

Warm Greetings!
from the Grove Family in New Zealand

Feb./March 2013



The Old and the New - Plenty to Do!

Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new. 2 Corinthians 5:17

Already 3 months into the New Year, a new season is upon us with signs of autumn in the air. With my hard drive replaced and no lost data! - it is good to be able to report on our many new opportunities we have begun in the last 2 months.



We are praying that these new opportunities will lead to “new creatures” in Christ as we seek to use every open door as a door to give the Gospel and see lives changed. The picture above was taken at our last meeting in the building that was “home” for about 5 years. The new building at the top left, the Tinwald School Hall, is our new rented facility. It has a much larger meeting area with room to grow. Sunday, March 3rd was our first meeting in the new building which will easily seat over 100 people.

The Lord has given us a new age group to work with - teenagers! Nancy will be coaching a girls’ volleyball team and Mike will coach a boys’ soccer team on which Stephen will get to play this year! We are excited about the chance to meet some teenagers – an age group that we have not been able to reach up to this point. We will continue to do the Bibles in Schools, in fact we will be in 3 schools this year – 2 groups of 5-7 year olds and one group of 8-10 year olds.

The Lord has also sent us a new piano player! Stephen has been doing a great job as he is learning but he is glad to have someone who can play anything at a moment’s notice. A young family from the North Island has joined us while the husband is taking classes in Christchurch.

One of our Filipino men, Sam, is excited to have a new opportunity to start a Bible study with some of his work mates and friends and their families. Because of his efforts we have had 3 visitors in the last 2 services – one from the Philippines, one from Chile, and one from Argentina! The difficult work schedule of the dairy farm workers makes it hard for them to be in the church services and Bible studies. We are praying that we can find a way to work around their schedule to clearly present the Gospel and then follow up with discipleship of these “religious” but untaught people. Sam will teach in their native tongue and Mike will be there to help with questions and counseling.

As we undertake the “new” we continue with the “old”, knowing that the Truth from the Old Book will bring the change that so many desperately need. Thank you to all who have contributed to our ministry through your prayers and financial support. Even though our actual monthly support level is less than 90%, the onetime gifts and love offerings pushed our average for 2012 to within \$10 of 100%. Thank you for your faithfulness! God always provides for His work to be done!

Serving together with you,

The Grove Family

Victory Baptist Church of Ashburton

Home Church: Eagle Heights Baptist Church, 5600 N. Brighton Ave., Kansas City, MO 64119 Ph.: 816-454-7410

Missions Office: WWNTBM, P.O. Box 725, Kings Mountain, NC 28086 Ph.: 704-730-1440

E-mail: fivegroversinkcmo@isotechnetworks.net; Skype username: michaelgrove64

Field Address: 15 Cross Street, Allenton, Ashburton 7700 New Zealand Ph.: +6433084695; Skype: 816-399-4820

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
- Filipino Bible Study (Pray for Sam as he teaches in Tagalog)
- Discipleship of new believers, new members and long time members.
- 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
 - Coaching a group of under-18's with Stephen playing on the team.
- Volleyball team contacts as Nancy coaches 15-17 year olds.
- 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
- 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 Kansas City, MO. Living with Grandparents. Praying about future.
- Family in the States
 - Mike's sister Dee who lost her husband Wayne Fitzgerald to liver cancer. Please pray for the family as they adjust.
- Teen camp in April
- Traveling back to the U.S. in May for John's College Graduation.
- Increased financial support, we are at about 85%. Praise the Lord we gained one church in the last month!

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!