variety of countries around the world. At the same time, it has been encouraging to see our New Zealand permanent staff continue to grow and develop in their respective roles. This growth has been demonstrated through a willingness to take on additional responsibilities, develop new skills and continue to contribute to the life and work of the ministry.

In 2025, we were supported by 10 volunteers from:

- New Zealand
- Australia
- England
- Canada
- United States
- Germany

During the year one of our New Zealand staff members transitioned from fulltime staff with us to volunteer to pursue theological studies. Following God's call on his life, he has begun working towards a theology degree with a view to future ministry in NZ. While this marks a new season for him, his commitment to Capernwray remains strong, and he continues to stay connected through volunteering whenever his studies and commitments allow.

CHURCH AND COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

Capernwray partners with churches and ministries across New Zealand through local church involvement, Ministry Week placements, guest lecturers, and outreach opportunities.

Partner Churches locations

- Te Awamutu
- Cambridge
- Kaipaki
- Hamilton

Ministry Week locations

- Te Awamutu
- Manawarū
- Kawerau
- Whangārei
- Auckland
- Taumaranui
- Kāwhia
- Ōpōtiki
- Paeroa

Other Communities

- Te Kūiti
- Pirongia
- Ngāruawāhia
- Matamata
- Taupō
- Raglan
- Mount Maunganui

Lecturer's Locations

Our lecturers and ministry partners come from communities throughout New Zealand, including Cambridge, Te Awamutu, Ōhaupō, Hamilton, Karapiro, Auckland, Manawarū, Christchurch and Rotorua.

Our international lecturers come from Australia, the United States, Bali, Hawaii, Cambodia, England, Sri Lanka, South Africa, and Germany.

GOVERNANCE AND LEADERSHIP

Our Board represents members from regions spanning Warkworth, Waikato and Palmerston North. They attend, serve and lead in a variety of capacities in their local Churches. Their volunteering is not just on Capernwray New Zealand's Board, but also undertaking board roles or consultation in eight other charities.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Capernwray regularly hosts events that serve and strengthen local communities, including:

- Carols by Candlelight
- Break Through
- Passover
- Other

Beyond Capernwray programmes, the Adventure Lodge has hosted a range of New Zealand groups, including rowing teams, Christian youth camps, motocross camps, church leadership retreats, and ministry training events. We are actively exploring opportunities to expand these partnerships through New Zealand's Christian camping and adventure ministry networks.

UPCOMING

We serve an awesome God! His grace continues to sustain and guide us.

We are open for business. Though this statement may sound strange, we truly want you to feel the spirit behind it. Lockdown was incredibly challenging for us as a ministry-many of us endured tough times. Yet, here we are, with a waitlist for half of our programmes thriving again. All of this is a testament to God's incredible grace.

REFINING OUR PROGRAMMES

- We operate three main programmes: *Monavale Bible School, Adventure Bible School and Touring Bible School*. Each of these is continually being refined to suit the times we live in, without losing sight of the core mission of Capernwray New Zealand and Torchbearers International.

We invite you to sign up, recommend or sponsor someone to experience the transformative work of Christ through these programmes.

NEW INITIATIVES

- We're excited to introduce a pilot project: **Paul's Second Missionary Journey**. Students can touch the ancient stones and visit the first European church in this new 2-3 week travelling Bible school. They will experience where the Apostle

Paul and his companions ministered after the Macedonian Call. Travelling through Greece and Turkey, students can learn about Acts and the Epistles as they experience the magnificent places surrounding these texts.

- We're developing new **short-term adventure and leadership programmes**. These 1-2 week programmes enable students to engage in an experience similar to our Adventure Bible School, without the commitment of a long stay. We hope this will allow for a more diverse group of international and local students to join. Focused on certain outdoor sports or leadership development, there will be opportunities to grow, serve and learn in dynamic environments.

NEW AND RENEWED PARTNERSHIPS

- If your vision aligns with ours and our values resonate with you, we warmly invite you to partner with us. Whether for a day or longer, our wonderful facilities are available for your use. We love partnering in building His Kingdom and we look forward to exploring how we can work together.

Through it all, we remain confident: **We serve an awesome God!**



PARTNERSHIP

A Heart of Gratitude: Your partnership is transforming lives and expanding God's kingdom. Thank you for being a vital part of this incredible journey. The Lord is our enabler and sustainer, but where would we be without you?

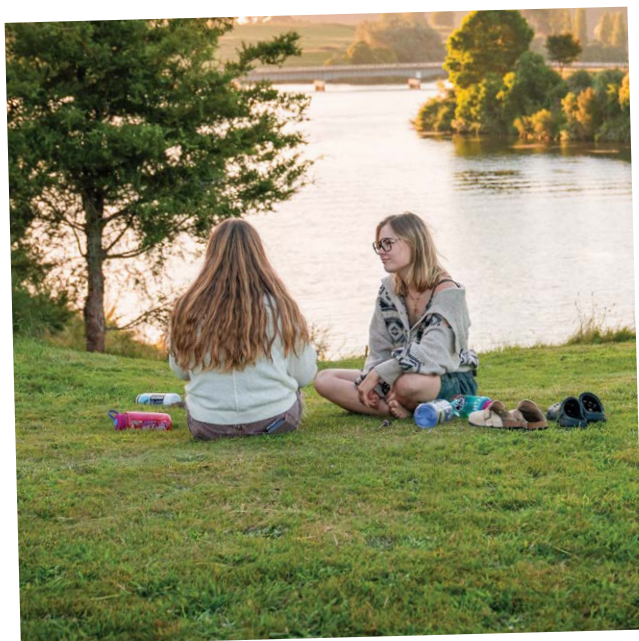
DISCOVER HOW YOU CAN MAKE A LASTING IMPACT

- **Pray with Us:** Prayerfully support our mission and stay connected through social media updates, emails and future posts - your prayers are powerful!
- **Follow Along:** Witness our adventures and see what students are up to by following us on social media.
- **Attend:** Come as a student for our MBS, ABS or TBS programmes. Many combinations of programmes are available, so we can find the mix that's right for you.
- **Join Our Team:** Feeling called? Explore meaningful opportunities to serve on our staff, becoming part of dynamic ministry and outreach.

- **Volunteer:** Open your home to host students anywhere across New Zealand. Or, gather a team to assist practically at our locations.
- **Discipleship:** Commit to regular discipleship, mentorship or pastoral care, nurturing the next generation of leaders.
- **Make a Difference Financially:** Support our life-changing programmes, sponsor a student's journey or contribute to our capital campaigns for key buildings. Also, consider recommending trusts or givers who share our vision to partner with us in ministry.
- **Share Your Expertise:** Use your skills, relationships and insights to help us grow, innovate and extend our reach. Your knowledge can ignite new opportunities.

Partner with us today and be part of something extraordinary-together, we are building a legacy of faith that transforms NZ and other nations!





"I have been crucified
with Christ and I no
longer live, but Christ
lives in me. The life I now
live in the body, I live by
faith in the Son of God,
who loved me and gave
himself for me."

Galatians 2:20



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NEW ZEALAND

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