

FELLOWSHIP NEWS

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

September 2014

BAYS BAPTIST CHURCH, AUCKLAND

We have been encouraged by visitors from the area recently. This continues to be an answer to prayer. The church's worship and prayer gatherings are going well, and we give thanks for the positive aspects of our church life that were mentioned at our recent AGM. Bruwer is also writing his third exam for a paper at GTC shortly.

We'd like you to pray about our Sunday School ministry for kids. The school hall we meet in has been undergoing a large building project that has consumed our regular room for Sunday School. In the interim, we've made use of a kitchen area and an outside area, when the weather is good. However, we do have a lot of kids in the service, so we would ask that you pray for a bigger and better room to be made available for church use when construction is completed.

Also, a note from the elders: We have been encouraged with the increase in the level of giving since Bruwer joined us. This is being supplemented by funds in hand to provide a satisfactory salary level. Our challenge is to reach a level where current giving can fully fund necessary expenses. Please join us in praying that God would enable us to reach this in the coming year. If any of our sister churches are able to assist at this time while we endeavour to reach this target we would be most grateful.

CROSSPOINT CHURCH, PALMERSTON NORTH

We give thanks to the Lord for his blessing upon our eighth annual School of Theology in July. It was a great privilege to host the sixteen men who gathered to be taught by Dr Fred Malone on the topic of *Preaching Christ in all the Scriptures*. Not only was the teaching extremely helpful, but the fellowship during the breaks while enjoying the excellent food was both enjoyable and greatly beneficial.

As we look to the future we pray that the Lord will establish the church here. Progress seems slow, yet we are able to give thanks for an increase in numbers this year and, we trust, some growth in our knowledge of God and obedience to his word.

We also give thanks for the provision of another part-time job for Dafydd as we look to the Lord to continue to supply our needs according to his sovereign purposes for us.

———— **GRACE BAPTIST CHURCH, CHRISTCHURCH** ————

We are deeply thankful to the Lord that on Sunday 31st August we were able to commission Joe Fleener to the pastoral role at Rolleston Baptist Church, the church plant that we have been praying would happen for years. On Sunday 14th September this new church will meet for the first time for worship. As well as the Fleeners, two other families from Grace Baptist Church, the Scotts and the Sinclairs, will be leaving us to be part of this new work, alongside several other Christian families who live in the area. We feel the peculiar mix of joy and sadness - joy at the extension of the Lord's work, and sadness as valued brothers and sisters, who have made a great contribution to our church, leave us for the new work. We pray that the Lord would be greatly honoured in this move, that He would uphold and strengthen both churches, and that many would hear and believe the good news of Jesus Christ.

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

We are very encouraged to see a few new preachers emerge within our congregation, and also at the possibility of one of these young men beginning an internship in the near future. Linked to this is the excitement we feel in having recently participated in the first ever Australasian Acts 29 church planting conference (held this month in Melbourne). There are many exciting developments in terms of both the assessment of future planters, and the planning of future conferences. With regard to the remaining year, we look forward to participating in Nathan Sinclair's training by having him minister at Gracenet. Related to this, we also look forward to hosting the final roving classroom for the year (the second part of our Biblical Greek curriculum).

Prayer Requests

Bays Baptist Church, Auckland

1. We need a suitable room for our Sunday School ministry.
2. Ongoing financial support for church ministry.

Crosspoint Church, Palmerston North

1. Please join us in giving thanks for the Lord's great kindness towards us in innumerable ways, but particularly in enabling us to host the School of Theology each year, which we count as a great privilege and blessing.
2. Please pray that the Lord will be glorified as we seek to be faithful in proclaiming the word to all who will listen.

Grace Baptist Church, Christchurch

1. Please pray with us that the Lord will provide a regular public venue for the services of Rolleston Baptist Church (Phil. 4:19).
2. As we at Grace Baptist lose an elder and a deacon to the church plant, may the Lord strengthen the existing church officers and raise up gifted and capable men for these roles.
3. Ask the Lord to help us all walk closely with God and to make us salt and light for His glory where He has placed us.

Gracenet Community Church, Wellington

1. Prayer for the young men who preach regularly at Gracenet and for the possibility of one of these men beginning a formal internship with us.
2. Prayer for the remaining roving classrooms.
3. Thanksgiving for the way God has sustained us over this last period. And please pray that he will continue to grow and multiply the work in Wellington.

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