

Report for LCJE AustralAsia 2007–2011
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Who would have guessed that when the meeting was over in Budapest in 2007, we would have so much to do and to report from the South Pacific when we reconvened in High Leigh in 2011. Thankfully, we know it was God by His Holy Spirit who was and is calling His people together and together.

The Bible describes the beginning of the community of New Testament faith with that strange dual combination phrase, “they were all together in one place.”(Acts 2.1) If they were in the same place, were they not ‘together?’ I believe Luke is highlighting the unity of the awaiting disciples. They were together in purpose (**homou**)¹, and then of course, together in one location as well.

We have seen the reality of this in AustralAsia since Budapest in two harmonious conferences and continual conversation as well. First we met in Sydney in July 2009 and then again in February 2011 in Melbourne. The documents, program, photos, reports and papers are on the LCJE website in two places: Sydney 2009: <http://lcje.net/LCJEAustralAsiaConference.html> and Melbourne 2011: <http://lcje.net/LCJEAustralAsiaConference2011.html>

Total attendees in Sydney were 73. Totals in Melbourne 48. Attendees came from Western Australia, Victoria, New South Wales, Queensland and both islands in New Zealand.

Membership in LCJE in the region has blossomed as well going from 3 members to XXXXXX members now, including some organizations.

We are purposing to meet in winter (July or August) every two years, starting 2012. That way we avoid a possible conflict involving some of our people with the CEO meetings and the International conferences.

The spirit of cooperation is evident at each conference and the goals of LCJE are reminded us each gathering through greetings brought from the president, from the International Coordinator and even from LCWE folks who live in Australia. Of note in that regard were Ross Clifford, Chairman of the Australian Lausanne Committee, and Robyn Claydon, LCWE Vice-Chairman.

We have a varied program when we meet, including teachings, reports from the field by each representative, testimonies, times of singing, early morning prayer, panel discussions, and afternoon exercise. Of note is that well over 90% of the attendees in Melbourne came to early morning prayers. Maybe that’s part of why we have good things to report.

As a result of the conferences, our JOOS (Jewish Outreaches Of Sydney) gatherings in Sydney are strengthened and a real spirit of honest and wholesome relationship continues to grow. It’s in fellowship and real unity that God pours out His blessings (Psalm 133.1, 1 John 1.3). The Chairmen of several of the missions met in Sydney for a special breakfast. We hope to keep that as a regular feature at our conferences.

We now have a monthly Prayer Calendar sent out by one of the members. And maybe of greater significance is that Craig, the prayer updater, has moved into more public ministry with CWI as a result of the conferences. Also Paul Cohen has taken a position with Ariel Ministries, Recruitment of staff is increasing with both Celebrate Messiah and Jews for Jesus as a result of the encouragement of the conferences and the mutual cooperation we share. Natasha, one of the pastors of the Sydney Russian Messianic congregation submitted reports from each conference and may be titled, “Historian” of the region.

Organizations like Friends of Israel, Prayer for Israel, David House Fellowship/Vineyard Magazine, Harvest West Bible College, CMJ and CWI are also relating with each other under LCJE AustralAsia.

At times many of us have felt in competition with the “Bless Israel” organizations, but we are drawing some of them into our fellowship and hope that the close contact will assist the Jewish people in hearing the Gospel. In Sydney 2012, we expect representatives from ICEJ and Ebenezer to join us who have already indicated their plans to join us.

At Melbourne in February I shared a ‘vision.’ It’s a goal to which I called us. And (almost) to a man, each one agreed publicly and verbally. The goal: 10% of the Jewish people of Australia to know Jesus by 2020. That’s going to take a lot of work. It’s going to take a lot of prayer. It’s going to take cooperation and trust. And mostly it’s going to take God to open the eyes of His people.

We also have a plan to bring along a “Timothy,” a junior to learn and participate along with us. They will replace us in due course, but for now, the young people are seriously missing in Jewish missions. Each of us is charged to find, mentor and bring one along to Sydney 2012.

After High Leigh, what will we have to report in 2015? Will Y’shua return by then? If so, then like Robert Burns said, our “best laid plans *gang aft agley*. “

Take a moment, or two, just now, to say thank you to the Lord for the spirit of unity, so desperately needed, so tenuous in its infancy, and so shakable. Ask God to guard us from self-consumption. Ask God to bless our efforts in reaching the lost of AustralAsia. Thanks.

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¹ living in harmony with, like-minded is the word homophone