Smiths **Church Planting in New Zealand**

By God's Grace, Impacting Our Community with the Gospel, One Life at a Time.

Dear Friends and Partners in Christ, May 2023

Thank you so much for your prayers on our behalf. We rejoice in all the Lord has done since our last letter.

Church building—
The police believe the vandalism that occurred on 9 March was done by young teenagers with no record of prior offence. Pray for their salvation. The clean up was done by a professional company. They did an amazing job. The builder and painter are nearly finished with repairs and painting. Carpet will be laid next week. There will still be a lot of work to do replacing all that had to be thrown out - curtains, everything in the nursery, books, etc. We are so thankful that we have been able to continue weekly services without interruption. Pray all will be used of God to further the gospel.

Ministry—
Last weekend a graduation was held for one of Barry's students in the Biblical LeadershipTraining Course for Pastors and Church Leaders. His completion of study in

our Biblical Leadership Training program was instrumental in him getting a job as a Prison Chaplain. Praise the Lord for a wonderful time of fellowship with a team of pastors from the Philippines, Laos, and Cambodia along with the president of Crossing Cultures International who use the same BTCP materials to train leaders. It was great to have them present for this special event. Pray for more students to take the courses.

Personal—
Barry's hip surgery is scheduled for June 6. Pray for successful surgery, relief of pain, better movement and the peace of God through the whole process.

Our annual BMW field conference starts May 23rd. Pray for a time of refreshment, encouragement, and fellowship with the NZ missionary team as well as our General Director and Area Director and family.

Family—
Our daughter, son-in-law, and Laurie's mother from the US will be visiting 11-23 May. We are really looking forward to this time together with the whole family. Pray for safety in travels and good health for all while they are here. Pray this will be a special reunion and sweet fellowship. Pray our children and grandchildren will continue to walk in the truth and trust Christ in all things.

Pray for wisdom for the future of HBC – disciple-making disciples to be made, leaders trained and appointed, saints equipped for work of the ministry.

Rejoicing in Christ,

Barry and Laurie

Vandalism Wreckage

After the Cleaners Finished Their Work

Peter’s Graduation / Now a Prison Chaplain