

The Lamb of God Chronicle

March 2013

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REFLECTIONS... 'Called for a Purpose, And the Reason for the Call is here...'



I have never doubted my personal call to Christian Community, and I have never doubted that Christian Community itself has a 'particular call of God' relevant to the age of its calling. Veronica and I, and the community Lamb of God in which we live our way of life, are called into a purpose of God. I have always 'known' this. I have never needed to be taught it, or have it proven by lecture, or argued upon me by man's reasoning, I have simply known it in my heart. And now, as Aotearoa New Zealand slides closer and closer to re-defining the

meaning of Christian Marriage I do not think this blatant offence of God will remain unnoticed.

I have this week encouraged our leaders to lean deeper into God and to stand firm on moral and ethical issues, and to care for and love our people, indeed all people, in these times. And I have urged our pastoral leaders to embrace their personal call in the Lord. Let us be encouraged by the words of Paul:

Ephesians 6, 10-20: *Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. Put on the full armour of God, so that you can take your **stand** against the devil's schemes. For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. Therefore put on the full armour of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to **stand** your ground, and after you have done everything, to **stand**. **Stand** firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the*

breastplate of righteousness in place, and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. In addition to all this [read 'standing'] take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people. Pray also for me, that whenever I speak, words may be given me so that I will fearlessly make known the mystery of the gospel, for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it fearlessly, as I should.

Roger: Senior Coordinator

OUR PEOPLE...

With sadness, yet confidence in the Lord, we remember:

- To Nicky and Caedmon Rebello and family [Auckland], as Nicky's mum passed away recently in Mumbai.
- To Tom and Mhel Caballes and family [Wellington] as Tom's mum died in Manila.

[Note to all Branch leaders: Please send your local news/snippets to Roger Foley or Tom Caballes so that we can acknowledge important occasions in the lives of our brothers and sisters and make sure we do not miss any of them.]

NEWS AND ARTICLES

ENCOURAGING OUR FRIENDS IN MALAYSIA

In February John Keating and Jim Orbe from Manila, and Roger Foley from Lamb of God, spent time discussing ways of working with and encouraging youth in Malaysia. The photograph shows some local community and youth leaders enjoying the hot sun in the Cathedral grounds.



PRACTICAL NEEDS FOR OUR WORK IN FIJI

People ask me regarding practical needs for the work in Fiji, so here goes. If you can help with an item, or if you would like to make a specific donation tagged to a particular item of need which we can then purchase, then here is your opportunity. The response late last year for materials to set up Children's Ministry in Nadi was overwhelming, thank

you. We have transported across about 90kgs of materials to date and have a stock held in Christchurch of at least another 50kgs to take in future trips.

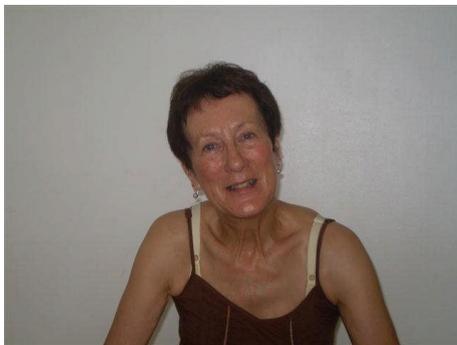
The current urgent needs are for four items being:

- Two second hand guitars, one for Nadi and the other for Pastor Lai from Tavua
- One second hand small or medium sized amplifier
- A portable Data Projector

If you can help then please email me at lambogodnz@gmail.com or phone/text me on +64 21 817232. The community branches we are assisting have little to no resources and such practical assistance is greatly appreciated. God is good – Roger.

LEADERSHIP PROFILE- MEET VERONICA FOLEY

[These coming months, we will feature different women leaders of the Lamb of God community. We will start it with Veronica for the March edition of the Chronicle.]



Hi, this is Veronica and I appreciate this opportunity to share something about myself with you. I am a member of the Lamb of God Community and serve as the leader of the National Women's Leadership Council and also of the local Christchurch Branch Women's Leadership Team. I also serve on the Community Building Team, working mainly in the Fiji Islands and in Malaysia.

I would like to tell you something about my life. I was born during the Second World War in a little English village called Royal Tunbridge Wells in County Kent. My father was away fighting in North Africa and did not see me until I was two years old. My dad came from the north of England, from the city of Manchester. After the war finished my dad could not get a job in the village where I was born so we moved to Manchester. I would have been about four or five years old. In 1950 the Korean War broke out and my father was once again called back into the army to fight in Korea. I would have been about seven years old. Our family had grown a little and I had a sister Carol and a little brother not as yet born.

These were hard times for our family and as young as I was I became my mother's 'right hand man' in the running of our home. My little brother Andrew was born before the Korean War had finished. I can still remember how excited we all were when we went to Southampton docks to see my father disembark off this huge ship that brought him home from Korea. It was quite a day!

A few years after my dad arrived back from Korea my brother Peter was born, then my little sister Susan. Susan lived just three days. I was then fourteen. When I was seventeen my sister Judith was born.

At the age of fifteen I left school and applied and got a job in one of the big shops in the heart of Manchester where I worked in the accounts office. I worked there for six months and then decided to seek employment at a large Mail Order close by. I got a job as an office junior and worked up to be one of the manager's assistants.

It was while working for this company that I met Roger. I liked him but discovered that he and his family were immigrating to New Zealand several months hence. Regardless of this news we started seeing each other. Then in 1960 Roger and his family sailed for New Zealand, and by agreement of both sets of parents, I followed a year later in 1961. It was a long six week boat trip in those days - no luxury jet aircraft were flying as far as New Zealand in those days.

In 1962 we married and set up home in Christchurch and our first child Susan was born ten months later. After two and half years our son Daniel came along and a year later our second son Glen. Much later in our life we had two more children but lost both. Also at the age of twenty one our son Daniel went home to the Lord and five years later our son Glen and his wife Louise were also taken home following a road accident on a mountain pass which also took the life of another member of the Lamb of God. Although the Lord has taken home four of our children and a beautiful daughter in law, he has blessed us both through our daughter Susan and a wonderful son in law, Kieran, and four wonderful grandchildren.



Veronica with baby lowane in Fiji

My belief in God has always been very strong, even as a child. So it was no surprise to me when we were approached by our local pastor and asked to lead a prayer group. We agreed but after a while we felt there was more needed than a weekly prayer meeting prayer group which did not include our three children. And so the seeking for 'community' began way back in the mid-seventies. After many tries at different ways of doing things, all to no avail, we heard a distinct call of God that 'now is the time'. We responded by putting out an invitation to others who may be seeking more than a weekly prayer group to come to our home so we could pray and ask the Lord for direction. It was from this small group of people that the Lamb of God was formed.

We have now been a people for 34 years this coming May and I have seen us grow from one branch to many from the top of the North Island to the bottom of the South Island. We have seen some very blessed and exciting times but also some very sad and trying times. Then in late 2010 and early 2011 our Christchurch Branch was hammered by violent earthquakes and even today they continue.

I have come to realise once again that the Lord is with us and that he is at work in the hearts of my brothers and sisters, not only from our own Lamb of God but also from the communities of the Sword of the Spirit worldwide. And what a blessing that is. What joy when, even in times such as these days, the Lord is ever with us, teaching guiding and forming us until that day he will say to us 'well done good and faithful servant'.

You have my commitment and love.

Veronica

CHALLENGES IN LIVING TOGETHER AS COMMUNITY

Resource for House Group Discussion by Tom Caballes

“Testing...1...2...3...”

March 2013

Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing. [James 1:2-4]

Many animals, including snakes and crabs, shed their skin or carapace at various points in their lives – and that is their most vulnerable or tender point, where they are susceptible to attacks by predators. But that is what they have to do in order for them to grow and become mature. In the Christian life, there are 2 ‘modes’ – one is when we are encountering relatively easy and peaceful life, and the other is when we are encountering some form of trials or difficulties. We tend to fret or panic or give up – but basically, a trial or a test is what it is – it is there to give us an opportunity to grow.

So How Do Face Times of Tests, Trials and Difficulties in our Lives?

1. As it says in the Book of James, we should welcome the times when we are tested. Have the right perspective. It is an opportunity for to grow in our walk with God – growing in faith, in trust and in love for God and other people he has placed around us. It is an opportunity for us to become a little more like Jesus in character.
2. We need to assess our situation in the mind of God – what is His will for us at this time and in this situation? Where is God leading us to? What needs to change?
3. During trials, God wants us to grow in patience and perseverance – with ourselves, with God and with people around us. Most difficulties we encounter are meant to be temporary. We need to hang on and persevere until that difficulty is over.
4. Our prayer life is the key for us to walk through trials. We also need to continue to serve God and His people as we face difficulties in our own lives.
5. We need to focus on the long term, not just on the short term. Why? Because at the end of the day, God is forming us to be like Him through trials and difficulties we encounter.
6. We need to be victors through trials, not victims. We need to come out of a trial stronger, more loving, and more patient, among many things. *Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword? No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. [Romans 8:35, 37-39]*

Other Scripture References

1. *In this you rejoice, though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various trials, so that the tested genuineness of your faith—more precious than gold that perishes though it is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ. [1 Peter 1:6-7]*
2. *So we do not lose heart. Though our outer self is wasting away, our inner self is being renewed day by day. For this light momentary affliction is preparing for us an eternal weight of glory beyond all comparison, as we look not to the things that are seen but to the things that are unseen. For the things that are seen are transient, but the things that are unseen are eternal. [2 Corinthians 4:16-18]; Other Scripture references: 2 Corinthians 3:18; James 1:12*

For Personal Reflection and Group Sharing:

1. When a trial or difficulty comes in my life, how do I face it – with fear and negativity, or as a chance to be more like Jesus?
2. What needs to change in me so I can welcome trials with joy?

KAIROS NEW ZEALAND YOUTH NEWS

Kairos New Zealand Schedule of Events for 2013

April 20 to 22, 2013
July 19 to 21, 2013

Kairos Blast in Wellington
Winter Oasis in Auckland

KAIROS 'BLAST' WEEKEND APRIL 20-22 IN WELLINGTON

Following the success of Summer Oasis 2013, the eyes are now on Wellington for the next Kairos camp called **Kairos BLAST** [Believe, Live and Share the Truth]. The dates will be from April 20 to 22, 2013 during school holidays. The details of the event can be found here:

<http://www.kairossp.com/kairosblastwellington.htm>
<http://www.kairossp.com/blastonlineregistration.htm>

See you there!!!

WEBSITES WORTH NOTING

KAIROS South Pacific Web Site HAS BEEN UPDATED with 2012 photos – go take a look ...

Check it out at: www.kairossp.com

You can network and chat with other young people by going to this website:

<http://www.kairossp.com/kairosspnzchatroom.htm>

We designated every Friday night at 10pm as a time to meet other young people.

Go and visit the International Kairos Media website: <http://www.kairos-media.org/>

Our Lamb of God website has been updated – please visit www.lambofgodcommunity.net.

Sign up [free] for Youth Culture Newsletter

The most recent edition of the Youth Culture Newsletter is now available online. It will no longer be sent to you via the Lamb of God e-mail list but you can get it at this link:

<http://www.kairos-na.org/youthculturenewsletter.htm>

This is a recommended Sword of the Spirit publication for youth and parents.

Living Bulwark Sword of the Spirit - Highly Recommended!

This Sword of the Spirit on-line publication has received more than 43,000 visits (an average of 135 visits each day) in its first year. All back issues for the past 12 months can be found at: <http://www.swordofthespirit.net/bulwark/archives.htm>. The current issue of the online magazine can be seen at: www.swordofthespirit.net/bulwark/index.html.

SENDING NEWS FOR CHRONICLE PUBLICATION

Branches are encouraged to email news, photos, happenings and snippets to Tom Caballes at josethomascaballes@gmail.com. Each issue is closed around the 20th of the month.

IMPORTANT NOTICE ABOUT OUR RECORDS

Membership Records and Data: Branch leaders are responsible to keep updated records and then email all new attendee additions, deletions, address and phone changes, births, deaths, transfers, etc to -

Tom Caballes josethomascaballes@gmail.com
and copy to Lamb_of_God@clear.net.nz

BIRTHDAY INFORMATION

[Day and month, but year is optional.] Branch leaders are asked to keep updated records and email all new attendee additions to -

Tom Caballes josethomascaballes@gmail.com

GETTING CHRONICLE & OTHER NEWS BY EMAIL

[1] If you are receiving The Chronicle as an electronic edition, we just need hear if and when you change your email address. Notify Lamb_of_God@clear.net.nz.

[2] If you are receiving this by hard copy but you have an email address, please send your email address to Lamb_of_God@clear.net.nz.

[3] The Chronicle has a national and international mailing schedule. If you know of others wishing to be added, notify Lamb_of_God@clear.net.nz.

Wedding Anniversaries for March - Happy Anniversary!

NAMES	DATE	BRANCH
John & Dora Tham	03/03	Auckland
Tony & Lisa Borkus	06/03	Christchurch
Nui & Lisa O'Malley	11/03	Central
John & Kathleen Murray	16/03	Christchurch
OG & Riza Gueco	25/03	Central
Michael & Florence Quigley	30/03	Southern

Birthdays for March - Happy Birthday!

NAMES	BIRTHDAY	BRANCH
Debbie Anngow	03/03	Christchurch
Kerry Fordham	03/03	Christchurch
Jun Briguera	05/03	Central
Dwayne Lobo	06/03	Auckland
Terry Greig	07/03	Central
Noreen Tod	07/03	Ch/Ashburton
Therese Sison	07/03	Central
Renita Martis	08/03	Auckland
Judith Rodgers	08/03	Blenheim
Luiza Antao	09/03	Auckland
Adam Lyons	09/03	Christchurch
Rosalie Barber	10/03	Nelson
Reena Fernandes	10/03	Auckland
Lisa O'Malley	10/03	Central
Lisa Borkus	11/03	Christchurch
John Murray	11/03	Christchurch
Malaika Sequeira	11/03	Christchurch
Terry Westbury	11/03	Nelson
Ray Muollo	12/03	Nelson
Bernard Forster	14/03	Christchurch
Gidget Mendonca	14/03	Auckland
Brian Hewer	14/03	Blenheim
Peter O'Connell	14/03	Nelson
Gareth Mendonca	15/03	Auckland
Mark Jackson	15/03	Blenheim
Christine O'Neill	15/03	Blenheim
Mark Stolten	16/03	Auckland
Shalini Saldanha	19/03	Auckland
Tep Roxas	20/03	Central
Kathleen Black	21/03	Christchurch
Rachelle Dekker	22/03	Blenheim
Sophie Lyons	22/03	Christchurch
Lote Masara	23/03	Christchurch
Colleen Gorman	23/03	Ch/Ashburton
Joshua Tham	24/03	Auckland
Ishaan Castelino	25/03	Auckland
Grace Challies	25/03	Christchurch
Patrick Morais	25/03	Auckland
Roger Foley	26/03	Christchurch
Nathan Lowe	26/03	Auckland
Rina D'Souza	27/03	Auckland
Fleur Carvalho	28/03	Auckland
Sarah O'Malley	30/03	Central
Mikyla Challies	31/03	Christchurch

PRAYERWATCH - SOLDIERS OF CHRIST, ARISE

Fight the good fight

Reinforce the guard, station the watchmen, prepare an ambush! The Lord will carry out his purpose. Jeremiah 51: 12 NIV

Praise has an important place on the Prayerwatch as we spend the first quarter of our time on Watch praising and worshipping God our Father. As we start any prayer time we need to acknowledge who God is and the important part he plays in our lives. He is not just our Creator but continually watches over us as we go about our daily lives. We constantly need to see how He watches over and guides us and provide for us in all we do. The Psalms are a great source of how to praise and worship God as they show us the many things He is to us, such as, our Creator, our Rock, our Shield, our Haven, our Fortress, our Redeemer, our Savior, our Refuge, our Strength and our Deliverer. In the Gospels we read that Jesus is the Bread of Life, the Life, the Living Water, the Way, the Light to the world, the Truth and the Resurrection. From the scriptures we know God's love for us is unbounding, His compassion knows no limits and His goodness is forever [Psalm 145:]. God forgives or removes our sins as far as the east is from the west [Psalm 103: 12], what a mighty God He is. As we look at the world we can despair and ask, "Where is God?" but first we need to know who God is and what he does. When we acknowledge who God is, then we need to come praising and worshipping Him for who He is and also thank Him for what He has done.

Psalm 100

1 Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth.

2 Worship the Lord with gladness; come before him with joyful songs.

3 Know that the Lord is God. It is he who made us, and we are his; we are his people, the sheep of his pasture.

4 Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise; give thanks to him and praise his name.

5 For the Lord is good and his love endures forever; his faithfulness continues through all generations.

If you have any comments or questions concerning the Prayerwatch then please send them to me or give them to one of your branch leaders to send to me. God bless and watch over you all.

Alan McKenzie - National Coordinator, Prayerwatch

LAMB OF GOD PRAYERWATCH - PRAYER INTENTIONS

SPIRITUAL WARFARE

Against strongholds of Apathy, Witchcraft, Confusion and other named spirits.

INTERCESSORY PRAYER

COMMUNITIES Protect and bless the life and mission of SWORD OF THE SPIRIT, Patmos & Cornerstone Lamb of God [Fiji], Families for Christ [Melbourne], Vanuatu Group, Light of Christ

[Nelson], The Covenanted Community For Christ, [Penang & Taiping], protect and bless their life and mission.

FAMILY Auckland: Keith & Rohini Lewis, Bernie MacNevin, Yvonne D'Souza, Peter & Margaret Stoddard, Lovlin & Honorine Franswah, Desmond & Charmaine Vessaokar, Christopher & Carol Fernandes, Tili Leatitagaloa, Blanche Fernandes, Central: Jun & Angie Briguera, Henri & Cutie Zalamea, Rose Buladaco, Joel & Tiza Sison, Robert & Ethel Caballes, Blenheim: Jamie & Judith Rodgers, Mark & Mary Jackson, Mike & Cheryl Garrett, Christchurch: Roger & Veronica Foley, Robert & Karin Van Doorn, Darren & Julie Humphries, Tai & De Stirling, Bruce & Bronwyn Harborne, Niul & Coila Kay, Lyn Keane, Pauline Marsden, John & Monica Haughey, Annette Sargisson, Southern: John & Janet MacManus, Richard & Christine May, Mike & Judy Prendeville,

PREGNANCY Central: Pogia [Anitelea] Afamasaga,

HEALING CANCER Blenheim: Carol Cullimore, David Aberhart, Christchurch: Mary Anngow, Robin Corbett,

HEALING HEART Auckland: Isabel Morais, Central: Paul Oliver, Dave Taylor, Blenheim: Chris Fredericks, Christchurch: Dorelle Ham, Undine Cavanagh, Philip Middlemiss,

HEALING Auckland: Annette Carvalho, Winona D'Costa, Olivia Fernandes, Lucy Misquita, Blanche & Denis Hollingsworth, Cheryl Donald, Mira D'Souza, Jemima Rebello, Peter D'Souza, Delia D'Mello, Fr John Rea, Elizabeth Locke, Maria dos Anjos D'Souza, Bruce Donald, Rosana Kuresa, Judy Lim, Thomas Hong, Vimath Sequeira, Karyn Coutinho, Central: Henri Zalamea, Aly Fernandes, Rae Taylor, Nelson: Stephanie O'Connell, Sharon Powick, Michael Powick, Jacob Muollo, Blenheim: Peter Greig, Josiah Grieg, Grace Weston, Mike Garrett, Micah Rodgers, Anita Fredericks, Jamie & Judith Rodgers, Barbara Ryan, Christchurch: Lisa Borkus, Karin Van Doorn, Chris Aston Grieve, Veronica Foley, Siobhan Forster, Andrew Black, Bernie Black, John Murray, Chris Lyons, Monica Haughey, Joan Corbett, Andre'a Forster, Mikyla Challies, Danielle McKenzie, Southern: Fr Merv McGettigan, Daniel MacManus, Steven & Judy Homes & Family, Pat Forster, Michael Quigley,

BEREAVEMENT Auckland: Elizabeth & Mark Stolten, Peter & Jacinta Dalgado, Nicky & Caedy Rebello, Brian & Joan Lobo, Central: Tom & Mhel Caballes, Christchurch: Undine Cavanagh,

OTHERS NEEDS Auckland: Keith & Rohini Lewis & Family, Mark & Elizabeth Stolten, Bob Misst, Alwin D'Souza, Allen & Judy Carneiro, Jacob & Petronella Kahonde, Gillian Puch, Joseph Gomes, Light of Christ Community [Nelson]

COVERING PRAYER National Council, Kairos Ministries, Branch Life, Lamb of God Centre, Branch Visits, Clustering in Auckland, Ministry of Fr John Rea, Employment of Members, Light of Christ Special Ministry, Wellington branch [sickness among extended family], and Ashburton Group in Christchurch.

"I have made you a Watchman" Ezekiel 33: 7