

## *Prayer Requests*

### **Crosspoint Church, Palmerston North**

1. Give thanks for God's protection and provision for the Theological Studies Camps in India.
2. Pray for plans and preparations for the School of Theology in July
3. Please pray for the large proportion of young people that we currently have in our congregation, particularly that they may grow in faith and grace and the knowledge of Jesus Christ.

### **Grace Baptist Church, Christchurch**

1. Please pray for Rob as he gives two seminars at the South Island Stand for the Gospel conference (21-23 July) and speaks three times at the Reformed Baptist family conference in Queensland (14-16 July).
2. Please pray for the two couples in the church currently expecting the birth of their first children later in the year.
3. Pray that the Lord will continue to enable each one of us at GBC to be growing in grace and the knowledge of Christ (2 Peter 3:18), and to be faithful witnesses to Him in our homes, neighbourhoods and workplaces.

### **Gracenet Community Church, Wellington**

1. Please join us in praying for Ryan (as he heads out from Wellington to Hamilton) along with David Marshall and TRBC as they go through this time of transition.
2. Please join us in a) giving thanks for the success of the time of ministry in India, b) asking for continued blessing on our church partnerships, c) asking for wisdom as we seek out the best approach for continued ministry in future.

### **Rolleston Baptist Church, Rolleston**

1. Each member of Rolleston Baptist would grow in faithfulness to love one another and reach the lost with the gospel of Jesus Christ.
2. That the Lord would enable us in our desire to faithfully care for the visitors and new people/families who are attending our services.
3. That we might grow in passion for the lost and active gospel engagement with others.
4. Wisdom as we consider options and ideas for a more permanent church venue for the future of Rolleston Baptist Church.

### **Shore Baptist Church, Auckland**

1. Praise the Lord for the trophies of grace serving and loving the church as we meet together.
2. Thank the Lord for the willingness of so many who do voluntary work in our church.
3. Please pray for the Conference and all those who plan to travel to Auckland. We pray that it would be unifying and opportunity for sincere fellowship between our churches.
4. Pray for Jeremy as he serves and prepares himself for the pastoral ministry.
5. Pray for us as a church to grow in our knowledge of God as we are being knit together in Christ.

### **South City Church, Auckland**

1. Remember the continuing outreach work of the church.
2. Pray for Dave Aiken's health. May he know the presence and peace that comes from the Lord.
3. The Reformation Conference in October along with other churches of the RBFNZ. Pray too for the day Conference we plan the weekend before with Pastor Robert Briggs from Sacramento.

### **Trinity Reformed Baptist Church, Hamilton**

1. Pray for God's provision for the Vinten family as they relocate to Hamilton.
2. Please pray for wisdom for the leadership team at Trinity as Ryan settles into the pastorate and arrangements are put in place for the future growth of the church.
3. Ask that God will provide for Alan & Sara Collins as they return to the Middle East later this year.

# FELLOWSHIP NEWS

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

**June 2017**

## **CROSSPOINT CHURCH, PALMERSTON NORTH**

In God's providence Dafydd made two separate trips to India in April and May. The first trip was to Pune in Maharashtra where he joined Stephen Turner in teaching about 26 young men at the annual Theological Studies Camp. Stephen taught from Romans 5-8 while Dafydd taught on 'Ministering with Grace'. It was a very happy and blessed time. The second trip was unexpected, as Dafydd travelled to Coonoor in Tamil Nadu to cover for Nick Clevely and Mike Beck who both had their visa applications declined. Forty-four men attended the studies in which Dafydd taught from Alexander Strauch's book, 'Leading with Love', and from Romans chapter 1. The Lord was very gracious in sustaining Dafydd and blessing the studies.

We are looking forward to hosting our eleventh School of Theology in July. Dr Fred Malone will return for a second time to teach on the pastoral ministry. Details are available on our website ([crosspoint.org.nz](http://crosspoint.org.nz)). The week will be particularly helpful for young men considering the ministry or in internship roles, or elders of churches who are evaluating men in their congregations for ministry roles.

## **GRACE BAPTIST CHURCH, CHRISTCHURCH**

We thank God for His ongoing grace to us in Christ. In the normal flow of church life and ministry the Lord has again kept and sustained us over recent months. We are currently working our way through the book of 2 Peter in our services and looking at Isaiah in our weekly Bible study groups. Our prayer is that we will be sanctified by God's Word and further equipped to live for His glory.

We look forward to the South Island 'Stand for the Gospel' conference (21-23 July) here in Christchurch as our brother Conrad Mbewe from Kabwata Baptist Church in Zambia preaches on the five Solas of the Reformation. Our pastor, Rob Harrod, will also be taking two seminars on the 'Road to the Reformation' on the Saturday of the conference. We anticipate fellowship with brethren from around the city and other parts of the South Island.

We have a number of young families in the church, with two other couples expecting the birth of their first children later in the year. We are keenly aware of our need of God's grace, wisdom and strength in our family lives. We long

that our homes and families would bring glory to God and adorn His gospel in our communities.

### ———— **GRACENET COMMUNITY CHURCH, WELLINGTON** ————

During this season, we have experienced a very true sense of collaboration and unity with our sister churches in the fellowship. Firstly, we have the great privilege of sending Ryan Vinten (a man who we have invested-in, trained-up, and prayed-for over the last few years) to his first pastorate at Trinity Reformed Baptist Church in Hamilton. We are overjoyed at this opportunity to send him, and so supply the need that was presented by Trinity as he receives the baton from David Marshall. We will be sure to be praying for blessing upon David, Ryan and Trinity during this season of important transition.

Yet another wonderful expression of our unity was felt through the joined effort of our churches to continue ministering to the students in India this year. While Mike Beck (along with Nick Clevely of Covenant Grace Church, Timaru) were not permitted travel to these ends, the need was graciously supplied by Crosspoint Church in Palmerston North, who released Dafydd Hughes for a second trip in their place. While the trip to India this year did not happen the way that we had planned, the time was reported to have gone very well; and we are very thankful for God's providence in this. Also, we are deeply thankful for the opportunity to partner with Crosspoint and Covenant Grace in this amazing way.

### ———— **ROLLESTON BAPTIST CHURCH, ROLLESTON** ————

We are thankful for the turnout to our Good Friday and Easter Services as well as the new, regular attendees who have joined us over the past couple of months. We have three of our men who are regularly leading services at the Rolleston Prison.

Our Stand for the Gospel Conference is scheduled for the second to last weekend in July (last weekend in July for Auckland).

### ———— **SHORE BAPTIST CHURCH, AUCKLAND** ————

We are preaching through the epistle of Paul to the Colossians and are reminded of how great and glorious our Saviour, Jesus Christ is; no wonder the Reformers were so clear on "Christ Alone".

We are hard at work in our planning with the Reformation Conference in October. In the next week or so, we hope to send out an information package to all our churches to help you promote the conference in your area. The Conference Website is now online and registration is open. Just follow

the links on [www.r500.nz](http://www.r500.nz)

Life in our church is a blessing and by God's grace, we are growing on many fronts. Our musicians attended the "Emu Music - Word in song workshop" and were very blessed and helped by it. We are already implementing some of the things they learnt. We are also very much encouraged with our weekly theology class (SBC EQUIP) before the service where we go through some of the Systematic Theology themes. We have asked several men in our church to teach on various subjects and it has really been a huge blessing to them as they studied and also to so many in our church. Our Intern, Jeremy is working alongside the elders at Shore and Bays and is learning a lot about church life and ministry; his term as intern will come to an end in October.

### ———— **SOUTH CITY CHURCH, AUCKLAND** ————

We continue to praise our great God for His help and encouragement in our church. Once a fortnight we now have a church stand at one of the local Saturday morning markets. We are able to put up a gazebo with tables and free literature. There are opportunities to preach, witness and give out the literature. We are thankful for those who help in this ministry. There have been some opportunities at the local shopping centre and on Anzac Day too.

A young couple was recently baptised and added to the church. A new housing development is opening up near the school we meet at. Two new families have started coming to the church; both will soon be living in this development and another of our families moved there last week. Our Sunday School is growing and we pray for wisdom in this ministry.

Alfie and Elsie will be in the UK and Australia for about five weeks to visit their family. Pastor John Leever and other church folk will be preaching and leading meetings in Alfie's absence.

### ———— **TRINITY REFORMED BAPTIST CHURCH, HAMILTON** ————

On Sunday 19 March The church voted to issue a call to Ryan Vinten to become our new pastor. Ryan, Carol and Henry hope to move to Hamilton at the end of June.

We have enjoyed several months of fellowship with our missionaries Alan and Sara Collins,. They are planning to return to the Middle East soon. Alan's father has been unwell recently and this may delay Alan's departure.

David Marshall will be resigning as an elder and beginning an extended leave of absence from Trinity once Ryan arrives. David will be available to preach in other churches as from July.

For contact details of these churches please visit [www.rbc.org.nz](http://www.rbc.org.nz) and click on the 'Directory' link