

The Bankstons In New Zealand

July-August 2024

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Young men helping with new creche



Staff Appreciation at Rest Home



New Saved Couple Being Baptized



Praises

● Visitors ● Discipleship ● Pastor Cody mentoring young men ● Two baptized ● Birth of our granddaughter, Mackenna Ann

Prayers

● Souls to be saved ● Discipleship classes ● People to join the church ● Ladies Retreat ● 20 Year Church Anniversary ● Helping with work in Masterton

A year ago, our website was closed by the company hosting it, so a lady that was recently saved wanted to do whatever she could to help the church. She has some background in IT, and so she offered to design and upload a webpage for us (www.harvestbaptistnz.com). Several have asking about our services and many visits to the site. We thank God for her being a blessing to the church here.



In July, a couple that got saved in our church decided to follow the Lord in Believer's Baptism. They have a large family, who they invited to their baptisms. Several of them came and we had an opportunity to speak to many. One father in particular, was very interested in talking about salvation. He has visited our church a few times now. Please pray that his heart will be open to receive Christ and that more of his family will come.

Also, in July we were blessed with the arrival of our 9th grandbaby. Makenna Ann Bankston came into the world on July 21st. We thank the Lord for a safe delivery and a healthy baby girl. Children are such a blessing from the Lord. Continue to pray for our Daughter, who is carrying twins.

Monthly we hold an outreach service at a nearby retirement village. The people are very excited to have us there. We minister to them in song and a message from the Bible. In August we showed our appreciation to the staff by bringing in treats for each of the workers and recognizing them in front of the residents. Pastor Cody is doing a great job leading this ministry.

Our monthly teen activity, held between four like-minded churches, is going strong. The young people look forward each month to getting together and having a planned activity and hearing a message from the Bible. The attendance has grown since we have started, and each church has commented on how their youth are being impacted and growing. We started this activity to get the teens from different churches together so that they will feel comfortable going to our annual Youth Camp in April.

We are continuing to disciple many in the church. Personally, we are discipling seven people three times each week. Cody is still discipling a few but has also started a Bible study with some of the young men in our church. He is mentoring these men and getting them involved in projects around the church building. We are converting an old garage on the property into a large creche/nursery so we can separate the older children from those that are not walking yet. These young men have been helping clean out the garage and preparing the floor to have concrete poured. They are learning new skills and learning responsibility. Please pray for these young men to grow up to be strong leaders.

The months of September and October will be very busy as we prepare for our Ladies Retreat, 20 Year Church Anniversary and helping in our second work in Masterton, while the Judds are on a short furlough. Please pray for strength and wisdom in this area.

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