



ASCM - active - open - critical - ecumenical

Website ascm.org.au

Phone: 0407 866777

Postal Address: Australian Student Christian Movement GPO Box 1195 Canberra ACT 2601

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18 February 2022

Australian Student Christian Movement Annual Financial Appeal and Newsletter

Dear friend of the Australian Student Christian Movement,

Greetings and best wishes from ASCM. This letter brings news of our movement and our annual request for your financial donation, essential to our growth and outreach to students. 2021 was a year of consolidation and renewal for ASCM, and for the broader ecumenical student movement around the world in the World Student Christian Federation (WSCF). ASCM is in good shape. Please read our ASCM Magazine for news about our recent activity and thinking. The November 2021 issue is available on our website at <https://ascm.org.au/info/resources>, also available in printed copy on request. We plan to publish this magazine on a regular basis, so you may wish to suggest content for it. Please let us know if you have any news that might be of interest to the SCM family. We hope you are keeping well with the pandemic.

In very sad news, Clare Menck (previously Clare Schulz), SCM leader in Western Australia and former editor of the ASCM magazine Jubilee Grapevine, died suddenly from cancer this month. Please keep Clare's young family in your prayers.

ASCM Mission

ASCM seeks to be honest to God and to the spirit of Christ in the world, affirming the power of love for transformation and liberation and justice. We look to foster conversations to produce deeper understanding of Christian faith, to find ways to offer spiritual support for all who are struggling for a better world. The role of universities as thought leaders in our society makes public conversation about tertiary ministry and engagement essential. ASCM aims to bring people together for broader-based conversations, respecting faith while grounded in reason. Our mission is as timely and relevant as ever, as we work to enable university students to develop an active, open, critical and ecumenical Christian faith. Christ calls us to recognise and respect the least of the world as the first in the Kingdom of God, seeing our salvation in our shared work and vision together to do the will of God on earth.

ASCM Staffing

2021 brought a change of leadership for ASCM. In July we farewelled John Biswas, our national coordinator since 2015, and welcomed the appointment of David Hale and Robbie Tulip. David is our National Director for Student Ministry and Engagement. He lives in Brisbane, is a member of the Anglican Church, and works as a chaplain at the University of Queensland. Robbie is National Director for Communications and Partnership. He lives in Canberra, where he manages the chaplaincy at the Australian National University and is Secretary for the Canberra Region Presbytery of the Uniting Church. Andika Mongilala continues as National Treasurer, while Claudine Chionh has recently completed her work as Technology Director. Other members of ASCM National Executive include Rev Dr Sandy Yule (Chair), Mandy Tibbey (Staffing), John Bretz (Vice Chair) and Barrie Baker (Pastoral). Christine Ledger (Membership), Shaun Whelan (Secretary), Ros Hewett, Caity Cameron and Yixin Gong are part of our wider leadership team, together with a number of other friends, including the Trustees of the ASCM Centennial Trust Fund.

ASCM Review

The national executive team conducted a formal review of ASCM in 2021. The review report found ASCM has a strong basis for growth, while recognising the challenges we face. Ongoing strengths of ASCM include a clear theological vision and identity grounded in Christian faith, an effective leadership

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team around Australia, regular discussions, ongoing financial support including through the ASCM Centenary Trust Fund, membership in the World Student Christian Federation, ability to reach out to wider audiences, support for diversity, inclusion and respectful dialogue, and ongoing engagement with a range of supporters. ASCM is meeting the challenges of campus ministry by working to foster local leadership with thoughtful, prayerful and willing senior friends. We remain optimistic about the growth of ASCM as we nurture and build relationships among students. ASCM's enduring links with people of different traditions, across the country and internationally through the World Student Christian Federation (WSCF) have included important solidarity relationships over the years. Our members have made life-changing visits to many partner SCMs, building links with movements around the world. Even with this good progress, ASCM remains fragile and small. We need more financial support for staff positions and to recruit additional officers, both in staff positions and as volunteers.

We are conducting research with university students to better understand their situation and needs and how ASCM could contribute. Questions include what spirituality looks like for young people at present, and what would support them to explore their sense of God, themselves and the world. We are broadening our contacts with a range of likeminded organisations and individuals who could help facilitate ecumenical Christian presence on universities, such as ecumenical councils. We are renewing our website to focus on making our internet presence more coherent and effective and showcasing more of our work there.

Our recent online discussions have shown how ASCM can offer a free space for wide-ranging thinking about theology and religion. We want a 'think tank' function in the ASCM, supporting intellectual conversation and critical thinking in cooperation with other like-minded organizations. We want to encourage the hospitality of dinners and meetings around themes such as Bible study, spirituality, and other issues off campus, as well as online work including on our website, and conversations on Zoom and Facebook. The contribution of the ASCM from 1896 until now has been creative. Friendships made within ASCM have created intellectual and spiritual engagement with influence for the future, seeking to walk with Christ.

ASCM Magazine

The ASCM Magazine published in November 2021 has some excellent articles. They mostly link to YouTube video discussions, publicly available on the [ASCM YouTube channel](#). ASCM Facebook Page regularly features these conversations at <https://www.facebook.com/AustralianSCM/>, and there is discussion on the [ASCM Facebook Group](#) with links to our broader WSCF family. Please have a look at the material on our Facebook Page and Group, and feel welcome to contribute there. If you would like to write for the ASCM Magazine please contact Robbie Tulip at Robbietulip@gmail.com

The 2021 issue of the ASCM magazine includes articles on the following topics

- Tribute to Professor Peter Fensham, ASCM Chair in the 1970s and a much respected and loved mentor and friend for many in the movement.
- WSCF update - "Looking for Justice in a World that is Suffering".
- Queensland ASCM News from David Hale, ASCM Director
- Some Connections between the Beatitudes and Australian Indigenous Experience, by Robbie Tulip
- Israel/Palestine: An Australian Reflection by Rev Dr Sandy Yule
- Discussions on Afghanistan & Myanmar
- Conversations with WSCF leaders on their diverse faith journeys
- Building Relationships with People of Other Faiths, with Rev Dr Manas Ghosh
- Christianity and Identity Politics, with Rev Dr Peter Walker
- Students for the Renewal of the Church, with Rev Dr David Gill
- Peace Studies, with Professor John Langmore



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- Christianity and Australian Politics, with Professor Marion Maddox
- The Spirit of St Francis is alive and well, with Anglican Franciscans
- ASCM's international links of friendship and solidarity, with Dr Michael Mitchell
- The challenge of the 1960s to the churches: the ASCM experience, with Rev Dr Sandy Yule

We do hope you will find this recent work of interest. It helps to show how the ecumenical Christian vision of ASCM can inform tertiary students at a critical formative time in their lives. While our current activities on campus are limited, we are well placed to engage wherever opportunities arise. Our National Executive includes a number of long-term ASCM senior friends, who are providing wise counsel for our strategic direction and priorities.

We look forward to sharing further news about the ongoing work of ASCM.

ASCM Financial Appeal

ASCM has annual expenditure of about \$30,000, as shown in our financial statement below, which we would like to expand through increased staff time. We also contribute funds to the Timor Leste SCM and to the Asia Pacific Regional Office of WSCF. Our main sources of support remain our Friends. Friends include people who were members of ASCM while at University, and still wish to keep in touch with the movement, and some who were never ASCM members but support our aims. Friends offer varying levels of support and involvement. Some are on Area Councils, others are Trustees, another maintains the membership contact list. Others support us through prayer and donations and conversation. ASCM has many Friends, and it is always a pleasure to receive their news. We ask that if you have any news please let us know at any of our listed contact points.

To make a donation:



1. **PayPal:** The easiest way to support ASCM financially is through [this link](https://www.paypal.com/donate?hosted_button_id=GW3RW26FKGJTS) - https://www.paypal.com/donate?hosted_button_id=GW3RW26FKGJTS - or using the QR code here.
2. **Credit card:** donate directly through the following link (<https://ascm.org.au/donate-appeal>)
3. **Bank transfer:** ASCM National Account BSB 062000 Account Number 0092 2944
4. **Cheque:** send to GPO BOX 1195 Canberra ACT 2610 ACT-Australia. Payable: Australian Student Christian Movement.

Please consider a regular donation. If you wish to make ongoing contributions, we suggest you choose recurring (monthly, quarterly, or yearly) donations online so that the donation will be automatically debited from your account. Donations to the ASCM or the Trust cannot be used as a tax-deduction.

Operating the ASCM requires ongoing financial support for staff, and in normal times for travel. If we had more funds, we could do much more to support student involvement. Meetings and conferences and conversations and publications build leadership capability of our members for the benefit of both ASCM and the broader community.

The ASCM Centenary Trust Fund was set up in 1996 at the ASCM Centenary Conference to improve our financial security. Donations are always very welcome to the Trust, which is managed by our experienced Board of Trustees and has wisely placed all funds in ethical investments. Donations to the Trust can be made from the same [form](#) as for ASCM donations.

Our website also includes [information about making a bequest to ASCM in your will](#).

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For further information on ASCM finances, please contact the [National Treasurer](#), Andika Mongilala.
We look forward to hearing from you.

In Faith

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Profit and Loss

June 2020 - May 2021

	TOTAL
Revenue	
National Appeal Letter	10,673.29
Other Income	1,500.00
Total Revenue	A\$12,173.29
GROSS PROFIT	A\$12,173.29
Other Income	
Interest CBA	3.86
Interest UCA	1,844.19
Total Other Income	A\$1,848.05
Expenses	
Accounting Software	215.00
Appeal Cost	697.10
Bank charges and fees	12.00
East Timor Mission	2,000.00
General Donations	6,800.00
Honarium & Grants	23,000.00
Incentive online program	600.00
Information and Technology Expenses	33.78
Office Bearer	256.63
PO BOX Renewal	379.00
WSCF Membership	667.00
Total Expenses	A\$34,660.51
NET EARNINGS	A\$ -20,639.17

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