

May

# Millers News

*"Knowing God and Making Him Known...in the South Pacific"*



Dear brethren,

Well as we pass from autumn into winter, I'm thankful that the Lord has allowed us to experience new seasons. Recently I headed to the South Island to encourage leaders



and churches for 11 days. Ever aware that **God opens opportunities to advance the cause of Christ.** I'm always amazed with Paul. As in **Colossians 4:2-4.** Here he is writing this letter from a prison cell. As he writes he is asking for prayer. But it's

the content of his prayer that should grasp our attention. I should notice the things for which he isn't praying for as much as the things for which he is praying. He does **not ask** the church to pray for his release from prison. But more importantly that **"God will open up to us a door for the word, so that we may speak forth the mystery of Christ. V3**

As I travel between churches, I will often stop at remote spots to admire the Lord's creation, believe me New Zealand has many. One day I decided to head to Nugget point Lighthouse (above) which is a remote Lighthouse on the east coast of the South Island. It is a trek to get to it but worth the walk. I'm standing there thanking God as this gale force wind hits my face and up walks this Canadian lady willing to brave the elements too. We shared the amazing views together. She asked me where I'm from and why I'm in the



South Island which I proceed to tell her. Then headed off to my next destination. Only to discover that this young lady had decided to visit the same spot. I knew then God wanted me to share further with her the saving message of Christ. It led into her sharing she was a Catholic and me just listening to her story. When the time came, I proceeded to talk about its not about a religion that God seeks but a personal relationship with him and that God had providentially allowed us to cross paths for me to share these truths with her. She was touched emotionally. I then prayed for her and

her concerns. One concern was she needed to sell her car and fly to Vietnam, so I prayed. The next day I got a message from her that a buyer had come along. She could not believe how God answered the prayer so quickly. I messaged her and told her to seek the Lord because he is the answer to her life needs both



here and eternally. I know God will continues to draw Angela to himself. I just wanted to not miss these divine appointments which are all around us if we pray and look. God help me as I miss so many.

I had the joy of preaching in the morning and then leading a further lesson with the church after lunch with the Dunedin Church. Had a chance to study with Robert who has recently been converted to Christ since coming to NZ from the Philippines with his family. It was such a joy to join Leah and Robert in the study.







I was also able to encourage and strengthen some brethren in Dunedin, Invercargill, Maitauro, and Christchurch. I always enjoy my visit with the Taylor family who put me up and make me feel so at home and allow such rich spiritual conversations with them.

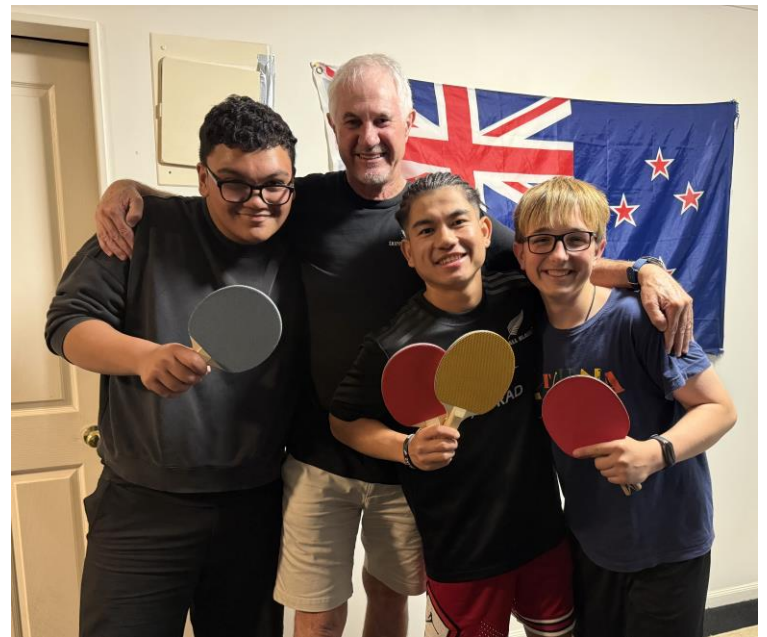
Grant Stanton who has been a dear friend and brother travelled half the journey with me and that was immensely encouraging. Grant and

Chrissy have been labouring in the church in Christchurch for many years and are truly an inspiration for their faithfulness in serving.

This last month it was good having a few of our teens around to play table tennis and have dessert and devotional time in the word. These boys love studying the word and it was wonderful seeing them have questions and comments wanting to be influences on their peers.

It's always wonderful having occasion that we can celebrate birthdays and especially with our children. It was Alexis' birthday and lovely to celebrate it with her.

It was a joy to see two of our singles



Alexander and Melissa met at our church and started dating and then get engaged and now getting married in the month of October. The cake made by one of church ladies was amazing (below).

I continue to study with two of our brothers every week and presently we are working our way through Thessalonians. We meet at the city council's office at the center of town. It's like studying at the Areopagus, the high court in Athens Acts 17:16-34. It's an amazing opportunity as people come by the conference room and see my overheads on the screen and us gathered at 7 in the morning until 8:15 am in the word. We pray that people will ask what is going on in that conference room, and it will lead to further

opportunities.

Owning the family home, church building always requires us maintaining it and keeping it. So, we often have gatherings just to make sure we are good stewards of it. Then we eat together to finish off our time together.

Catching up with our eldest son Aaron and daughter-law Angelique and our 16-month grandson, Jack is always a delight. Aaron (Sea Captain) has been helping get the Kuha a mercy ship to the Fiji Island this month and will be heading up there again shortly to help



to do further medical missions trips the outer islands. The trip up they struck a storm and had 45 mile and hour winds and 6-meter waves hitting them side on. A few of the crew got sick. But thankfully they made it safely.



Please keep Melinda in your prayers as she goes into get her knee replacement on the 30<sup>th</sup> of May. Also keep prayers for Otumoetai Church as we navigate the future. Also, with my role elder, preacher, evangelist, encourager to other congregations in the region for the strength and energy both physically and mentally to do our best one can for the Lord. Again, thank all for your financial support and encouragement for ministry in NZ. We could never do it if it was not for your help in this.

In His service

Chris Miller.