

"Even faraway islands will look to me and take hope in my saving power." Isaiah 51:5



Nate & Whitney Hutchison

Monthly Update | AUGUST 2009

For Your Information

22 August

Nate's Birthday

Nate will turn 29! Happy Birthday!

Canterbury Basketball Hoops Academy

Nate has begun assisting weekly with the Hoops Academy at a local recreation center. Children from all over the city of Christchurch attend to develop their basketball skills, and it will be a great way for Nate to meet some local families (and brush up on those fundamentals).

Hopefully the next step will be an opportunity to coach a local team. One interesting fact we learned as we interviewed school counselors during our survey work last year is that boys are in need of strong male role models. As families break down and in-home fathers become more and more scarce, boys are having to look elsewhere for positive examples and leaders who will take the time to guide them during their formative years. Becoming a coach could be one way to provide some encouragement and mentorship to young fellas in our community.



Learn the Lingo

pack a wobbly

(v.) to break down or malfunction; to perform poorly

Example: "Your eggs bene won't be a moment...our toaster's just packed a wobbly."

Practice, Practice, Practice

It takes practice to become skillful at something. Actors practice their lines; athletes practice skills; preachers practice their sermons. *You practice something because it's important, and because you want it to become second-nature.*

As Outreach Minister at Rechurch, Joe Flammer has been helping the Rechurch staff develop their personal evangelism strategies, as well as helping to provide encouragement and accountability in this area.

The staff is also going to be working together to get some practice in having spiritual conversations. The goal of this is to create a safe environment where each staff member will be able to build some confidence in this area, so that when opportunities arise, each person will already have an idea of how they want to share their personal perspective on faith.



Ministry Update

Last month we asked you to pray about our venue selection. As we have continued to research venue options, some doors have been closed, and we are now focusing on our final two possibilities. One is a popular restaurant, and the other is a movie theatre. Both are located at The Palms Shopping Centre, which is a hub for shopping and entertainment in northeast Christchurch.

Both options present challenges as well as opportunities. *Please continue to pray that God will lead us to the right venue through which we will introduce ourselves to the community.*

In addition to venue research, we have been hard at work assisting with accounting, website development, marketing, and brand development for the church plant. This month we hope to see the fruits of our labour as we begin to put our marketing strategy into action, and begin to promote our first preview service.

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Prayer Update

Venue Selection

Please pray regularly for this item specifically, as it will have a big effect on how we are introduced to the community. Our options and funds are quite limited, but we believe that God can still do great things in spite of these factors!

Building a Band

It's not easy building a band from scratch in a city where you don't know anyone. But that is Nate's task, and he would really appreciate your prayers as he strives to make connections with local musicians, sound techs, and media specialists.

Our Health

Please pray that we will all have healthy immune systems to get us through another winter.

Our Marriage

With the stress of culture shock, church planting, and a toddler, it's easy to forget to spend quality time with each other. Please pray that we will be active in protecting our most important human relationship.

Our Families

Please pray for all of us as we reacquaint ourselves with being long-distance families.

Christchurch

Please be in prayer for the people of Christchurch - that their hearts will be softened and their ears prepared to hear the message that we will be bringing this year.

Financial Provision

We're working with our team to raise \$165,000 from new church partnerships to get the church started. Please pray that our team efforts will be a success!

Guidance in Parenting

We imagine that every new parent feels as inadequate as we do. We appreciate any prayers on our behalf as we navigate Lane's second year of life.

Partnership Update



Now that we've been living a "normal" life buying groceries and paying rent, utilities, and mobile phone bills in Christchurch for over three months, we are beginning to see the great importance of every donation given to our family every month. *Please know that your giving makes a difference every time.* We really couldn't be here without your support!

We have the following personal totals to report as of August 1, 2009:

		% of Total Need
Avg. Monthly Support:	\$5,000.00	100%
Avg. Monthly Ministry Funds:	\$ 461.67	31%
Special Gifts (July):	\$ 270.00	n/a

If you would like more information about how to get involved in any of these areas, please contact us. We would be happy to send you some materials and walk you through the process of joining our support team.

In Conclusion...

Building bridges isn't easy. It takes planning, research, and extensive knowledge of the laws of physics. Fortunately, building relationships with non-Christians doesn't require physics, but it does require a lot of prayer and a bit of confidence. Practice helps. Talk with your Christian friends about ways to take everyday conversations with your non-Christian coworkers, friends, and family to the next "level." Practice with each other. Afraid you'll feel silly? Of course you will! But what you'll gain is an important dose of confidence that will encourage you to capitalize on opportunities as they present themselves.

"Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have..."

1 Peter 3:15

Don't forget to visit
our blog
for regular comments
and musings.

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