



# Advent Christian Conference of New Zealand Inc.

PO Box 202-162, Southgate Post Centre

Papakura 2246, New Zealand

David: +64-9-296 9585, +64-27-608 2027

david.burge@acconz.org.nz

www.acconz.org.nz

## News Volume 12.1—January 2009

# ONE YEAR ENDS, ANOTHER BEGINS

Happy New Year! Welcome to the first ACCONZ newsletter for 2009.

## Haunted House?

A little over two years ago the Burge family moved into the **Takanini Church Manse** in order to make it easier to do some much needed renovations. God has provided and most of the work has been done. We are now praying **that God will provide us with a suitable long term commercial tenant.** Would you join with us in praying for this?

Meanwhile the Burge tribe has found alternative accommodation. We are now living at **Kingseat** (We still have **PO Box 202162, Southgate, Takanini 2246**, as a postal address and our emails have not changed). The house is just past **'Spookers Haunted Attraction - Scream Farm'** at what used to be the old **Kingseat psychiatric hospital.** We are renting the old Superintendent's house.

It is ideal for us. It has six bedrooms and a sleep out (which is now my office). It is on a huge piece of land, speaking as a city boy, which is mowed by a contractor (Praise God). There is lots of big trees for the kids to climb and we have been able to go into **'The Amazing Maze 'n Maize'** (corn maze) which is right next door (part of Spookers). To top it all off we are less than fifteen minutes drive from **Clarks Beach.**

Once again, please **join us in thanking God for his provision** of such a wonderful place to live.



## Wedding Celebrations

On Saturday December 6, 2008 I was privileged to be able to officiate at the marriage of **Bill Horton** to **Jan McMechan.** It was a wonderful wedding. Bill and Jan went to great lengths to include as many people as possible in their special day.

Our boy, **Joseph** was a page boy. I don't think I have ever seen him so enthusiastic about getting up and dressed of a morning. Both he and his cousin **Rebekah** (the flower girl) were looking very flash. Though, of course, nothing could upstage the bride and groom.

The wedding is only the beginning of what we pray will be a long and happy life together for Bill and Jan. **Pray for God's blessings upon Bill and Jan** in their future life and ministry together.



## Thames Refocus

Looking back over 2008, **Gavin and Alison McIntosh** in Thames have made it their goal to reach out to the un-churched in the community around them. They have visited every home in their street. They have ongoing contact with these people socially and through **Neighbourhood Watch.** They have established links with the **Parawai School**, by helping with sports and gardening. Similar links have been established with the **Parawai Play Centre.**

Gavin has been working alongside a young man doing community service and thereby has established links with the **Corrections Department** and also the family of this young man. They have even joined the local community patrol, hoping to meet people and at the same time make Thames a safer place to live in.

As well as this they have been working with our Thames Church folk. They have been part of the local **inter-church council** and regular supporter of our **ACCONZ prayer meetings**.

Gavin and Alison both have a passion for reaching the un-churched. Though they love the **Thames Church** and remain committed members there, a change is necessary in order to facilitate the fulfilment of their vision for the work in Thames.

Inspired by the relationship between our **Takanini Church** and **Christian LIFE Church** in Auckland, Gavin and Alison feel called to start some kind of home-based outreach to the un-churched which they will call **Christian L.I.F.E Parawai**. Plans are still pretty flexible at the moment. Probably some time early in February the McIntoshes will kick off the year by inviting all their contacts to a barbecue and a swim in their pool and tell them about what they plan to do.



As mentioned, Gavin and Alison intend to remain part of the **Thames Church of Christ**. It is hoped that both groups will work side by side, as **Takanini Church** and **Christian LIFE Church** have done, and that both groups will reap the benefit.

This is a major development for us and we covet your prayers for Gavin, Alison, the new Christian LIFE Parawai, and the Thames Church of Christ.

Gavin and Alison will no longer be receiving any remuneration from the Thames Church. Gavin is looking to find extra employment. Would you pray for Gavin that he will be able to find more work and that the Lord will continue to provide for them financially?

## *Looking Ahead*

As the year is about to begin I am thankful that I have had the opportunity to relax over the Christmas New Year period and take some time with the family. I am looking forward to this year with enthusiasm. Some upcoming highlights include:

- **Christian LIFE Church** will be holding our first **Movie Night** for the year beginning at 7:00pm on Tuesday **3rd February**
- The following Tuesday **10th February** beginning also at 7:00 pm, as part of the **Christian LIFE Church** service **ACCONZ will hold its AGM** (We are holding the **Annual General Meeting** at this time to make it easy to quickly fulfill all the reporting requirements for of the **Charities Commission** on time).
- On Sunday **8th March**, beginning at 4pm and followed by a shared dinner, we will be having a **baptism service at Takanini Church**. Praise God! Three people are to be baptised. We will say more about this later.

## *ACCONZ Prayer Points*

Please pray with us for each of the following:

1. Pray that God will provide a suitable long term commercial tenant for the Takanini Church Manse.
2. Thank God for his provision of such a wonderful place for the Burge family to live.
3. Pray for God's blessings upon Bill and Jan in their future life and ministry together.
4. Pray for Gavin and Alison and the contacts they have made in the Thames Community.
5. Pray for the new Christian LIFE Parawai that the work will grow and prosper and will be a means of introducing many people to Christ and his Church.
6. Pray for the provision of further employment and finance for Gavin and Alison.
7. Pray that the ministry at the Church of Christ in Thames will continue and that the work will grow.
8. Pray for our upcoming ACCONZ AGM on the evening of Tuesday 10th February.
9. Pray for those that are considering Baptism and for the Baptism service to be held on the Sunday 8th of March at Takanini.

Yours in Him  
On behalf of ACCONZ  
David Burge.