



CAFÉ NIGHT, SYDNEY, MAY 2014

# Alliance Youth Australia

## Newsletter: Winter 2014

IN THIS NEWSLETTER

## The Prayer of My Heart

by Peter Graham

In June, I had the wonderful opportunity to go on an Envision short-term mission trip to Taipei, Taiwan. Partnering up with a local church, I was able to experience and participate in the church's excellent ministry, proclaiming the Good News of Jesus Christ to the people of Taipei.



Now, when I say 'short-term mission trip,' Taipei may be one of the last places you would expect 'missionaries' to go. Why? Because Taipei is a fast-paced,

western-influenced modern city. In Ximen alone (where the church I visited is located) there is a McDonalds, KFC, multiple Starbucks restaurants, theatres, cinemas and shopping centres. In fact, in the heart of Ximen, there is an intersection that could easily be mistaken as Times Square in New York City! Almost everywhere I went I was bombarded by advertising slogans,

products for sale, people going about their daily business; and what seemed to be hundreds of thousands of scooters and taxis!

Yet, beneath all the 'hustle and bustle,' beneath all of the activity, the people, lights, large posters and mammoth LCD screens, there was activity on the spiritual level. Ancestor and temple worship is still a massive part of Taiwanese culture. Though more and more young people in Taipei do not go to temple by their own initiative, they still attend to honour their parents and culture. It is therefore no surprise that Christianity is seen as a threat to their way of life. Young people who are introduced to Christ are faced with the very real prospect of being rejected by their family, if they decide to stop worshipping their ancestors and worship Jesus alone.

The church I was involved with is called The Aroma and is located in the heart of Ximen. The church owns and runs a café which serves as an entry point into the community. It is in this multistorey community-hub where a weekly church service is held... *Continued on Page 3*



### Alliance Youth "GO!" Workshop

The sermon was very challenging and the Pastor had not yet given the congregation a chance to respond. As the Worship Leader, this excited me and I waited impatiently for him to invite me to the front for the final song...

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### Alliance Young Adults Camp 2014!

Registrations are now open for the Alliance Young Adults Camp 2014! To register or to find out more, simply go to Alliance Youth's website: [www.allianceyouth.org.au](http://www.allianceyouth.org.au).

More information on Page 3

# Café Night!

by Kim Chau

AYA Café Night was definitely a night to remember! There was plenty of food and people to enjoy it with. The night was an invaluable opportunity to see young adults from different Alliance churches gather together to have a good time and get to know each other. The night started off with casual Café style hot food (pizza, wedges and pastries) followed by an assortment of cakes to enjoy with a cup of tea or coffee. We sat around candle-lit tables and chatted away and also to lighten the atmosphere, offered music and board games for the old but still young at heart!

Attending the Café Night was a blessing for me. As a youth worker, I'm always around youth and so to have a night where there were people older than me was a good change of space. I got to know some amazing characters in the Alliance and hear the ministries they are involved in, which inspired and encouraged me in my walk with God. It was a great night to be re-energised with good company and the board-games really helped us break the ice and literally laugh-out-loud!



I'm sure from all the feedback, everyone else also felt blessed to know there are more Alliance folks out there! An event like this once in a while could help us build a good network among God's people that can spur us on as faithful individuals and as a community of believers. Hope to see you at the next AYA event!

*Kim Chau is the Youth Worker at Kingsgrove & Agape Vietnamese Alliance Churches; and is a member of the Alliance Youth Australia Team.*



The sermon was very challenging and the Pastor had not yet given the congregation a chance to respond. As the Worship Leader, this excited me and I waited impatiently for him to invite me to the front for the final song. Before the song, I encouraged people to come forward if they felt God speaking to them and I was thrilled to see many coming forward for confession and prayer. On top of this, I had the privilege

# Alliance Youth "GO!" Workshop

by Kyran Holmes

of praying for someone and listening as they tried to put a moment of their own miraculous transformation into words. This is what everybody needs! That is, to hear the word of God and then to be transformed by the Spirit. But what about those outside of our building? Outside the church? How will they hear? I wish that I could tell you that I was so inspired that I went to those outside the church to share God's love that very afternoon... but for some reason, I did not go.

Alliance Youth is putting on a workshop called "GO!" It will be run by Rev Dr Peter Laughlin (Director of the Alliance College of Australia) and at its conclusion, we will have no reason but to GO into our communities and share Christ!

## WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW:

**What:** Alliance Youth "GO!" Workshop (WA)  
**When:** 9:30am - 1:00pm, 12<sup>th</sup> July 2014  
**Where:** Perth Alliance Church (324 Belmont Ave, Cloverdale)  
**Who For:** Young People & Leaders  
**RSVP:** Monday, 7<sup>th</sup> July 2014 ([aya@cma.org.au](mailto:aya@cma.org.au) / [facebook.com/AllianceYouthAustralia](https://www.facebook.com/AllianceYouthAustralia))

*Kyran Holmes  
Team Member, Alliance Youth Australia*

## MORE UPCOMING EVENTS:

**Leaders Prayer & Mission Exposure Walk (VIC)****When:** 5:30 pm, 5<sup>th</sup> July 2014**Where:** Meeting at the clock tower at Melbourne Central Station, VIC**Who For:** Youth & Young Adult Leaders**More info & RSVP:** [allianceyouth.org.au/](http://allianceyouth.org.au/) / [facebook.com/AllianceYouthAustralia](https://www.facebook.com/AllianceYouthAustralia)**Leaders Prayer & Worship Night! (WA)****When:** 7:30pm – 9:30pm, 12<sup>th</sup> July 2014**Where:** Carramar Community Centre (Redgum Way, Morley, WA)**Who For:** Youth & Young Adult Leaders**More info & RSVP:** [allianceyouth.org.au/](http://allianceyouth.org.au/) / [facebook.com/AllianceYouthAustralia](https://www.facebook.com/AllianceYouthAustralia)**Leaders Prayer & Worship Night! (QLD)****When:** 7:30pm – 9:30pm, 4<sup>th</sup> August 2014**Where:** Southside International Church (613 Beenleigh Rd, Sunnybank, QLD)**Who For:** Youth & Young Adult Leaders**More info & RSVP:** [allianceyouth.org.au/](http://allianceyouth.org.au/) / [facebook.com/AllianceYouthAustralia](https://www.facebook.com/AllianceYouthAustralia)**Alliance Young Adults Camp 2014!****When:** 3<sup>rd</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> October 2014**Where:** CMS Conference Centre, Katoomba, NSW**Who For:** Young Adults 18+**More info & to Register:**[allianceyouth.org.au/](http://allianceyouth.org.au/) / [facebook.com/AllianceYouthAustralia](https://www.facebook.com/AllianceYouthAustralia)

# Mission Prayer Night!

by Jennifer Fung

You are all warmly invited to a night of prayer and worship for Jesus to be known among the nations. This prayer night event will coincide with Ramadan, the Muslim month of fasting from 28 June - 27 July 2014. As Muslims around the world fast and pray as an act of faith and worship towards Allah, seeking to suppress their desires and increase their spiritual piety, we can be reminded and encouraged to pray that Jesus may reveal himself to Muslims during this special time and for the gospel to go forth in their communities.

The AYA Mission Prayer Night will be a great opportunity to come together to pray for our Muslim neighbours both here and overseas, as well as for other nations and people groups in the world, that Jesus may be known and worshiped in their communities.

We look forward to seeing high school youth and young adults coming together in prayer for the nations that night. See you there!

**WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW:****What:** Mission Prayer Night**When:** 7:00pm - 9:00pm, 12<sup>th</sup> July 2014**Where:** Forest Alliance Church (Cnr Forest Way & Naree Rd, Frenchs Forest, NSW)**Who For:** Youth & Young Adults**RSVP:** [jenstfung@yahoo.com.au/](mailto:jenstfung@yahoo.com.au) /[facebook.com/AllianceYouthAustralia](https://www.facebook.com/AllianceYouthAustralia)

Jennifer Fung

Team Member, Alliance Youth Australia

## The Prayer of My Heart

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...coffee talk events occur, church offices and prayer rooms are located; and where the church's ministries are based. Yet, what made the largest impact on me was the team. That is, the team of dedicated young people who have seemingly dropped everything in order to serve God in that city. I especially think of the interns and mission trip participants who have raised thousands of dollars in order to travel to Taipei to assist local churches (such as The Aroma) reach out to the lost.

The trip has both challenged and inspired me to think about what I can do, what I can sacrifice in order to serve God - both here and overseas. The trip also challenged me to think about the simple ways I can engage the community in which I live. Such as by forming relationships with the locals, as well as discovering ways in which I can serve those who are in need. Most importantly, however, is prayer for God's work to be done, for His love to be made known through His people.

Below: Peter Graham (left) with Chris O'Dell (right) who is the Pastor of the Aroma Church in Taipei, Taiwan



It is the prayer of my heart to see young people rise up in God's power and strength to be salt and light, both

overseas and here in our own backyard. Australia, like the city of Taipei, may not appear like a place in need of 'missionaries,' yet under the surface, there is a spiritual war at hand. Therefore, we need more and more young believers to get out and hit the streets and become a source of light to the lost in their community.

So please join me in praying for opportunities to show and speak about Christ's love, and also for the young people of the Alliance, that they may continue to have a heart for the lost and those in need; and that they will actively seek opportunities to act out this love.

Peter Graham

Coordinator, Alliance Youth Australia

# Alliance Youth Australia Winter 2014

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