The Bankstons In New Zealand

August 2006

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Baptism Service



Daphne's Baptism



Philipino Couple (Mario & Candy)



August was filled with excitement. We had a baptism, a church luncheon, men's prayer breakfast, a ladies fellowship night, and a family of five joined the church. I think the highlight was the baptism and church luncheon. There were 75 in attendance for Daphne Archers baptism (see photo), and then immediately following the baptism service we held a luncheon and sixty people attended. It was a great day!

It was so neat to see twenty-five of Daphne's friends, as well as her aunt and uncle, come and support her decision to be baptised. It thrilled my soul to be used by God to share the Gospel message during the service. Many that came have been attending churches that do not preach the Gospel or they preach a different Gospel. Please pray that they will open their hearts to the Word and that we will see fruit from this exciting service.

We have a family who has been with us since August of 2003. The Carswells started attending Kapiti Baptist Church in 2003, were baptised, joined the church and even taught Sunday school. They decided to sell their home, their business, pack their bags and move to Palmerston North in 2004 to help us start Harvest Baptist Church. They have been such a blessing and it saddened our hearts when they told us that God was moving them to Australia. They were like family to us, and it will be hard to see them go. Pray God uses them.

It always seems like when God moves one on, He always seems to bring another. A couple of months ago a Philippino couple started attending our church. We found out that they had come to New Zealand a year ago and had to leave their children (three boys) in the Philippines. We have been praying that God would provide a way to get the children back together with their parents. It was exciting to see God answer our prayers by providing the money and visas. They are now reunited with mom & dad. Just last week they came forward to join the church. We now have eight different cultures represented at Harvest Baptist Church. Pray that the messages are understood.

The Ladies Fellowship Night was well attended with ten ladies present. Debbie was the speaker and shared a message on Hands. The night was a pampering night with foot spas, back massagers, and complete hand treatments. We had two first time visitors for the fellowship; one has been attending church.

The Men's Prayer Breakfast was also good as we had five men attend. I think the highlight was hearing the men pray. The Philippino man (Mario) thanked God for allowing a church to be here in Palmerston North that still preaches and teaches God's Word. The men really seem to have a heart to pray for one another, and I am so blessed to be a part of their lives. Please pray for our men in the church, that they will continue to be the spiritual leaders that God has called them to be.

I asked you to pray for a young military man (I spoke with) that felt he would be persecuted if he stood for God. God answered the prayer and delivered another military man, to that base, that has started attending our church. The persecuted man is not attending our church yet, but I pray he will.

We want to thank all of you for making it possible for us to be here serving our Lord and Savior. God Bless! ~ Guy, Debbie, Logan & Erin Bankston

Praises

- Spiritual & Physical Growth
- Daphne's Baptism
- Answered prayers

Prayers

- Souls to be saved
- Furlough (Oct 2006 Mar 2007)
- Holiday Program (Sept. 25-29)