

# The Bankstons In New Zealand

March-April 2017

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Erin & Rundell – Laura & Timothy



Baptisms



New Church Members



## Praises

- Wonderful Teen Camp
- One soul saved
- Two baptized
- Six joined the church
- Judd's to arrive on June 8<sup>th</sup>
- Erin & Rundell – Laura & Timothy's wedding

## Prayers

- Souls to be saved
- Physical and Spiritual Church growth at Palmerston & Masterton
- 12 seater van for NZBBT Program
- Timothy's Work Visa

Thank you for your faithful prayers and support each month. We could not be here without your support. We pray God richly blesses you.

March and April were big months for weddings in our church. The biggest one was our daughter, Erin. She married a wonderful young man that went Through the New Zealand Baptist Bible Training Programme (NZBBTP). Rundell Lopez and Erin have known each other for 7 years, growing from being friends from Teen Camp, through courtship, and now to marriage. Guy performed the wedding on March 18<sup>th</sup> assisted by Rundell's pastor. We are so excited to have Rundell in our family. They are living in Hamilton (5 hours north) and are attending/serving in another Independent Baptist Church that we fellowship with. Two weeks later on April 1st, Laura, a young lady from our church, was married to Timothy. He is a Christian man from Colorado. She met Timothy while he was here on a working holiday. Guy performed the wedding for them and they are living here in New Zealand. Timothy has applied for a Working Visa to be able to stay here in the country and work. Please pray for the Visa to be issued soon.



In April we sadly said goodbye to the Cairns family, who have been with us for 4 ½ years, as they moved to England to be close to her family. The Cairns have been a huge blessing to us these past years with their service to the Lord. Brent preaches once a month on Sunday evenings and both Brent and his wife, Claire, taught the children in Sunday School and Jr. Church. They were also very involved in anything that the church was doing. With the loss of the Cairns and two of our pianist, Erin and Laura (who both got married), we are needing more Sunday School teachers and are down to just one pianist, our daughter-in-law Brittany. Brittany is an amazing pianist, but it would be nice to have at least one more incase she is not well. Speaking of Brittany not being well, we are excited to announce that she is with child. Soo, we are now expecting our next grandchild in November. Praise the Lord!

Also in April we took our teens to camp at Forest Lake. We had an evangelist from America preach that week and we saw many decisions made for the Lord. One night he asked for any guys that would submit to serve the Lord, to come to the front. The altar was full. Please pray for these young men; that they will stay committed to the Lord.

We have really seen the Lord work these past two months. We had one salvation, two baptised, and six join the church. One of the young girls that is on our van ministry accepted the Lord as her Saviour. After getting saved, this girl wept because she realized that her family was not saved. We have a lady (from S. Korea that has been attending the work in Masterton for almost a year), and a man (that has been attending the Palmerston North work for about 2 months) come forward to be baptised. Both had been saved, but not scriptually baptized. On Easter Sunday we had the great blessing of having six people join the church.

The Judds, who will be helping with the work in Masterton, have been on deputation raising their support and have reached 92%. They have bought their tickets and plan to arrive on June 8<sup>th</sup>. Upon their arrival, they will stay with us until they find a place in Masterton. With them here, the church will be able to start holding morning services and mid-week Bible Studies. The people are very excited and anxiously waiting for their arrival.

Again we thank you for your prayers and support for these ministries. May God richly bless you for your faithfulness.

God bless, your Missionaries in New Zealand: Guy & Debbie Bankston.