

Grateful Greetings!

from the Grove Family to New Zealand

March/April, 2015

The days of our years are threescore years and ten; and if by reason of strength they be fourscore years, yet is their strength labour and sorrow; for it is soon cut off, and we fly away. . . . So teach us to number our days, that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom.

Psalm 90:10,12

Can time go any faster? They say it does as we get older, hard to imagine life flying by any faster than it has over the last two months! Looking back we can see how God has made it possible to accomplish more than we thought possible! What a blessed time it has been serving Him in the ministry.



Join the Club
Let's have a BLAST
Making an Impact on our Community for our
Mature
Monday after School until 6:15pm
In the Hub
Refreshments
Games
Projects
Challenging Discussions
Lead by Pastor Mike and Nancy Grove - 1500 members in Ashburton, NZ

In February our Bibles in Schools program started again. We now are sharing the Gospel and teaching the Bible to over 100 students in the public schools, ages 5 – 12. For the first time ever we have been able to start a new program in the Intermediate school with children in years 7 and 8 (6th and 7th graders in the States). We are calling the program “BLAST” – Building Lives Around Sound Truth. It is currently a small

group but new young people have come along each week and we are praying for God to bring the increase.



We hosted seven students from the New Zealand Bible Institute for two classes: Pastoral theology I: Ethics and Family life, and Creation/Evolution. In between the two classes it was our privilege to have Mike's Jr. High Sunday School teacher and his wife visit for about 12 days. From 28 February thru 28 March our home was filled with “extras”! It was a busy time but the blessings were innumerable! A note to Sunday School teachers – never underestimate the power of your influence on young people! Surely Mr. Lane never dreamed he would one day be visiting one of his students in New Zealand – especially not

one whom he had to “kick out” of class for bad behavior!

Nancy's Ladies Retreat was a success with over 40 ladies in attendance. Our visitors over the month of March helped us fold thousands of tracts for distribution which has begun - our first 4,000 to be delivered before Easter. Discipleship is continuing, we have had two new families join the church in the last month, the Filipino Bible study in continuing though on a less frequent schedule, and church attendance continues to hover between 20 and 30 both Sunday morning and evening.



Please continue to pray for souls to be saved and lives to be changed. We are excited to see what God is doing with the faithful people in our church. God is good – All the time! Thank you for your part in our ministry. Without faithful prayer warriors and givers back there we would not be able to be here!



Serving together with you

Mike and Nancy Grove

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Prayer Requests:

- Nancy's and Mike's Bibles-in-Schools at the Wakanui, Fairton, and Hampstead primary schools –**We now have 5 different classes in 3 schools plus a BLAST club after school on Mondays in the intermediate school.**
- Kid's Club (Sunday School) at 9:30am on Sundays
- Ladies' and Men's Bible Studies
- Filipino Bible Study in two locations. Pray for these contacts for salvation and/or spiritual growth: Arnold, Romalin & Ernie, Chris & Ace, Jessica & Eric, Brent, Joey, Drexel, John, Robert, Leo and Anna, Eric and Anne, Sam & Emily, Sandie and Melinda, Florante and Jen and others.
- Discipleship of new believers, new members and long time members. (Pray for the new believers – being disciplined by the member who led him to the Lord)
- Rogelio and Maraysa** are seeking God's will in their lives. **The two have been offered a new job where Maraysa will be able to get a work visa and be able to bring her son to be with her. Continue to pray for her English, that the visa will be approved, and for her son to be able to come in July or August.**
- Door to door outreach and letterboxing effectiveness. **We have begun a three month tract distribution program. Pray for God's Word to soften and convict hearts.**
- Knowing what to preach each week in order to effectively allow the Word of God to convict hearts and challenge believers to actively participate in missions wherever God has put them.
- 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 of the unsaved: Eileen, Jenny, Geoffrey, Steve, Sam, Brian, Chris, Kylie, Isaac, Mark, Nick and Leoni, Rob and Sue and their 3 boys-Sam, Jaime and Andrew
- Pray for 13 yr. old Jacob as he continues to attend with his dad. He was baptized on Nov. 9. We are discipling him and he was a helper in our Holiday Kid's Club. Pray for his spiritual growth
- Pray for our newest church members: David and Sue and their children, Ben and Lydia. Also Florante and Jenni, young Filipino couple with a heart to serve.**
- Soccer team contacts. Decided not to coach soccer this year but to focus on the BLAST club and the other children's outreach opportunities this year.
- Contacts we have made at local businesses. (Scott and Anna at the print shop for example)
- Opportunities to have articles published in the local paper, **our "Think About it" spot in the weekly paper.** (Has a circulation of over 17,000 and a readership over 20,000)
- Stephen – a freshman in college majoring in international studies. Pray specifically for his English, World Culture and German classes. He is doing well, praise the Lord! Finished his first semester on the President's List.
- John doing a 14 month internship at Red Cliff Bible Camp in Pinedale, WY. He is in need of monthly support for this internship which began on June 1,2014. His largest supporter has been unable to send support on a regular basis because of serious health problems. We are praying that he would be able to find a way to fill that gap with either some odd jobs or another person to step up and fill the gap. **John will be getting married, Lord willing, in November of this year. Pray for him as he seeks God's will for work after the camp internship.**
- Kelly and Dan Cuthrell. Dan is in the Marines. He will be deployed to the Middle East in early April. Kelly will be living with her Grandparents while he is deployed. Pray for their safety and for them as they seek God's will for the future.
- Family in the States
 - Mike's sister Dee who lost her husband Wayne Fitzgerald to liver cancer. Dee is praying about God's next step for her.
 - Mike's brother, Martin – Praise the Lord he found a job and has been working long hours.
- Praise the Lord!!! Our Residency was approved. We received our passports with "Residency" stamps but it turns out that it is not "permanent" if we leave the country. This means that we will need to apply for "permanent" residency in two years. It should be easy to do but it means another upcoming fee.
- Praise the Lord for his blessing in providing our needs. We do have big tax bill this year but hopefully it will be the last year of "double taxation". Pray for God to meet the tax bill need this spring.

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!**