

Kia ora koutou!
from the Grove Family in New Zealand

May/June 2013



Continue in prayer, and watch in the same with thanksgiving;
Withal praying also for us, that God would open unto us a door of utterance, to speak the
mystery of Christ, for which I am also in bonds: That I may make it manifest, as I ought to
speak. Walk in wisdom toward them that are without, ***redeeming the time***.

Colossians 4: 2-5

When we were younger we did not always appreciate the truth in the statement, "Time flies when you're having fun!" As we get older we realize that whether we are having fun or working hard there never seems to be enough time! We all get the same amount of time each day - unless we are flying back and forth across the International Date Line! Since our last newsletter we have been across the date line twice traveling about 20,000 miles by plane and minivan. God is Good! We thank all who prayed for our safety and all who welcomed us as we returned to the States for a quick visit.



The last Sunday of April we had another baptismal service and baptized 5 people, including the couple pictured above who accepted Christ as their Saviour on April 9th. We flew back to the U.S. for our oldest son John's graduation. After the graduation we visited four supporting churches and one new church from North Carolina to Nebraska, Arkansas and Missouri. We also were able to catch up with some old friends along the way and meet some new ones. It was a refreshing time but a busy time! Thank you to all who gave us a place to call "home" while we were there! Though we were glad for the opportunity to see our friends and family, we were happy to get home to our church family in Ashburton.



All the reports from the church folks were positive – the church family continued on with the workings of the body! Four different men were willing and able to do the preaching. It was great to see the work of the Lord continue while we were gone, but we are excited to get back to the work. We had 46 in attendance for our first Sunday back, including a visiting couple who are new to the area. There is much work to do in the area of discipleship! It is good to be back to the ministries with the children, teens, new believers, church visitors, and our faithful core group of believers. Mike will get the opportunity to teach a two week Creation/Evolution class in the Blenheim Bible Institute. The Bible Institute was started by a fellow Pastor and is open to anyone with a desire to increase their knowledge of God's Word.



Please take note of the prayer requests on the following page. Without you who support us in prayer and finances we could not be here! Thank you for your support in the ministry!

Serving together with you,

The Grove Family
Victory Baptist Church of Ashburton

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