

The Bankstons In New Zealand

November-December 2017

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Newest Grandbaby (Emma Rose)



Cody Hireme Graduation



Children's Christmas Program



Praises

- 5 salvations ● Judd's co-laboring in Masterton ● Cody's graduation ● Children's Christmas Program ● New granddaughter

Prayers

- Souls to be saved ● Physical and Spiritual Church growth in Masterton & Palmerston North ● Furlough 2018 ● Cody's internship ● NZBBTP Van

On November 27th we were blessed with a beautiful granddaughter, Emma Rose. Brittany's mother was able to be here for the birth of her granddaughter. Brittany is doing well, and Ella is loving having a new sister. She is a big help to mom and dad.



God blessed us with two salvations in the month of November. One Sunday morning two ladies from the neighborhood walked into to church. One of the ladies in our church sat down and presented the Gospel to one of them and she received the Lord as her Saviour. Debbie talked to the other lady and found out she is from Russia and married to a Kiwi (New Zealander) and is now living in New Zealand. She was struggling with assurance of salvation. After starting discipleship, she realized that she was not saved and bowed her head and asked Jesus to be her Lord and Saviour. Praise the Lord for His blessings!

We have 10 students that are faithfully coming to Sunday School and Jr. Church. They also have recently been attending the Sunday evening service, where they bring a pencil and notepad and take notes during the preaching. This is teaching them to sit in a service and be attentive. A few of them had been attending Wednesday nights with their parents. When the other kids found out that they were coming to church on Wednesday nights, they wanted to come too. We decided to start a Wednesday night program called CIA (Christians In Action). These children are really enjoying it, and get rewarded for service assignments and returning their homework each week. This first four weeks focused on being servants. It is exciting to see these young people have a real love for coming to church and learning about Jesus. Over half of them are picked up each week and their parents do not attend church. Pray for their parents.

Debbie and two other ladies were working with eight of the children, teaching them a hymn for the Christmas Program, using bells. The kids worked really hard, and on December 17th they performed "Hark the Herald Angels Sing." The other children, then joined them and sang "Away in a Manger". Two of the children's family came for the Christmas program, but left right after the program and did not stay for the preaching. We were disappointed, but kept in contact with the families and invited them to our Christmas Eve Candlelight service. Both families came and after the preaching, Guy gave a simple plan of salvation and asked anyone that wanted to ask Jesus to be their Saviour to bow their heads and pray. Afterwards, three members of one family asked Jesus to be their Saviour. Praise the Lord! Please pray that we will be able to get this family to come to church and be discipled. The boys already attend Sunday School, Jr. Church and have been coming to the Wednesday night program.

Erin's pregnancy is going well. She had to quit her job as a nursery hand for City Council (working with plants), due to the chemicals used in the potting soil and insecticide sprays. She is praying for a part time job until she has the baby.

After Christmas we attended the annual Family Camp in Hamilton. During that time Cody Hireme received his two year certificate for the NZBBTP Program. Many of his unsaved family members attended the service and heard the Gospel. Cody will be doing a one year intern with Guy & Logan this year.

Please pray for us as we are preparing for our furlough in April 2018. If you could also pray also for the two works that God has started here. Logan and Cody will be overseeing one work and Missionary Jerry Judd is overlooking the other.

Thank you so much for your continual prayers and support of these ministries. May God richly bless you for your faithfulness. God bless, your Missionaries in New Zealand: Guy & Debbie Bankston.