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2011

Transforming

Lives



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Greetings Friends of Chosen Valley Camp!



I give witness to the greatness of God, our Lord, high above all other gods. He makes the weather: clouds and thunder, lightning and rain, wind pouring out of the north.

Psalm 135.



Daniel Dashwood of St Kentigern School sketched this great representation of our chapel.



Huge thanks to Benji and Alanna Alexander for directing our April Kids Camp so wonderfully on the theme of No Fear. Alanna has been on staff of Chosen Valley before and slipped into the Directors role again like a hand in a glove.

My wife, Kay was camp nurse and found her job considerably reduced by the prayers for healing that Benji and leaders and children prayed for each other. All manner of conditions disappeared and children were able to be up and operational again.

You're Invited!!!

Come to a farewell party to Africa for Benji and Alanna at Christian Family Centre 4 Belgium Rd, Pukekohe at 7 pm on Wednesday 25 May. It's a pot-luck dessert, so bring some to share. A little something from their newsletter:

Alanna and I are soon to celebrate our first wedding anniversary- yay! It's been an awesome first year☺. I've been thinking about what I'll do for her, there's a reasonable chance that I'll take her out for a meal of maize and beans. Not because I'm cheap, but because we are going to Africa!!! It is crazy exciting for us both even the idea of maize and beans☺!

From the end of May, we will spend ten weeks at a missionary training school in Mozambique, Africa. The school is run by Iris Ministries an organisation founded by Rolland and Heidi Baker. Iris Ministries focuses on feeding and caring for the poor, preaching the gospel, planting churches, raising up leaders and training missionaries- God is moving there in an awesome way.



One of our teams at a village church in Thailand.



If you would like to receive their newsletters contact them at benjandalanna@gmail.com



Heaps of Staff, local community, Kids Camp leaders and directors, past and present, all turned out to farewell Sam and Alma Emery. The evening began with a meal for staff and board. Leaders all arrived ready for their Leaders Weekend just before launching into April Kids Camp. There were speeches, waiata, haka, food and heartfelt thanks for all this couple has meant to Chosen Valley over many years. Sam has been a Board Member, Acting Manager and backbone of countless Kids Camps. Not adverse to new challenges, Sam was momentarily a Crazy Biker!



Radical New Adventure

Are you a young adult?

Passionately in love with Jesus?

Could you imagine going to live in Massey, West Auckland?

Do you have what it takes for Intentional Community living?

Can you use your gifts and love to bless the street?

Can you get into street projects like mentoring children, street BBQ's, outdoor DVD's, survival weekends, shooting hoops, playing ball, transporting kids to church....



Outdoor Street DVD on the back section at No 67

Are you ready to shift house inside four weeks or slightly longer?

Then maybe living at 67 Cedar Heights Ave, Massey is for you or someone you know.

Eight of the original 13 young adults who formed the community in 2007 have got married and now the babies are arriving! We have a grand rearrangement happening in four weeks time and have openings for six new young adults to join in. See Page Six for more info.

Solo Mothers Camp

You may remember me advertising in our last Pound Note a free-of-charge camp for Solo Mums and their children. The response to that was overwhelming. The 20 - 22 May date is full and we have laid on a second weekend on 10 - 13 June which is also full.

Working Bee

Mark Saturday June 25 in your calendar.

Meat and Vege Combo

We run a few sheep on the property to keep the grass down. Perhaps a breed like that shown right could produce a well-balanced meal for campers. This vegetative phenomenon is usually only known in the rugby community on the ears of players!

We are grateful to teams of about eight Community Service workers who come each week to work on the grounds. A while back they tidied up a road fence-line by taking out agapanthus bushes. Over the years, the fence had deteriorated but the sheep stayed in because of the bushes. Now they found ways to get out into neighbouring gardens and were threatened (light-heartedly!) with winding up on a neighbour's BBQ.

However big thanks to Greg Abbott, ace fencer and previous Director of Chosen Valley for replacing the fence from scratch. Our woolly friends will get to baa another day.





Chef Lalith cooks up a storm by candlelight one day during a planned power outage when there was a local upgrade.

Check out the fine dining experience including a venison-bacon-wrap laid on for the Board and Staff farewell for Sam Emery. A combined effort from Chef Lalith and Sous-Chef Raj.

Children at our April Kids Camp demonstrate their sock puppets made during "Hands On" - our name for craft time.



Check out the full story of Cedar Heights on the Love Your Neighbour Website. I've included this link in the body of the email - it may be easier to use from there.

<http://www.loveyourneighbour.co.nz/?sid=5166>

Check out the Cedar Core Values below.

Interested? Press Reply to this email or give me a bell at Chosen Valley: 294 8296 and we can have a chat.

They found a street in Massey East that met all their requirements, and there were two houses available in close proximity. The houses were bought by two members of the church, and over January and February 2007 twelve young adults from Northwest Baptist moved in, including youth pastors Paul and Sarah Beisly. "At first we couldn't get over that we were all living together, it was like being on a camp!" laughs Rebecca.

Our Household's Values

1. God-Core

We recognise that God is the centre of the universe and we want our lives to revolve around him. This means we need to adopt more of a biblical worldview where everything is spiritual. This also means we need to pursue utter dependency on God. Matthew 6:33; John 15:1-10

2. Inclusive Community

We want to develop a sanctuary for others with a family-like culture, open to outsiders and sensitive to each others needs. John 17:21

3. Grace

Channelling the undeserved grace God has given us out to others in tangible ways through patience, reconciliation and recognition of God's image in others. Matt 18:21-35; John 15:12; Genesis 1:27

4. Kingdom Transformation

Partnering with God, each other and our neighbours, as we live in the hope and actively work towards the coming of God's Kingdom in our own lives and our neighbourhood. Matthew 13; Matthew 6:9-10

5. Simplicity

We seek to be generous lovers. To do this we want to be more available by emptying ourselves and living freely with our time, money and possessions. Matthew 10:8-10; Matthew 6:19-21

6. Incarnational

We chose to live as present, visible followers of Jesus in the Cedar Heights community and alongside others, sharing with their joys, pains, sufferings and realities. Philippians 2

7. Servanthood

We recognise that we are Jesus' hands and feet. So we are committed to follow Jesus' example by doing small things with great love and humbling ourselves by giving away power. Mark 10:42-45; Matthew 18:3-4. Philippians 2

8. Justice

We want to fight for justice, not just us. We can only recognise injustice when we are involved in our neighbour's lives. Isaiah 58:6-7; Micah 6:8; Jeremiah 22

9. Discipleship

We want to grow in Christ's like-ness, pointing each other towards Jesus. We do this by encouraging each other in spiritual disciplines, actively seeking to give and receive words of truth and walking alongside one another through struggles and celebration. Luke 9:23-24

10. Celebration

We endeavour to search for beauty and goodness in all of life, pointing it out to others and celebrating it together. Matthew 9:9-13

11. Integrity

We want to be authentic friends and consistent with who we are in public and in private. Joshua 7 & 8