

Prayer Requests

Grace Baptist Church, Christchurch

1. For the four young people being baptised in early October. That they would continue to grow in grace and the knowledge of Christ. (2 Peter 3:18)
2. For the Lord's direction and blessing on the church as we consider opportunities for outreach in the next few months. (Col. 4:3)
3. For the FAB Club (a holiday children's program) in the first week of the upcoming school holidays. Several members of the church are involved in this outreach in Rolleston. That the Lord will use His Word in the lives of the children.
4. For the Lord to build us up to walk faithfully with Him during our church camp.

Grace Reformed Baptist Church, Palmerston North

1. Pray for the church as we work through The Peacemaker, that we would grow in maturity and conformity to Christ.
2. Pray that the Lord would use the outreach opportunities for His own glory.
3. Pray for those who have promised to visit, but are yet to arrive, that their hunger and thirst for the pure milk of the word would be intensified.
4. Pray that the Andrews family would find settled work and make Palmerston North and GRBC their home if the Lord wills.

Gracenet Community Church, Wellington

1. Again, please pray for Mike's visa situation.
2. Also, please pray for a fresh sense of vitality and empowerment upon the work here.
3. Finally, please give thanks for the great mercy and preserving grace that God has shown to our little church over the last 3 years.

Shore Baptist Church, Auckland

1. Pray for the work of Jeff Lane in UNITEC and Massey universities.
2. Please remember the Robb family in Beijing.

Trinity Reformed Baptist Church, Hamilton

1. Please praise God for the new folk who begun to attend our services and pray for wisdom as we seek to incorporate them into the life of the church.
2. Please pray for God's blessing upon visitor's who will be with us over the next few months: Philip Hanson from Rotorua, Cliff and Yvonne Langton (representing Children's Compassion Ministries, Manila) from Queensland, Miriam Marshall (London City Mission) from the United Kingdom and Jeff and Annette Lane (Overseas Missionary Fellowship) from Auckland.
3. Ask for God's blessing as we prepare for our annual Christmas Festival in December.

FELLOWSHIP NEWS

The newsletter of the Fellowship of Reformed Baptist Churches in New Zealand

September 2008

GRACE BAPTIST CHURCH, CHRISTCHURCH

The Lord is continuing to show His great faithfulness to us as a church, and to challenge us to walk with and serve Him. In our Sunday services we are in the middle of a series on the Book of Job, learning some of the many lessons that challenging book has for us. In our Wednesday evening Bible studies we continue to look at 'the Big Picture', by tracing through the unfolding history of the Bible (currently looking at the lives of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob).

In early October we are planning a baptismal service when four of our young people will be baptised. Then, from 24-27 October, we will be having a combined church camp with the Marchwiell Reformed Baptist Church, when Troy Cane (Berean Bible Church in Queensland, Australia) will be our speaker on the theme of 'Walking with God'. We are also prayerfully considering a few opportunities for outreach over the next few months, and are very conscious of our need of God's direction and blessing (Psalm 127:1)

GRACE REFORMED BAPTIST CHURCH, PALMERSTON NORTH

It's been a quiet winter. We have seen little fruit for our labours, but continue to leaflet the neighbourhood every couple of months with tracts and invitations. Dafydd also continues to contribute evangelistic editorials for a local free weekly newspaper and the Word is proclaimed throughout the city via True Light FM and via the church website. Alternate Friday mornings Mums and Toddlers meetings have to date not seen any new contacts made, which is disappointing. Yet we remain confident and assured that our God is able to do immeasurably more than we can ask or imagine and are encouraged that His word always accomplishes what He intends in the power of His Spirit. We are

reminded that the Lord does not ask us to be successful, only faithful.

As a church we are soon to embark on a series of Bible Studies following Ken Sande's book 'The Peacemaker'. Sunday ministry continues in Hebrews in the morning, Glimpses of Christ in the Old Testament in the evening and, when Ian preaches, in the book of James. The Andrews family from South Africa have as yet not settled and are considering moving back to RSA if settled work is not forthcoming.

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

The last couple of months have been both encouraging and challenging. Unfortunately, some of our members have decided to move on because of doctrinal disagreements. While this has been very disheartening and tiresome for us, we trust that God will continue to work all of these things to His own glory and our greater good. With this in mind, we also want to give thanks for a few new people that have recently started to attend our services. Concerning the regular ministry at Gracenet, we are pressing on quietly and steadily - and are making good progress in both our overview of the Bible (every Sunday morning) and our study of systematic theology (every Wednesday evening).

At the moment, our primary point of concern has to do with our pastor's residence visa. While Mike's application is currently being processed, he only has one more month left on his previous work permit before having to leave the country (unless, of course, the residence visa is issued before then). As I'm sure you can imagine, this is weighing on us very heavily. In this regard, your prayers would be greatly appreciated.

———— SHORE BAPTIST CHURCH, AUCKLAND ————

Stephen is presently working his way through the Apostles' Creed in 12 addresses which will conclude on October 19. We then intend to look at material in 2 Corinthians 8 on giving and at some of the intercessory prayers in the Old Testament. Evening church continues to happen twice a month with meetings in one of

two homes in the church. Perhaps our greatest encouragement at present is the prayer time before our morning meeting on Sundays. Aaron Falconer has recently become a Deacon in the Church.

On September 27 we have our second Men's Morning for the year. On October 18 is the Church Concert and we are hoping that a good number of people with whom we're in contact in the University or through our friendships, will come along and join us.

On February 28 – March 1 the Church will be celebrating its 25th Anniversary.

———— TRINITY REFORMED BAPTIST CHURCH, HAMILTON ————

It has been pleasing to see increasing attendance at both Sunday services over recent months. We have a growing group of Filipinos attending services. Recently Jobrian and Helena Trinidad and their two children have joined us from a Reformed Baptist Church in Manila. We have also been joined by a number of New Zealanders.

A few weeks ago we welcomed Bill and Desma Lewis into membership. Bill and Desma are retired SIM missionaries. Bill is an American who served in Kenya and more recently in Ethiopia. Desma, who was a member of this church in the very early days, continues to produce Mekihima Bible Studies for use in Ethiopia. Bill and Desma are a welcome addition to the spiritual leadership of the church.

The Doctrines of Grace Ministers' Fraternal, Hamilton, has now held several meetings and is proving to a blessing. Pastors and elders from the Reformed Church, an Independent Baptist Church and Trinity are meeting together once a month.

Our pastor spoke at Tamaki Reformed Baptist Church during Michael Drakes' trip to the United Kingdom. We are having a pulpit exchange with New Heights Reformed Baptist Church, Rotorua, on 21 September.

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