

FELLOWSHIP NEWS

"Bringing Believers Together"

The Newsletter of Reformed Baptists of New Zealand

October 2007

— GRACE REFORMED BAPTIST CHURCH, PALMERSTON NORTH —

We have had a fairly quiet period since the last *Fellowship News* was distributed. Our regular ministry has continued as usual with Chris Good leading the mid-week Bible Studies in Acts, Dafydd Hughes preaching through Hebrews on Sunday mornings and Ian Fuller and Dafydd alternating on Sunday evenings.

The leaflet distribution to 1800 homes around the school where we meet resulted in a small response, and we plan another distribution in a couple of weeks time. We have also been advertising weekly in the Guardian Newspaper which is distributed to about 37,500 homes in the Manawatu region. Over the past couple of months we have had two brief evangelistic articles included with the advert. One or two people have come along to a service as a result. As the weather warms up we hope to do some evangelistic outreach in the city so we are in the process of gathering suitable tracts and booklets for that.

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

We are all deeply grateful to God for a wonderfully smooth transition of leadership over the last 2 months. Instead of the anticipated loss – we have in fact seen many new faces, and will be including a significant group into our membership this month.

Steve Turner (Shore Baptist Church) joined us for a weekend and blessed us by his ministry. That same weekend we combined with Grace Reformed Baptist (Palmerston North) for a day in which we overviewed the process, principles and pitfalls of Biblical Interpretation. The event was wonderfully attended – and we look forward to many more. In the month ahead, we look forward to seeing everyone at the FRBCNZ meeting. Also, we are in the

process of developing some planned interaction with our brothers in Timaru (Marchwiel Reformed Baptist Church).

Heading into 2008 - our banner as a church is: 'CULTIVATING CORPORATE WORSHIP THROUGH THE WORD OF GOD'. Lord willing, we want to take a journey through the entire Bible. Our plan is to overview the Scriptures by firstly looking at the whole picture – and then breaking it down into it's basic divisions. As we move on we will focus in on the detail – getting closer and closer until we are looking at each book individually. We are hoping to cultivate a real sense of corporate excitement by synchronizing family worship (Bible reading plans etc) with the preaching schedule. Already there is a wonderful feeling of consolidation and togetherness – and we pray that this would increase as we move ahead.

TRINITY REFORMED BAPTIST CHURCH, HAMILTON

We have begun organising for next year's Hamilton Easter Convention. Dr Donald Carson will be speaking on the topic "The Triumph and Tragedy of Reformation and Revival – an exposition of the Book of Nehemiah." We are hoping that we may be able to persuade Dr. Carson to also speak at a Seminar for pastors and elders immediately after Easter.

We were saddened by the sudden loss of Mrs. Lois Turner in September. She had been well, but suffered a heart attack and died a few days later. Her funeral, held at the Te Awamutu Baptist Church, was a wonderful testimony to her engaging personality and her faith in the Lord Jesus Christ.

As in the last few years our Coffee, Craft and Conversation group has organised a Christmas display in our church hall. Those who attend receive hospitality, light refreshments and a tract explaining the real meaning of Christmas. This year we plan to bring class groups of students from two local schools to see the displays and to hear the Christmas story.

Our pastor will be chaplain again this year at the Raglan Beach Mission held between Boxing Day and New Years' Eve.

Prayer Requests

Grace Reformed Baptist Church, Palmerston North

1. Pray for the regular ongoing ministry of the word in church and on the local Christian radio station.
2. Pray for our evangelistic outreach to the city: for guidance, boldness and clarity.

Gracenet Community Church, Wellington

1. Church unity (singular corporate focus).
2. Growth in our understanding of the scriptures.
3. Evangelistic efforts (street ministry in Porirua).

Trinity Reformed Baptist Church, Hamilton

1. Please pray that the Lord will use our Christmas Festival to draw people to faith in Jesus Christ.
2. Ask the Lord to guide the committee preparing for the 2008 Hamilton Easter Convention.
3. Pray for fruit as we reach out to holiday-makers at Raglan harbour after Christmas.

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