

Grateful Greetings

from the Groves in New Zealand

September/October 2022

Thank you to all who have been praying for us as we finished a short furlough in the U.S. and travelled back to New Zealand. God, as always, has been good to us – so many blessings along the way! Since the last update, we have travelled to churches in Pennsylvania, New Hampshire, West Virginia, Washington and finally back to our home church in Kansas City, MO. Over 12,000 miles on our minivan, plus a plane ride to Spokane, WA. We love New Zealand, but the

United States is beautiful too!

We said our farewells to our family and friends and boarded a plane for home on September 15.

The flight was without any problems and we arrived to find our church family had our house and cars all ready for us – including flowers and baked goods! Our first Sunday back also

included a shared lunch prepared by the church family. The deacons did a wonderful job of leading the church as we were gone. Attendance stayed at the normal average of about 50. We were able to jump back into the normal routine without any problems.

Now, almost a month after arriving back, we have just completed a week of teen camp. It was a wonderful blessing to see two young men from our group get saved the very first night, and two others prayed to tell the Lord they were willing to do His will in whatever ministry He would have them to serve. Overall there were 8 teens saved and many decisions. 19 of the campers memorized all the assigned memory verses - at least 45 verses.

We have been busy letterboxing the community again with the Gospel and many have been reaching out to their work mates and friends, taking every opportunity to turn conversations to Christ. It is a blessing to see people growing in the Lord, more confident in sharing their faith as they learn more about God's Word.

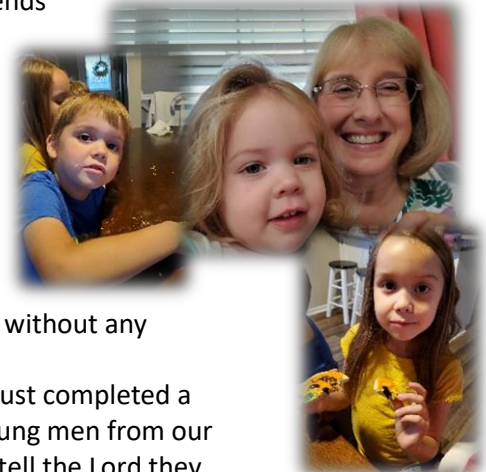
On the first week of November a few of us will be attending the Men's Prayer Advance on the North Island. Please pray for God to work among the men of New Zealand. Also pray that we can get a ticket issue solved before the trip. We were praying that Brett and Jenny Hoffman could be here in time, but that is not going to happen. We are trying to change Brett's ticket to allow one of our elderly men to go with us. He has recently lost his wife and this would be a wonderful blessing for him to go along – but airlines have their rules and we need God to intervene!

Thank you again for your prayers! God has blessed in so many ways, and we know it is because of the faithful prayers of our friends and family who hold us up in prayer. An appropriate quote I saw recently: "It takes 6 to 8 pallbearers to carry us when we are dead. Imagine what we could accomplish with 6 to 8 people holding us up while we are alive." We don't need to imagine, we see it every day.

Thank you and May God Richly Bless You! Because of Christ,

Mike and Nancy Grove

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