

August 2026

Miller News

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



Dear brethren,

Here we are about to embark on spring down under. While in the northern hemisphere you will soon be approaching autumn. This year is certainly going by fast. The last few weeks Melinda and I have been comforting people through difficult tragedies. Last weekend I took Sam, one of the Bible College students I mentor, to visit the church in Napier. Just a few days before we arrived, a dear brother in Christ who was one of the leaders and faithful servants in this small congregation died suddenly of a heart attack. When we arrived, three of the members wanted to get with us and we were there to cry with them, comfort them and hear their stories. Paul wrote in **2 Corinthians 1:3** **Blessed be the God and father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and the God of all comfort.** If anyone had experienced tragedies, sorrow, trials and tribulations and abandonment, it was Paul. He had a Ph.D. in afflictions and tragedy. But God used his **miseries for ministry**, yet it was also God who comforted and stood with Paul through his low, discouraging and final days when few people did. **2 Tim 4:16-17 "But the Lord stood with me and strengthened me."** Paul truly had a Ph.D. in comfort as he had experienced it from the Lord. But Paul challenges all of us to use the comfort that we have all gained through our own disappointments, tragedies, losses, suffering and sorrow to comfort others. **2 Cor 1:4 "He comforts us in all our afflictions so that we will be able to comfort those who are in any affliction with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God."** In essence Paul is saying no matter what you are currently going through, you are not going through it alone, God is the great conduit or never-ending supply of comfort. You see, God wants to take the pain of the hurt and loss in your life and transform it into



medicine of comfort in someone else's life. God never wastes a good hurt. I have noticed that God has often taken the river of tears in my life and turned them into a fountain of comfort in someone else's life. So that's what Sam and I tried to do with visiting, comforting, preaching and teaching while in Napier.



It was encouraging recently seeing our students step up into preaching and teaching and the boys learning to song lead with the song **“This little light of mine.” for the children’s worship time. The children took an active part in the worship service one Sunday recently.**

In July, Melinda was a part of the ladies’ day

with lessons, games and luncheon together. This is always encouraging for the ladies to gather and see ladies attend from other congregations as well.



Recently David Nelson and I went to the Asian Mission Forum in Chiang Mai Thailand. There were around 160 there, from countries like India, Philipians, Malaysia,



Japan, Cambodia, China, Hong Kong, New Zealand and other countries around Asia. It’s wonderful to get with fellow leaders who are endeavouring to make a difference for the Lord in the places God has planted

them. While I was there, I got to teach which was an honor. What was really encouraging was being able to get with ex-students of SPBC and see the great work they are doing and hear the challenges and heart aches they have been experiencing. I was able to listen and pray with them as they persevere in their ministry in various parts of the world.

July 30-Aug. 2 we enjoyed the celebration of the Otumoetai Church 50th anniversary and reunion. We had 185 attend and be a part of it. Some flew in from other countries which was special. We had some of our former AIM students and church workers want to honor Melinda and I for our 44 years of ministry,



with a special dinner catered. Several spoke about the influence we have had on them. They honored us with gifts and vouchers. and then played a video from various people from around the world to us acknowledging our influence in their lives. It was very encouraging for both of us.

During the reunion. One of our young adults Ezekial was baptized into Christ. We helped lead his mother to Christ many years ago. It is always encouraging to see our younger men and women make that commitment to Christ. In July, it was great to see 2 new students arrive to go through the



Bible college. They are both from Thailand, as our custom, we get them up after our worship service and pray

over them. At the beginning of August, we



saw the ship Koha (gift) that our son, Aaron volunteers on as Captain, off to the Fijian islands to take medical aid and love of Christ to these extremely poor and needy people. They asked if I would come and pray over the staff and team on

board which I did. They are now up in the Fiji Islands doing medical work for the poor in the remote villages. Angelique, our daughter in-law has joined the ship with their son Jack. Angelique is a nurse and leading a training session with the nurses from these islands. They are doing a wonderful work, helping the needs of many. Jack is having lots of experiences with helping distribute toothbrushes etc to children in the schools.

When Aaron and angelique are home, we always enjoy our grandson, Jack. He brings us great joy. We are missing him while they are on the ship in Fiji.

As always, we so appreciate your loving kindness and support of our ministry. It truly has remained **this “sweet smelling sacrifice that is acceptable and pleasing to**



God” Phil 4:18 Thank you.

Please keep us and our ministry in your prayers thank you

In His service

Chris and Melinda Miller

