



## Prime Minister Visits College

The Prime Minister of Papua New Guinea, Mr James Marape, visited CLTC's main campus at the beginning of this year. Mr Marape's presence in the College was a thrilling experience for the College community. Late in the evening the College community lined the road with candles from the end of our airstrip to the guesthouse to welcome the Prime Minister.

Mr Marape said he was honoured by such a gesture. "I have never seen and felt such an overwhelming experience anywhere else where both young and old could brave the cold night, at 11.30 pm, with lighted candles just to welcome me. May the Lord's name be glorified in the way you treated me much like you would have treated the Lord himself."

Mr Marape was briefed on CLTC's educational and business support programs and was presented with the history of the College since 1964, outlining the College's theological, technological and agricultural efforts. Mr Marape acknowledged the College's contributions to the churches and to the society and



stated he was impressed with the way the College sustains itself and how the College contributes to the wellbeing of Papua New Guineans.

Though Mr Marape came just to spend the night amidst his busy schedule, he still had time to address the community. Being a son of an SDA church pastor, he quickly identified himself with the community and said that he felt CLTC was just like home to him. His message to the community was simple, "Do not think that what you do is insignificant in comparison to the world of sciences. What you do may not promise huge worldly gain, but its eternal significance is profound." Using his own example as a pastor's child, he challenged the students to,

"be a model to those little ones who are watching you. What you instil now through life and practice will be reflected one day through the children." To the young people, Mr Marape said, "Seek God while you are still young. With God you can navigate this greedy and tricky world."

Mr Marape did not only come to CLTC as PNG's Chief Executive Officer but came as a brother in Christ. This was evident when he humbly asked the College leadership not to follow protocols accorded to leaders, as he felt that we were family. Such an approach to the CLTC community was an object lesson in humility. In a world where people seek honour, even within the Christian church, Mr Marape's gesture gives a glimpse of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. Though God, he did not seek honour but became one of us and offered himself to be treated in a familial manner. As Christians and as leaders, instead of craving honour and recognition, let us wear humility as our garland.

*Maxon Mani*

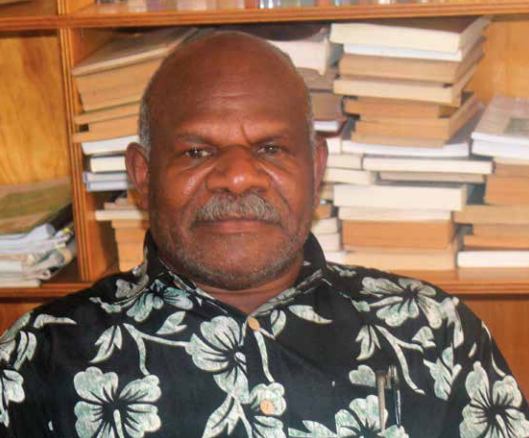


*Michaelyn and Prime Minister Marape with CLTC products at Jiwaka trade fair.*



*Prime Minister Marape with Gordon Tubul.*





## From the Principal Dr Maxon Mani

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

# God has used CLTC to develop me

**CLTC has had a major role in my personal development.**

I was converted and became a Christian in November 1992. From that date I desired to serve God as a pastor or in any form of church ministry. I searched for schools that could offer me proper theological training to enrich my understanding of God and his mission in the world. This search resulted in my coming to CLTC in 2001.

My first experience of Christian leadership was when faculty approved that I become Student President, leading the student body in 2004. In 2010, I began my teaching career with CLTC and in 2012 I was appointed Dean of Students. Aside from these experiences, I have no other institutional leadership experiences, except giving care to my wife and children, as best as I can.

With my relative inexperience, the call to lead the College was a big thing. The excitement and at the same time the fear of my inability is real. Despite this, I accepted the call knowing full well that 'the One who called me is faithful' (1Thess. 5:24). It is in this trust I have led the College as the Principal in the last 6 months. I also thank God for Rev Dr Willian Longgar and others who have preceded me in this role.

***"CLTC takes its task [seriously] to extend God's kingdom work in this region of the world."***

It is a privilege and an opportunity to give back to CLTC for all that it has done to develop my stature and character. In this way I can serve God in and through the ministry of CLTC to the churches of the

Pacific Islands. As CLTC continues to train men and women for Christian service throughout Melanesia and the Pacific Islands, I take my leadership seriously, as CLTC takes its task to extend God's kingdom work in this region of the world.

Thank you for those who pray faithfully and give sacrificially for the College. Your support is essential to the ministry of CLTC. As God has used CLTC to develop me, he is discipling and equipping many others to serve God.



*Students during orientation.*



*New students at Banz 2021.*

## God's Grace in the Face of COVID-19

PNG has recently experienced a wave of COVID cases. The official figures currently stand at over 1,700 confirmed cases and over 170 known deaths, but it is generally felt that there could be many others not reported.

While the Australian Government (as well as others) have donated vaccines, the difficulties in

administering them within the existing health system as well as the enormous mistrust and misinformation within the population is making it extremely difficult for any significant number to be vaccinated.

In April the Banz campus was hit by the COVID-19 virus. Eleven people were tested and all eleven were

positive for COVID. Many more (around 80) had flu-like symptoms and probably also had COVID but did not have the opportunity to be tested.

Many others in the surrounding area also had these symptoms and there were a number of local deaths. But praise God, there were no fatalities among CLTC staff and students.



### William's Testimony

**The former principal, William Longgar, was one who tested positive for COVID.**

He said: "For a person to be told bluntly that he or she is COVID positive, is like a death sentence being pronounced. With the knowledge of the untold damage that the virus is causing worldwide, it is natural not only to be fearful but to also take the news very hard."

"This year's experience brought out the best of the College communal spirit. The prayer life of the College increased. We believe that prayer was the reason for our deliverance from further infection or transmission. In such a close community like CLTC Banz, we expected the transmission rate to be fast and devastating, but praise God, he delivered the College from such an impact. We are thankful for those who prayed for the College during this very challenging time. A note of thanks and appreciation must go to some members of our community who risked infection by physically caring for and visiting those who were sick to pray and provide food. We are thankful to God that there were no deaths from among the confirmed cases in the College. We can only attribute that to the mercies of God. While the recovery process is very slow for those who were infected, the joy of being spared death is beyond description."

### Lucy's Testimony

**Another who tested positive for COVID was Lucy Korema, wife of our Business Manager Nou Korema. She has shared the following:**

My birthday is 14 April, a day when I would normally reflect on life and be grateful to God for his goodness and faithfulness. Unfortunately, I never got to enjoy a piece of birthday cake or enjoy the gifts I received from loved ones that day for I had lost my appetite and developed a fever, just a few days prior.

Though I was treated at the CLTC Clinic, nothing helped, and I began to feel chest pain and developed a cough. On Sunday I decided to go for a walk in the evening as I had rested all day, but as I tried to walk up the last hill on my return to my house, I began to feel shortness of breath and fatigue. I felt that something was terribly wrong with my whole body; lacking oxygen, and close to losing consciousness, I prayed to God, "Please Father, help me go up this hill, for I know you are with me." Eventually I reached the top of the hill near my house and collapsed on the road. My son couldn't hear my weak voice calling at first, but when he did, I was rushed to the CLTC clinic and then driven to Kudjip Hospital (across the valley). All along I was reminding myself of the promises of God, of His care and healing powers.

At the Emergency Ward I was treated and then I tested positive to COVID-19. I felt a bit anxious because I knew I would be isolated from my family. But my loving and kind husband, Nou, reassured me that he would be beside me and we would go through this together. Though Nou was not tested he also had a few symptoms of COVID-19. My husband called and sent a message to the Principal, our friends, and our family for prayer support. Dr Erin, the Medical Director, also prayed for us before

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## With God Nothing is Impossible

This year is my first year studying at the Port Moresby campus. I am doing a bridging course prior to the degree program next year. I am so thankful to God for His goodness and faithfulness in bringing me this far, and as a young woman I believe that He has more ahead if I continue to be loyal to Him. All glory, honour and praise to Him.

I was raised in a Christian family on Manus Island as the seventh of eight children. I left school in Grade 7 because of chronic sickness and just roamed around with my peer group. After a few years I began to feel empty inside. I felt that I was wasting the precious life that God had given me and that I should at least contribute in some way to my community. I began to pray for God to provide an opportunity to use my life for Him. Meanwhile, I was helping in our local church by teaching the Sunday school children. Then, the Lord opened the door for me to do theological studies.

I attended a Bible College in Manus and completed a four-year Diploma in Theology in 2012. At first, I was excited to attend, but I became anxious about my physical needs. I was worrying and thought, "Where will I get my food to sustain myself while schooling?" That anxiety built up and it began to overwhelm and trouble me. But one morning, I was woken by a voice that said, "*Yu no ken wari lo kaikai, yu no kam lo displa skul lo kaikai.*" (You don't need to worry about food. You

didn't come to this College to eat food.) When I rose from the bed, all my anxieties were gone, and I felt really free and happy. I acknowledged the presence of God and His intervention in my situation. I realised that it was the devil trying to spoil my theological study by distracting my mind with these physical things. Moreover, I realised that I should prioritise the Word of God.

***"I acknowledged the presence of God and His intervention in my situation."***

After graduating, I was posted as a young female pastor in several places within the church in Manus. I was excited and zealous to work for the Lord in the local churches within the Evangelical Church of Manus, since I had acquired knowledge and needed to put it into practice in ministry.

In 2015, the Lord made it possible for me to travel, along with other women, to West Papua (Indonesia). We participated in a big church festival and saw the needs of fellow believers in West Papua.

In 2019 I flew to Port Moresby for family matters. The church leaders of Waigani Christian Centre in Port Moresby recruited me to full-time ministry with the youth and with women. The work in the urban

context is very challenging, but also exciting as you come to know and work among a lot of different people.

While working with the youth in Port Moresby, I prayed for the opportunity to further my theological studies and by the goodness of God, I was accepted into the program at CLTC.

The two biblical truths I often cite are, "*With God nothing is impossible*" (Luke 1:37), and Isaiah 40:31, "*Those who trust in the LORD will find their strength renewed. They will rise on wings like eagles; they will run and not get weary; they will walk and not grow weak.*" The God that we worship is an omniscient and omnipotent God. We are to put our trust and faith in Him. There is absolutely nothing that is too difficult for Him.

## Lucy's COVID-19 Testimony – continued

sending us to the isolation ward. I was too weak to walk by myself, but when the nurses checked my oxygen levels, they were found to be above 90%, while all the other patients were on oxygen and fighting for their lives. Nou and I spent the rest of the night praying for them, and in the morning the doctor came and again checked the oxygen level. It was still high, so he prescribed our medicines, and we were sent home and told to

isolate for a week as our illness was severe. We chose to isolate ourselves for two weeks and send our son to others to be cared for. We missed our interaction with others and found the isolation very difficult at times.

It was the promises of God, and my relationship with him that gave me the strength to fix my eyes on Jesus as I walked through this valley of the shadow of death (Ps. 23:4-6). I thank

God for this experience for I have learned some important lessons.

I want to thank all those in the CLTC family around PNG as well as the international friends and partners who prayed for us. And thank you too for all those at Banz who gave practical help and comfort. Above all, thank you Jesus that I am healed - all thanksgiving, praise, honour and glory be unto our God and Father.





## A New Era for CLTC Poultry Business

**For many years the poultry business on the Banz campus has supplied more than half the finances to run the College.**

In 2016, faced with a tough market, CLTC invited an outside poultry company to run the farm and pay rent and a portion of profits. The contract also required the company to invest in new poultry sheds, but in 2019, they almost went bankrupt and abandoned the contract at short notice. Our poultry operation was left in a very run-down state.

At short notice, the College was able to engage another company to provide management services for our poultry operation, but with our products to be marketed under the CLTC brand again. We were helped

by this company for 16 months up until the end of 2020.

Over the last 7 months the College has fully operated the poultry business itself. The College management has been happy to be back in charge of operational decisions. But with COVID-19 affecting the PNG economy, it continues to be a difficult time to do business, for example, getting new breeder chicks from New Zealand in the way this has normally happened.

Some staff changes have occurred with the College taking back management of the poultry. Nou Korema who was previously the Finance Manager, has been appointed Business Manager. Michaelyn Baduk is the Poultry

Manager. Two other women have leadership roles – Cynthia Thomas is the Layers Production Supervisor and Charlotte Towo the Poultry Admin Officer.

Over the first quarter of 2021, the poultry farm produced over 1.5 million table eggs, and almost half a million one-day-old chicks. This is a great achievement. The College is also upgrading its meat processing plant to be able to sell more frozen chickens.

The big challenge for the future is to fund the necessary capital development to ensure that the College retains a strong income for the next 50 years to enable it to train men and women for Christian leadership and service.



## Solar Project at Banz

**The second stage of the solar project is up and running.**

This involves 126 solar panels on top of the library, with the capacity to generate 186 KWHs a day. They were installed by Jersey Kesa and Ross Wanure. A ceremony was held in the library where William Longgar cut a ribbon and prayed for the new system. William acknowledged the work of Garth Morgan who has organised the project along with Gordon Mock and Don McLean. A larger third stage is being planned which has the potential to make the Banz campus self-sufficient for power.

Please pray with us for funding for Stage Three, with details available from [garthmorgan@extra.co.nz](mailto:garthmorgan@extra.co.nz)

To assist us financially, see bank details on back page.





# Baptist Students at Banz



*The eleven Baptist students and their families.*

Students at the Banz campus come from 22 different denominations this year. Students and staff meet in their denominational groups once a month to maintain fellowship as a group. This year there are eleven Baptist students. Some of them will be graduating at the end of the year and have shared some of their hopes and plans for future ministry.

**Mike and Pauline Saida** and their young son come from Goroka in the Eastern Highlands. Mike will graduate with a Bachelor of Theology and Pauline with an Advanced Diploma of Community Transformation. They are hoping to return to their own area to serve as a pastor and community worker. When the opportunity arises, Mike would like to study for a Master's degree.

**Myrah Daniel Waseni** returned to Banz this year to complete her Bachelor of Theology degree. She has had to be apart from her husband and children. After graduating she will return to Madang to join her husband in ministry with the Baptist churches there.

**Walokami and Nopiri Vali** worked for 11 years with Scripture Union before taking up further studies. (Their story was in the November 2018 College News). Walo will graduate with a Master of Theology

degree and Nopiri with an Advanced Diploma in Ministry. They would like to serve for a term with their home church, Boroko Baptist in Port Moresby, which has faithfully supported them in their studies. Walo will also be teaching at the CLTC Port Moresby Campus and doing some volunteer work with Scripture Union. Their son **John Vali** is doing his first year of an Advanced Diploma in Community Transformation. When he graduates, he would like to do business studies at university, majoring in IT and leadership so that he will be equipped to serve his people in Port Moresby or elsewhere as a tentmaker missionary.

## Other Baptist students at Banz this year are:

**Terence Kone** from the Telefomin district is the son of a Baptist pastor and one of 7 children. As the only child with Grade 12 education, it was expected that he would train to be a teacher or nurse, but he was not accepted for tertiary training. Though discouraged,

he kept trusting God and made a commitment to serve Him. A door opened for him to go to CLTC, and he is in the first year of the Advanced Diploma of Ministry. He wants to know more of God and to reach the unreached.

**Rex Tinny** is also taking the Advanced Diploma of Ministry course and his wife **Kaysie** is doing the Certificate of Bible and Ministry course. They have 4 school-age children. When they graduate, they want to return to their church in the Telefomin area. They have seen their people suffering physically and spiritually and want to reach them holistically.

***"Pray for these and all of the CLTC students that the Lord will use their learning and enthusiasm for His glory."***

**Jerry and Judy Aviro** are in the first year of the Advanced Diploma of Community Transformation. They have 2 sons in secondary school. They are a resourceful couple, and Jerry has done a lot of community development for his people. After completing the course, they plan to serve the community by providing leadership and advocacy for community transformation.

Please pray for these and all of the CLTC students that the Lord will use their learning and enthusiasm for His glory in Papua New Guinea and the Pacific.

**Please consider supporting a student at CLTC. For more information contact the CLTC office in your country (see below).**

Bank details: **Aust:** CLTC, Westpac, BSB 033107 Acc No. 23 1483

**NZ:** CLTC, Westpac, 03 0155 0347818 003

***Send an email to Aust/NZ office to advise of your donation.***

**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).



**CHRISTIAN LEADERS' TRAINING COLLEGE OF PAPUA NEW GUINEA INC.**

**PAPUA NEW GUINEA**  
PO Box 45 Banz, Jiwaka Province  
Papua New Guinea  
Ph 675 546 1001/2  
Email: cltc@cltc.ac.pg

**AUSTRALIA**  
PO Box 6257, Vermont Sth, VIC 3133  
Ph (03) 9881 7800  
Email: cltc@mst.edu.au

**NEW ZEALAND**  
PO Box 68208, Victoria St West,  
Auckland 1142  
Russell Thorp  
Email: admin@ldl.org.nz  
Mobile: +6421 481 088

**www.cltc.ac.pg**

**USA**  
Email: bruceandretta@renich.org