The Bankstons In New Zealand

September-October 2023

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Teen Banquet



Anniversary Sunday



Men's Prayer Advance



Praises

• New supporting church • Increase in attendance in NZ • Church's 19th Anniversary celebrated • 15 people being discipled • 4 souls saved

Prayers

• Souls to be saved • Discipleship classes • Church to stay strong • Guy's health and plaque problem in his eye • Safe travels back to NZ

We only have a few days before we fly back to New Zealand. We fly out on November 25th after spending Thanksgiving with Guy's mom in Oregon. We will arrive back in New Zealand on November 27th. We have been so blessed during this furlough by many churches and people along the way. Thank you for your generosity, support, hospitality and encouragement.



We started off September in Georgia, and then drove to Pennsylvania to say goodbye to Debbie's family. We then drove to Ohio and had the opportunity to see a young man who was with us for our first year in New Zealand. We had a wonderful time getting to know his wife and children. From there we visited churches in Kentucky and Tennessee before driving to Missouri to return our rental car. We then flew to Oregon to start our furlough on the West Coast.

We were privileged to be able to attend the Preacher's Round-Up in Pendleton, OR and were refreshed by the messages that were preached. We have traveled around Oregon and Washington during the month of September, October and November, visiting our supporting churches and a few new churches. We were excited to be taken on as Missionaries for Victory Baptist Church in Bend, Oregon. Thank you.

Things have been very busy for our church back in New Zealand. On October 14th they celebrated their 19th year anniversary. There was a good turn out with many visitors. A sister church was hosting the annual Men's Prayer Advance, so a few men from our church travelled nine hours to attend. Shortly after the Advance, Cody (our assistant pastor) and his wife took some of our singles to a banquet at another sister church we fellowship with. They were challenged to keep their relationship pure before marriage. Two of our past NZBBTP students got engaged to be married at the banquet.

Cody has been doing a fantastic job overseeing the work while we have been on furlough. He has been preaching a lot on being Committed Disciples of Jesus Christ. The hearts of the people have been stirred and at present there are fifteen people being discipled. Debbie is even discipling a lady, over the internet via Viber. Cody, while discipling, was able to lead four additional souls to Christ. Praise the Lord!!!

Some of you have been praying for Josan, the last Filipino in our church who has been waiting on his Residency Visa. In October he received it and is hoping to get his family to New Zealand early next year. Thank you for the prayers.

In closing, Guy has had some health issues. Over the past several months he has had an EKG, an ultrasound on his carotid arteries, wore a heart monitor for 12 days and had an MRI of his head. Everything came back normal, but they found plaque in his eye. Please pray we can find where the plaque is coming from. Guy is feeling much, much better after stopping some medicine given to him in New Zealand.

Thank you so much for your continual prayers and support. God bless, your Missionaries in New Zealand: Guy & Debbie Bankston