



# SOUTHERN CROSS MINISTRIES

NEWMAN FAMILY MISSION

SEPTEMBER 2009

## Daniel and Samantha Arrive!

We are excited to say that Daniel and Samantha arrived safely in Australia on September 10th. After months of preparation they are now here and assisting in the work Down Under.

For the next several weeks they will be settling in by opening bank accounts, buying a car, and working on Samantha's spousal visa application.

Daniel is also looking for a job to supplement their mission support. After he finds work they will be able to rent an apartment or house in Pittsworth.

Samantha's visa process will take a few months to prepare, submit and process. Daniel and Samantha are working with a migration agent in Toowoomba who will assist them in the application process. In the

meantime, Samantha is not permitted to work in Australia.

Please continue to pray for Daniel and Samantha as they settle into a new life in Australia. We appreciate all of your help them with regular support as well those who have assisted them with the cost of their move. They still need financial help as they purchase a car, appliances, furniture, etc. in coming days.

## SCBI Classes Are a Great Success

Kerry and Mona Allen were in Australia from August 6th to September 2nd. Kerry taught a class on Life and Teachings of the Christ.

In all over 50 students attended at least one of the sessions and most attended every session. Kerry taught in three locations in

Queensland and New South Wales.

We thank Kerry and Mona Allen for taking the time they spent with us and we thank Person to Person Ministries for allowing Kerry the time to share with SCBI and the Eastern Downs Church of Christ.

## Building Plans

The plans for the building are moving slower than hoped. The builder did come and is preparing a quote. We were advised to consult a private certifier for information on what rules will need to be followed in converting the shed into an office/library. We now have to get an engineer involved in the planning. Please pray that this essential project may be completed quickly and at an affordable cost.



Daniel and Samantha Arrive after nearly 30 hours of travel



Kerry teaching in New South Wales (Over 50 students attended in 3 locations)



Elders at Charlestown Church of Christ (Congregation supports SCBI)

## Pittsworth Church Plant

On August 23, we held our second meeting in Pittsworth with 35 attending. This was a good turnout as some of our own people were sick and one was recovering from surgery and unable to be present. We had a dozen visitors from Millmerran and Pittsworth.

In advance of the meeting we canvassed the town dropping leaflets in mailboxes which is a common way to make announcements in Australia. We also advertised the meeting in the local newspaper. Our church family that lives in Pittsworth reports that people are mentioning the flyer, so we know the information is being read.

The next meeting in Pittsworth is scheduled for November 1. Beginning in November we will begin holding monthly meetings in Pittsworth with weekly meetings set to begin sometime in the first quarter of the new year.

There is much work to be done if we are to successfully plant a church in Pittsworth. We are praying daily for boldness and wisdom and are involving the members of the Eastern Downs Church of Christ in these efforts.

## Thoughts from Jim

The work in Australia is at a high point. Our young congregation is growing and the work is expanding. We will be studying the role of elders within the local church over the next several weeks and plan to appoint elders for the Eastern Downs Church of Christ before the end of the year.

The Southern Cross Bible Institute is beginning to impact the churches of Australia like we had hoped. In the years to come, we believe that strong leaders will emerge as they are trained and encouraged by SCBI. I will teach the next class in New South Wales in November.

I have been asked to share in the program of the Australian Christian Convention which will be held this year in Brisbane on the second weekend of October.

On September 17, I had a laser procedure done on my left eye. The capsule that surrounds the lens had gotten cloudy with my vision deteriorating. This is fairly common after cataract surgeries and the treatment seems to have been successful. The ophthalmologist also noted some wrinkling on the retina, but says it is not presently a serious concern.

The rest of the family is well. Becky is doing some substitute teaching which she enjoys. In November, Andrew will finish his first year of study at the University of Southern Queensland.

The rising Australian dollar is becoming a concern as it puts pressure on our budget. The financial crisis has led to a significant decrease in our mission income while the rising cost of living and working in Australia coupled with the deteriorating exchange rate forces our expenses to their highest level. Pray for God's continuing provision.

*Jim & Becky*

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### **Support and Information**

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