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**The Smith Family**

November 2016



Dear praying friends,  
 It has been a busy past few months here in Whangarei. We thank the Lord what He is doing here. Here is some of the things He has done recently.

**Pastor Mason's Visit**

September 2-9 we were blessed to have **Pastor Ken Mason** from **Calvary Baptist, Hendersonville, NC** visit with us. Pastor Mason preached twice at our **Father - Son Retreat**. We had **over twenty men** attend our first Father's Day retreat. Men came from **five** different independent Baptist churches across New Zealand. The fellowship was great, and we look forward to doing this again next year.



**Revival Meetings**

Pastor Mason preached five messages at our church following our men's retreat. This was the first revival our church has had in **over twenty-five years**. It was well attended. In fact, Wednesday, the last night, was the best attended evening service. **Over twenty** were in attendance that night. Pastor Mason's preaching challenged us in several areas. Several of our people have testified how God used the preaching in their lives. We truly appreciate Pastor Mason's ministry to us.



**Ladies Conference**



**September 15-17** Amy and four ladies from our church went to a ladies conference in Hamilton, NZ. The theme for the conference was "Wait on the Lord." Amy was one of speakers at the conference. The Lord used these meetings in a great way. It was a great encouragement to our ladies.



**Youth Conference**

The end of September David took three of our young men to a youth conference hosted by **Community Baptist** in Auckland. The youth competed in team games and enjoyed some great fellowship.

**John and Romans**



Despite being busy with these meetings, the Lord allowed us to continue letter - boxing. The past **two months** we have distributed **over 2,000 John and Romans**. To date, **we have distributed over 27,000 John and Romans -to God be the glory!**

**Renee's Visit**

It was great to have David's "mum," Renee, visit with us for three weeks in Oct- Nov. This was her **first trip outside the U.S.**, and she really enjoyed it. **Thank you for praying** for her safety while travelling.

**Port Albert Meeting**



Port Albert is a town one hour from Whangarei. A family attends our church twice a month from this town because there is no Bible preaching church in the the area. On November 13th, our church conducted a service in Port Albert to explore interest in starting a independent Baptist church in the area. **Twenty-seven people attended this first meeting.** Please pray God will give us **direction** and **wisdom** in pursuing this **opportunity**.

**Earthquakes**

We know many of you have heard about the recent earthquakes here. **We are not in the affected areas. We are very grateful for the Lord's protection.** The first was a 7.8 quake - one of the strongest New Zealand's ever felt. The second was was 5.6 quake. Thankfully, there were few fatalities, but the damage is catastrophic in these regions. **Please pray for those affected.**



**Bus Ministry**



The Lord continues to bring more children to our Sunday morning services. **On average, we have 16-20 children every Sunday morning.** We have been praying for God to provide a church van / bus to facilitate bringing these children. The Lord has put before us a used 20 passenger bus that is in excellent condition, and is being retired. **Pray the Lord will enable us to purchase this bus.** It would serve multiple needs of our church for **transportation**, as well as, church **promotion** in our community.



**Thank you!** from David and all the girls for the **birthday cards** and **gifts** sent recently. We are **very grateful** to know you think of us often and pray for us regularly.

*Please pray the Lord will provide a bus for our children's ministry.*

Reaching Kiwis for Christ -together

David, Amy, Elizabeth, Abigail,  
 Andrew and Maryann

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