

The Bankstons in New Zealand

March 2005

Field Address:

P.O. Box 9062, Terrace End
Palmerston North, New Zealand 5301
Phone: (011) 646-356-9062
guy.bankston@bbfissions.org
bbfi-oceania.org/Bankston/index.htm

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Send Support To:

P.O. Box 191
Springfield, MO 65801-0191
BBFI – Acct. No. 069050
Phone: 417-862-5001

Logan Preparing Music for the New Evening Service



Harvest Baptist Church AM Service



Ladies Retreat 2005



It's already March and quickly approaching two years that we have been ministering in New Zealand. We have one year to either get our permanent residence approved or an extension to our working visas. We have just about finished our paper work for permanent residence and hope to submit it this week. Immigrations told us that they will make a decision by the end of June. Please pray that we are accepted and can raise the additional \$1300 application fees.

With the US dollar decreasing and the New Zealand dollar increasing it has caused some financial burdens on us missionaries. We praise God for those of you that have been sending us love offerings in addition to your monthly support. Many missionaries are having to return and raise more support. We are praying that we will see a change in the rates so that we do not have to return to raise more support.

We wanted to give you an update on Kapiti Baptist Church. This is the work we watched over the first year we were here. Pastor Reesor is back and is now planning for a team to come and expand the church to meet the need for additional seating. All the church repairs have now been completed and the building is now safe for worship services. God is Blessing as usual. Thank you for your prayers and giving to that work.

Harvest Baptist Church began an evening service on the opposite side of town this past month. We had three visitors present the first night, but not much interest since then. We have been canvassing the local area with church literature, which has generated several calls. There are very few ministries that have night services on Sunday so we expect this work to grow soon. My parents were able to come and visit with us this last month and they were a real blessing in helping us get this new service started and canvassing the surrounding neighborhoods. Thanks Mom & Dad.

The morality is declining very rapidly here. We will not even be able to go to town this coming Friday as there will be an exhibition called "Exotica" there. The event is promoting pornography and will have many parading the streets indecent. The police said, "exposing the upper body is not a crime, so if people are offended they should stay home." My heart is so burdened for the people here. Please pray for them.

The ladies retreat last month went well, and Debbie did a great job on speaking to the ladies about mentoring. The men's retreat begins next week, and our church will be bringing three men, including me.

Thank you for your prayers and support. We are forever grateful and praying that God blesses you richly. Your missionaries in New Zealand, Guy, Debbie, Logan, an Erin Bankston...



Praises

- A gentleman (Peter) joined the church
- Growth in AM service and started PM service

Prayers

- Souls to be saved
- Physical and spiritual growth at HBC
- Permanent residence & application fees
- Exchange rate improvements