

Prayer Requests

Grace Baptist Church, Christchurch

1. Pray for Nathan and Ellie as they are married on 13 April. May the Lord bless them as they begin married life together and direct them in their life and service together.
2. Please pray for us as a church as we seek the Lord for direction and wisdom for our outreach efforts out at Rolleston. We have run a youth group and Bible study there on Sunday afternoons for several years in this growing community, and are reviewing this, and looking to the Lord for the way forward (James 1:5).
3. May the Lord of the harvest raise up labourers for His kingdom (Matthew 9:36-38; 2 Timothy 2:2) through the churches of our Fellowship.

Grace Reformed Baptist Church, Palmerston North

1. Give thanks for the encouragement and assistance of Gracenet, our nearest neighbour church from the FRBCNZ.
2. Please pray for the Lord to establish the church here as an effective lamp-stand in this community.
3. Please pray that the School of Theology will be a help and blessing to all who attend.

Gracenet Community Church, Wellington

1. Thank God for the rise in attendance and inclusion of new members.
2. Pray that God will give both the elders and members the wisdom and capacity that we need to move forward.
3. Ask that God will continue to open doors for the proclamation of the gospel in Wellington.

Marchiel Reformed Baptist Church, Timaru

1. Please pray with us for the many newcomers who have been visiting with us that they would see the necessity of their commitment to membership.
2. Please pray for an opportunity to preach periodically at Temuka Baptist who are presently without a pastor and we are part of the pulpit supply with other local Baptist Union churches.
3. Please pray that we would receive wisdom to know how to reach out to those in our direct neighbourhood, as well as minister to the material needs of those who attend our church.

Shore Baptist Church, Auckland

1. We would be grateful if you would remember the church as it moves toward appointing a pastor.
2. We would also appreciate your praying for the men of the church and the need for elders.

Trinity Reformed Baptist Church, Hamilton

1. Pray that God will use Mission day, the regular Mission Moments and this year's Hamilton Easter Convention to enlarge our heart for world missions.
2. Ask God to guide, protect and provide for Flor Bontigao as she settles into life here in Hamilton. Pray that the family will be reunited soon.
3. Pray that the LORD will guide the elders and deacons as they pastor Trinity R.B.C while the Marshalls are away and that the Marshall family will be given safety in travel and a refreshing time as they visit Miriam in London and see something of England.

FELLOWSHIP NEWS

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

March 2013

GRACE BAPTIST CHURCH, CHRISTCHURCH

In the ministry of the Word over the next couple of months we are looking at the theme of 'Our DNA: the church we aspire to be'. In this series we are exploring key texts and facets of the character of a biblical church, that we might seek the Lord's grace to grow as a true, Christ-exalting and fruitful church. In our Bible studies in first term we are looking at the theme of being a church in which "the Word of Christ dwells richly" (Colossians 3:16). This will also include training in one-to-one Bible reading. May God sanctify and equip us through His Word.

This month (March 23) we have the first of our 'Home Maintenance' meetings for 2013 where the couples in the church get together for biblical input and fellowship. We also have the privilege of hosting the first session of the FRBCNZ Roving Classroom on Saturday 6 April here in Christchurch, when Nick Clevely will teach on 'Union with Christ'.

GRACE REFORMED BAPTIST CHURCH, PALMERSTON NORTH

We continue to plod along with our small core group, and have been blessed with visitors on most Sundays over the past few weeks: some Christians passing through, one looking for a church in which to settle, and a few 'non-churched' children brought along by a neighbour. It was also great to have a sizable group from Gracenet, Wellington, recently, and we look forward to the help of some of their men in preaching at various times over the coming months. While we are thankful for these encouragements and opportunities for gospel witness, we are earnestly praying that the Lord will add to our number and establish the church for his glory.

Our annual School of Theology will again be held in July (15-19) and this year we will have a new speaker: Dr. Raymond Perron from Quebec, Canada, will be teaching on the Doctrine of God. Full details can be found on our website at www.grbc.org.nz/sot.php

GRACENET COMMUNITY CHURCH, WELLINGTON

Life at Gracenet has been ticking along well. While there are always the various stresses and strains involved in church planting, we are happy to report that attendance is on the rise and morale is high. We are all very thankful to God for this. We do not deserve it.

Looking into the new year, we are readying ourselves for a very busy first quarter. First on the agenda, however, will be the appointing of some new church officers. This is always an exciting time, and we pray that God will give us an expanded pastoral capacity for all that he has called us to. In this regard please do pray that our church is given the necessary wisdom so as to make the right decisions regarding these appointments.

MARCHWIEL REFORMED BAPTIST CHURCH, TIMARU

We give thanks to God for three baptisms early this year, one was a teenager who was recently converted in our teen doctrine class and the other two were ladies who were baptized as babies.

We have no events planned but continue with the regular ministries of the church. These consist in our morning and evening services, mid week bible study, teen doctrine class, Sunday school, monthly ladies coffee morning, and weekly exercise class.

SHORE BAPTIST CHURCH, AUCKLAND

We have had a very happy beginning to the year with the celebration of our 29th Anniversary as a church on February 24 and a Twenty-four Hour Prayer meeting which was enthusiastically supported. The preaching during most of January was on Prayer in the Gospel according to Luke and now we are back into Romans.

The Members have already met for prayer this year regarding the appointment of a pastor and on March 10 a meeting was held to do with this matter. The church as a whole has also met for prayer.

Care groups and Sunday morning classes have resumed. A new mid week group entitled 'The Man of God and the Eldership' meets fortnightly. The University age group is responsible for the leadership of the classes for youth which meet on Sunday mornings. We are preparing for Youth Camp.

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

TRINITY REFORMED BAPTIST CHURCH, HAMILTON

On March 17 Trinity held its first ever Missions Day with sermons with a missions theme presented by Alan Collins and David Marshall, a panel discussion on various aspects of world mission and an ethnic lunch.

Hamilton Easter Convention this year will also feature a missionary theme with Dr. Phillip Scheepers from the Reformed Theological College in Geelong speaking on missionary topics from the book of Acts.

The Marshall family is preparing to travel to the United Kingdom in April for a ten week Sabbatical. The family is exchanging houses and cars with a pastor and his wife from Aylesbury, in Buckinghamshire, north-west of London. Pastor Alan Harvey, who is pastor of Limes Avenue Baptist Church, will preach a number of times while he is here with us in Hamilton, while David will do the same at Limes Avenue. We will also have some of our own men preach while David is away, along with several of the Auckland pastors.

Flor Bontigao has just joined us from Manila in the Philippines. We are hopeful that her husband and two children will be able to join her here in the near future.

The Youth Worldview Study Group which meets every month at the Tennants' home has proved to be quite popular and is attracting young people from a number of churches in Hamilton.

We are now functioning with four elders, Bill Lewis, John McClennan, David Marshall and Robin Wilkins and three deacons, Ken Billing, Noel Gregory and Jobrian Trinidad.

David Marshall has been preaching through the Ten Commandments during the morning services and is still working through the Book of Genesis at the evening services. Bill Lewis is preaching through the letter to the Colossians on the last Sunday morning of every month.

YOUTH CAMP 2013

Dates: 22-26 April 2013.

Theme: Boot Camp — hold the line!

Speaker: Mike Beck, Gracenet Community Church.

Location: Camp Bentzon, Kawau Island.

Further details are available on the website: www.rbc.org.nz/camps.