



Advent Christian Conference of New Zealand Inc.

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New Years Greetings!

Despite the tradition of the kiwi Christmas shutdown there has been plenty going on in the ministries we are involved with. Please join with us in thanking God for the many wonderful things that we have to share.

ACCONZ AGM – Saturday March 17th 10:00 a.m. – Takanini Church 160 Great South Road

First a commercial. We have an important meeting upcoming. ACCONZ is holding its Annual General Meeting on Saturday, March 17, beginning at 10:00 a.m. at the Takanini Church of Christ. You are welcome to join us as we give thanks for the year past and make plans for the future.

Burge Family News



And now for the news ...

Last year we added a Dalmatian dog, Willow, to our household. As a child Tarnya suffered from asthma brought on by contact with animals. She thought she had got over it. Apparently not!

Tarnya grew quite unwell after Christmas. She even spent two days in hospital with pneumonia as a result of all this (Apart from delivering babies this is the only time Tarnya has ever spent in hospital).

Praise God, Tarnya had trained the children well and the children kept up with the cooking, washing, cleaning etc with only minimal supervision from Dad (David). No one was subjected to having to eat Dad's (David's) cooking!

Tarnya is getting back to full health and has benefited from the prayers of folk from all around the world.

Our dog has now moved on!

A Mission Focused Movement

A lot of our people have been involved in Missions over the Christmas break.

Gary Schäche lead a very successful work team to Thailand. The team made a major contribution toward Project Nehemiah (the Mission's compound wall), Project Ezra (the Worship Centre) and through the 'Kits 4 Thai Kids' promotion was able to bless the children in the Nakhon Phanom villages they visited.

Financially the trip was well supported too. Our Thames Church made a massive donation to cover the cost of the major project. Generous contributions from all over meant the team was able to see much more achieved than they thought possible.



Cliff & Leonie Ireland, Christian Screen (Audio and Video Ministry), spent three weeks in Fiji, visiting, encouraging and restocking their Christian audio and video libraries there. Cliff and Leonie do a tremendous work and we should lift them up in prayer.

Sickness

Ethel Warner (wife of our retired Pastor Colin Warner) has a heart problem and has been struggling for some months. Colin needs our prayers too. Vicki Alexander is pregnant (for which we thank God) but with all day "morning sickness" and her children recently had chicken pocks. Pray for these folk also please.

Ministry And Money



I bet you thought I was going to ask you for money. No. Just a reflection about money. Over this Christmas period I have almost lost count of the number of people that have come to see me because they have run out of money—some by a little bit, some by a lot.

The Bible has much to say about how we may be wise stewards of the resources God has entrusted to our care.

Bible principles can help us:

- Recognise that God is the Creator and therefore the Owner of all that there is
- Learn to trust that God as the great Giver and thus learn to be content with his provision for our needs
- Accept our responsibility before God as stewards to wisely manage all that he has given us
- Develop a budget
- Learn to be a generous giver
- Learn how to get out and stay out of debt
- Start a savings plan
- Proof yourself against indulgences, snap decisions, impulse buying, and get-rich-quick schemes
- Learn to put others first

We Christians could do so much more for Christ and His kingdom if we would all learn to handle our money according to the wisdom of God's word.

Another Baptism



Late last year Chelsea Hooker (Mardon Road Church of Christ, Hamilton) was baptised at a special service beginning at 4:00 p.m. on Sunday afternoon, December 3rd. The service was followed by a shared dinner. Pray that God will bless Chelsea and that others will follow her example.

Family Camp

While we are on the subject of the Hamilton Church of Christ ... on the weekend of 16-18 February the Mardon Road Church of Christ will have their Family Camp that many of us will be attending. The speaker will be Greg Deuble sharing from 1 Corinthians on 'Practical Spirituality'. You too would be welcome to attend.

Points For Prayer

1. Pray for our AGM Saturday, March 17.
2. Pray for Tarnya Burge as she continues to recover from sickness.
3. Thank God for Garry Schäche and the success of the recent ACMissionZ international work team which he lead.
4. Thank God for the work of Cliff & Leonie Ireland, and Christian Screen (Audio and Video Ministry).
5. Pray for Ethel and Colin Warner, for Vicki Alexander and for others coping with sickness at present.
6. Pray for opportunities to witness and teach concerning money management from the Word of God.
7. Thank God for Chelsea Hooker. Pray that God will bless Chelsea and that others will be moved to follow the example she set in being baptised.
8. Pray for the upcoming Church of Christ Family Camp, 16-18 February
9. Pray for safe travel as we get back "on the road again" for 2007.
10. Pray for conversions and baptisms in 2007!

Thank you for your prayer and support,
David Burge.