

## *Prayer Requests*

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

1. For the Lord to bless our witness and draw people to true faith in Christ. (Romans 10:1)
2. Give thanks to the Lord for drawing more people into the regular study of the Bible with us.  
Pray that we would continue in the Word and that we would grow in grace and the knowledge of Christ. (2 Peter 3:18)
3. Pray that the Lord will teach and lead those currently in our class on baptism.
4. Pray that God will open up doors of gospel opportunity, and give us faith and wisdom to co-labour with Him.

### **Grace Reformed Baptist Church, Palmerston North**

1. Please pray for the Andrew family from South Africa as they adjust to life in New Zealand.
2. Also pray for the Mums & Toddlers group meeting on Friday mornings.
3. Pray too for that the School of Theology will be a beneficial time of learning and fellowship.
4. Pray for our ongoing outreach in the newspaper, over the radio, through leaflets and by personal evangelism

### **New Heights Reformed Baptist Fellowship, Rotorua**

1. That we make specific contacts with the people in our city who need, and are ready for the biblical teaching, communion, prayer and fellowship offered at New Heights.
2. That God will not let His Word 'fall to the ground' in the lives of we who hear it here each Sunday.
3. That God will prosper the work of Agape Christian Preschool.

### **Tamaki Reformed Baptist Church, Auckland**

1. Please pray for Tony's family.
2. Please pray for us as we continue to seek someone to assist with the ministry work-our resources are stretched, especially with Michael away overseas during July.
3. Please pray that we may find a suitable building to use for meetings as we are outgrowing the classrooms we currently use.

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

1. Give thanks to God for the safe arrival of Rowan and Samuel and pray that God will draw them to himself in saving faith as young people.
2. Please pray for Jeff and Annette Lane in Auckland, Martin and Samantha Seccombe in Japan and Miriam Marshall in London.
3. Please pray for the newly re-formed Minister's Fraternal here in Hamilton that we would encourage one another in faith and godliness.
4. Pray that those who are not believers will be drawn to the Saviour.

# FELLOWSHIP NEWS

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

**June 2008**

### **GRACE BAPTIST CHURCH, CHRISTCHURCH**

The Lord has continued to faithfully care for His people in the church here over recent months (Lament. 3:22,23). In the ministry of the Word in our Sunday services we have largely been considering a series from Acts 9-15, looking at the theme 'How God Builds His Church'. We pray that the Lord will make us faithful co-workers with Him here in Christchurch, and that His great Name will be glorified in every aspect of our life and witness.

We have also commenced a series of classes on Sunday evenings on the subject of baptism. 5 or 6 people in these classes are seriously considering being baptised and added to the church here. In our Wednesday evening Bible studies we have just begun some studies under the title 'The Big Picture', looking at the history of God's saving work as it is progressively unfolded from Genesis through to Revelation. We currently have about 30+ people attending this Bible study, and need wisdom on how best to develop this opportunity.

In October we are looking forward to Pastor Troy Cane from the Berean Bible Church in Australia coming to speak at our combined church camp with Marchiel Reformed Baptist, and pray that the Lord will build us up and further develop the fellowship between the two churches.

### **GRACE REFORMED BAPTIST CHURCH, PALMERSTON NORTH**

The recent arrival of a family from South Africa has been a great encouragement to us; not only because this increases the number of core families in the church by 25%, but also because they are committed to the church and keen to become involved. We continue to have other visitors in our services from time to time, but these are often just one-off visits with no on-going involvement.

Maria and Robyn recently started a Mums & Toddlers group which meets fortnightly on Friday mornings in Maria's home. Though

we have leafleted the area before each meeting, so far we have only had one telephone enquiry but no visitors. We will persevere with this with the prayer that interest will eventually be shown, relationships will develop and opportunities for witness may arise.

Our annual School of Theology will take place between 7th and 11th July. Dr Jim Renihan is again coming to teach this intensive one-week course; the topic this year is Baptist History. We have ten people registered from the north and south islands of New Zealand and also from Australia.

### — NEW HEIGHTS REFORMED BAPTIST FELLOWSHIP, ROTORUA —

As we have not contributed to the Fellowship News before, we take opportunity to send greetings to all who read this, and to introduce ourselves. Our church comprises seven families, approx 30 people. We are blessed with four elders; two, Grant Alexander and Philip Hanson, are our bible teachers, and their present subject is John's Gospel. Most Wednesday evenings sees us at Hanson's home studying the excellent book 'Don't Waste Your Life' by John Piper; truly life changing!

A small craft group for girls is held once a month on a Sunday afternoon which includes a rewarding biblical teaching time.

We have spiritual and financial oversight of a local Christian preschool. The goal is to create contacts with families for the glory of God, and provide a standard of preschool care which is above reproach. Two elders' wives are part of the all Christian staff. Already visitors have commented on the loving atmosphere there which fits in with its name.....Agape.

Since officially being accepted into the R.B.Fellowship of churches in N.Z. last year we have enjoyed meeting visitors from other Reformed churches. If ever you are in Rotorua please do look us up, and we would enjoy fellowship with you over the meal we provide after our Sunday service at 4p.m.

### — TAMAKI REFORMED BAPTIST CHURCH, AUCKLAND —

We continue to meet for Sunday morning services (recently finished Ephesians and now in Galatians), evening Bible studies (currently going through Judges), midweek prayer meetings, once monthly youth Bible studies and services at Lansdowne (old peoples home and hospital). We are pleased to be welcoming 5

new members and are also planning a baptismal service. Soon we will be starting a Sunday School for the youngest members of our congregation, as we have quite a few little ones who would benefit from some teaching at their own level for part of the morning service.

We were shocked and saddened by the death of one of our members, Tony de Graaf, who was taken to be with the Lord suddenly on July 1st. He will be greatly missed, but we thank God for the encouragement and fellowship we have had with him over the years.

### — TRINITY REFORMED BAPTIST CHURCH, HAMILTON —

We have had two births within our church family in the past few months. Dominic and Sarah Tennant have welcomed a daughter, Rowan Marie. Norman and Edna Giles have become the proud parents of a boy: Samuel Paul. We have seen a slow growth in numbers at both services over the past few months which has been very pleasing.

This year's Hamilton Easter Convention, at which Dr. Donald Carson was the speaker, saw by far the largest attendance at any Convention thus far. The sermons from Nehemiah were excellent and covered a very large number of important topics. The bookstall sold well over \$2,000 worth books from Living Word Books in Hamilton and Geneva books in Palmerston North.

The two fortnightly Bible studies, led by John McClennan and Steve Ringer, have been very good. John's group has studied the book of Judges and Steve's group has worked through the Book of Jonah.

We now have three former members serving the Lord in missions. Annette Lane (nee Lewis) is working with her husband Jeff among overseas students in Auckland. Samantha Seccombe (nee Howard-Willis) is serving with her husband Martin in Sapporo, Japan. Both couples are with O.M.F. Miriam Marshall is working as a Personal Assistant to the Deputy Directors of the London City Mission in the United Kingdom. Miriam is also involved with the ministry of St. Helen's Anglican Church in London.