

# Martin Ministry update



It's hard to believe that we are already in April! The beginning of this year has flown by. We've moved into this year knowing that the plans we make may need to change. I'm reminded of the verse in Proverbs 16:9 "We can make our plans, but the Lord determines our steps".

Understanding the times we are in, and how things can change hasn't kept us from planning with excellence but has given us a renewed comfort and perspective that anything we plan is in His hands. Whatever comes our way, we can continue to minister with excellence and reliance on the Lord that He will make a way for His Gospel to go out.

Back in January Danielle had the opportunity to speak at a camp at CYC in Waihola. It was a challenge as this was a different age group to do speak to. Overall, the conversations and questions that came from this time seemed to be fruitful. We also travelled to Hamilton in early February for our annual Staff retreat. Because of restrictions we were not able to bring all the kids to retreat. We enjoyed being able to connect with the team and meet new interns as well as get excited about what this year will bring for the ministry.

Later in February we were able to run Leadership conference. It looked a bit different this year, as we didn't do one big conference but instead hosted different watch parties. We live streamed our main sessions to different hubs around the North Island and one in the South Island. We provided a seminar speaker and facilitator for each hub to keep a personal connection with youth leaders. This was a really positive experience for a lot of people, and we have already had some interest in bringing this training to other groups around the South Island who were not able to participate on the day.

Nathan continues to invest weekly in our own youth ministry at Bryndwr Chapel. Though this first term has had its challenges with gathering restrictions and many isolating, it's been great to meet with teenagers each week. We've seen young people bring unsaved friends along which has been a great blessing! It is a privilege to open the Word of God with teens each week and see them grow in their faith journey.

# SUPPORT UPDATE

We are hugely blessed by those who support us in prayer and with finances! Some recent changes to our support have resulted in a shortfall for our monthly needs moving forward. Our goal is to raise a further \$1800 per month to cover this shortfall. We would value your prayers with us for God's provision as we work towards this goal.

## UPCOMING EVENTS :

APRIL 14 – 20 - FAMILY HOLIDAY  
MAY 1 - NATHAN PREACHING AT BRYNDWR  
MAY 29 - NATHAN PREACHING AT CORNERSTONE, BLENHEIM

## FAMILY

We are getting ready for some changes in our household as Liam will be turning five and starting school at the beginning of Term Two. He is looking forward to going to the “big school” and has already been able to visit and meet his new teacher. Daphne is continuing to grow and learn quite a bit and will be starting kindy in Term Two for two mornings a week. Amelia is quickly moving around the house trying to keep up with her siblings and is such joy to have around. We are looking forward to taking some time off over Easter for a holiday with family.

## LOOKING AHEAD

We are still unsure what this year will really look like, but we are excited to serve and visit youth groups as we continue to build and strengthen relationships around the South Island. The easing of restrictions gives us greater scope to serve youth ministries and run events to share the Gospel with teenagers. We continue to have opportunity to train leaders and Nathan has several preaching engagements. We hold our plans loosely and trust that God will use us in whatever capacity we're able to serve.

