

# Grateful Greetings!

from the Grove Family to New Zealand

November/December 2015

*And this is the promise that he hath promised us, even eternal life. I John 2:25*

As we think about the celebration of Thanksgiving and Christmas we must think about, and be grateful for the fulfilment of God's promise! The work of Jesus Christ, from His birth to His resurrection, is the promise of which we must be reminding others. God always keeps His promises – is there anyone more deserving of our praise and thanksgiving. As you celebrate with your family and friends keep in mind the impact of God's faithfulness. Without His promises we have nothing! And the exciting news is that most of His promises have been fulfilled!

I sat down at the computer to write thinking it was just last month that the last letter went out, but it has been two months! So much has happened since the last newsletter...

In October the NZBBTP class on the Poetical books of the Bible seemed to go well. Trying to cover the 5 books in two weeks is not an easy task, but at least the teacher learned much!



On November 4 Nancy returned to the U.S. to be with our daughter Kelly as she gave birth to our first grandchild – Sophia Lynn Cuthrell. All went well and Dan, Kelly and baby Sophia will be celebrating Thanksgiving with us in PA. I returned to the U.S. on Nov. 18 in time to attend our son, John's wedding in Greenville, SC. The wedding was a very Christ-honoring occasion as John married Amber Burch whom he met while working at the Red Cliff Bible Camp in Wyoming.



We finished our Bibles in Schools and BLAST club with another clear presentation of the Gospel.

Each of our year 6 students received a New Testament and all seemed excited to pick up again in February. We know of at least one young man, Ethan, who gave testimony of having received Christ as a result of our efforts in Bibles in Schools. He is now involved in our BLAST club and is desiring to learn more about the Bible. We plan to have a party prior to the school year for all those who were involved as well as any new students moving up from primary school.



We have a good group of men filling the pulpit while we are gone. Several men from our church are taking a turn as well as 3 men from another church on the South Island. We are grateful for the core group God has given us and for the other churches with which we can fellowship. We look forward to getting back home on December 29<sup>th</sup>.



It is our prayer that you all have a wonderful Thanksgiving season that continues through a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! Six years have gone by since we celebrated Christmas in the Northern Hemisphere, maybe we will see a white Christmas!

Thank you for your continued prayers and support! God bless you all!

*Serving together with you,*

*Mike and Nancy Grove*

**Victory Baptist Church of Ashburton**

**Prayer Requests:**

**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 Skype phone: 816-399-4820

**Field Address:** 15 Cross Street, Allenton, Ashburton 7700 New Zealand Ph.: +6433084695

- Lighthouse Baptist Church in Christchurch is still looking for a new Pastor.
- Nancy's and Mike's Bibles-in-Schools at the Wakanui, Fairton, and Hampstead primary schools –5 different classes in 3 schools plus a BLAST club after school on Mondays in the intermediate school. **(We will start up again early in February)**
- Johnny, Joe, Joseph, Taurangi, Otto, Richie, and Xahleiquin (Za-lay-quin) who are attending BLAST club. They are unsaved but listening and asking questions.
- Ethan was saved as a result of Bibles in School. He has been attending BLAST club and we are planning to get him involved in Sunday School when we get back.**
- Kid's Club (Sunday School) at 9:30am on Sundays. **New members David and Sue Hooley are teaching the class while we are gone.**
- Ladies' and Men's Bible Studies
- Filipino Bible Study in two locations. (One local and one 45 min. away in Te Pirita) 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, Psalm & Emily, Sandie and Melinda, Florante and Jenni and others.
- Sandie and Melinda and family. Sandie has begun to meet for discipleship. The boys have been coming to S.S. consistently. **Kian, the oldest boy, got saved after teen camp while talking to one of the older young men on facebook! Planning to include him in the discipleship program.**
- Discipleship of new believers, new members and long time members.
- Rogério and Maraysa** are seeking God's will in their lives. **Both have taken shift work away from the farm. This is a praise, they will be able to be more consistently involved in church activities and they will be moved into a house in town. Their son, Caue, is with them now and is enrolled in the Christian school here in town. Pray that Maraysa and Caue will be able to improve in their English.**
- Door to door outreach and letterboxing effectiveness. Pray for God's Word to soften and convict hearts. We will be distributing the next new tract in January.
- 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, Robin (David's friend who is a JW)
- Mike is discipling two fathers/sons: David and Ben; Derek and Jacob. Also discipling Brent, Florante and Jenni. **John Mulrooney is discipling Sandie and Rogério.**
- Contacts we have made at local businesses. (Scott and Anna at the print shop; Dave and Richard at the auto shop; Ivan at the 2<sup>nd</sup> hand shop, etc.)
- 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) **We are trying to decide if we can afford to continue the ad, it costs \$3900 for the year if we pay up front. (\$75 per week) Also looking for other advertising options.**
- Stephen – Back at college, in his Soph. year of International Studies. Specific classes to pray for: German, and Essential Sciences. He is also working on campus and helping with the children's ministry and singing in choir at a local church.
- John and Amber now married and living in Greenville. John is working for an electrical company working toward Journeyman status. Amber is still looking for work.**
- Kelly and Dan Cuthrell. Sophia has arrived. Dan is back from the Middle East. He plans to finish his military service in early January and is seeking and apprenticeship with an HVAC company in Kansas City.**
- Praise the Lord for his blessing in providing our needs – the U.S. dollar is currently strong in comparison to the New Zealand dollar. **Praise the Lord for the extra gifts received from supporting churches, friends and anonymous givers.**

**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!**