

The Bankstons In New Zealand

November-December 2013

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Pippa & Sophie Dedicated



Shoshanna & Nehemiah Dedicated



Praises

- One saved ● New Members
- Speaking opportunities for Debbie

Prayers

- Souls to be saved ● Church growth
- Saturday Outreach ● Logan & Brittany's "Partner Visa" ● Family Camp/Boot Camp

As our year comes to an end, we rejoice in how the Lord worked here in New Zealand at Harvest Baptist Church. We had 13 saved, and one rededication. We also were able to complete the residing and rewiring of our church building. We rejoice in how God has been blessing the ministry here. We have had several first time visitors and a family join our church family. We want to personally thank all of you who have been praying and supporting this work for so long. We know that there will be eternal rewards waiting for you in heaven.



In November we saw another one of our young Sunday School girls get saved. Nevaeh was led to the Lord by her parents, after hearing about salvation for many months in Sunday School and Junior Church. She was so excited that she had to call "Mrs. Bankston" immediately. Praise the Lord. We also had a family of three join the church. Also in November, we had a Child Dedication service at the end of the month. We had two families dedicate their children to the Lord. The Cairns dedicated their two daughters and the Buhlers dedicated two of their children. It was a beautiful service with a luncheon afterwards.

We are continuing our outreach on the square each Saturday morning. We have two faithful men who stand with flip charts of the "Good Person Test" talking to people and several that go around passing out tracts. We also have people that are starting to distribute the "Good News" newspaper, which is the Gospel of John and Romans in newspaper format, to the city of Palmerston North. We have completed distributing the paper to all of Ashhurst and Feilding.

In December we had our annual Progressive Dinner with the teen/young adults. This is an event to finish off the year, and we travel to three different houses eating different courses of our meal. At each house we sang Christmas hymns and had a devotion. At the last house, we had our "White Elephant" gift exchange. We had a good turnout for this event with 18 youth participating. We praise the Lord for this group of young people.

In December, Debbie was asked to speak at a sister church's Christmas Banquet for the ladies. She gave a message on "It Is Better To Give Than Receive" using the acrostic GIFT. They had a good group of ladies and a great time of fellowship and encouragement. Please pray for Debbie as she has been asked to speak also at Family Camp to the ladies and at a baby shower in February.

In the beginning of January we will have our Family Camp. This is a great time of hearing good preaching/teaching and fellowship with other like-minded Churches. We have a good group of people from our church that will be attending. At the end of January, we will be going to Boot Camp for two weeks. This is a camp for dedicated young men/women wanting to serve the Lord. It is a rugged, intensive training on church & missionary skills to prepare them for future service. Please pray for the Lord to work in the hearts of these young people men and women.

Finally, we are eagerly awaiting the arrival of our son and daughter-in-law to New Zealand. They will be arriving on Jan. 9th and will be doing an internship with us for two years. They will be heading straight away to Boot Camp where they both will be involved in training these young people. They have submitted their paperwork for Brittany's partnership visa, but have not heard from the New Zealand Embassy yet. Please pray for this visa. Logan has a job already with his old employer, but Brittany will also be seeking employment as well.

Thank you for your prayers and support. God bless, your missionaries in New Zealand: Guy, Debbie, & Erin Bankston