



October/November 2016

December 8th, 2016

Dear Friends,

I write this latest update from Houston, TX as I wait to board a flight to New Zealand for the next 10 days or so. I am very thankful that the Lord has given me an opportunity to take some of the quieter time around Christmas to visit with some of the folks we are going to be working with in Christchurch. I would appreciate your prayers as I fly, preach, meet with folks, and look for opportunities to share the Gospel.

What a tremendous fall season of ministry the Lord has given us! We have officially passed the 3 month mark of deputation, and God has given us meetings for every Wednesday and every Sunday to this point, with only one exception. This fall we were privileged to be a part of 10 different missions conferences, and we visited 30 churches in total. We were thankful to be involved in various ministries in these churches, from soul winning to teaching children's rallies. In each church we have strived to be a blessing, but more often than not, we are the ones leaving feeling blessed. I think perhaps my favorite realization from these past three months is that we have passed out over 1,500 prayer cards. To think that 1,500 of God's people are praying for us is a little overwhelming, but it is also so thrilling! **Thank you** for your prayers!

Financially speaking, the Lord has used this fall to bring in **31.6%** of our needed support. We have had a flurry of churches pick us up in the last week or two, and we thank every one of you for joining with us to reach the people of New Zealand. The pace at which our support has come in is a direct answer to prayer for us, as we continue to pray for a mid-2017 departure to the field. Please continue to pray for us to that end.

After I return from my trip to New Zealand, our family will spend Christmas with my in-laws in Chattanooga before heading west to begin another busy season of deputation. Praise the Lord that every Sunday and Wednesday in January also has a meeting booked, with the exception of New Years Day. I am looking forward to some time of rest after my trip, but I am also eager to jump into what promises to be a blessed 2017.

Here are some specific prayer requests for the Hutchens family at this time:

- Please pray for this trip I am about to take. I will be gone until December 19th, and will be meeting with area pastors and lay people, hammering out some logistics for our eventual move, and preaching and teaching.
- Please pray for a restful time for my wife and daughter while I am away. After a 23,000 mile fall, I am grateful they are getting to rest and spend time with her parents.
- Pray for safety and souls in the New Year. Our itinerary takes us to British Columbia, Washington, and Oregon for most of January and February.

Because the love of Christ constrains us,

The Hutchens Family

