

Prayer Requests

Covenant Grace Baptist Church, Timaru

1. Please pray for Sam Pascual, the filipino evangelist who was in the process of establishing a new church plant in our old building, who is now being considered for a call to Temuka Baptist with the possibility of merging the new work with the small work at Temuka. Pray for God's will in Sam becoming the pastor at Temuka or continuing the church plant. Pray for Temuka as they consider him as their pastor, being a Baptist Union church there will be some doctrinal differences to negotiate. And please pray for Sam's family who intend to join him in NZ soon.
2. Please pray for Gloriavale who are facing a number of legal charges and the Gloriavale Leavers Trust as they seek to help those who have left and who continue to advocate for those still bound in this oppressive situation.

Crosspoint Church, Palmerston North

1. Please pray that each member's contribution to the life of the church will build up the body.
2. Please continue to pray for wisdom and unity regarding a potential meal outreach ministry.
3. Pray also for that the regular routine of meetings will be blessed of the Lord to the salvation and sanctification of those who attend.

Emmanuel Church, Auckland

1. Please pray for our outreach, especially over Easter
2. Also pray for the provision of future pastoral leadership and a Sunday School Superintendent.

Grace Baptist Church, Christchurch

1. Please pray for one of our members, Manu, and for his family in India after Manu's 35 year old sister died of cancer recently. Pray for her husband and two young sons.
2. Pray for us as we host the latest Roving Classroom on 27 March, and look into the background and beginnings of gospel work in New Zealand. Rob Harrod will be leading this all day session.
3. We will be beginning a new series of church membership classes soon. Pray for those involved, that they may be encouraged to grow as disciples of Christ and strengthen the work here.

Rolleston Baptist Church, Rolleston

1. We have some who are experiencing significant health concerns.
2. The Lord would draw people to Himself from our community and we might be privileged to serve these new converts in their discipleship.
3. The Lord would enable us to actively train up and enable our church members to serve more actively and effectively in evangelism, discipleship and leading/teaching of Bible Studies.
4. The Lord would raise up from our midst men who can serve as Deacons and Elders as well as other servants to fill vital roles in the life of the congregation.

Shore Baptist Church, Auckland

1. Please pray for wisdom in how to minister to God's people in the current situation.
2. Pray also for our church to grow in maturity and a strong Biblical understanding of the Sovereignty of God, the Lordship of Christ and the Authority of God's Word. We can all see the dark clouds of restrictive laws growing in the distance and we want our church to be ready and prepared to stand firm in love.
3. We want to approach some men for the office of deacon and prepare one or two for eldership. Please pray for the process to serve the glory of Christ and His church.
4. Pray for the Youth Camp and the all those who would attend.

South City Church, Auckland

1. Please pray for our outreach ministry, both in the markets and the letterbox drops.
2. As we have quite a lot of children in the church, please pray for the parents as they bring their children up in the 'discipline and instruction of the Lord' Eph 6v4.
3. Pray too for the future leadership of the church.

Trinity Reformed Baptist Church, Hamilton

1. Please pray that TRBC would be wise and deliberate about developing young men for service.
2. Please also pray that the folk who visit would plug in and find the church a rich blessing in their walk with Christ.

FELLOWSHIP NEWS

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

March 2021

COVENANT GRACE BAPTIST CHURCH, TIMARU

2021 has begun for us with the usual flurry of activity. We have begun a fourth mid-week bible study; we have 3 men in a time of testing for the office of deacon; we continue to be involved in the revitalization work in Temuka Baptist; we will also be involved in a combined men's breakfast with the other Baptist Churches in Timaru.

We give thanks to God for our recent baptismal service where we were able to baptize and welcome into membership three new members.

The Combined Church Camp for the Reformed Baptists on the South Island was disrupted by the latest Covid lockdown restrictions. Sadly, three of the four churches that are usually involved graciously opted out, enabling CGBC and a few friends to have a Covid Camp where we were blessed by the ministry of Ryan Vinten.

CROSSPOINT CHURCH, PALMERSTON NORTH

We were blessed to witness the baptism of a young couple in January who joined the church and, along with the addition of others, have increased our local membership to twenty. We are grateful to the Lord for this encouragement.

Our annual School of Theology has been postponed for a further year: we now have Dr Jim Renihan penciled in to teach on the Second London Baptist Confession of Faith (a.k.a. the 1689 Confession) from 11th to 15th July 2022.

Otherwise our regular ministry continues with worship services on Sunday mornings (1 Corinthians) and evenings (2 Samuel), mid-week meetings for Bible Study and Prayer on Wednesdays (alternate weeks looking at *Christians Contentment* and *Assurance of Faith*), a service in a Rest Home on the fourth Sunday afternoon each month, and an informal Teens & Twenties gathering for supper and Q&A with the pastor on the first Sunday each month.

EMMANUEL CHURCH, AUCKLAND

We have been encouraged by the positive response to the live streaming of our Sunday service. We also thank the Lord for the baptism of 2 young people on 17 January and for continuing expressions of interest for baptism. Our Vacation Bible School in January was well-received. The VBS was deferred from last year.

We will be having a Good Friday service on 2 April. We usually get visitors to this service. We also look forward to our 47th anniversary on 27 June.

GRACE BAPTIST CHURCH, CHRISTCHURCH

As we seek to serve the Lord faithfully in 2021 we would appreciate your ongoing prayers for us at GBC that the Lord would give us perseverance, compassion and boldness to proclaim the gospel to those around us, and that the Spirit of God would convince people of its truth and draw them to genuine repentance and faith.

As we continue to preach through Romans this year, commencing with Romans 8, we pray that these glorious gospel truths would continue to shape our lives as individuals, families and as a church. We long for the Lord to help each one of us to be true disciples of Christ, and to be further equipped as faithful co-workers in the gospel. May our weekly Bible studies in the doctrine of man also help us to think and live faithfully in challenging days.

ROLLESTON BAPTIST CHURCH, ROLLESTON

We recently welcomed nine into Covenant Membership including four with whom we celebrated Baptism. We already have a group ready to participate in our next Membership Classes, Lord willing to be held in May/June.

We continue to have regular visitors on Sunday mornings as the pace of growth in the Rolleston community shows no signs of slowing. Some of these visitors have become quite regular, which is a real blessing.

We have a number of training initiatives planned for 2021. Increasingly, not having a building of our own is a challenge for these types of activities outside of Sunday morning. However, we are seeking to be creative and faithful with the Lord's provision while we seek further steps towards a building. (We are in discussions with a larger venue as we are near capacity in our current location.)

SHORE BAPTIST CHURCH, AUCKLAND

Things in Auckland had been interesting to say the least. With Covid levels effecting our meetings being announced the evening before we are to meet, surely makes for exciting crisis management opportunities. What a sure and calming blessing it is to have confidence in our Lord! We are truly grateful for the saints in our church who are showing so much grace and patience in the midst of all this. This is in many ways a test of our faith and to see God's people responding in faithfully pursuing Christ and what He commands, warms our hearts.

We have just "celebrated" (without a cake or tea) the faithfulness of God to us for the past 37 years we existed as a church. We are so grateful to David Yan and very much in debt to Stephen Turner for the planting and then pastoring of Shore Baptist Church. God's grace has been evident in the lives of so many who came through our doors, and were ministered to by His precious Word and Holy Spirit.

Having been prevented from hosting the annual FRBCNZ Youth Camp last year, we are very much looking forward to running it this year. The dates are 19-23 April at Camp Bentzon. The theme this year is: "The Kingdom".

SOUTH CITY CHURCH, AUCKLAND


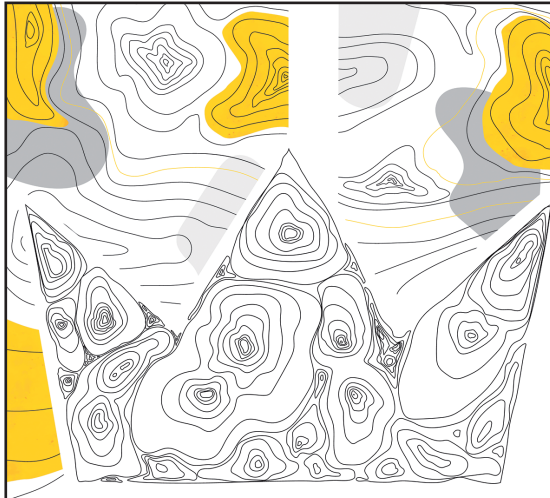
We thank the Lord for our Camp in February. We appreciated the ministry of Nick Clevely and Ian Goodman. We did our meals somewhat differently. We have had caterers in the past but this time we did it ourselves and this proved enjoyable and successful.

In recent days we have a number of new families coming along. We were disappointed that we could not have our Evangelistic Mission because of the Covid lockdown. We plan to distribute Easter tracts in our area in the coming weeks.

TRINITY REFORMED BAPTIST CHURCH, HAMILTON

Things are going wonderfully at TRBC. The word of God is being preached. Fellowship is being enjoyed. And there is a real sense of joy, unity and peace in the church. In the mornings Ryan is continuing to preach through Matthew and in the evening's through 1 Corinthians. Recently a number of other young men have also filled the pulpit. We are excited to see what the Lord does here. We've also had new folk come on a somewhat regular basis and we are hopeful that many if not all of them will plug in.

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



YOUTH CAMP 2021
April 19-23 2021 Camp Bentzon
THE KINGDOM The kingdom of God in the parables of Jesus
rbc.org.nz/camps