

SOUTHERN CROSS MINISTRIES

NEWMAN FAMILY MISSION

FEBRUARY 2009

Southern Cross Bible Institute

Our application to use the name Southern Cross Bible Institute has been approved by the Queensland government.

We have developed a list of core classes that will be taught on a three year rotating basis. Jim is presently teaching the first class called "Preparing to Serve" in Toowoomba each Wednesday evening. There are ten students in the class. This study is designed to help each person develop their devotional life in preparation for a lifetime of service to Christ.

SCBI classes will include studies on the Old and New Testaments, doctrine, church history, the Restoration Movement, public speaking, evangelism, and how to care for people in the church.

Classes will be taught by Jim along with help from Australian and visiting American teachers. In addition to the core classes various electives will be offered from time to time.

These classes will be at institute level which will require about 1/3 the amount of time needed for a typical Bible college level class. The classes are designed to be accessible to as many as possible, even those with full-time jobs, but will require each student to put in a significant effort if they are to succeed.

During 2009, we will offer classes in Toowoomba and Newcastle. In the future, we hope to see expansion into other regions and the development of a distance learning program. We believe SCBI will fill a vital role in the development of church leaders throughout Australia.

Daniel and Samantha

Daniel and Samantha continue to work on raising their support. They now have \$365.00 per month in regular support and \$1,000.00 in their moving fund.

If your congregation does not yet have a mission for VBS or if you need someone for church camp, please consider using them. They are also available on Sundays and other times to share their plans. Please contact them directly for scheduling.

Tragedy in Australia

Hundreds of people have died in recent bush fires in the state of Victoria and even more have lost homes. Northern Queensland has faced devastating floods resulting in loss of life and homes. Pray for those who are suffering so greatly.



Jim teaching on Sunday morning. Our Sunday morning group numbers 13 while our evening group has 18 most weeks.



Pray for Daniel and Samantha as they work to raise their support to join the work in Australia.



Becky teaching Sunday School. She has five students between ages 3 and 6 in her afternoon class.

Eastern Downs Church of Christ

In January, four men from the church were involved in the teaching time (two on Sunday morning and another two on Sunday evening). Our desire remains to train Australian men to lead Australian churches and we are seeing real progress toward this goal.

Jim is teaching a couple each Monday who have recently started attending the Sunday morning group.

On Tuesday morning the ladies of the church (and guests) get together to pray and then do crafts. They knit, embroider, cross-stitch, and quilt. It is a good time of fellowship for the ladies.

Prayer Requests

1. Jim will be in the Philippines from Feb. 28 till March 11. He will be teaching a class on the book of Genesis and delivering the commencement address for the International Christian College of Manila. (The Eastern Downs Church paid the full cost of Jim's airfare!)
2. Our building fund stands at \$16,800.00 with a goal of \$56,000.00. We still hope to begin construction on the ministry building by August. We met with a draftsman who will draw the plans and work with Toowoomba Regional Council for building approval.
3. The new school year has started and Becky is again

involved in substitute teaching. She needs to teach 130 more days by August 2010 to obtain a permanent teaching certificate. All teachers in Queensland begin with a provisional license until they complete 200 days of teaching.

4. Andrew begins his studies in engineering and computing at the University of Southern Queensland on March 2. He has worked the past several months saving money to help pay for his school fees. Pray that he will do well in his studies.

Thank you for your support and prayers. We know these are not easy days in the USA and we appreciate your faithfulness.

Jim & Becky



Maree and Chris at a recent Sunday evening assembly.



New Year's Eve Gathering at the Newman House



Jim and Larry, one of our church members (pictured above) playing golf in January.

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