



Advent Christian Conference of New Zealand Inc.

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News Volume 10.5—September 2007

Looking Back: Thames Church of Christ

The 125th Anniversary celebrations at the Thames Church of Christ—on Sunday, 22nd July—went off like a treat: Past and present members and friends of the church gathered for the services, for food and fellowship. Some 120 people attended the morning service and over 30 attended the evening service. It was a time of thanking God for his past faithfulness and of looking to the future with hope.

Looking Forward: A Baptism Celebration

As far as Christian events go, baptisms are my favourite. As a proud father I want to announce that my daughter Rachel, in obedience to the Lord's command, wants to be baptised. We will hold a special celebration service beginning at 4 o'clock on Sunday afternoon, September 23rd. The service will be followed by a shared dinner. We have chosen the afternoon format so that friends—especially those from other ACCONZ churches—can be part of the celebrations.

Looking Forward: Family Movie Night

Cliff & Leonie Ireland, and "Christian Screen" (Audio and Video Ministry), are celebrating 35 years of ministry and 20 years in the Pacific. On Saturday September 29th, beginning 7:00 pm at the Takanini Church of Christ (160 Great South Road Takanini), we will be holding a "Family Movie Night". The movie is Joshua (www.christianitytoday.com/movies/reviews/joshua.html). Entry is by donation (Suggested donation: Adults \$10, Children \$5), which includes your 'snack pack' of soft drink, pop-corn and Jaffas. All proceeds will go to Christian Screen Charitable Trust.

Looking Forward: OBC In The Philippines

I am still busy preparing for my upcoming trip to the Philippines. The trip has a tinge of sadness associated with it in that professor Rustom Marquino, of the Oro Bible College, fell asleep in Christ on July 28th. Please continue to pray for his family, his friends, his church and for the staff and students at OBC.

I plan to leave New Zealand and arrive in Cagayan de Oro on Monday 15th October, thanks to the miracle of modern technology and the international-date-line. The students and I will study together, 6 hours per day, weekdays, over two weeks from 16th October to the 29th. Then I will attend the Asia-Pacific Summit in Cagayan de Oro, held from Oct 31 to Nov 3, 2007. I depart Cagayan de Oro for New Zealand, Monday November 5th. Pray for strength and good health over this time, and for safe travel. Please also pray for Tarnya and the children. We have been very blessed to discover that we are expecting another little Burge. God willing, he or she should arrive around February 2008.



Looking Upward: Prayer Ministry at Takanini

Everything we do for God must be done in his strength. **Prayer should be the powerhouse of our ministry.** The great reformer Martin Luther said, "I generally pray two hours every day, except on very busy days. On those days, I pray three." Luther was a fairly busy man - leading a Reformation, defending his theology, translating the Bible into German, writing books, and so on. Chances are he had many "3-hour prayer" days.

I can't say that I pray three hours a day but you may be interested to know that **we are seeking to revamp our prayer ministry at Takanini.** A few of us have always met for prayer for a few minutes before the service on Sunday mornings. We have moved our prayer meeting to the church lounge and invited people to join us for any or all of the time from 9:30 to 9:55 am. We are also reviving our prayer chain ministry. We have had people who couldn't make the service ring to say they would pray for us from 9:30 to 9:55. **What a difference it makes to know that people are praying for us! Perhaps you too might pray a prayer for us during part of this time too?**

Looking Upward: Special Support Project

We are looking to God not only for power but for provision also. Our fund-raising for the **Christian Mission of Ban Naratchakwai** in Nakhon Phanom, Thailand, continues. You will remember that **ACCONZ volunteered to urgently raise \$3,850** so that this new Advent Christian mission could register officially and continue to operate in Thailand. **Thanks to those who have contributed already—to date we have raised just over \$1,000, so we're nearly 1/3 of the way to target.** In partnership with John and Maeo Middlewood in Thailand we have already achieved more than we thought possible. With God's help (and yours) we can continue to do the "impossible". We still need help—would you consider partnering with us and the Thai church (pictured right) in their need?



Please contact myself or our treasurer:

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Cheques:

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Direct/Internet Banking:

ACCONZ | ANZ Papakura | 01-0398-0039449-000 | Reference your deposit: "THAILAND"

Donations are tax deductible. Any excess funds will be sent towards completion of their Dormitory project.

He [Jesus] told them, "The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field." (Luke 10:2).

Prayer Points

1. Thank God for the success of the 125th Anniversary celebrations at the Thames Church of Christ
2. Pray for Rachel Burge and our special baptism celebration service beginning at 4 o'clock on Sunday afternoon, September 23rd.
3. Pray for the Family Movie Night on Saturday September 29th.
4. Continue to pray for my upcoming trip to the Philippines, for the Oro Bible College, for the lectures and for the Asia-Pacific Summit.
5. Please pray for Tarnya (especially now that she is expecting) and the Burge children over the time that David is away.
6. Pray for the growth of the prayer ministry throughout ACCONZ.
7. Pray for the Christian Mission of Ban Naratchakwai and the funds needed for official registration in order to continue their ministry in Thailand.

David Burge.