

# PIPERS TO NEW ZEALAND

July 2025

"For we are labourers together with God..." 1 Cor. 3:9a

Dear Praying Friends,

Greetings from a very warm summer (instead of NZ's chilly winter)! We're in the States for a bit to help Lynette's 90-year-old mom clean out her 125-year-old farmhouse and barn, which she's owned for 57 years, so she can sell them. It's been a big job, but we're almost ready for the big auction on July 12. The house is under contract, but negotiations are still underway. We'll have time to clean up after the auction and hopefully wrap things up before we return to NZ. The NZBBTP students will be at our house the day after we return. We're grateful the Comstocks have been there to keep things running smoothly!

April was very busy, as we had students with us for two sets of block classes that Garth was teaching. We took some interesting field trips to see fossils on local beaches with the Creation vs. Evolution class. Along with a sister church, we were able to sing in several rest homes, sharing the Easter message. We had the privilege of having our former youth pastor, Jim Harrison, and his wife, Cathie, come to preach at our annual Teen Camp that Garth directs. What a privilege it was to hear Jim preach again with many practical illustrations, and to hear many testimonies about how God used the messages to change lives. Our sister churches have such a great time of fellowship together! Unfortunately, Lynette broke her foot falling off a sidewalk in the dark! After camp, the students returned, and Craig taught a few days, while we showed the Harrisons around the country a bit. Then Jim shared some insights on being a youth pastor, and Garth concluded the discussion on youth ministries. Another American couple, the Geers, came and stayed with us for almost a week to help with the children's ministry class. We had a neighborhood kids' club during that time with a great turnout.

Another highlight was when Cody Hireme, who was saved in our ministry in Rotorua, became the pastor of Harvest Baptist Church in Palmerston. He has been working with Pastor Bankston, who started the church 20 years ago. Cody was based there in the army, but as he grew as a young Christian, he decided to join God's army full-time. He quit the NZ Army, went through our two-year Bible training program, and then continued to work with the Bankstons. He and his wife, Nicole, who also went through the NZBBTP, have grown so much and are a great blessing!

While we've been in the States, we've been able to participate in some of our home church activities, such as Bible school. We've also seen lots of family and friends at a wedding, a funeral, a reunion, a high school open house, garage sales, a parade, etc. We both have heaps of family and friends around, and it's so fun to see them! We are grateful for God's provision and for your prayers. May God bless you as you serve Him faithfully!

## Prayer Requests:

- Mark Thomas Avery – 89 year old Man from our church in NZ, very sick and under hospice care.
- Our church in NZ – for more souls to be saved.
- Safety and wisdom in auction and sale of Lynette's mother's home.
- Safety as we travel back to NZ on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of July.

*Garth and Lynette*

Field Address - 11 Jules Crescent, Bell Block, New Plymouth, New Zealand 4312

Sending Church - Prairie Baptist Church, 11210 E. PQ Ave., Scotts, MI 49088; (269) 626-8291; Pastor Tom Harrison

Mission Board - Baptist World Mission, PO Box 2149, Decatur, AL 35602; (256) 353-2221



