

## *Prayer Requests*

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

1. Please pray that the Lord will continue to strengthen the church for His glory, and make us faithful and fruitful in His service (Col. 1:5, 6, 27)
2. Pray that the Lord will encourage us in our marriages and family life, helping us to truly reflect the relationship between Christ and His Church (Ephesians 5:21-33)

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

1. Please pray for the regular ministry of the word: that with God's blessing it will be faithful and fruitful.
2. Please also pray for the forthcoming School of Theology: for Jim as he prepares, for the church here as we host it, and for all the participants who will benefit from it.

### **Gracenet Community Church, Wellington**

1. Mike and the family are refreshed during their time away.
2. The congregation will be kept in a time of good fellowship and growth during their absence.

### **Marchwiell Reformed Baptist Church, Timaru**

1. Please pray for the conversion of unbelievers as we labour within the harvest field.
2. Please pray that God would sustain the ongoing ministry of His Word in all our gatherings around His Word.
3. Please pray for the Bible in School opportunities in schools.

### **New Plymouth Evangelical Baptist Church**

1. We would be able to secure the building we have our eye on and that the Lord would make this transition a fruit bearing venture for his name's sake;
2. That as we minister as a body to each other and to the lost that our knowledge of and love for the Saviour and for each other would increase exponentially.

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

1. Give thanks to God for the growth in numbers attending the Coffee, Craft and Conversation group. Ask the Lord to open the hearts of those ladies who have not yet trusted in Jesus for salvation.
2. Pray that God will use the Capernwray Bible College Ministry Week to make permanent changes in the lives of both the students and our members and adherents.
3. Pray for Desma Lewis who is undergoing surgery on both of her eyes. Ask the Lord to restore her sight so that she can continue her translation work for the Mekahima Bible Studies Project in Ethiopia.

# FELLOWSHIP NEWS

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

June 2009

## **GRACE BAPTIST CHURCH, CHRISTCHURCH**

In the ministry of the Word we have finished our study on the book of James in May and have just completed a short series of sermons on the Biblical doctrine of Heaven. We will soon be commencing a series on the doctrine of salvation in the book of Romans. We continue to pray that we will be doers of the Word and not hearers only (James 1:22).

On Saturday June 27 the married couples in the church will be getting together to encourage one another in our marriages. We will be watching the DVD of a sermon on marriage, spend some time in discussion and prayer, and also have lunch together. We are looking to the Lord to strengthen our marriages and family life, for our joy, God's glory, and the sake of the Gospel. Proverbs 24:3, 4)

We continue to hold weekly meetings (Sundays@4.30) at the Rolleston Community Centre. The adults who come are studying through John's Gospel, seeking to highlight the gospel and the matchless person of Christ. Some of our young people are also running a program for children aged 9 to 13 at the same time, and are also looking at the Gospel of John; while there is also a small class for younger children. We pray that the Lord will bless these efforts to the salvation of men, women and children (Romans 1:16), and establish a light for the Gospel in this growing community.

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

Our regular congregation is depleted at present with the Fullers away in the UK for all of June and part of July, but we have been encouraged with the presence of visitors and the return of a couple who worshipped with us regularly a year or more ago. Dafydd has recently begun a series on John's Gospel in the mornings and is about half-way through a series on Proverbs in the evenings, while Ian has just completed a series on James and is working on a series in the Psalms to begin in September, DV.

The annual School of Theology is a major event on our calendar, and we are in the midst of planning and preparing for that. Dr James Renihan of the Institute of Reformed Baptist Studies at Westminster Seminary, California, will teach a week long intensive course on the Distinctives of Reformed Baptist Theology. The School will be held in Palmerston North from 3rd till 7th August. Further information and registration can be completed on

our website at [www.grbc.org.nz/sot.html](http://www.grbc.org.nz/sot.html) (please contact us if you need an alternative means of registering).

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

We have been making some excellent progress in regards to our Bible overview sermon series (and indeed, are almost at the end!), but were faced with a few blessed disruptions upon the long-awaited arrival of Mike and Candice's baby daughter (Charis Beck)! In this regard, we are very, very grateful to Dafydd Hughes for helping out the way he did. It is so good to know the support of another nearby RB church.

Coming up very soon (end of July), Mike and his family are heading off to South Africa for a two month holiday (the first time that they have been back since coming over to plant the church 5 years ago). During this time, the church will be in very good hands as we look forward to enjoying the preaching ministry of those both within our local congregation and from some other of the RB churches.

In regards to some of the other church's activities, in a week or so we begin our study of Baptist history (which will serve as a prelude to a year-long look at the 1689 confession). Also, we are very happy to be currently running a new members class with the possibility of including 4 new members toward the end of the month.

### ———— MARCHWIEL REFORMED BAPTIST CHURCH, TIMARU ————

We are indeed thankful and have been blessed greatly by our Lord over the last months. Many of our number have been overseas during recent months and it is good to have them back "home". Several people are involved with the Bible in Schools programme, and we praise the Lord for keeping many doors open in most of the schools here in Timaru. In our morning services we continue to work through the Gospel of Luke, and the Book of James in the evening service. Todd Stanton has been confirmed as our combined family camp speaker in October with Grace Baptist (Christchurch) and we look forward to a time of fellowship and growth in God's Word together.

### ———— NEW PLYMOUTH EVANGELICAL BAPTIST CHURCH ————

Greetings in the name of Jesus! As this is our first entry in this newsletter I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself and our fellowship.

My name is Tony Roberts and I am one of the elders of NPEBC. My wife (Cathy) and I began this church plant in 2006 and have had many joys and sorrows during the course of this time. However, I'm happy to report that in more recent times we have had more joys than sorrows in seeing both the

recent appointment of a second elder (Robert Morton) as well as an increase of new folks attending the fellowship.

Many of the new folks who have joined us bring with them gifts such as preaching/teaching, and musical gifts as well as a great willingness to serve and to evangelise the lost. For all these people God is drawing to this work we give him genuine thanks. Due to this steady increase we are looking at relocating into a building right in the centre of town. This will enable us a prime location for outreach on Saturday nights to the many people of New Plymouth who love to go out. The new premises will also give us more room for the children's ministries that are presently running on Sunday mornings.

### ———— TRINITY REFORMED BAPTIST CHURCH, HAMILTON ————

We have had a Ministry Team of seven students and one staff member from Capernwray Bible College, near Cambridge, with us from 13-21 June. During this Ministry Week the students have been attending our services and Bible Studies, etc. They have presented testimonies and helped with Bible In Schools, Coffee, Craft and Conversation, door-to-door evangelism in the Maeroa area and other ministries at the Foundation for the Blind and Trevellyn Rest Home. They have also attended an SIM Prayer Meeting and have served a number of our older members by helping with work projects around their homes. The students are mostly 18 or 19 years of age and come from Canada, Germany and New Zealand.

Our Coffee, Craft and Conversation outreach has continued to see some encouraging growth this year, with a number of unchurched ladies attending.

We are currently revamping our church logo, and upgrading our notice boards and website. We will be making Sunday morning sermons available on the website.

The recent gift of a modern gas heater has made our Fellowship Room a much more pleasant and usable facility.

The Evangelism Training Class has been working through The Way of the Master DVDs.

We recently showed the movie Fireproof at a Gospel tea at the McClennans' home. The DVD is now making its way around the church fellowship for those who were not able to see it at the Gospel Tea.

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