

**TEXAS YOUTH TEAM**

THANKFUL FOR A GREAT
TWO WEEKS WITH THIS
TEAM OF TEENS!

**MRS. YOUNG**

JULIANA WITH OUR SPECIAL
SPEAKERS WIFE, MRS.
ROBYN YOUNG

**NEW ZEALAND KEA**

A NZ NATIVE BIRD, A
MOUNTAIN PARROT KNOWN
AS A KEA

THE HUTCHENS FAMILY



September 2026 Update

It's the first day of spring in the city of Christchurch, New Zealand! That said, I had to wait for frost to melt off my wind shield this morning before leaving the house! While we eagerly anticipate longer and warmer days, it has been a winter to remember, and we have many blessings to share!

Leading the
opening assembly
of our Holiday
Bible Club

We welcomed a youth missions team from one of our supporting churches in Texas to New Zealand in the early part of July. Twelve teens and four adults sponsors joined us for two weeks of ministry and fellowship. The team had prepared a concert in advance of their arrival, so one of their first ministry opportunities was a night of music for our church family. They did an incredible job ministering to us through song. The main portion of their visit was taken up with the preparation for and execution of our Winter Holiday Bible Club. July is the month where NZ students take a two week winter break, and the Holiday Bible Club was very well received. We averaged just over 60 children for each day of a three-day event, with many guests from the community in addition to our own children from our church. Seeing the missions team come alongside our church family to help host the HBC was a true blessing to me. We thoroughly enjoyed their visit!

Towards the end of the missions team visit, sickness started to set in both in our family and in our church family. It started with Samantha and Harrison having a horrible cough that kept us up for most of the night a few nights in a row. It then spread through the rest of the family in the form of coughs, fevers, and body aches. Most of our church family found themselves ill over the next few weeks, in what local health experts are calling the worst flu season in New Zealand in the past decade. On the first Sunday of the month, we had 105 people in our Sunday morning service. On the second Sunday of the month, with many in the church sick, we only had 55. This is a small illustration of just how comprehensive this particular bug was. Not only that, but it seemed to hit us with multiple cycles. Juliana, in particular, had three distinct seasons of sickness over the course of four weeks! Suffice it to say, we're happy winter is coming to a conclusion! And while the coughs have mostly subsided (and church attendance was back up to 102 this past Sunday), we still have a few struggling, and would appreciate your prayers for full health soon!

The church continues to do extremely well in spite of the recent struggles with health. In early July, Kathryn visited for the first time. After talking with her about the Gospel, I was able to help her with assurance of her salvation, and she was baptized along with two others on August 2. She is now faithful to church and working through the *Continue* discipleship book with my sister-in-law. Two weeks ago, a Filipino man by the name of John attended the service for the first time and was led to the Lord by one of our Filipino men after church. We also continue to see strong attendances, as mentioned before, with visitors almost every single week. I would appreciate your prayers as we work to creatively accomodate capacity crowds in our auditorium.

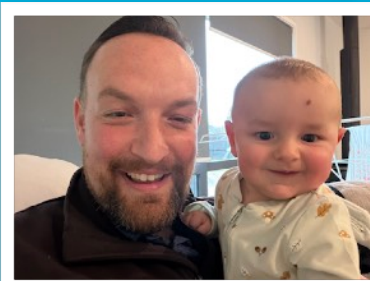
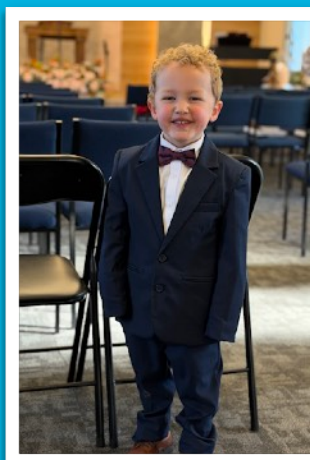
We just finished the month of July with our 2026 Winter Revival, hosting Evangelist Fraser Young from Australia for the week. Bro. Young has been faithfully serving in evangelism for about as long as I have been alive. Our revival was held from last Wednesday-Sunday, with services each night in addition to our normal Sunday services. We spent much of the winter preparing our hearts, with special efforts in Bible reading (around 25 people attempted to read the Bible through in 60 days) and prayer. I am pleased to report that the Lord gave us a wonderful week together. We invited some folks from sister churches, and saw the building completely packed each night of the revival. The preaching was helpful, and the spirit was sweet each night. Pray for our church family as we press forward into our spring and summer seasons!

I want to finish by asking for your prayer for Daniel. Daniel is a friend of a man in our church. He has yet to attend a service, but he did attend our most recent Men's Prayer Breakfast during the Winter Revival. Bro. Young gave a Gospel presentation, and I had a good chat with Daniel afterwards. He demonstrated a good comprehension of the Gospel, but said he wasn't quite ready to, in his words, "take the leap of faith." When I asked what was holding him back, he said, "I'm not sure...but I think I'm close." Please pray Daniel would be saved soon!

The Hutchens Family

Sam, Juliana, Emma, Alexa, Samantha, Harrison, & Jackson

Family pictures



TOP: Harrison looking sharp at a recent church service.

MIDDLE: Jackson is getting so big so quickly! He'll be five months old tomorrow.

BOTTOM: Juliana and the kids enjoy a cuddle on a chilly winter night.