



Hi there,

I'm Shaun from Unichurch. It is so great that you're willing to read this letter to find out more about me and my ministry. I have been with Ev for slightly over a year. I was introduced to the church back when I was in Singapore, where a fellow member recommended Auckland Ev as a church I could attend during my time in New Zealand. Throughout the past year, I have had the privilege to join the Summer Internship program, be a Connect Group Leader, help out in Adventure Mania, attend Unicon (the annual Unichurch Conference), serve in Pack and Save (the church's pack up and set up team - feel free to ask me why the team is called Pack and Save!) and so much more. It truly has been a privilege to be part of the church body and to witness more responding to the hope of the gospel through Auckland Ev.

The purpose of writing this letter today is to provide an opportunity for you to get to know more about me and my decision to embark on this Ministry Apprenticeship journey. Hopefully, we will also have the opportunity to be partners as well 😊

The Story

Back as a student in university, I would do full-time internships in the day while completing my studies at night; just to remain competitive in the job market. Hence, I wanted a break from this rigorous lifestyle before working full-time. Through the encouragement of my mum, I successfully applied for a Work Holiday Visa (WHV) to NZ. The plan was to try alternative forms of work, read Timothy Keller's "Every Good Endeavour," and pray. I had assumed that God would guide me towards being a civil servant. After all, I would thrive in such a structure and I can also create a positive change for the country I love.

Most WHV jobs offered are usually agricultural and seasonal. Yet, interestingly the only door that opened to me was actually an opportunity to be a part-time youth coordinator in a Presbyterian church in NZ. This position kickstarted me into intentionally thinking about what it means to run a ministry and what effective discipleship would look like.

I also started to attend Auckland Ev, as I could not really be a member in my workplace. The Presbyterian Church only ran one service of which I was required to perform my youth coordinator duties. My first few social gatherings in Ev surprisingly comprised many of the ministry apprentices. It was through the different conversations that I started thinking, "How do I want to best use my time, gifts, and talents for God's glory?" This started to challenge my understanding of what living a life for Christ would look like. For the first time, it challenged my assumption that working hard, giving and serving in the church equals being a good Christian.

My conviction started to grow as I attended the summer internship program. Going through the exegesis training, which was all about learning to unpack the main point of a passage, I



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was truly captivated by the Word. I saw how the Word was indeed truly relevant to my life and how it offered me hope far superior to what society and I have believed is good. Through the opportunity to prepare a talk, I also grew a joy for sharing the Gospel with others and helping them to see that truly the Gospel is good news for them too! My convictions for ministry grew as well when I saw how intentional Auckland Ev is in training more gospel workers, actively discipling and encouraging spiritual maturity amongst the members. It was encouraging to see a church that reflected the reality and urgency of Christ's return. I am aligned with Auckland Ev's vision of church planting and training full-time gospel workers and want to support the church too.

I also had the opportunity to meet other believers through O'Week outreach at the University of Auckland campus and in conferences. God showed me both how secular New Zealand was compared to Singapore, yet also used the wider body of believers to support my growth and my youth ministry with the other Presbyterian Church. That started to expand my view to see how we as believers are truly of one kingdom proclaiming Christ crucified.

Even as my convictions grew, there are still many worries and fears surrounding full-time ministry. Yet God has been gracious in showing me that he is ultimately still sovereign and is guiding me. Through my conversations with an apprentice, I realised that my situation of leaving home to come to NZ for an apprenticeship is not new. If God has faithfully guided once, he can do it again. With my Religious Workers Visa, I saw how my unique job placement in the Presbyterian church actually allowed me to fulfil the relevant religious experience requirement. This actually allows me to physically be able to return to Auckland. It truly is in these small details that I see the sovereign hand of God guiding me one step closer towards considering full-time ministry. I am just trying to be an obedient servant who follows where my shepherd is guiding me.

Time in Singapore

I am currently back in Singapore to be with my family as my Work Holiday Visa has expired. It was quite timely as I could support my father when he went for a major heart operation. I also am taking the opportunity to be equipped through an internship program with my local church back in Singapore (Do reach out if you would like to find out more of my experience in internship too 😊). It truly has been such a timely and productive time back home even as I await to come back to Auckland.

Opportunities for partnership

This apprenticeship journey cannot be done alone. Just like how it takes a team to develop an athlete, it takes a team of partners to support me in my journey. I am looking for partners who would intercede, encourage, and check in with me. This helps ensure that I am continuously using my freed-up time wisely and being held accountable for it. This path would be long and knowing that others are journeying alongside me would help me to push on.



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I am also looking for opportunities to partner financially. This frees me up and allows me to fully focus on being equipped and trained well. **I am currently fundraising for \$4100 NZD per month.** This helps to cover my basic living needs, transportation, conference and training, and other overheads as well. **It would be amazing if you would partner with me long-term in this endeavour and give consistently.** This helps me have a steady cash flow and not worry whether I have enough for the next week or month to survive. But if you can't, I would still love you to consider partnering with me in prayer for my ministry.

Do reach out if you would love to find out more. I would love to chat more about partnership opportunities or even just to get to know more about me and my journey thus far. Here are some helpful QR codes to scan for possible next steps.



[Partner with me financially and through prayer](#)

For His sake,

Shaun Ee



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