



The Howell Family Your Missionaries to New Zealand

Lewis • Kimberly

DEAR PRAYER WARRIORS AND FAITHFUL SUPPORTERS,

With mixed emotions, sorrow and joy, God has called us back to the States after 23 years ministering in missions.

We've been praying and seeking God's direction regarding the next step in our ministry, for a couple of years, when we started seeing the health of my in-laws rapidly declining with their age. Kim is an only child, so we have an obligation to step in. We planned to get them into New Zealand on a parent visa, but the socialist government made this impossible after Covid, hence the prayers. We had no intention of leaving New Zealand. Knowing I was not looking for a job Stateside, Kim was praying that if God had an offer come to me, then we would pursue it. This unexpectedly happened this past year. My first reaction was "No," because we never wanted to leave the field. However, I pursued the job offer with a survey trip similar to coming to New Zealand. This was already a direct answer to prayer, but I needed God's wisdom. We returned to New Zealand and intended a slow transition so the ministry here would not be hindered, and the Annual Soulwinning Revival continues. I planned 6 months to get our house, and the ministry prepared for our exit, and 12 months later the Lord opened the doors to depart.

In the past twelve months we downsized our house and shipped a container. We are asking, please, for assistance from our supporters to help alleviate this unexpected debt and travel expenses. We also ask, please, if you would continue support through this year (3-6 months) as we transition off the field. Similar to our passage fund to New Zealand, we need to raise exit funds to successfully transition off the field to help pay our moving costs and housing and vehicle expenses. Please pray about what God would have you to do to help us transition to God's new assignment at Church of the Open Door. I'll be full-time assistant pastor to Pastor Belcher and will be Pastor of the Super 60's ministry along with soulwinning and hospital visitation. Pray also as Kim has the opportunity for 2 surgical procedures that she could not get in New Zealand. Throughout our ministry, because of your faithfulness, I have not had to ask for additional personal financial support, God has supplied everything timely through your support and additional love gifts. Your obedience and faithfulness to the Great Commission has kept us serving in New Zealand.

We cannot thank you enough for your faithful support. I brag about our supporting churches often. Most pastors are amazed that we came at 100% support in 2010, we had only 1 furlough in 2016, we did not have to raise a dime of support in our 15 years, and we are leaving the field at 100% of the US dollar support that we came with in 2010. This is an amazing testimony to you! THANK YOU! Your encouraging letters, birthday cards, and Christmas gifts over the years were timely when it was needed to bolster our spirits in this spiritually dark country. Many souls have been saved, and well over 5 million Gospel tracts have gone out from you, through our ministry and into the hearts of New Zealanders and Australians. Your support established Sonshine Independent Baptist Church and Milford Independent Baptist Church, with a national pastor. You have an incredible account of rewards waiting in Heaven.

If you would consider, to please, help us with our move back, here are the major unexpected expenses due to this transition: shipping container, airline tickets & Hotel, used vehicles in the States, and new electronics and appliances due to the voltage differences from New Zealand to the States. Our mission board also wrote a letter. They will handle our support through the end of the year, which is appreciated.

THANK YOU for your faithful support and we will continue quarterly newsletters and email communications throughout this year.

GOD IS GOOD ... ALL THE TIME, Lewis and Kimberly Howell

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