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“Those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.” – Isaiah 40:31 (NIV)

“Even faraway islands will look to me and take hope in my saving power.” Isaiah 51:5 (MSG)



As I think about our partnership over the years, I grow short for words. Not for lack of content to draw upon, but out of a surplus of gratitude. How could I adequately thank you?

When we needed a mission partnership, you stepped into the gap. When we needed encouragement, you stepped into the gap. When we needed wisdom, prayer, comfort, grace and LOVE... you stepped into the gap.

You have been modeling for us from the very beginning the very qualities necessary to be effective in ministry. Just as the Cross fills the gap essential for redemption, just as sharing the Gospel is itself filling the gap many people didn't know they had, it is in the everyday moments of life where our example as followers of Jesus is exactly what it takes to help someone take their next step towards Christ. It is in this practice, the practice of identifying what's needed and

committing oneself there until it is provided, that the seeds of hope take root. When we fill the world around us with Jesus, hope simply springs to life.

From each and every letter of encouragement to our family, to every single prayer offered, to every cent provided, you've been filling gaps for our family, enabling us to live on mission bringing Christ to where he wasn't known; smoothing paths, connecting dots, inspiring hope in the lives of countless Kiwis. By your hands (just as Paul says in Philippians 4:18) we have always had "more than enough." Thank you!

Nearly seven years ago the Legacy Church family joined our family in the service of the Gospel in New Zealand. Together, we've been a part of a mission bringing life, light and hope to this nation, and it has been an honor to work alongside you. Beginning in 2021, our family is transitioning into a new mission effort here as I have accepted a full-time position as a Chaplain in the NZ Army. Though the chapter of our partnership is coming to a close, God's mission continues here and we are grateful for this opportunity. It was born as a direct result of our collective commitment over all these years; a commitment to godly service in this country that your partnership has enabled, a service that has now opened the door to minister into the heart of the military here and provide our own support along the way.

Join us in celebrating God's power to open doors, to shine light into dark places, to redeem the last, the lost and the least by the hope we can know in Jesus!

Stories of HOPE

T: In early 2012 we had some new neighbors move in a couple houses down from us in our shared driveway. They were Kiwis returning from seven years living abroad in England. At the time, T was quite involved in New Age spirituality, though as a child she did mention attending church a few times a year. Several years have passed since we first met this family, but our friendship has withstood being separated as neighbors and from

time to time we have caught up for a chat or a meal. Little by little, topics of faith became more prominent, until last year when they became the primary purpose for our getting together.

We helped her get plugged into a house church near to where they lived and regularly get updates on her development in faith. Then, on the 31st of October, T shared the incredible news with me that she was baptized into Christ! Though she is only just beginning her journey with Christ, we are overjoyed that despite all of the challenges, distractions, anxieties and obstacles facing so many people these days, that Jesus broke through and redeemed T into his Kingdom of hope.

Food Bank: Even though this past year brought some incredible challenges our way, it brought even greater challenge to those living vulnerably and at-risk to poverty, poor health and abuse. This is where our food bank ministry, though small by most accounts, was perfectly situated to be our [literal] vehicle into the lives of so many people in need of hope. As our government here began shutting down the nation, they included food banks on the list of essential services. From there we scaled up our operations, grew our volunteer base and gathered additional resources and began dropping off food parcels across our neighborhood to those experiencing the brunt of the economic downturn.



In total, we delivered 776 parcels, an estimated 65,000 meals, distributing over \$60,000 in donations, supporting at least 2,545 people (614 families, 162 living solo)... generosity which blows my mind! And then at the end of the year we were able to provide 62 Hampers, food weighing over a ton (2,250lbs), to 200 locals who didn't have enough food to feed their families over Christmas.

When we started 2020 we had no idea we'd see this kind of struggle in our own community, but we had no idea we'd find so much generosity either! It's moments like this that I am reminded that hope, for those looking for it, is never very far away. And it's brought even closer... when the followers of Jesus show up at your door with a smile and fresh groceries for the pantry.