

JUNE/JULY 2023

The Faafouina Family

Missionaries to New Zealand



Sending Church: Metropolitan Baptist Church, 6051 Azle Ave., Ft. Worth, TX, 76135

Field Address: 127B Settlement Road, Papakura, Auckland, 2110

Mobile Phone: +64 021-043-4280; Email: faapen@yahoo.com

Dear Praying Friend,

Winter has fully settled upon New Zealand with shorter days, cloudy skies and rainy, dreary weather. It makes things a little more difficult to plan, but we have been able to continue with most of our outreach days and services as usual. One bright spot this past couple of weeks was Robyn's mother and niece arriving from Texas for a short visit. We are also looking forward to hosting a missions conference next month.

The weather has hampered our outreach in the community a bit, but my door-knocking partners and I have been able to get out and knock doors most Saturdays. We have encountered a wide diversity of both ethnicities and personalities in our community. One young man was quite open about his affiliation with a local gang and his income earned from selling drugs. I have been able to give the full plan of salvation to several people. While many people promise to contact me or come to one of our services, we have yet to see anyone come as a result of our outreach efforts. I have heard from other pastors and missionaries that this is, unfortunately, typical in New Zealand. As for the Pacific/Samoan community, the churches here are pretty much the same as in the islands. There are Samoan, Tongan, Cook Islands and other Pacific churches everywhere in our community and they have the same hold on people/families as we encountered while serving in Samoa. Occasionally, we find people who have turned away from church and the Lord altogether. The cost of living here is such that both husband and wife often have to work and most jobs here seem to be shift work at businesses that operate 24/7. This has resulted in people becoming "too busy" to come to church or even a Bible Study. I will admit to being a bit frustrated, but I am not discouraged. I ask your prayers that the Lord will give direction and prepare hearts as we continue reaching out to this tough community. Please continue to pray the Lord of the harvest will give fruit and allow some of the seed we have planted to germinate and result in seeing people come to the Lord for salvation.



It was a great encouragement and blessing for Robyn's mother, Paula Rockhold, and niece, Cora Amason, to visit with us for a couple of weeks at the beginning of July. The last time Paula was here was when our son was born 16 years ago in June! This time, we were able to see some of the beauty of the North Island and spend some time in fellowship with both my family and the believers here at Lighthouse Baptist Church. It is always sad when our family leaves, but it is surely a joy to have them here.

We have begun plans to host a Missions Conference at the end of August. I believe this will be the first conference ever held in this church's history. They have been supporting various mission works throughout their years in existence, but have never had a conference entirely devoted to Faith Promise and missions. Please pray for me as I prepare for this conference and for the missionaries I hope to have come to present their ministries.

My family and I are ever so thankful for your prayers and support for the work God has called us to here in New Zealand. May the Lord continue to bless you for your faithfulness to pray for our family!

His Servant,

Peneueta Faafouina