November 2026

Miller News

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

Dear brethren,

We are in the middle of lovely spring weather here, so we are very thankful. It's truly



been a month of refreshment in more ways than one. I'm often reminded how Paul often mentions refreshment in the NT. We are all needing brothers and sisters of refreshment. Paul, when he was on death row in 2 Timothy and knew the time of his departure had come. **2 Tim 4:6.** And even when all had deserted him **2 Tim 4;16; 2 Tim 1:15** in walks Onesiphorus who he says **"often refreshed me" 2 Tim 1:16**. It is a beautiful word that means cool off, revive or give strength to. He steps into Paul's life on death row when he needs someone to turn up and refresh him and be a help to him. One of the greatest gifts we give people is our



presence, that is we turn up with words of encouragement.

This last month we had the APEDS conference at Otumoetai. That stands for Asian/Pacific conference for elders, deacons and their spouses. On Sunday morning we had 133 leaders from Australia, China, Papua New Guinea, Singapore, USA and New Zealand present. They truly refreshed my soul. It was a great time to talk about how we can, in our congregations lead better and know our strengthens and weakness etc.



We had two couples stay with us at our house. Grant and Chrissy Stanton from Christchurch and Sam and Vivian Leow from Memphis, Tenn. They each truly refreshed us in more ways than one.



What was also richly encouraging was to see Dale Hartman, from Oklahoma City. He is with the North MacArthur church which has been our overseeing church for many years.

Melinda mentors so many younger ladies and in this picture are three Christians sisters she has encouraged and refreshed over the years. They came from Pakistan, Soloman Islands, Papua New Guinea for the APEDS conference.



We had our annual National men's retreat for the Church of Christ in August. It's always good for men to dwell together in **Unity Ps. 133:1** in a world that is getting more divided. To catch up with people like Grant McFarland who preaches in the Sydney church in Australia and 70 others



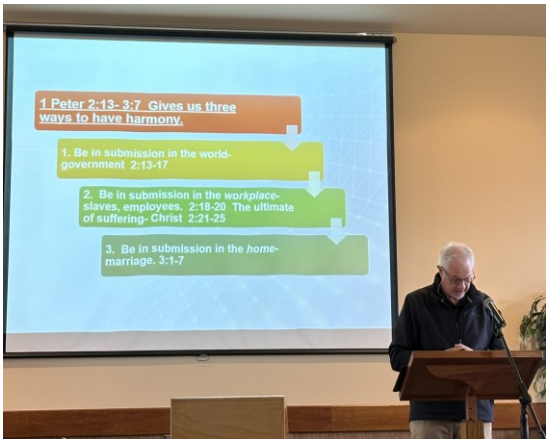
is always encouraging.

Recently I was asked to speak at a small men's group in our city. Though I only knew two of these men it was a privilege to be able to share scripture with this group of men.





Melinda and I are always conscious of reaching out and encouraging our teenagers and young ones as they are the future of our church. So we had a pizza and banana split night and plaed table tennis and had a devotional to challenge them. The girls were at someone else's house at the time. They are respectful and eager to learn. Ezekiel, on the left was only recently baptized into Christ which we shared in the last newsletter. He brings several friends along to church often.



I continue to teach and preach at Otumoetai but also in other locations. My mentoring role is also spreading out to many continents. I get with Raj and Dea who help lead one of the Hong Kong churches. Though technology has it down falls it also has it purposes and



this is one of them. It is a privilege to be able to mentor and encourage from afar.

I still have studies going on locally with members and students. But also, to train the lead the next generation.

Taking out some of the students to the beach and on bush walks to see our region is a privilege, and getting a coffee with them and being able to share the word is a blessing.

Melinda and I get to babysit our youngest grandson, Jack, once or twice a week. While our eldest son Aaron and his wife Angelique work on the mercy ship as captain and nurse, we get to help by babysitting.



We can never thank you enough for your prayers, support and love. Though we labor down under in New Zealand, we are ever grateful for you grace and kindness to us.

Please keep us and our ministry in your prayers as we endeavour to serve the Lord and what he places in front of us.

In his service,

Chris and Melinda Miller