

Happy New Year!

January 2013

from the Grove Family in New Zealand



A New Year - New opportunities!

As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men, especially unto *them who are of the household of faith.* Galatians 6:10

One month and the new year is almost gone! God has already given us some wonderful blessings and our key word - opportunities! We enjoyed having our two oldest children with us for the Christmas break. What a blessing to have them here to participate in the ministry. Nancy's parents also came to visit and stayed for about 3 weeks. They too were able to get involved in the ministry-all of our visitors were a blessing to us and our church people!



In December one of our men was able to lead a work mate to the Lord and is now discipling him! Please pray that Byron will see the need to take the next step in his spiritual walk and that his wife will see her need for the Lord.

Another big opportunity was the annual South Island family camp involving the 6 churches from the South Island. It is a great time to join together for good singing, preaching, fellowship, and of course eating! I had the privilege of teaching a session on discerning good Christ-honoring music and our church provided the special music in one of the evening services.



We have been faithfully distributing tracts and John/Romans as well as our monthly teen activities, Bible studies, one-on-one visits, and door-to-door visiting. We are beginning a Sunday morning "Kids Club" at 9:30 am and Nancy will have a second public school to teach "Bibles in Schools" in this year. The community soccer program will begin this week and Nancy will be involved in coaching volleyball this year.



The numbers have been increasing in our weekly church services. We are excited to see visitors most Sunday mornings. We have had some visitors as a result of advertising and the new church sign (see above) has attracted the attention of those in the

immediate neighborhood. Pray for us as we continue to reach out to people - striving to show them we care, not just about their physical needs but also about their souls!

Serving together with you,

The Grove Family

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Prayer Requests:

- Nancy's Bibles-in-Schools at the Wakanui and Fairton primary schools
 - Teachers she is working with
 - the students
 - parents of the students
- Kid's Club (Sunday School) at 9:30am on Sundays
- Ladies' Bible Study
- Men's Bible Study
- Door to door outreach-Mike is taking the men individually an hour before the Sunday evening service to practice sharing the Gospel in neighborhoods where we have already letterboxed. Desiring that each of the men will become more confident in this necessary, but challenging outreach.
- Knowing what to preach each week, Sunday morning, evening and Wed. nights, effectively feeding the flock!
- Our new church attendees - taking the next steps in baptism and church membership
- Pray for our Church families, their spiritual growth and effectiveness in reaching their unsaved friends and family. Some names to be thinking of: Eileen, Jenny, Geoffrey, Steve, Sam, Jacob, Isaac, Brian, Chris, Kylie, Isaac, Betty and Norman, Mark and Leoni, Rob and Sue and their 3 boys
- Soccer team contacts
 - One family has visited church, trying to keep in contact with these families
 - Would like to coach the same group of kids again next year
- Monthly Teen outreach-there are many teens with nothing to do in the evenings and on the weekends. Pray that they will be receptive to our invitations to teen activities.
- Our church members' unsaved family members, several are becoming open to listening to the Truth.
- Letterboxing effectiveness
 - distribution of John/Romans, tracts, invitations to participate in a free Bible correspondence course offered by a sister church here in NZ.
- Contacts we have made at local businesses.
- Opportunities to have articles published in the local paper - "Christian Comment" and "Point to Ponder" articles.
- Stephen
 - ministry with the children
 - on going homeschooling
 - helping with teen outreach and soccer coaching
- Our children in the U.S.
 - John finishing college in May, trying to decide what God would have him do after school
 - Kelly is working in St. Louis, MO. Living with a Christian family as a nanny.
- Family in the States
 - Mike's Brother-in-law Wayne Fitzgerald is dying from liver cancer. Please pray for the family as it is only a matter of days before he goes to be with his Saviour.
- Teen camp in April
- Traveling back to the U.S. in May for John's College Graduation.
- Increased financial support, we are at about 80% after losing 2 churches as of January (One due to a Pastor change and one a decrease in numbers)

Thank you for remembering us in prayer! Feel free to send prayer requests for us to take to the Lord on your behalf.

God Bless!