The Bankstons in New Zealand

February 2005

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Harvst Baptist Church Children's Sunday School Class



Harvst Baptist Church Children's Bowling Activity



I can't believe that January has come and gone already. We have been making big plans for the year and we are asking for your prayers.

Next month I begin an evening service in another part of town. We have learned that people are very faithful to their church even though it is apostate. They continue to look for something that ministers to them but are not willing to leave their church and drive ten minutes away to attend our church. They are willing to go to an evening service in another church, while being faithful to their church in the morning. So we are praving that God will reach them through this new service.

We are planning a Vacation Bible School later this year, and our sending church is planning to send several memebers to help run it. Please pray that they will be able to raise the money to come. Children progarms are well attended here. Two of our fellow missionary churhes just had their first VBS and there was between 70 and 90 children at each. Debbie, Logan, and Erin were able to go help and the Gospel was presented to the children. We pray that many of these children will be back to attend their churches and receive Christ as ther personal Savior.

As I mentoned in our end of year prayer letter, our Expression of Interest (EOI) for permanent residence was approved. We are now applying for permanent residence ant the cost to apply is \$660 (\$475 US), and if we are approved (3-6 month later), there will be an additonal charge of \$1200 (\$865 US). Please pray that we are approved and that we can raise the money needed.

We continue to hand out between 600-800 church brochures every week. Between these brochures, visitation, word of mouth, signage, and our weekly advertisement, we are seeing visitors come often. The problem is that many do not stay. I want them to stay and grow but not at the expense of watering down God's Word, or compromise. We know that God brings the increase and all we can do is stay faithful to Him. So we continue to go out to compel them to come. Please pray that God's words will take root in their hearts. We are praising the Lord for the faithful 18+ people we presently have every week.

Please pray for Debbie, as she will be speaking at our first ladies retreat this next month. We are combining three missionary churches so her and three other missionary wives will be speaking.

Thank you for your prayers, and sacrificial giving to this ministry. We know God has great things in store for you. God Bless...

Praises

- Sound Equipment
- Facility for evening services

Prayers

- Souls to be saved & growth at Harvest Baptist Church
- Permanent residence
- Debbie speaking at ladies retreat