

TRINITY REFORMED BAPTIST CHURCH, HAMILTON

As most of you know, Ryan Vinten was recently appointed as Pastor of Trinity and he has been busy ever since. We are currently working through the book of Galatians, and though we are only beginning the journey, it has been a wonderful journey thus far as we gaze upon the beauty of Christ. The church has also seen a number of new visitors over the last couple of months: one family especially has become regular attenders. We have also had several people apply to become members. Finally we have also started looking at the Sermon text during our Tuesday night Bible study: we have seen increased attendance at these studies and hope the Lord will see fit to continue to bless.

WEST CHURCH PLANT OF SBC, AUCKLAND

West is meeting now at 9:30 each Sunday morning in the New Lynn Community Centre. We've been meeting there for a year now.

On Tuesday evenings we meet as a Care Group and on the first Tuesday of the month we have dinner together.

The biggest event coming up would be the day-long gathering of the church at Little Huia on November 18 to discuss an agenda that we all have helped put together. We're expecting every member to be there. Our first such meeting in May was tremendous.

Hanli Liu continues as an intern in the church and is alternately preaching with Stephen through Acts.

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



FELLOWSHIP NEWS

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

September 2017

CROSSPOINT CHURCH, PALMERSTON NORTH

It was a great privilege and blessing to have Dr Fred Malone return to Crosspoint Church in July to teach at our School of Theology. This was his second visit, and he presented his newly prepared course on the Pastoral Ministry to the nineteen men in attendance, for many of whom this is a highlight in their year. It was certainly a blessed time of teaching, fellowship and, of course, food!

In recent weeks our heavenly Father has given us a wonderful reminder of his tender care and provision: Dafydd was made redundant from his part-time secular employment at the end of August due to 'restructuring' and Maria was offered an admin position at Massey University beginning the following week (her position has a fixed term which will end in April, but we are grateful to God for his provision and timing). Dafydd will supervise their children's home-schooling, and should be able to give more time and energy to the work of the ministry than he has been able to do recently.

In the midst of all these planned and unplanned events of recent months, the church has continued in good heart and evident love for Christ and his people. We are looking forward to co-hosting a meeting in Palmerston North on 31st October to commemorate—and learn from—the Reformation, with Stephen Turner, Rob Harrod and Jono Macfarlane as the speakers.

EMMANUEL CHURCH, AUCKLAND

Kishore Mani has been granted a Certificate of Citizenship for Fiji and awaits his passport. He plans to go to Fiji by the end of the year to serve the Lord. To commemorate the Reformation David Yan has been giving a few talks on "The Reformation, China and the Chinese Church," tracing the essence of the Protestant Reformation and its effect on the Chinese Church.

We have two piano teachers in the Church who will be using our hall on Saturday 14 October to present a concert by their young students. The occasion is a great opportunity to meet the families of the students.

GRACE BAPTIST CHURCH, CHRISTCHURCH

Having finished our series in 1 & 2 Peter, we are currently looking at a brief series on 'The Church in Real Life', looking at the internal issues faced by the

local churches in the Acts of the Apostles, eg. Ananias and Sapphira (Acts 5), the complaint about the neglect of the Hellenistic widows in the daily distribution (Acts 6), etc. We are learning from the ways the churches and their leaders dealt with issues, maintaining unity and love, and not distracted from their mission.

We are currently using the DVD material from Tedd Tripp on 'Shepherding a Child's Heart' with the parents in the congregation, watching some sessions together and discussing them, and circulating the DVDs so that couples can also follow through at home. Please pray that we may have wisdom to bring up our children in a godly, wise and loving way, and that our homes may be characterised by love and the fear of the Lord (Proverbs 15:16-17).

We are planning to run the 'Christianity Explored' series in the next couple of months. Please pray that people may be exposed to the true gospel and the life and teaching of Jesus and be saved. (Romans 10:13-17).

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

We are thankful in this season for settling in to our new venue at the Penthouse Cinema. We have ironed out a lot of the teething issues encountered and are now experiencing good momentum with how the service is run and post-service fellowship. Cody Knox and Jeruel Fernandes have also begun eldership training with Mike and Benny. This is an exciting time for all as Gracenet looks to grow the pastoral capabilities of the church.

We continue to prepare for the Acts29 conference in November. The venue is all organised and after an inspection by the deacon team, we are very happy with the choice. This has helped to relieve a lot of the tensions created with past conferences and the large amount of tasks to complete.

———— ROLLESTON BAPTIST CHURCH, ROLLESTON ————

We are very grateful for the welcome into the FRBCNZ. We provide our first update as official members. :-)

As a church we have much to be thankful for as we approach our three year anniversary (1st Sunday of November). Since moving into our new venue in January we have seen a steady stream of visitors. This is causing us to take a close look at carpark spaces and our use of building space to ensure we are providing room for everyone. We are very limited in Rolleston for venues so we have a strong incentive to utilise our current venue as effectively as possible.

During Term 3 we have approximately 45 people committed to four mid-week home Bible Studies on the Five Solas. This continues to provide a wonderful opportunity for fellowship and spiritual growth together as a church family.

Lord willing in the near future we will have some folks who will commit to Baptism and/or Church Membership as we are running classes for this and have had several express interest. In addition, we will soon begin a Sunday morning series on our church's doctrine/confession during our 9:30am class which runs simultaneous to our Children's Sunday School, which has also recently started a new curriculum.

Finally, we continue to enjoy the rich blessing of seeing Christ as Greater in our Sunday AM preaching series through Hebrews).

———— SHORE BAPTIST CHURCH, AUCKLAND ————

As always we are very grateful for the people the Lord has called together at Shore. We will soon be baptising 4 people. One of them is a young lady who grew up in a strong Hindu home and came to faith earlier this year; the others are people who by the grace of God confess their faith in Christ after growing up in Christian homes. For all these we are thanking the Lord Jesus who saves sinners.

At the moment we are mostly occupied with the conference planning. Thank you for all those who contributed and already registered to attend; the numbers are growing and we are looking forward to extend our fellowship with all our churches in the FRBCNZ.

Jeremy's internship is slowly coming to an end at SBC and we have asked the church to pray about his future. The intern experience was new to SBC and we can now look back at a time of growth in our church and positive development in Jeremy as a potential Reformed Baptist Pastor.

———— SOUTH CITY CHURCH, AUCKLAND ————

As a church we are celebrating our first three years and we have much to thank the Lord for. Three new deacons were appointed at our last church meeting. This too, is a great encouragement. A Tuesday Bible Study has been running for those who are considering church membership. For these last few months we have been having two weekly prayer meetings so that folk are able to come to one that suits them. These are held in various homes.

As a church we are looking forward to two conferences; our 'Day Conference' on the 30th September with Robert Briggs and the 'Reformation 500 Conference' a week later, again with Robert Briggs and Stephen Yuille. Our market ministry is continuing nearly every second Saturday morning. Opportunities are taken to preach, to give out literature and to chat to folk who come to the market. We thank God for the willing helpers and for the contacts that have been made.