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The Smith Family

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Dear praying friends,

It's been a wet winter in "Whangarain." But the Lord continues to bless. It's hard to believe July 6th marked our first year being "in" Whangarei. It also happened to be our **4th anniversary** of serving in **full time ministry**. God has done so much in those four years. It's hard to believe it's only been four years. He has brought us so far; He has been so good! Here are some of the things the Lord has done recently.

NZBBTP Class

We were privileged to host the NZBBTP students in July. **David taught the Life of Christ** class this session. The students were a great blessing to us once again. They finished painting the church's creche'. It is a beautiful mural of Noah's Ark. They also helped us distribute more John and Romans. We have now covered all of Whangarei with the Gospel. Over **24,000 J-R's** have been distributed **-to God be the glory.**



NZBBTP students

Rotorua Revival



Rotorua Revival

August 6th, we were part of a **one day revival** meeting at **Rotorua Bible Baptist Church**. David was asked to preach along with two other pastors on the North Island at this meeting. People came from 14 different independent Baptist churches on the North Island. It was a great time of fellowship, and we were all challenged with the preaching of God's Word.



Finished creche mural

Church Growth

The Lord has blessed as we continue to share His Word. Our children's ministry has begun to flourish. The past month we've had **15 - 20 children** on average Sunday mornings. We've also had new families to join us after receiving John and Romans. **Sandy and Hester Squire** have become regular attenders, and they are a great blessing to our church family. **Don and Susan McGahey** joined our church family as well. They recently moved to the area, and were relieved to find a Bible preaching church, after "enduring" other churches for some time.



Sandy and Hester Squire

Three Saved

We have seen spiritual growth as well. Since June we have seen **three people receive Christ** as their Saviour. One is a man named **Doug**. He is a relative of the kids who have been coming. Another one recently saved is **Caroline**. She is the mum of two children that come regularly. Please pray for these individuals as we seek to disciple them. Also **pray for those we continue to counsel**. We are still counseling the young family we mentioned in our last letter. And David continues to counsel the young man dealing with depression. The Lord is working in both of these situations, and



Caroline recently got saved

we are thankful for the victories He is giving. **Thank you for praying!**



First baptism

Anniversary Service

August 21st the Lord gave us a tremendous day as we celebrated our our church's **41st anniversary**. We had a church working bee (work day) a few weeks prior to prepare. We had a great turn out, and got a lot of work done. **Pastor Guy Bankston** from **Harvest Baptist**



Church work day

Church in Palmerston North was our speaker for this special service. We had a **record attendance** of **58** on this day, **including 31 visitors!** We also had our **first baptism** since David has been pastor. **LeeLee Morgan** was saved in January after receiving a John and Romans. It was a blessing to see her baptised.

Faithful Men Retreat

September 2-3 we are having the **Faithful Men Retreat**. This is our **first ever** Father's Day Men's Retreat. Father's Day is the first Sunday of September in NZ. Our church has reserved a local campsite, and is inviting men from the area, as well as from other



Anniversary service

churches, to join us for an evening of preaching and fellowship, focused on challenging us to be faithful men of God. **Pastor Ken Mason** of **Calvary Baptist Church** in **Hendersonville, NC** will be our special speaker. Pastor Mason will be with us **Sept 2 - 9** for **revival services as well**. **Please pray the Lord will bless these meetings.**



Revival with Pastor Ken Mason Sep 4-8

Thank you for your faithful prayers and financial support. From the first, God has blessed us with co-laborers who faithfully "strive together with us." This is fruit to your account -these are the first-fruits of our labors together. May we press toward the mark for the prize set before us!

Reaching Kiwis for Christ -together *David, Amy, Elizabeth, Abigail, Andrew and Maryann*

sent out by **Calvary Baptist Church**
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Praise the Lord for a great anniversary service -58 attended!!