

# Grateful Greetings!

from the Grove Family to New Zealand

July/August 2016

*"Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also." John 14:1-3*



It is winter time in the southern hemisphere. The earth is in as state of preparation. The snow on the mountains is the water for life as we look forward to the blooming of Spring. It is a reminder that though the world seems to be in a cold, godless state of misery, Our Saviour is preparing a place of rest! Though many are moving farther and farther away from Him, there are still souls preparing for that home

Christ is preparing for them. Earlier this month a young man named Brian made sure of his reservations in that heavenly home! We look forward to having a baptismal service for him and at least one other young man, Kian, who desire to take that first step of obedience in following Christ.

In preparation for Spring, the BLAST club has been building bird houses. Using only "old fashioned" handsaw, brace, hand drill, screwdriver, hammer and nails, we have enjoyed guiding the young people through this project.

Bibles in Schools begins again this week after a 2 week break. The Lord has given us a new school to replace the one we lost! We are looking forward to the opportunity to have an influence in these young lives.

Over the school holiday, we were able to visit with a family in Christchurch for a belated July 4<sup>th</sup> celebration. Their daughter prepared some American favorites, Apple and pumpkin pies! We had a traditional American meal - hamburgers with all the fixings, potato salad and of course the wonderful pies.

It has been a busy winter! We've enjoyed visitors from the U.S., from the North Island, and a little 29<sup>th</sup> anniversary getaway for Nancy and I.... Along with all the regular discipleship, Bible studies and weekly services.... but there is no better place to be than busy serving the Lord and watching the fruit grow. Thank you all for your prayers and support as we represent you here in the uttermost parts of the earth!



**Again - Please note we have a new mailing address: 54 Cross Street, Allenton, Ashburton 7700**

God bless you all!

*Serving together with you,*

*Mike and Nancy Grove*

**Victory Baptist Church of Ashburton**

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### **Prayer Requests:**

- Nancy's and Mike's Bibles-in-Schools at the Wakanui, Hampstead, and Lagmhör primary schools – 5 different classes in 3 schools plus a BLAST club after school on Mondays in the intermediate school. **The Lord was kind to give us a new school to replace the one we lost!**
- Beginning an apologetics class for the Christian teenagers in the community – enabling to take a stand for God, the Bible, and Creation as many are ridiculed for their beliefs in the public schools. Thursday's after school.**
- Jeffrey, Rajit, Cable, Ricardo, and Georgia** who are attending BLAST club. They are unsaved but listening and asking questions. Pray they will begin to attend Sunday "Kids Club". Many have apathetic parents and the kids are on their own to decide if they want to come.
- Ethan was saved as a result of Bibles in School. He has been attending BLAST club and **we are still trying to get him involved in Sunday "Kids Club."** **Satan always seems to have something else for him to do.**
- Kid's Club (Sunday School) at 9:30am on Sundays – Studying "Different by Design" by Schmidt
- Ladies' and Men's Bible Studies
- Sandie and Melinda and family. **Currently doing discipleship with the whole family on every second Tues. evening.** The boys have been coming to S.S. somewhat consistently. Kian, the oldest boy, got saved after teen camp while talking to one of the older young men on facebook! **He will be getting baptized on 7 August.**
- Discipleship of new believers, new members and long time members.
- Rogero and Maraysa** are seeking God's will in their lives. **Praise the Lord they have their visa problems worked out for now!**
- Door to door outreach and letterboxing effectiveness. Pray for God's Word to soften and convict hearts. **We are focusing our outreach on families, gearing up for the Family Conference in December. Planning to letterbox and submit articles to the paper with the intent of getting parents to think about their desperate need of the Saviour's help in their lives and the lives of their children.**
- 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. In the last month, Eric and Anne and their 3 children as well as Brent, have joined the church. Brian, who was saved a couple weeks ago is now being discipled and plans to be baptized on 7 August.
- 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)
- Contacts we have made at local businesses. (Chris at the barber 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.
- Stephen – **Finished his Soph. year of International Studies. He did well despite a difficult semester – maintaining an "A" average and on the "President's List"!** **He is working in Kansas City for the summer – an internship with the Kansas City Police at the International Airport and as many hours as they will give him at Kohl's. Pray that he will have the hours he needs to provide for his college bill next semester.**
- 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, Dan and Sophia Cuthrell. **Dan is still trying to decide what job God would have for his future. God has provided work, but not sure if this is the permanent career God would have for him.**
- Praise the Lord for his blessing in providing our needs – the U.S. dollar has been struggling, but God still provides!

**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!**