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The Smith Family

June 2016

Dear praying friends,

This is the prayer letter we have been wanting to write for some time. We are rejoicing in God's goodness **-we have the visa!!**

May 10th 2016, is a date we will never forget. David received a call that afternoon from our local MP's secretary. She had received a letter from Immigration stating they had chosen to grant Maryann's visa. In her own words, this was, "**an act of God.**" This visa guarantees Maryann the right to remain in New Zealand with the rest of the family for the duration of David's work visa. A Scripture the Lord brought to mind with this answer to prayer was **1Peter 5:10**,

*But the God of all grace, who hath called us unto his eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after that ye have suffered a while, make you perfect, stablish, strengthen, **settle** you.*



Excited Maryann

We know the Lord allows things in our lives that are difficult, and we often do not understand. But they are placed in our lives to perfect us, establish us, strengthen us, and **settle** us. God has made it abundantly clear it is He who brought us to Whangarei, and it is He who will **keep** us in Whangarei.

Thank You!

From the beginning of our ministry we have placed an emphasis on prayer. Prayer is the missionary's greatest asset; and a prayer warrior is his greatest ally. The need for Maryann's visa brought together a coalition of **hundreds of prayer warriors** literally **around the world**. We are humbled and honoured to be the focus of such intense effort. Together, we have moved the gates of heaven, and in turn, shook the gates of Hell! **Thank you for all your steadfast prayers on our behalf.**

Teen Camp

The last week of April, David went to teen camp. Amy and the children ended up not going because of a last minute schedule change. David taught three classes on the Christian Home at camp. Several teens said they were greatly helped by the classes. Many young people made decisions for the Lord that week, and **five teens were saved**.



Mother's Day

Our church honoured Mum's on Mother's day with a special gift. Amy put together a tea cup gift set to give each mother who came. In our Mother's Day evening service we were blessed to have our missionaries, Jason and Shirley Birkin, with us in the service. The **Birkins** have served the Lord **over forty years** in the Philippines. This was the first opportunity we've had to meet them in person and it was a great blessing. Bro Jason preached that evening and shared a video with us about their ministry.



Mother's Day gift set

Church Sign

One of our church's goals for 2016 was to replace our existing sign. We have worked for some time trying to get this done. Our existing sign needed replacing and was not easily visible from the road. We have inquired about relocating our sign. Apparently we are not able to do so because of restrictions on Roads and Highways. Regardless, we did get a new sign to replace the existing one in its current location, and it is a great improvement. This sign uses our church's logo and identifies us with the John and Romans being distributed throughout the region.



David and Amy with the Birkins

New church sign



Before

After

John and Romans

We continue to share God's word with our community. We are close to having distributed **over 21,000 John and Romans**. We continue to see visitors almost every week. One man visited this Sunday who received a John and Romans on Saturday. He was delighted with the service. He said, "I haven't heard preaching like that in years. I'll be back." God's Word changes lives. We are thankful that it is the Word of God drawing visitors to our services. **Pray more will respond.**

Please continue to pray for those in church family we are counseling. We have been counseling a husband and wife who are currently separated. Both are saved, and they have three small children. **Please pray for reconciliation** of this family. There is also a young man in our church dealing with **depression**. Please pray as David seeks to help him overcome this mental and spiritual battle.

Contact Info

Some of you have been asking what's the best way to contact us. For your benefit, we have listed our mailing address below, and our U.S. phone number. This is a NC number that rings us directly in New Zealand at no charge to those calling. **Thank you for your calls, letters and prayers.**

mailing address:
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Reaching Kiwis for Christ,

David, Amy, Elizabeth, Abigail, Andrew and Maryann

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