

## October 2024

Hello from New Zealand,

Thank you for your patience as this prayer letter has been delayed. We try to get our letters out every two months, and it has been a while. My sincerest apologies.

We have entered springtime here for which we are extremely grateful. The winters can be pretty cold. Still, our days are in the 80's and nighttime will get into the 40's or 50's.

Our prayers are with those in the US right now who have been affected by hurricane Helene and Hurricane Milton.

In August, Josh Zacharias came over from Australia and was used of God to teach a soul-winning seminar to our church and other churches in the area. Since then, we have seen God bring in visitors from around the Ashburton area. Our attendance has been steady for which we are grateful. This past Sunday we needed to add more chairs to accommodate several who came in after the service began. We were thrilled by this.

My (Brett) brother was diagnosed early this year with lung cancer and was told it was stage 3 just because of the location. He began chemo and radiation and when those treatments were complete, he began immunotherapy treatments. After the third treatment, a CT scan was performed which revealed another cancerous nodule on his left lung, right hip and adrenal glands. The cancer has already begun to bore into the bone on his right hip and leg, however; the doctors have said that with treatment they should be able to kill that cancer, and the holes will fill in. When this was announced, I took a brief trip to the US to see him and spend some time with him and my parents. It was a quick, but needful trip and my first since arriving in New Zealand 19 months ago. While I was there, Eric had an MRI done that revealed cancer at the base of his cerebellum and is sitting on the spine. While it is inoperable, the doctors believe they can kill it with 85% success. Please pray for my brother Eric. He is saved, and his attitude is amazing. He has not lost his testimony over this but is giving God the glory. He is a young 55-year-old man, and I would sure love to have him around another 20 years. Please pray God will heal him.

Our mid-winter family fun night in June was a success and ended in an all-out "snowball" fight using Styrofoam balls. And I got dog piled. What a night! In a few weeks, on October 31, we will have another Family Fun Night, and the theme is Tropical. These activities with our church are done to help build relationships between us and them and each other. While we do have great fun, we also have a time of devotion from God's Word.

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This coming Sunday, the leader of our young people is going to begin teaching a Sunday School class for our teens. This is something that I have desired for some time and in August we began planning it. I am grateful that Bro. Sam is willing to do this and pray that God will give him good time management as he prepares lessons, and wisdom in teaching those lessons. We are also praying for several of our teens who need to be saved. God is working in their lives, and we desire to see fruit from our labour.

Last week we attended teen camp. This was our first year to go for the whole week. Jen was the kitchen boss and did a great job planning and cooking along with a team of helpers. The hours were long as she began planning each meal after the first one was complete and kitchen cleaned. The campers were broken up into 4 teams. Red, yellow, green and blue. Those teams competed each day and earned points for different challenges. The main challenge was the scripture memorization. Two of our teens memorized all 38 verses. I was thrilled to see their commitment. Victory Baptist Church had 13 young people at this camp which was a blessing. On Thursday night pastor Jono Millar gave an altar call at the end of the service and said if any would like to pray to come forward and any who wanted counsel should head to the back. One of our young men came back to me and said he wanted to get saved. He has heard the gospel preached at Victory many times, and this night, the Holy Spirit got ahold of him, and he put his trust in Jesus Christ. Another soul stripped from the snare of the devil.

We have started knocking on the doors of homes in our community to invite others to church. If we cannot get to the door because of a gate, then we put the invitation in a letterbox. Please pray that God will bring in people from around our community so that they may hear the gospel and be saved. We have other events that are coming up in the next few months and would like to ask your prayers for success.

May God richly bless you all for your faithful service to Him and to faithfully supporting missionaries around the world not only financially, but also prayerfully. You all are a blessing to us.

We have a new field address 141 Lake Hood Drive Huntingdon, Ashburton New Zealand 7774

In Brett & Jenny Hoffman +64 027 910 2952 Free on WhatsApp and Signal Jeremiah 17:7 Christ,

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