

# Weekly News

31ST AUGUST 2025



fairfield baptist church

Connect, Care, Commit, Contribute

## Fairfield Baptist Church

In unity be a fully functioning Biblical community, demonstrating the love, grace and truth of Christ, through our worship, walk and witness.

### Connect with those inside the church and beyond

Do a random act of kindness this week (RAK)

### Care for one another

Encourage someone in the church with a card, note or small gift

### Commit to sharing Christ's love with others

Offer to pray or share your faith with someone not part of the church

### Contribute to the life and mission of FBC

Serve God in a ministry this week

[www.fairfieldbaptist.co.nz](http://www.fairfieldbaptist.co.nz)

Ph: 07 8555 469

Email: [office@fairfieldbaptist.co.nz](mailto:office@fairfieldbaptist.co.nz)

## THIS SUNDAY

Iunisi Katoa  
Ephesians 1:19-23  
Communion

## NEXT SUNDAY

Ross Woodhouse  
Ephesians 2:1-10

## THIS WEEKS EVENTS

**Craft Group:** Monday at 10.00am in the Youth room.

**Cafe Connect:** Tuesday from 10.00am - 11.00am in the cafe.

**Bowls:** Tuesday at 12.45pm in the hall.

## Baptism Service

5<sup>th</sup> October

If anyone is interested in baptism please contact Ross

[ross@fairfieldbaptist.co.nz](mailto:ross@fairfieldbaptist.co.nz)

Here is the link for last week's sermon:



Sorry, there was no recording made this week.

## Christianity EXPLORED



An outer reach Home Group for people interested in exploring the real meaning of Christianity. Bring a friend who is yet to become a Christian and journey with them as together we explore Marks Gospel.

Interested? Talk with Neville or Faye Stevenson.



Small groups...



Engage in God's mission in the world.

Become a member today!

## WELCOMING OUR GROWING FAMILY

Greetings FBC Church family.

We give thanks to the Lord that we are seeing a good number of new people visiting FBC most Sundays now. Last Sunday 129 people gathered for worship, not including our children. What a blessing it is to see so many familiar faces and, even more exciting for us to welcome new friends into our community of faith.

FBC's growth is something we have been and are praying for, and I believe God is answering our prayers. This growth, however, comes with a gentle call to action for all of us. As our numbers increase, we need to be mindful of how we make room for everyone. We want every person who walks through our doors to feel warmly welcomed and able to find a place to sit comfortably, especially newcomers who may already feel a bit nervous.

Let's make it a habit to move to the centre of the rows, leaving the seats on the ends open. This simple act of kindness makes it so much easier for latecomers and families to find seats quickly without causing disruption. Similarly, being willing to shift down a row or two to create space shows our love and hospitality to those who are just beginning to connect with us.

In coming Sundays you'll see a few rows at the back with "Reserved" signs. This, again, is to make it easy and inviting for new folk to come in and find a seat.

This isn't about being uncomfortable; it's about being adaptable and open-hearted. It's a chance for us to show that we truly desire for our church family to grow. Our hosting and hospitality are powerful testimonies to the love of God, and sometimes that love is shown through the simple gesture of making room for someone new.

Do also take time to meet and greet new folk to FBC. Invite them to join you in the café for morning tea. I have every confidence this is the kind of hosting and hospitality that honours the Lord.

Thank you for your willingness to help us be a warm and welcoming home for all. Let's continue to be a church that not only prays for growth but actively makes space for it.

Blessings on all,

**Ross**

### Prayer Chain

All prayer chain requests should be emailed to [rose@fairfieldbaptist.co.nz](mailto:rose@fairfieldbaptist.co.nz)



### HELP!

Let the office know if you can help serve in our church..



### HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Jeanette Phillips 1st  
Graham Hill 5th



### Giving at Fairfield Baptist Church

Online banking: 03-0306-0200267-00 Use your name as a reference

Donation Box in foyer at church

Online via website at <https://fairfieldbaptist.co.nz/giving/>



There is just 2 weeks until the 2025 Kirikiriroa | Hamilton Prayer Breakfast on Tuesday, 9 September at the Claudelands Event Centre and we have 10 representatives attending. Please keep the preparation for this event in your prayers.

**EASTWEST  
COLLEGE**  
of Intercultural studies

# TESOL as SERVICE



Preparing you to use English Teaching Effectively and with Integrity.

**Course details: Monday 5<sup>th</sup> - Friday 30<sup>th</sup> January 2026**

See Eleanor or the noticeboard for more details

If anyone is interested in baptism and/or membership, please see Ross.

*"And Peter said to them, "Repent and be baptised every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit." Acts 2:38*

Prayer is available after the service on Sunday. Please come to the front and one of the prayer team will be happy to pray with you.

The Monday night prayer meeting is held from 7pm to 8pm in the Oasis room.

Tuesday morning prayer meeting is held in the Oasis room at 9.15am.



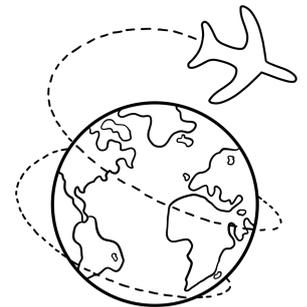


## Mark and Faye Griffiths are our Mission Focus for September

**A busy transition:** We are now in that very busy time of getting organised to return to Niger and with all the different things we need to think of and also just the awareness that we're going to be saying our goodbyes. It's a funny time just enjoying where we are and yet realising that we're going to be leaving. As the time comes closer to going to Niger, we feel that sense of excitement rising and the call is rekindled.

**Rekindling the call:** John 3:16 is the iconic bedrock verse of our faith and yet it becomes a little commonplace. We've been thinking lately about how God was the first mission sender and he was also the first missionary. He reached out in a very profound and costly way to Himself. His call in our life is to continue to reach out to the world. He has done the work of reconciliation but we still need to tell them about it! All the "whosoever's" all over the world need to hear because if they don't hear they can't believe. So, once more, God is sending us and we appreciate your continued prayer as we go back once more to that particular little corner of God's field.

**Our plans:** So, August for us will involve some family holiday time. This will give us an opportunity for some quality time together and in some way to say our goodbyes. We have also set aside a few precious days for just the two of us to spend time with the Lord and seek to have a clear idea of how we are going to minister this time around in Niger. We will also be packing up our little flat and doing our final catch ups in Palmerston North before travelling through and catching up with friends and family in Hamilton and in Auckland. We plan to fly out of Auckland mid September.



**Support:** One of the things we need to put in place before we leave is ensuring that we have full support. Currently our support levels are at just over 89%. We are looking for an increase of \$750 each month. We would appreciate your prayer that this amount would come in before we leave.

**Disciple A:** Life has been a struggle for our friend lately. He misses his home and has yet to find a good fit where he is in Danja. He has wavered in his faith but is, at present, continuing. Please pray that he will stand firm in his faith.

### Prayer and Praise:

- Pray for us in this busy transition time, we are not only doing many things but having to face some hard goodbyes.
- Pray that we could see 100 percent support come in before we leave for Niger.
- Pray that Disciple A would be so impacted by the love of God that he would never consider turning back.
- Pray for the peace and economy of Niger and for the ongoing open door for missionaries.

|  |  |
|--|--|
| <p>Monday 25.8</p> <p>Peter and Leonora<br/>(South Asia)</p> | <p>We would appreciate prayer for our faithful pastoral worker and friend, Mrs Sharkar. She was involved in a very unfortunate road traffic accident and is recovering and working through trauma. May God strengthen her ( and her husband ), as they have worked tirelessly in our city and the freedom businesses.</p>  |
| <p>Tuesday 26.8</p> <p>The Loyal Workshop</p>                | <p>Prabhat is The Loyal Workshop's new manager, and is currently working remotely, on the other side of India, while he supports his wife, Anjana. She is being treated at an excellent christian hospital in Chennai, India. She is supposed to be having surgery to remove a large gallstone. However, her gallstone has split and the gallbladder is infected. The infection has spread inside her body. Please pray that they can get the infection under control soon, and are able to do the surgery. -Sarah B</p> |
| <p>Wednesday 27.8</p> <p>Brian and Gay (South Asia)</p>      | <p>Shortly after our last update we were off to speak at a nurses conference in Dhaka. It went really well with about 40 nurses—mostly Christian, a few Hindu, and half a dozen male nurses.</p> <p>We hope for a church that will disciple and build meaningful connections for everyone, including 'lost or stray sheep'. Please pray for church leaders as they adjust to changing needs and for the people as change is carefully introduced.</p>  |
| <p>Thursday 28.8</p> <p>Village Aid Bangladesh</p>           | <p>We praise God for the gift of clean water in our village. In 2013, with help, a tubewell was installed, and now 60 families have safe drinking water. Please join us in praying that God would continue to bless this project and that similar initiatives would spread to new communities, bringing health and hope to even more families.</p>   |
| <p>Friday 29.8</p> <p>Joyya</p>                              | <p>This past month we deepened our partnership with Purnaa, a Nepal-based ethical sewing business that also works with our K2K team to support Nepali women returning from Kolkata. Their expert trainers led a week of impactful workshops for staff and community. Please pray for this partnership to continue to be strengthened.</p>  |
| <p>Saturday 30.8</p> <p>Arotahi Job Opening</p>              | <p>We are looking for a new office team member, working in the Communications and Events area. Please pray for the right people to be lead to our team.</p>  |
| <p>Sunday 31.8</p> <p>Senegal</p>                            | <p>We give thanks for the opportunity to welcome the Association of Baptist Churches of Senegal as one of our newest members after their approval at the 2025 Global Council Meeting in July. Pray for Bible translations that are in process and the opportunity to bring the Good News to those who have not heard.</p>  |