

# Grateful Greetings from the Groves

May/June 2019

*Your Missionaries to New Zealand*

Winter is here! We've had some cold days and nights, but the fire is warm and the hearts of the church family seem to be on fire for serving the Lord!

The last two months have been busy ones!

Since our last newsletter we have had teen activities with the teens doing the planning and one of them even shared the devotional with the group. On Mother's Day the men and children were responsible to prepare a meal for the Ladies – no help from the mothers was permitted! We had

an excellent turnout and a wonderful meal.

With 6 new babies in our church, the one year old birthday parties have been coming with regularity. The Filipinos have elaborate parties with all the food and festivities, as seen in some of the pictures.

At the end of May the MTT arrived from the U.S. on the same day as three students studying with the NZBBTP from the North Island. The MTT team spent one week farther south in Invercargill, then returned to Ashburton for two weeks of ministry opportunities with public schools, Christian schools, retirement centers, nursing homes, as well as 3 churches including ours. During this time Mike also taught the three students a 2 week class on the Poetical

Books of the Bible. After driving the MTT team to the Picton ferry for their trip to the North Island it was time to prepare for the 2 week Creation/Evolution class.

In late May a new family began visiting. One Friday evening we went to visit with the family. The wife had told Nancy that her husband was not saved. After about an hour of explaining the Gospel, showing him from scripture what he needed to do to be saved, he prayed and accepted Christ. Pray for Richard as he is struggling with the pressure of his job which is keeping him from being able meet for discipleship.

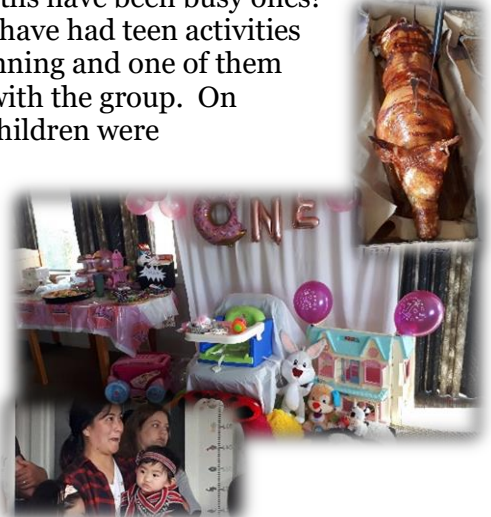
On June 2 we had a baptismal service, baptizing Ethan, one of the young men Mike has been discipling, and Obedience, whose family left the Gloriavale commune and now have joined our church. We have been averaging close to 40 on Sundays, last Sunday we had 55. We now have over 20 voting members for the first time in the history of the church.

God is good! We cannot thank you enough for all your prayers and support over the years! May God richly bless you as you continue to serve Him!

*Serving together with you.*

*Mike and Nancy Grove*

**Victory Baptist Church of Ashburton**



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## *More Pictures...*

