

Prayer Requests

Bays Baptist Church, Auckland

1. Wisdom in leadership.
2. Opportunities for witness.
3. Encouragement for our hearts.
4. Financial provisions for the ministry.

Crosspoint Church, Palmerston North

1. Please pray that the gospel will impact the lives of the visitors who come. Pray that our Easter outreach will be a means of drawing more than the usual number to hear about our glorious Saviour.
2. Please pray for those who are baptised or added to the church, that their involvement will add to the blessedness and fruitfulness of our ministry together.
3. Please pray for the India Studies (Pune studies are 4th-8th May [Stephen & Dafydd] and Coonoor studies are 10th-16th [Stephen, Mike Beck and Nick Clevely - Dafydd visiting 11-12th]).
4. Please also pray for preparations for the School of Theology with Jim Renihan in July.

Grace Baptist Church, Christchurch

1. Continue to pray for Rolleston Baptist Church, planted in September last year. Ask the Lord to bless their witness in that community, in particular the running of Christianity Explored in the Rolleston Prison at this time.
2. Ask the Lord to give us wisdom and grace to witness for Christ where He has placed us (Matthew 5:14-16). May we have selfless hearts that long, pray and labour for the salvation of those around us (Romans 10:1).

Gracenet Community Church, Wellington

Please join us in praying that:

1. The church grows, and stays mission focused.
2. The church is sustained through the busy season ahead.
3. The wider body of Christ in NZ would be drawn to sound theology through the conference that we are hosting at the end of the year.

Shore Baptist Church, Auckland

1. Please thank the Lord with us for the way people respond to the preaching of God's word. We are working our way through Hebrews.
2. We are also grateful for all those who have been baptised and a few more to follow in a month or so. It is always a great thing to see someone publicly profess his or her faith in Christ.
3. Please pray for all those who now come regularly to us on Sundays and to our care groups. Pray for them to quickly find a place of service and for us to serve them well.
4. Evangelistic work at the Night Market in Glenfield.
5. Our church planting group meeting in the West of Auckland needs much prayer.
6. Youth Camp - please remember to pray for this week to be a blessing to those who attend.

FELLOWSHIP NEWS

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

March 2015

BAYS BAPTIST CHURCH, AUCKLAND

Bruwer arrived back safely after spending time with Zack Eswine in St Louis, USA. This comes with great thanks for the support he received while there and also for the help from Bays in helping his family move house on the day of their arrival back in Auckland. During the last number of weeks we've enjoyed new visitors attending our worship service. We're praying for them and for others who might be encouraged by the fellowship and join with us.

We look forward to the ministry in the year ahead, seeking the Lord's provision for the work – we have need for your prayers in this regard also. We continue to set this before God and asking for the strength to trust him with our need.

CROSSPOINT CHURCH, PALMERSTON NORTH

We are greatly encouraged by the number of visitors who drop in to both our morning and evening services: rarely does more than two or three weeks pass without there being someone new present: if only they would return and hear more of the word of life!

We are also greatly encouraged at the prospect of a baptism and the addition of four adults to our membership on the last Sunday of March, the Lord willing. While these are people who have been worshipping regularly with us for between five months and three or four years, it will be an enormous blessing to have them more actively involved in the life of the church.

At the beginning of May we are sending Dafydd to accompany and assist Stephen Turner in his annual India Studies. Dafydd will be helping in the Pune studies, but he will also briefly visit the Coonoor group (where Mike Beck has been assisting) as this will be Stephen's final trip to that location: various members of our church have been prayerfully supportive of this ministry since its inception about a quarter of a century ago and Dafydd is keen to see the place and meet some of the men who have been a part of it.

Finally, we are also looking forward to hosting our next School of Theology at which Dr Jim Renihan will be teaching on the Doctrines of Grace. The dates are 13-17 July 2015 and details are being added to our website (crosspoint.org.nz).

— GRACE BAPTIST CHURCH, CHRISTCHURCH —

We have had a busy start to the year with our combined church camp with Marchwiel Reformed Baptist Church and Rolleston Baptist Church (15-17 February) at Wainui on the Banks Peninsula; our 20th anniversary as a church the following weekend; the hosting of the first FRBCNZ meeting of the year; and the hosting of the first Roving Classroom session of 2015 (14 March) where we hope that around 35 people from several churches will gather to consider the Trinity and the Person of Christ from the perspective of historical theology. We are thankful for these opportunities of wider fellowship and mutual encouragement.

We are continuing a series on Luke's Gospel in our Sunday services and have begun looking into principles of biblical interpretation in our midweek studies. We pray that the Word of Christ might dwell richly in us as a church (Colossians 3:16) and that we might all be better equipped to rightly handle the Word of truth (2 Timothy 2:15). We also look to the Lord for the appointment of a new elder in April, and pray that others would be raised up as elders and deacons in the days ahead.

April, Lord willing, will also see both a wedding (Simon & Cora) and the birth of a child to Jonathan & Simone. May the Lord strengthen the marriages and families of Grace Baptist Church as we look to Him as our Wisdom and Strength.

— GRACENET COMMUNITY CHURCH, WELLINGTON —

The ministry at Gracenet is going well, and we are encouraged in the ongoing work. At the moment, we are looking forward to things like the ministry in India and hosting local ministry training sessions (roving classrooms etc). So, we are gearing up for a busy, but exciting, season ahead. This will all culminate with our hosting a conference in Wellington with reformed baptist, Joe Thornn (who has just released his new book 'Experiencing the Trinity'). He will be lecturing for the whole day on Fri 13th Nov. The conference itself will be the next day (Sat 14th Nov). Please keep these dates aside if you are interested in attending. We would love to see you guys there. And we truly hope the time of teaching will prove to be a blessing to the FRB churches. Also, we would really appreciate

your prayers in this. Our hope is to expose the wider body of Christ (and especially pastors and church-planters) to some solid 1689 confessional theology!

— SHORE BAPTIST CHURCH, AUCKLAND —

The Lord is building and looking after his church. The past few months have been busy on every front. We have had and are still dealing with some serious pastoral needs in our church. This is just again a reminder that we are frail, weak sinners in need of grace. We are also looking at outreach opportunities at our local night market. Not having a building of our own, makes it difficult to establish ourselves as a "community church", so we'll continue to be a church in the community instead! We have been blessed to the point of reaching our capacity with visitors since December last year. A few families, young couples and young singles are now regularly meeting with us on Sundays and many of them are keen to attend our weekly care groups as well. Most of them are believers from other cities who moved to Auckland, so we are grateful to reap some of the benefits of what other churches had invested in these people. Youth Camp is around the corner again and we are looking forward to serve our churches in this manner.

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