

FELLOWSHIP NEWS

'Bringing Believers Together'

The Newsletter of Reformed Baptists of New Zealand

June 2007

— GRACE REFORMED BAPTIST CHURCH, PALMERSTON NORTH —

The Lord has continued to sustain the ministry of His word here. Dafydd has almost completed a series on Job - which has been very well received - and Ian continues to preach a very profitable series through Ephesians. We have also appreciated preaching visits from elders in Gracenet and Wanganui East Baptist Churches. After the encouragements of Easter, numbers in the congregation have been small, with few more than the core of members in attendance. How we need the Lord to bring others in to hear His word and save souls and raise up labourers. We feel our smallness, but look to the Lord for the increase.

We are looking forward to hosting the School of Theology and Jim Renihan in July. We are also planning a regular (two-monthly) outreach to the local community via tracts which aims to both introduce who we are and present the gospel clearly over the coming 12 months. We plan to start this ministry in August.

———— GRACENET COMMUNITY CHURCH, WELLINGTON —————

In many senses, Gracenet Community Church is entering into a new season. A few important decisions have been made concerning the life and bearing of our church. As one might expect from any change of season, we anticipate a certain period of adjustment to follow. This, without a doubt, will present its challenges - and we would appreciate your prayers for the continued unity and reformation of our church. We continue to trust that all these things might be worked to our greater good - and according to God's sovereign plan.

With this considered, it must be said that we are definitely starting to see the fruit of our theological labour. We have just completed

our study of Bibliology – and are now beginning to focus on the Doctrine of God. Many in the congregation are showing signs of a deepened maturity in their understanding of God’s Word. Also, we are very excited to be adding some new members to the church at the end of the month. In May, we had the great privilege of ministering at Grace Reformed Baptist Church (Palmerston North). It is really wonderful to see our relationships begin to deepen as we continue to pursue interaction and fellowship between our two churches. There is much to look forward to as we plan future times of ministry. As we look back, we are all so thankful to God for His amazing guidance and provision. Truly we serve a God who hears our sighs and counts our tears. Everyday we see His wonderful promises being fulfilled in our midst. Please pray that we will be able to continue making headway in our efforts to ignite the hearts of our people with a passion for Jesus.

———— **MANUKAU CENTRAL BIBLE FELLOWSHIP CHURCH** ————

The ministry of the word continues to encourage and strengthen us. Andrew Young, principal of Grace Theological College, spoke to us recently, and we greatly appreciate Ian Grant’s monthly messages from Colossians (Ian teaches at GTC.) We’ve also enjoyed messages from people in overseas mission work. Also our Men’s Group hosted the Manukau Men’s United breakfast with guest speaker Paul Subritsky who spoke on “A Man and His Money.”

— **NORTH SHORE BAPTIST REFORMED CHURCH, AUCKLAND** —

Stephen has just returned from a wonderful time in India with 37 men present for the week’s Studies at Coonoor. He was able to visit three of the Seminaries where some of the men are studying. He was also able to visit Namakkal which was an important base of the early missionaries and is the home of the one of the leading men who hopes to visit New Zealand in October with a view to further academic work here. He was also able to preach to the

Shalom and Ebenezer Reformed Baptist Churches in Singapore and at Ebenezer’s Camp in Malaysia on his return. On September 8 the church has a Men’s Morning. That is in preparation for the Conference of October 5-7 which is presently being sponsored by the Emmanuel and North Shore Churches. The subject of that Conference is Christian Discipleship and Disciple-making.

For contact details of these churches please visit www.rbc.org.nz and click on the ‘Directory’ link.



Prayer Requests

Grace Reformed Baptist Church, Palmerston North

1. That the Lord would continue to strengthen and equip those who preach, so that the Lord would send His word out in power – a demonstration of His power to save and sanctify.
2. That the Lord would prepare hearts and minds to receive tracts later in the year, so that the seed which is sown falls on prepared ground.
3. That the School of Theology would be a blessing to all who attend.

Gracenet Community Church, Wellington

1. Pray for unity and ongoing reformation in the church.
2. Give thanks for God’s sovereign care and guidance.

Manukau Central Bible Fellowship Church

1. That we would all become more effective at demonstrating and sharing the gospel of grace as we relate to neighbours, workmates, etc.
2. That our men’s and women’s study and sharing groups would continue to inform and inspire our walk of faith in Christ.

North Shore Baptist Reformed Church, Auckland

1. Would you pray for the Men’s Morning and the Conference.
2. Also, pray for those people with English as a second language who are in the Church. A number of them are not believers. But all of them have difficulties in understanding English.