

**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 3<sup>rd</sup> 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***

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