

Grateful Greetings from the Groves

July/August 2019

Your Missionaries to New Zealand

Where have the last two months gone?! Winter is almost over. Some of the early flowers are blooming and the grass is getting green. No doubt we'll have one last blast of cold weather, but overall it has not been a bad winter. Calving season for most of our farmers is more than half over, there are plenty of new lambs flocking in the fields, it is a great time of year!

Over the last two months we have been busy with all the usual ministries... Bibles in Schools has been going well, as well as our usual church services on Sunday and Wednesday. Our attendance in the Sunday morning service was reaching the mid-50's before calving season started. Currently the two services have levelled back out to the 30 to 40 average. Please pray for our dairy farmers at this time of year.

In mid-July we were able to go to a Family Conference on the North Island. The speaker for the week was Dean of Men at college when Nancy and I were in school. It was good to meet him and his wife and to hear very good preaching on the family, marriage, and parenting. Very helpful material to bring back to our own church family.



As I mentioned last month, 1st birthdays are a big thing. In August, our Brazilian family had their turn. There will be a few more to celebrate before the year is over.

Teen activities and "Family Fun Night" are two monthly events that everyone enjoys. We are happy to have one of our young



families helping with the teen activities. They just happen to have our youngest church member to look after while they help, but they are a big help, even on our first all-nighter. They also have volunteered to teach the Junior age Sunday school class on Sunday morning.



In August we had the privilege of filling in for another Pastor who is planting a church in Queenstown. It is a beautiful area but a very difficult one. The majority of the people work in tourism and probably half the population on any given day is made up of tourists.

Later in the month we were able to host a visiting Pastor and his wife from Virginia. We had a fast and furious "Tiki tour" of a small part of the South Island – an attempt to give them a quick overview of the beauty and the need here in New Zealand. It was a blessing to share the need with another couple... the more people we have praying, the more results we will see! Thank you all for your prayers and support!!

Serving together with you,

Mike and Nancy Grove

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Prayer Requests:

- Nancy's and Mike's **Bibles-in-Schools at the Hampstead**. Lagmhor, and Tinwald primary schools are only permitting us to come for a few weeks before Easter and Christmas.
- Kid's Club (Sunday School) at 9:30am on Sundays; Ladies' and Men's Bible Studies on alternate Tuesdays. **Our two teen girls, Sheena and Lydia, teach the toddlers. Sam Reynolds teaches the primary age class.**
- Our young families with small children, pray that we will be able to guide them in the proper Biblical training up of their children with proper Biblical discipline, despite the cultural false teachings.
- For the ones we are currently discipling: Randy and Ruby, Ethan, Leeanne and Paul, Richard and Gina
- Discipleship of new believer, Richard. Still trying to work out a consistent discipleship time. His job is emotionally stressful making life difficult – all the more reason he needs to understand what he has in Christ!
- Ethan, brother of previously mentioned Sam, was baptized on June 2 and continues to grow, searching for God's plan for his life, a wife, etc.
- Daniel, Michaela's brother, has fallen away from us, back with old friends and old ways. Pray for him to come to a full understanding of his need for salvation.
- Door to door outreach and letterboxing effectiveness. Pray for God's Word to soften and convict hearts.
- Pray for our families to grow stronger in the Lord.
- Pray for our young people as they attend the public schools** – peer pressure appears to be as bad as or worse than in the U.S. – especially regarding immorality and alcohol. (Sheena, Ben (not sure of his salvation), RJ, Caué, Luke, Jacob, Isaac (unsaved), Lydia, Nikki, Hector)
- 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.
- Contacts we have made at local businesses. (Joshua the barber; Dave and Richard at the auto shop; Ivan at the 2nd hand shop, etc.)
- Pray for us to know what to do about purchasing a building or property on which to build.
- Stephen – Working in Kansas City, active in his church (our sending church), looking for God's will in his future.
- John and Amber living in Greenville. Working and serving in their local church, waiting on God's further direction.
- Kelly, Dan, Sophia and Levi Cuthrell. Dan is in an HVAC apprenticeship. Pray for their family as they desire to serve the Lord in the Belton, MO area.
- Praise the Lord for his blessing in providing our needs – God is good, all the time!

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!