

Prayer Requests

Grace Baptist Church

1. Thanks to God for safety in travel and relaxing holidays.
2. Thanks to God for a good response to the Christmas leaflet drop and Gospel Service.
3. Pray that the Lord will bless the preaching of the Word on Sunday mornings, and the studies on Sunday evenings and mid-week.
4. Pray that our numbers might be strengthened with mature Christians joining the church in committed service.

Marchweil Reformed Baptist Fellowship

1. Pray that God will add to our number those who can uphold the great truths of the Word with us and who will make up the gifts lacking in our body. We need labourers for the vineyard as there are opportunities open to us that we are not able to man.
2. Pray that we will be preserved from the attacks of the devil and that increasingly we will walk in the Spirit becoming increasingly like our Lord Jesus Christ.
3. Pray for John as he carries the load of preaching and teaching and pastoral work.

Wellington Regional Reformed Baptist Fellowship

1. Wisdom re job applications and future for Chris & Robyn Good.
2. Pray for our needy Capital city — that God would raise up faithful churches that can be a witness in that strategic place (there are not enough to have an impact).
3. For the Masterton group meeting for worship on Sunday mornings — especially for wisdom on how to proceed from here.
4. That God will bless the fortnightly bible study starting in Palmerston North.

FELLOWSHIP NEWS

'Bringing Believers Together'

The Newsletter of Reformed Baptists of New Zealand

February 2004

GRACE BAPTIST CHURCH

We appreciate the prayers of all those who were thinking of us over the Christmas and New Year period. Our Christmas Gospel Service went well, with four people coming along as a result of our leaflet drop to 2000 homes in the area of the school where we meet. One of those people continues to attend on most Sunday mornings. Most of us were away at different times during December and January, but we were blessed with a number of holiday visitors who boosted our numbers when otherwise they may not even have reached the teens!

The Hughes and Moore families shifted into their new residences without too much drama, and we are all now safely home from our holidays and returning to our regular routines; which means a new year of church activities too.

At present Dafydd is preaching a series of ten sermons on 'The Local Church' on Sunday mornings, while in the evenings a new series of Study Sessions has been started. These follow four different topics, with each topic on one Sunday a month: 'Practical Christianity' considers how our faith should affect our every-day lives; 'Books of the Bible' provides an overview of a book each session, considering its main characters and themes; 'Church History' will explore what we can learn from the past; and 'Theological Studies' takes us into a more detailed examination of Christian doctrine.

Our mid-week Bible Study is utilising video material by R.C. Sproul on the book of Romans, while the children in the Sunday School are learning about 'The Word of God'.

MARCHWEIL REFORMED BAPTIST CHURCH

During October last year we swapped pastors with Caversham Evangelical Church in Reading, England. Our congregation loved Bruce and Carolyn Jenkins and were blessed by Bruce's precise and thoughtful ministry — and they fell in love with both New Zealand and Meg, the Leever's big black Labrador. Trevor Keam ministered for us in November while of the 8 Sundays John was away, he preached on 6 of them, including one at Crumlin, Ireland with Alfie Orr and another at Shalom church Singapore where fellowship was renewed with many friends from Hamilton days.

During January we have been reassessing our obedience as a body to the basic requirements of the Word with regard to our meeting together for the preaching of the Word, the breaking of bread, fellowship and prayer and evangelism. After much prayer and discussion, we have changed little but treasure even more what we have. It gives us great joy to begin the year in a spirit of love and harmony with each putting the others' interests above their own. God has been very good to us.



WELLINGTON REGIONAL REFORMED BAPTIST FELLOWSHIP

Tony and Nancy Howard shifted to Hamilton on the 16th of January, welcoming the opportunity to be involved in the church there. Only Chris & Robyn Good (& family) remain from the original group. As a result — the Wellington Reformed Baptist Fellowship no longer is functioning. We have re-orientated the group into a regional support group for Reformed Baptists in the region: including Palmerston North, Masterton, Marton (Near Bulls) and Wellington. We have been meeting monthly for pray, fellowship & study since November on the last weekend of each month, which has been an encouragement to those involved.

We in the Wellington region are proud to say that we already have a viable and regular Reformed Baptist Regional Fellowship — and we haven't got any churches yet! :-)

- The regional group meets monthly
- The Masterton group meets for worship on Sunday mornings
- Palmerston North are looking at starting a fortnightly bible study from mid-February

Young Adults' Retreat 2004

The **Young Adults' Retreat** will be held over the Queen's Birthday Weekend, **4th - 7th June** at Kokako Lodge, Hunua Falls, South Auckland.

It is for adults aged from 18 years and up into their 30's from the Reformed Baptist Churches in New Zealand.

We hope that the theme for this year's Retreat will be **International Missions** and encourage all eligible adults to plan on attending.

Brochures should be available by mid-March.

For further information please contact *Dafydd Hughes* on
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