

The Bankstons in New Zealand

November 2004

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Parkland School Hall Harvest Baptist Church



Carswells - First Church Family



Our first month at Harvest Baptist Church has already come and gone, and with it many blessings from God. We have been averaging 15 people each week. There seems to be new faces every week, but we do have one faithful lady that has been with us since the beginning. We also have a man that has joined us for a few weeks now and has also attended the Wednesday Night Bible Study and Men's Prayer Breakfast. Praise the Lord!

The Carswells, a New Zealand family that moved to help us, has been a huge blessing. They have helped us distribute between 800 and 1000 church brochures each week (over 5000 thus far). We have seen some results from the brochures, as well as, from our weekly advertisement in the local (free) newspaper.

As an alternative to Halloween, we held a Children's Spring Celebration activity. We had games, relay races, puppets (two skits), a short video on forgiveness, and three devotions. I got a little excited during each break and preached to them three times. We had eight kids, four of which were new to the church. We all had a great time. The next Sunday, two of the new girls that came to the Spring Celebration, brought their younger brother and sister. This has packed out our little Sunday School room (seven total) and Junior Church classroom. I will need to speak to the principal about the possibilities of renting one of their classrooms at the school because of this increase.

The most exciting blessing this month was seeing a seven year old boy accept Christ as his Savior. We will be looking to baptize him in the near future, as soon as we are able to find a suitable facility.

Please pray for a young eighteen year old (Hash). He is coming to church and being witnessed to. He is a Muslim and is having trouble making a decision, knowing he will have to face his family. He's scared.

Would you also pray about our need for sound equipment? We are borrowing another church's, and they need theirs back in January. We need: speakers, cassette tape/CD player, sound board/mixer, and microphones. I believe that \$2,300 would cover the cost of this equipment. If you are able to help, please send to our account above.

Thank you for your prayers, and sacrificial giving to this ministry. May God continue to bless you for your faithfulness!



Praises

- First salvation at Harvest Baptist Church
- First church members
- New youth growth

Prayers

- Souls to be saved
- Growth at Harvest Baptist Church
- Additional space for Youth Sunday School and Junior Church
- Finances for sound equipment
- Hash's decision to receive Christ as his savior