

## *Prayer Requests*

### **Bays Baptist Church, Auckland**

1. For Jeremy as he moves into his new role at Bays (& at Shore.)
2. For coordination among preachers and continuity in presenting Mark's Gospel.
3. For real opportunities to make Jesus know through the Christmas season.
4. For conversions among young and old.

### **Covenant Grace Baptist Church, Timaru**

1. The Baptismal service and for others that are considering their obedience to the LORD.
2. For those that have applied for membership and for the Elders as they work through this with them.
3. The young people as they study Gods Word and the youth programme.

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

1. For the Lord's blessing upon the means of grace.
2. For the children who hear the gospel week by week.
3. For ongoing unity among regulars and the return of visitors.

### **Emmanuel Church, Auckland**

1. Future leadership i.e. more elders and deacons.
2. For the young men speaking fortnightly on Sundays.
3. For senior folk in the Church (near 90 year olds) who come regularly, that they might be granted an assurance of salvation.

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

1. Thank the Lord for the safe birth of Chisomo to Levi and Charity, and pray for Nick & Maria, Zac & Esther and Theo & Olivia as they also expect babies in the coming weeks and months.
2. Give thanks to the Lord for His grace, and pray that He will bless our witness and draw others to genuine faith in Christ (Colossians 1:6)
3. Please pray that the Lord will continue to build up and equip His people for service (Ephes. 4:11-16); and that He would raise up labourers for the harvest field amongst us. (Matthew 9:36-38)

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

# FELLOWSHIP NEWS

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

**October 2016**

## **BAYS BAPTIST CHURCH, AUCKLAND**

We continue to rejoice in God's grace is maintaining our ministries with the prayer, practical help and financial support of our sister churches. We are working our way through Mark's Gospel in our morning services at which we have a steady flow of visitors. Our regular congregation has appreciated the range of styles in a unified presentation of Mark by preachers from our own and other churches in the fellowship. As we approach the end of the year we are planning a number of outreach initiatives in the community, involving electronic and print messaging, and Christmas themed events.

We are particularly encouraged by Shore Baptist's internship initiative that will see Jeremy Kendall working at Bays two days a week from the beginning of November. (He will spend the rest of his time at Shore.) As well as having a regular place in our preaching roster, his focus is expected to be on youth work, discipleship and evangelism.

## **COVENANT GRACE BAPTIST CHURCH, TIMARU**

We recently began a parent course using material from Ted Tripp on Tuesday evenings with the families that live in Fairlie.

There will be a baptismal service later this month and we will soon be welcoming some more folks into membership.

Recently we had three families start regular attendance with us on the LORDS Day morning, one family has jumped in boots and all also attending the Sunday evening service and a mid-week meeting. They also look for any possible opportunity for fellowship.

Tim Stanton will be back with us from the USA for around 6 weeks over Christmas and will be preaching for us and getting involved as much as possible.

The young people who are studying Gods Word with Nick on a Monday are now planning several youth events for the coming months.

## **CROSSPOINT CHURCH, PALMERSTON NORTH**

In July we held our tenth annual School of Theology. It was a privilege to host twenty-six men from New Zealand, Australia and the USA. Our teacher this year was Samuel Renihan; he taught very ably on the subject of Covenant Theology and we were all blessed through the instruction, discussion and fellowship. The ladies of the church excelled themselves in taking care of our physical comfort and sustenance!

While the SOT is a major annual event on our church's calendar, it doesn't compare in importance to the regular week by week meetings of the church, where the 'means of grace' are enjoyed by members, regulars, and visitors. We are glad for unity in the church and a fairly constant trickle of visitors coming along to Sunday services.

### ————— **EMMANUEL CHURCH, AUCKLAND** —————

In August we had a visit from Pastor Henry Louie who works with Australian Indigenous Missions (AIM).

Every fortnight a number of men in Emmanuel Church are giving 5 to 10 minutes talks before the sermon on Sunday. This arrangement has been well received by the congregation.

We held a Vacation Bible School in September and the feedback from children and parents has been encouraging.

Our hall has been used of late for conferences convened by South City Church and the African Inland Mission (AIM).

We have our AGM on 15th October.

We are looking forward to seeing Paul Chong and Tan Kiah Siang and their wives visiting from Ebenezer and Shalom Churches, Singapore.

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

Thanks for your prayers for our recent series of Christianity Explored. A number of people came to these sessions as we worked through the life and work of Christ and the nature of saving faith from Mark's Gospel. Please pray for those who came along and ask that they would continue to grow in their understanding of the gospel and true faith.

In our services we are currently working through 1 Peter. May the Lord bless His Word in our lives, help us to stand firm in our faith together and grow in the grace and knowledge of the Lord. In our Bible studies we are looking at the theme of evangelism and mission, examining the biblical basis for our outreach and witness, and seeking God's wisdom, boldness and compassion that we might truly and constantly proclaim the praises of the One who has called us out of darkness into His marvellous light (1 Peter 2:9).

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

As we gear up for the last part of the year, we are focusing on the Acts 29 conference that we are hosting here in Wellington. In this regard, we are really looking forward to having such a great line-up of Reformed Baptist speakers. Please join us in praying that this will serve to influence the wider body of Christ, as people come into contact with a solid, gospel-centred and confessional reformed theology. Also, we are finalising Ryan's training process and assessment. Hopefully this means that we are all set to go with

a new church plant in the new year. Once again your prayers are much appreciated. Also, our finances will be under unusual strain in this regard; but we are stepping forward in faith. Please join us in prayer for God's provision as we press on in the mission together. Finally, there have been some sad goodbyes in the last month. At the same time however, by God's grace, their have been a few new additions to our membership — as always, very encouraging.

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

As a church we continue to praise God for His help and direction. We thank the Lord for our Church Conference which was held early in September along with the Emmanuel Church folk. Joe Fleener shared messages from 1 Thessalonians which were both encouraging and challenging. Some of our men are witnessing in the local markets. There have been opportunities to speak to folk, to give out tracts and to preach in the open air. This has been a very encouraging exercise.

Again this year we are publishing a calendar with local photos and Bible texts, which will be distributed in the local area.

We plan to have a Church Camp in February from the 10th to the 12th. This camp will be at Ngaruawahia near Hamilton. Our guest speaker is Pastor Jim Savastio from Louisville, USA. We are inviting interested folk to come. Details will be posted on our church website south.org.nz

We thank you for your prayers.

### ————— **WEST CHURCH PLANT OF SBC, AUCKLAND** —————

Two significant things have occurred in the past month; we have moved into a new venue - the New Lynn Community Hall right by the bus and train stations and Mall. We hire it from 1-5pm and have our meeting from 2pm. It's a perfect location for us and very public which is exactly what we need. No place to hide from the world and it encourages evangelism on the streets outside.

The second thing is that Hanli Liu has been appointed as a 'working intern' as from February 4. He will be working for the church two days per week and we hope, will begin theological studies through a seminary yet to be chosen. Hanli and Sarah his wife are members of the plant.

We continue to meet on Tuesday evenings and each month move to another one of the four homes open to our use. We have a dinner one month and a brunch on Sunday mornings the following month.

Would you pray that a further ten people would commit to being part of our church plant, before Christmas?