

April-June 2024  
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# The Fentons

## SERVING IN NEW ZEALAND



### A COMPLETED SABBATICAL

After 3,028 kilometres, or 1,881 miles, I have completed Te Araroa, the hiking trail from the top of New Zealand to the bottom. This was both a lifetime adventure and a much-needed Sabbatical during which the Lord gave me many ministry opportunities for witness.



Richie, Kurt, & Barb  
at the end of Te Araroa

I completed the last third of the trail with two other hikers; both are atheists. During the last of many of our gospel conversations, one of them ended the conversation with, "Well, I'm just not interested in any of that" and left the conversation. My heart broke for her. It is amazing to me that someone can walk in such beauty...and danger...and not be concerned for their soul. Please continue to pray for those I verbally witnessed to and for those to whom I gave a card with a QR code to a gospel presentation online.

One thing I found sadly interesting was that during that entire hike, I did not meet one single Christian hiker! What a mission field thru-hiking can be! Perhaps someone with younger legs might consider that as a full-time ministry.

### MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES ARISE FROM THE HIKE

Nearly 25 years ago, we ministered to a family through our church's children ministry. At the time, the parents were not interested in following the Lord. As a result of this hike, I have been able to restart a relationship with Niall, who hike the Trail last year. Please pray that he will come to know the Lord this time around.



### CHURCH PLANT

Please pray as we continue to develop the church plant. While I was on Sabbatical, the church did well in many areas, but a couple of weaknesses also came out. Please pray as we seek to further develop and release this church plant.

### WIDER MINISTRY

We are tentatively looking at taking a short furlough near the end of this year. But before we do that, we want to run one more ministry leaders retreat and possibly one or two other seminars in sister churches. Please pray as we work out the logistics for these ministries.

Lisa continues her work with the hospice in our city. Please pray as she works with and shares the gospel with those at the end of their life.

I have been asked to speak in June at a men's retreat about what God taught me on the hike. Please pray for wisdom as I choose what to share with these men. Please pray the Lord will be glorified greatly!

### GETTING TO MEET THE NEW GRANDDAUGHTER



Three days after I returned home from the Sabbatical, Lisa and I drove 4 hours so I could meet Alice, our newest grandchild.

It was such a joy to be able to hold Alice and thank the Lord for his care for her during those initial weeks while she was in the neonatal intensive care unit. Thank you for joining us in prayer for her.

We look forward to helping her come to know the Lord at an early age.

### A BOOK TO HELP IN DIFFICULT TIMES

Lisa's book, **My Gift of Cancer**, is being well-received and has been an excellent way of encouraging Christians and sharing the Gospel with the unsaved.



**My Gift of Cancer** is available on Amazon as a paperback or a Kindle download. It can be found on Amazon by searching either the title or Lisa's name.

Please leave a review so others can find the book as well.

#### 2 Timothy 2:2

*And the things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also.*

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### Thank You!

We are so grateful for your faithful support and co-labouring with us here in NZ.

**Kurt & Lisa Fenton**