Empowering Indigenous Christians

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“...they received the message with great eagerness and examined the Scriptures every day...” Acts 17:11

Dear Friends,

This year the College received 578 applications from indigenous people wanting to study. That is a record for the college and a great encouragement. Please give thanks to God for this development.

Clearly, the College has become a place where students feel safe, where they feel loved and cared for and which provides the training they need for their ministries to be fruitful.

Let's hear from some of them in their own words.

Elizabeth says that Nungalinya has made a significant difference to her life as well. “I learn how to use the PC better, which will be useful in God’s work as I now have a laptop. I learn new Christian songs that we can sing at fellowship. I learn more about the Bible, and how to explain it to other people.”

Berribob Watson and Elizabeth Nabarlambarl

Berribob and his wife Elizabeth lead fellowship meetings every evening at Mannroyi (360kms east of Darwin) and often over a weekend in smaller outstations.

Asked why he came to Nungalinya, Berribob says: “There are important things for me to know and be able to pass them on to young kids. The courses are really good – we learn more about the Bible. I can go back to my community and read the Bible to our people better than before.”

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Rronang Garrawurra

Rronang is an ordained minister in the Uniting Church and presently serves as Chairman of the Nungalinya Board.

“My wife and I realised we needed to be equipped to share the Good News and by this time, Nungalinya College had been established.

To me Nungalinya is a very special place. We learn God’s knowledge and wisdom here. This is the place old Larrakia people gave us.

continued over....

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They gave us this name ‘Nungalinya’ meaning old man rock. Jesus is the rock and we need to build our lives on him. This is a sacred place to Indigenous people to learn God’s way and our way too.”

You can see a video of Rronang’s story made by our Media students at: http://bit.ly/1Q5VXPd

Mandy Mangurra

Mandy is not only a graduate of Nungalinya, she has returned as one of six Indigenous Assistant Teachers working at Nungalinya in 2015.

“The best part was learning the big meaning of God.

Nungalinya College is a good place. What I learned at Nungalinya is the fulfillment of God, of all God’s promises and what's going to happen in the future. God keeps walking with us.

God was with his people in the Old Testament and in the New Testament. He sends Jesus and gives the Holy Spirit. He is Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

That’s what I’ve learned.”

Nungalinya is committed to Empowering Indigenous Christians who make a valuable contribution to their communities. Some are in paid work while many offer voluntary service through their respective churches.

From pastoral care to running worship services, visiting the sick and ministering to children and youth, their work is an invaluable support to the entire community.

Your continued support ensures the college can provide the foundations needed for students to be effective as ambassadors for Christ, offering hope to those who struggle with the challenges and changes of living in remote parts of Australia.

Yours in fellowship,

Dr Jude Long
Principal
Nungalinya College

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