

Prayer Requests

Emmanuel Church, Auckland

1. Give thanks to the Lord for sustaining us.
2. Pray the Lord to convert people.

Grace Baptist Church, Christchurch

1. Unity in the fellowship. John 17:21
2. Outreach amongst our contacts. 2 Cor 5:20
3. Wisdom for leadership group. James 1:5
4. Fruitful pulpit ministry. 2 Tim 4:2

Grace Reformed Baptist Fellowship, Palmerston North

1. Pray that Dafydd and Maria would settle quickly.
2. Pray for the preaching of the gospel, now twice on Sunday.
3. Pray for wisdom and guidance in decision-making and plans towards constituting as a church.
4. Pray for those considering eldership, that the Lord would call men after his own heart.
5. Pray for outreach plans.

Manukau Central Bible Fellowship Church

1. Pray for a Christ-centered use of the scriptures as we share the preaching load among men in our congregation.
2. Pray that the women studying *Captivating* would trust the Lord in deeper ways.
3. Pray for our families with young children.

Marchwiel Reformed Baptist Church, Timaru

1. The pastorate.
2. Evangelism especially with the "Introducing God" series.
3. Bible in Schools and the work among the children.
4. That as a church we will indeed be lead by the Spirit to bring glory to our Head.

North Shore Baptist Reformed Church

1. The Youth Camp.
2. All of the arrangements necessary to Stephen meeting up with the young men in India and Sri Lanka.

FELLOWSHIP NEWS

"Bringing Believers Together"

The Newsletter of Reformed Baptists of New Zealand

March 2006

EMMANUEL CHURCH, AUCKLAND

In recent months 2 of our committed families have gone to Australia.

A few neighbours continue to attend meetings regularly.

Pastor David Steere of Fressingfield, England, preached in Emmanuel Church on 6 November 2005.

Pastor Joseph & Elizabeth Hewitt of London were with us in February and March 2006 and their presence brought spiritual refreshment to us. They visited the South Island and Pastor Hewitt spoke at Grace Baptist Church.

Pastor David Yan spoke at a camp in Malaysia in December 2005 and God-willing will be speaking at another camp in Malaysia in June 2006.

GRACE BAPTIST CHURCH, CHRISTCHURCH

On the first weekend of March we farewelled Dafydd, Maria and Ajinkya to be involved in helping plant the Palmerston North church. Dafydd had been with us for nine and a half years; they leave a huge gap. The church members have selected a group of men to provide leadership. During this time of change we would especially value your prayers for wisdom and God's blessing upon the work as we make various decisions together. We are encouraged currently by the visitors amongst us, especially the larger number of students who have been with us regularly. We have recently been blessed having Pastor John Sale and Pastor Joseph Hewitt ministering amongst us.

— GRACE REFORMED BAPTIST FELLOWSHIP, PALMERSTON NORTH —

The Lord continues to move apace in Palmerston North. We are joined this month by Dafydd & Maria Hughes who are in the process of moving from Christchurch to be involved in the work here. This is such an encouragement to all. Dafydd will begin preaching each

Sunday morning from the end of the month, Lord willing. This will bring much needed consistency to the preaching ministry and mean that we now have the labourers to begin preaching in the evening service too. We are now making plans to constitute as a church with a plurality of elders in around 6 months. Those considering eldership are now meeting weekly for prayer and study. Our outreach will be focussed on distributing a new tract (on order) to every letterbox in the city during the coming year, and we also plan to begin a Sunday School (or equivalent) soon.

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

The director of an organisation called *International Students Ministry* and a farmer from the Waikato, came to our fellowship as guest speakers over the summer. Through them we enjoyed hearing about lives changed all around NZ because of Christ. There is a positive and enthusiastic mood as we settle into the new year. The all-age Bible study on the *Great Themes of the Bible* has begun again, led by Ian Grant. The women are studying Biblical femininity using the book *Captivating* by John and Stasi Eldredge, led by Joanne Garton. And the Men's Group, led by Bryan Schroeder, is meeting again every Saturday morning and is proving a most encouraging forum to discuss men's issues.

———— **MARCHWIEL REFORMED BAPTIST CHURCH, TIMARU** ————

As you will all now be aware, John has told the church here at Marchwiel that he does not see his ministry here continuing much beyond the middle of this year and so together we are seeking the Lord regarding a new pastor and John's future. We would be grateful if you would share with us in making this a matter of urgent prayer.

We are at present viewing a series of DVD's called *Introducing God*. It is a series designed to share the gospel with those with no church background and we are finding them very good, the best of this type of tool that we have found. We are praying that God would lead us to those among our friends, colleagues and neighbours with whom we can share the gospel in this way.

During January and February we were encouraged to have Dawie Malan and family with us. Dawie ministered to us for four weeks

during February which was a blessing to us all. We wish him and the family God's blessings for the future.

Carl and Miriam's wedding brought the congregations of Grace in Christchurch and Marchwiel together for a very happy occasion.

Those of us who were able to attend the Saturday meetings of the recently held family conference at Grace were encouraged to consider again the glory of Christ's church. What a joy to know that Christ is Head of His body and rules us by His Word.

Meanwhile we continue to be fed by the regular ministry of the Word. We are nearing the end of Mark's gospel in the mornings and in the evenings are looking at some of the great "we know" verses in a series called "Things Christians can know".

We have also welcomed Charmaine Doughty and her son Cory from Australia into our fellowship over this past month.

We have been blessed by good numbers meeting for prayer and a spirit of unity in the congregation.

———— **NORTH SHORE BAPTIST REFORMED CHURCH** ————

The Church has just had the most wonderful Conference on the Beauty and Glory of the Local Church with John Sale, a founder of the Fellowship of Independent Reformed Evangelicals in the USA. It was such a lovely thing to be with members of the Tamaki, Emmanuel and Manukau churches and others from New Plymouth and Hamilton and even further afield. And it was equally wonderful to be able to have such an event so as to encourage one another.

The youth in the church are looking forward to the Camp after Easter.

Preparations continue to be made for the trip to India and Sri Lanka which Stephen Turner is involved in along with another member of the church. He will also be visiting Ailsa and Hardi Wirawan in Sumatra before speaking at the Tamworth Conference in NSW.

The year began with Fred Shaumkel and Michael McCauley joining up with American David Sitton in New Guinea for three weeks to help in his work of establishing new churches there.