

KIWI NEWS

Steve & Gill Raine @ The South Pacific Bible College

May / June 2013

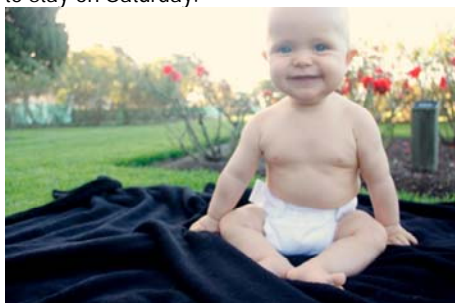
New Zealand



I know many like to catch up on family events as well as our Mission reports, so time for a family catch up. In May we shared a proud moment with our youngest daughter Emma as she Graduated after 5 years of University and is now officially qualified as a veterinarian. Gill and I enjoyed two days in Palmerston North celebrating with Emma. We enjoyed her ceremony and had a lovely dinner with her closest friends and their families also. Gill went and spent last weekend in Tokoroa as Emma was on call and ended up doing several (long) surgeries and other consultations.



As (new) grandparents we are absolutely loving this new phase of life! Noah is now 8 months old and we enjoy watching him grow and develop. Nick & Rebecca are very generous in how much we can share in their lives and this weekend we are looking forward to having him to stay on Saturday.



Some of you are aware that Jono and his wife Swan moved back to Canadian TX from Florida. They have recently brought their own home. It needs quite a bit of serious renovation work to get it liveable and we are proud to see all the hard work they are putting into their house and the construction work Jono is doing in his spare time.

Back here in Tauranga on the church front, Otumoetai is currently going through a series on "Knowing God". Knowing God & Making Him Known has been our mission statement and this series is the beginning of a (re)visioning process we will be going through. As a congregation we want to seek out God's will and plan for us as a body and know how He wants us to be working in His world to further His Kingdom.

SPBC



I ran out of room last report to mention that Jay Jarboe (Missions Resource Network) and Charles Speer (Sunset - but formerly here at SPBC) were here to teach our Foundations of Missions class to our third year interns. In addition to the week seminar, they will do follow up work with them throughout the year helping them to prepare for the work & ministry they will do in Missions when they return to their home countries next year. They are also working with Nick La Spina and Andrew Gearhart (our two full time workers at Otumoetai) on the visioning process I mentioned earlier for the church, and then in the same vein help us here at SPBC.

I have recently finished teaching Greek 2 to the second year students. This class is designed to be practical, teaching them to translate a section of scripture and interpret it in their own words. They each complete separate sections and then at the end we compile them into one booklet so we have a composite translation and commentary on 1 Corinthians 15. This helps equip and prepare them with the skills required to study for themselves. I am very pleased with the confidence they obtain and the realisation of not having to always rely on what others say or write to form their own conclusions.



I am now teaching a year long class, Ministry Skills and Practicum. I say teaching loosely as it is designed as a Practicum, so we have a few class sessions, tutorials and reflective sessions, but mainly want them out engaged in service & ministry. One thing I have really enjoyed in the last couple of years is the eagerness of the students to be really involved in the life and ministry of the church and wider service to the community. I am excited to see what this year's students will bring.

This past month has seen the close of a chapter here at SPBC as Mary Nelson our Compliance Manager of 13 years resigned. Mary did a great job of making sure the college met all government requirements and we always passed with flying colours. We now welcome Tiffany Sanders and Veronica Gearhart who will be continuing on this role. Later this year Roger Craig will be saying farewell to his role of Dean of Students here at SPBC. We will be sad to see Roger leave and I am currently working on finding a replacement for Roger. Please keep us and our transitions in your prayers.