

The Lamb of God Chronicle

April 2014

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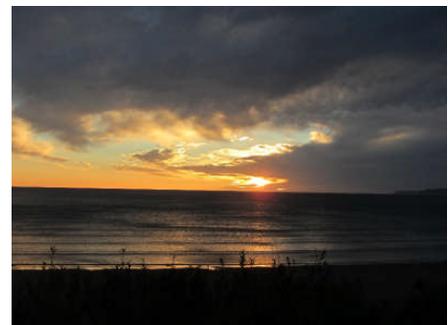
REFLECTIONS: '... More testing, more trials, more blessings...'



March has been quite a month for Veronica and me. The month ranged from two big storms, one which caused seventeen inside house leaks due to unattended earthquake repairs to our home, plus nearly \$4,000 new water damage that is no longer covered under our revised insurance policy which has

lifted the 'flood' excess for us to \$10,000. The second storm was rather dramatic and rather violent as Cyclone Lucy [arriving as per photo 3] hit the Golden Bay region where we were taking some leave [proven by the photographs]. Then with trips to our Nelson, Blenheim, Wellington and day return trip to Napier for a meeting, plus a visit to the Lamb of God Nadi, Fiji to do some leadership training and to introduce the community to the Lord's Day Ceremony- it was quite a month.

A highlight was our branch visits to Nelson and Blenheim. It is so good to have the privilege to pray with, share with, and enjoy relationship with such people. These smaller centres of the Lamb of God are full of 'gems'- people who are committed and faithful over the long haul. They certainly are committed to each other, love each other, have lots of relationship and fun together and give selflessly of time and talent to both community and church. They evidence relationship and love in living this life to which we are called.



Roger and Veronica

OUR PEOPLE

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

- John & Janet MacManus & family [Southern], as Janet's Mother has died.
- Juanita, Tony, Jonathan & David Ashfield [Auckland], as Juanita's mum passed away.
- Celyn Libunao [Christchurch], whose dad died recently.

[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

NEWS FROM FR JOHN REA

Here is extract from a recent email update from Fr John. *'On 30 January I received an email from Australia about baby Noah with whom I prayed before he was born. A scan had revealed something wrong with his mouth. It seems now that the Lord healed his cleft palate while he was still in utero. On 13 February I prayed with a man who had an extremely painful left hand. This interfered with his work nearly all of which he does from home with the aid of a computer. The Lord took the pain away the day after I prayed with him. And I was in Canberra in late February where the Lord healed a woman who'd been suffering allergy related migraine headaches almost every day.'*

We look forward to various meeting now in planning with Fr John for various locations throughout New Zealand. Praise be to the Lord.

WELLINGTON CROSSROADS RETREAT AND LIFE IN THE SPIRIT SEMINAR

The Wellington branch started the year with a mission approach by sponsoring a Crossroads retreat, an introduction course for the Life in the Spirit Seminar [LSS], and then followed by the LSS itself. The Crossroads retreat and the LSS combined both the adult and youth LSS participants so both groups are benefitting from the course. Speakers for the retreat and LSS are from local people, plus personal testimonies of the members of the Wellington branch.





WELLINGTON WOMEN'S HAT PARTY #2 FELLOWSHIP - PHOTOS

The Ladies of the Wellington Branch had another hat party last March 15. This was a follow from last year's ladies first hat party. This time, the party included the Kairos youth. They had a great time together!



The Lamb of God Community Logo



Have you ever wondered what the Lamb Logo means? Who created it and when?

The Logo: The Logo is a graphic reminder of the nature, purpose and vision of the Lamb of God Community. It attempts to portray the Lord's will for our common life as received through the prophetic word. The logo consists of four stylised elements - the cross, the world, human figures and hands firmly supporting the world.

The Human Figures: We are called to be a people of praise. This is expressed in the raised arms. The hands are linked indicating that we are a people, in a common place sharing in the common work of praise. The attitude of the figures conveys the freedom and joy of the unity expressed in Christ.

While the Lord has called us into a deeper relationship with Him as individuals, we are also required by Him to link our lives, thus forming a people developing committed relationships in His Name.

The World and the Cross: are expressed in the globe, and the lines of longitude represent "world", but more significantly the continued outpouring of grace and power forming a mantle or covering for the people of praise. The Lamb of God sacrificed on the cross is the source of this grace and favour to us. *For God so loved the world that He gave his only Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.* John 3:16. The community of praise is to be an instrument of God, formed for His purpose in proclaiming salvation to men.

The Hands: The raising of a people "out of the mire of the world" is represented by the stylised hands. The world is God's creation and is precious to Him. The solid colour indicates we can rely on our God, for He holds us securely - indeed 'He's got the whole world in His hands' as the song goes.

Colour: The cross and world in red remind us that the Blood of the Lamb of God was shed for us and we have been brought at a great price. The hands in solid black signify that through 'eyes of faith we 'see' God really is the giver and supporter of our life.

Other: The logo as a whole reminds one of the orb, which symbolizes the power and sovereignty of the King.

Thanks to Ron Elliott [Christchurch], the 'chief architect' in the creation of the Lamb of God logo in 1980. God bless you, Ron!

CHALLENGES IN LIVING TOGETHER AS COMMUNITY

Resource for House Group Discussion by Tom Caballes

The Power to Choose - April 2014

"... Therefore choose life, that you and your offspring may live, loving the LORD your God, obeying his voice and holding fast to him, for he is your life and length of days, that you may dwell in the land that the LORD swore to your fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, to give them." [Deuteronomy 30:19B-20]

We are very gifted creatures that we have the power to choose. Between a stimulus and our response there is a choice that we make. It can be a very big decision – where to live, who to marry, etc. or a very small one – what to eat for lunch. Every day, we are faced with these things. Yet how do we choose? Is it based on what or how we feel at the moment, or is it based on something more fundamental – our internal values based on what God teaches? People are only truly free if they are not bound by their emotions or animal instincts. Are you?

So What Choices Do We Need to Do Daily in Our Lives?

1. Choose to seek God daily in prayer. Seek God in His Word. Seek His will and His guidance in small and big steps in your life.
2. Choose to trust God and rely on Him on things we do not understand.
3. Choose to do the right thing. Do not be a people-pleaser, but a God-pleaser. It is better to be respected than be liked by others. At work, at home, at school, seek to do the right thing that pleases God. Choose to be the 5th Gospel for others to see and be the light of the world and the salt of the earth. Choose to live like Jesus.
4. Choose to love the unlovable, the hardest to love. They may be the people closest to you. Choose not to take revenge but to love. Romans 12:21 says, *"Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good."*
5. Choose to forgive. Why carry a heavy load on your back and punish yourself? Let go! Choosing to forgive frees us and heals us so we can love and serve others.
6. Choose to make the most out of our time, talent and our money. All these things are given to us but are limited. Choose to invest them wisely in things that are eternal, rather for personal pleasure and temporal satisfaction.
7. Choose to be kind, gentle and forbearing with others' weaknesses and faults.

"I am not a product of my circumstances. I am a product of my decisions."

Stephen R. Covey

Other Scripture References

1. *For to set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace.* [Romans 8:6]
2. *I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.* [Ephesians 4:1-3]
3. Other references: Ephesians 4:22-24; Ephesians 4:31-32; Ephesians 5:15-17.

For Personal Reflection and Group Sharing:

1. What choices do I have a hard time making? Why?
2. Who are most unlovable people in my life? How can I start loving them?

KAIROS NEW ZEALAND YOUTH NEWS

Kairos New Zealand Schedule of Events for 2014/15

April 25 to 27, 2014	Kairos Blast in Wellington
July 11 to 13, 2014	Winter Oasis in Auckland
Jan 6 to 11, 2015	Summer Oasis in Christchurch

KAIROS BLAST 2014

The planning for Kairos Blast 2014 is on the way! Please reserve the dates and book your bus or plane soon! April 25 to 27 are the dates. Details can be found here:

<http://www.kairossp.com/kairosblast2014.htm> and
<http://www.kairossp.com/blast2014onlinerego.htm>

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 joethomascaballes@gmail.com. Each issue is closed around the 20th of the previous 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 joethomascaballes@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 joethomascaballes@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 - Happy Anniversary!

NAMES	DATE	BRANCH
Mark & Mary Jackson	01/04	Blenheim
Peter & Debbie Anngow	03/04	Christchurch
Henri & Cutie Zalamea	05/04	Central
Terry & Sue Greig	09/04	Central
Steven & Judy Homes	11/04	Southern
Brian & Joan Lobo	18/04	Auckland
Jonathan & Helen McKenzie	18/04	Christchurch
Russell & Gidget Mendonca	19/04	Auckland
Robert & Karin Van Doorn	21/04	Christchurch
Bernard & Andrea Forster	24/04	Christchurch
Joseph & Theresa Gomes	26/04	Auckland
Roger & Veronica Foley	28/04	Christchurch

Birthdays for April - Happy Birthday!

NAMES	BIRTHDAY	BRANCH
Amelia Matthews	01/04	Christchurch
Isabella Matthews	01/04	Christchurch
Deanne D'Mello	02/04	Auckland
Cherylyn Donald	03/04	Auckland
Anila Collins	04/04	Auckland
Danielle McKenzie	04/04	Christchurch
Christopher Fernandez	06/04	Auckland
Blanche Hollingsworth	10/04	Auckland
Denver Saldanha	10/04	Auckland
Rachel D'Souza	11/04	Auckland
Stephanie O'Connell	11/04	Nelson
Imelda Currie	12/04	Christchurch
Deanne Antao	13/04	Auckland
Rico De Zoysa	13/04	Auckland
Stephen Sison	13/04	Central
Marie Fredericks	15/04	Christchurch
Nicole Sequeira	16/04	Christchurch
Diane Staite	16/04	Nelson
Ivan Carvalho	17/04	Auckland
Bill McElhinney	17/04	Blenheim
Ian Hamilton	17/04	Christchurch
David Hamilton	17/04	Christchurch
Mira D'Souza	18/04	Auckland
Bob Misst	18/04	Auckland
Ron Elliott	19/04	Christchurch
Kevin McCormick	19/04	Auckland
Bruce Joslen	21/04	Christchurch
Brian Lowe	21/04	Auckland
Alexa Caballes	22/04	Central
Patrick Forster	23/04	Southern
Tili Leatitagaloa	23/04	Auckland
Carol Cullimore	24/04	Blenheim
Sarah McCormick	24/04	Auckland
Gail Price	24/04	Blenheim
Judy Kwan [Lim]	25/04	Auckland
Michelle Amaral	25/04	Auckland
Bronwyn Harborne	25/04	Ch/Ashburton
Mary Anngow	26/04	Christchurch
Peter Anngow	26/04	Christchurch
Leander D'Souza	27/04	Auckland
Apollo Geneta	27/04	Central
Sandy Westbury	27/04	Nelson
Bruce Donald	28/04	Auckland
Elias Martis	28/04	Auckland
Allan D'Souza	30/04	Auckland

PRAYERWATCH - SOLDIERS OF CHRIST, ARISE

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

Last month I highlighted the first prophetic word of the year and how it encouraged us to be involved in spiritual warfare as darkness and evil were increasing so the Bulwark was becoming more important. This prophetic word also urged us to ask for a spirit of discernment so I will look at discernment in this article. As darkness and evil increase so discernment will become more important to us as we live out the call God has placed on our lives, to be a 'Community of Disciples on Mission', a Bulwark. We need to be surer of the decisions we make in living this way of life so we are always in God's will.

God speaks to us in prophetic word by naming particular spirits or strongholds although generally it is encouragement to be faithful and persist in Spiritual Warfare. When praying we may receive a word of knowledge so we need to pass it on to our regions' Prayerwatch leaders so it can be discerned more fully as well as praying as God moves us. This is why in the aims of the Watch we are encouraged to be open to the Lord speaking to us. God has given the gifts of the Holy Spirit for our benefit and use so we need to seek them and confidently use them for our own good and the building the Bulwark.

Over the last few years 25% to 35% of prophetic word has had a spiritual warfare theme so God is encouraging this important ministry. Over the last 6 months the prophetic word has contained the following phrases pointing to an increase of evil activity around us. [this dark hour, fearful things, living in dark ages, hour of trial going to come, darkness wherever, mire of this world, black nothing, world of chaos, darkness growing, forces of darkness, blackness all around,] So we can expect that evil is increasing and we will be able to see signs where ever we look at what is happening throughout the world, in our work places, where ever we go or whatever we do.

Secondly we need to watch what is happening to us or around us in daily life, in our families, at work, at school, in our house groups, at any of our meetings and in any of the relationships with our brothers and sisters in the Lord. When we notice anything that is affecting us or those around us which we feel may be spiritual we need to talk and share with those around us such as our house group, branch or national leaders to see if it is affecting others. Also we need to pray about it and seek the Lord's will. We also need to remember that we may see signs of strongholds and spirits we are already praying against and this is important as it is an ongoing battle.

As for other matters, brothers and sisters, pray for us that the message of the Lord may spread rapidly and be honored, just as it was with you. And pray that we may be delivered from wicked and evil people, for not everyone has faith. But the Lord is faithful, and he will strengthen you and protect you from the evil one. We have confidence in the Lord that you are doing and will continue to do the things we command. May the Lord direct your hearts into God's love and Christ's perseverance. 2 Thessalonians 3: 1-5 NIV

Soldiers of Christ, Arise, and put your armour on!

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: Yvonne D'Souza, Peter & Margaret Stoddard, Desmond & Charmaine Vessaokar, Tili Leatitagaloa, Blanche Fernandes, Sequeria's & Saldanha's Families, Neville & Karyn Coutinho, Caedmon & Nicky Rebello, Ivan & Hilary Carvalho, Valerie Menezes, Russell & Gidget Mendonca, Simone & Lesley D'Mello, **Central:** Jun & Angie Briguera, Henri & Cutie Zalamea, Rose Buladaco, Joel & Tiza Sison, Robert & Ethel Caballes, Tom & Mhel 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, Toni May, Chris & Maureen Lyons, Joan Corbett, **Southern:** John & Janet MacManus, Richard & Christine May, Mike & Judy Prendeville,

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

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

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, Thomas Hong, Vimath Sequeira, Karyn Coutinho, Manuel Lobo family, Michelle Amaral, Margaret Stoddard, Alwin D'Souza, Eddie, Cynthia, Clyde D'Souza, Joan Lobo, Christopher Dalgado, Pam D'Souza, **Central:** Stephanie O'Connell, Sharon Powick, Michael Powick, Jacob Muollo, Henri Zalamea, Aly Fernandes, Rae Taylor, **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, Bruce & Bronwyn Harborne, Josh Roberts, **Southern:** Fr Merv McGettigan, Daniel MacManus,

Steven & Judy Homes & Family, Pat Forster, Michael Quigley, Rhoda Woodfield, Christine May, Alan McKenzie, Steven Homes,

BEREAVEMENT Auckland: Tony & Christie D'Costa, Ronnie & Rina D'Souza, Juanita, Tony, Jonathan & David Ashfield, **Central:** Rae Taylor & Family, **Christchurch:** Karin & Robert Van Doorn, Southern: John & Janet MacManus,

OTHERS NEEDS Auckland: Mark & Elizabeth Stolten, Bob Misst, Allen & Judy Carneiro, Gillian Puch, Joseph Gomes, Allan Carvalho, Blanche Fernandes, Peter Dalgado,

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 the Ashburton Group in Christchurch.

“I have made you a Watchman” Ezekiel 33: 7