

# Grateful Greetings

August/Sept. 2025

## From the Groves to New Zealand

*"Commit thy way unto the Lord, trust also in him, and he shall bring it to pass."*

The path back to New Zealand continues, and God continues to bless as we travel. Since our last update, we have been in 16 different churches from Arizona to Washington state, to Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, and North Carolina. We now have 26 churches and 4 individuals supporting us. We are grateful for their help! Earlier this week we received a call from a Pastor who had supported us during our first 14 years. He was calling to tell us they had voted to take us on again – even though we had not been able to work out a date to revisit their church. What a blessing!



There are 18 churches which have given us a positive response and are waiting on the Lord to make it clear through their Missions Conferences and Faith Promise commitments as to their ability to support us. This makes it difficult for our decision making, but we ask that you pray that these churches will be able to give us an answer in a timely manner. If we are to reach our December goal to return to New Zealand, we need to decide within the next few weeks in order to get a reasonable ticket price.



Along the way we have been able to meet many new friends. Visiting a new church and meeting people with common friends and a common bond through Christ makes the deputation trail more like a family reunion! We were able to reconnect with friends we had made on our first deputation journey, former missionaries to New Zealand, and even a Pastor and his wife who had visited our town for a few days over 6 years ago. Time with our grandchildren was also part of our August journey!



Sharing our burden to get back to New Zealand has made our desire even stronger to get there and get to work. As we said in the last newsletter, we have established a domain and website for our new church plant, Crossroads Baptist Church of the Hurunui District: [www.crossroadsbaptisthurunui-nz.org](http://www.crossroadsbaptisthurunui-nz.org). Your prayers for our quick return, December 7<sup>th</sup> of this year, would be greatly appreciated! We would hate to delay our trip knowing there are people in Amberley waiting for us.

When we arrive in New Zealand, Lord willing, in December, we will need to find a car, a suitable house, and get new phones. At that point we will let you know of our new address and phone numbers. If you would like to contribute toward our setup costs, designate that purpose when you send the gift to the mission board office. Please pray that there will be no unforeseen roadblocks. The next crucial step will then be the date and location of our first meeting, printing materials to advertise our new church, and distributing that information. We are excited to get started!

September will find us in Utah for meetings in 6 different churches and a Men's Prayer Advance. Thank you for your prayers and support as we "commit our way" to Him. God bless you all as you continue to serve Him!

Because of Christ,

*Mike and Nancy Grove*

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