

Grateful Greetings

from the Groves in New Zealand

May/June 2021

Wow, it's mid-June and I haven't written the newsletter. Sorry about that, the two months fell right in the midst of teaching a class on the Poetical books of the Bible and Nancy and I's 34th wedding anniversary. It has been a wonderful busy 2+ months since we last updated you – so much to tell you about....

The last week of April we took our teens to the North Island teen camp. It was a blessing to hear the preaching and see our teens get to meet many new friends. Many good decisions were made resulting in a number of the teens doing a weekly Sunday evening "Zoom" Bible-study together during which they take turns giving a devotional and have a good time of fellowship. Using the available technology to continue to keep each other accountable after camp!



Of course Mother's day is a busy weekend. Our teens took the service that Sunday. The ones who went to camp gave testimonies. Two of the young men developed their testimonies into short sermons. Following the service the teens and dads had food prepared for a shared lunch.



We enjoy doing combined teen activities with the two churches in Christchurch. This time they came down to Ashburton and we had a Photo scavenger hunt, food, and fellowship.



Nancy has continued to have good success with the Ladies "Coffee time" on Tuesday mornings. She also planned a candle-making party and many of the ladies from "coffee time," ladies from our church, and their friends gathered for the fun experience.



We have been doing Men's prayer breakfasts on the first Saturday of the month and we have 1st and 3rd Saturday Outreach in which we are letterboxing with John/Romans for the second time since we have been here.

It has been good to have the New Zealand Bible Baptist Training Program (NZBBTP) students with us for class. Two of the young ladies play the piano, the group has done special music for us. They also help in the crèche. Antony, the one young man in the group, will be preaching on a Wednesday and Sunday evening. We had a week between classes in which Nancy and I were able to do a 3 day/2 night getaway to the North Island for our anniversary. Now it is back to a two week class on Creation vs. Evolution.



Winter will soon be over and we will again wonder where all the time has gone. We would ask you to pray that the borders will open soon to enable Brett and Jenny Hoffman to come assist us. They are very close to having their needed support, so all that really is preventing their coming is the Covid restrictions. Thank you for your continued prayers! We wouldn't be able to reach the people here in the Ashburton District if it wasn't for faithful people like you. May God richly bless you as you serve Him!

Because of Christ,

Mike and Nancy Grove

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Some more photos:



Sam preaching for the first time



Catching our 95 yr. old twins enjoying the sun!



Teen activities require lots of food!



Ladies' Coffee Time



Children's choir



Men's Outing – Cave Stream Scenic Reserve



Flooded Ashburton River



Gisborne Railbikes – 34th Anniversary Getaway