MOSHER MINISTRIES

Lance, Kristen, Silas, and Asher Mosher — taking the soul-saving gospel to a lost and dying world —



Hike at the Putangirua Pinnacles

The Moshers in New Zealand

Welcome to 2021, the year we plan to move to the United States-Lord willing!

What's Next for Mosher Ministries?

As detailed in our previous newsletter, we plan to move to the United States after nine (or ten, depending on how you count it) years of ministry in New Zealand. But we still need your help! Please see the attached documents, which lay out our plans and needs. If you financially support our work, it is very important that you read and pray over this information.

Camp Season

Since we moved here, we have affectionately referred to the first few months of the year as "church camp season." That is because every week, or every other week, another congregation in New Zealand is hosting a church camp and lectureship. We have only attended two so far this year, but we have plans to attend more.

I was blessed to speak at the first one, which was hosted by the Palmerston North church. The theme this year was "The Good Teacher." I spoke on the Good Samaritan.

The following weekend, the South Auckland church hosted their annual camp in Pirongia. Their theme was "The Truth About Social Issues." The lessons were very well thought out and presented.

Additional Opportunities

Between the Palmerston North and South Auckland camps, we travelled around the North Island to explore and visit. We explored some areas we hadn't toured before, such as Marton and Rotorua. We also spent some great time in fellowship with the Christians in Rotorua and Auckland.

Last week, we spent some time in Abel Tasman and Nelson. Fellowship with the church was edifying for us, although they continually asked us if we know any Christians who would be willing to move there and help them with evangelism. Do we? Let us know if this is something you'd consider. I preached for the church on Sunday on "Great Questions in the Bible: For What Is Your Life?"

Our weekly Bible studies have started to resume now that we've returned from our trips. We are also hosting a fortnightly viewing and discussion of *The Chosen*, a TV series based on the life of Christ.

Make Disciples Training Program

I have begun teaching another 10-week series for the Make Disciples Training Program. This time, I have 14 students. Reminder: One time when I had 13 students, they set 42 Bible studies in 10 weeks. Let's see how these students do. The Lord will be with them, and I am sure they will do well to God's glory.

Lance Mosher Books

The audiobook for *Searching for Brandon Bason* is now available! <u>Click here</u> to see it on Audible and listen to a sample. If you'd like a code to download it from Audible for free, let me know!

Family Update

Yesterday, Silas asked me if he could use my scrap wood, hammer, and nails. "Sure!" I replied. I came back later, and he had made several crosses. He asked me if he could have a "yard sale" and give them to our neighbors. He made a sign saying they were free. By the end of the day, he had given them all away.





Speaking at the Palmerston North church camp



South Auckland camp



Speaking for the Nelson church

We are trying to fill our last months in New Zealand with fellowship and adventure. We are doing a lot of hiking and exploring. A couple of weekends ago, Jared Kyle and his family stayed with us. Jared is a graduate of Bear Valley Bible Institute, and his family worship with the Palmerston North church. Kristen and I realized that this was the first time we had New Zealanders stay with us just for the sake of visiting. We do not mind *at all* hosting people who need to stay in Wellington for the gospel's sake, for work, or because they're traveling through. But it was special to have people drive hours down the island to come and stay with us "just because." We took the Kyle family down to Cape Palliser, and we did the Putangirua Pinnacles walk. This weekend, if the Lord wills, we will host the Shane Jensen family from Taupo.

The summer break is over, and Silas is back in school, despite the difficulty of getting back into the groove of things. He and I have resumed our karate lessons on Tuesday evenings. Both boys are enjoying weekly swim lessons. Asher is becoming more and more sociable, greeting everyone he sees and asking them about their day.

Things are getting "real" for us regarding the move. We have been meeting with realtors. Freed-Hardeman University has sent me my teaching schedule. We are downsizing daily.

Please continue your reading on the next page to learn more about our upcoming work.

We love you. May God bless you.

Lance Mosher

Mosher Ministries: The Next Chapter

Moving from New Zealand to the United States

In May 2011, Kristen and I made our first trip to New Zealand. We stayed for three weeks and helped the Porirua church with its first major outreach. A year later, we were on the plane to New Zealand again, this time without a return ticket. We had made a five-year commitment to the work. We've now been here for nearly nine years. It has been amazing, and we know our work is not finished in New Zealand yet.

However, there is work to be done elsewhere, and we love the idea of raising our kids closer to family. That is why, if the Lord wills:

- We will move to Henderson, Tennessee, in June 2021. I will teach at Freed-Hardeman University as the Missionary-in-Residence for the August 2021–May 2022 school year.
- I will participate in a three-week FHU campaign for Christ to New Zealand in May 2022 (if COVID-19 does not prevent it).
- We will move to Chalmette, Louisiana, in July 2022 to begin an at least two-year commitment to the work there.

Here's an answer to the question many of you are probably asking at this point: **Yes, our family will need ongoing financial support from Christians and churches during this entire time (the foreseeable future)**. This letter will hopefully answer some more questions you have about our future work. After reading it, you will hopefully see the work is worthy of your continued support.

Missionary-in-Residence at Freed-Hardeman University

Freed-Hardeman University has invited me to be their missionary-in-residence for the August 2021–May 2022 school year. This is an **unpaid position**; however, they will be providing our family with housing and utilities. It will be my pleasure to teach the following classes while working with FHU:

- Life of Christ (two courses)
- Personal Evangelism (two courses)
- Acts of the Apostles
- Area Mission Studies: New Zealand

In addition to that, I will also be expected to foster a love for worldwide evangelism in the hearts of FHU students, drawing special attention to the need for evangelism in New Zealand. I will participate and co-sponsor many of the campus-based missions programs, such as Missions

Emphasis Week and Mission Group. The attached letter of recommendation from Dr. Kevin Moore (our former co-worker in New Zealand and future associate) will provide much more detail.

Evangelism in Chalmette

In 2011, when Kristen and I were looking for an eldership to oversee our work in New Zealand, we contacted the church of Christ in Chalmette, Louisiana. The elders couldn't wait to spend time with us and consider helping us. After doing so, they heartily agreed to oversee our work and partially financially back it. Among all the good things we have experienced because of our work in New Zealand, working alongside the Chalmette church and elders has been one of the richest blessings.

Since then, unfortunately, the membership in Chalmette has declined significantly due to death or members moving away. Most assemblies now have about forty in attendance. Much of the work has been left to the two elders. Our family hopes to join them to accomplish a few things. For one, I will help Mark (the preacher and one of the elders) with some of the teaching and preaching. I will also work to train many of the members in outreach and evangelism, while also doing much evangelism myself. We will not only find our own place in the work, but we also hope to help the other members find ways to use the grace given to them. I will also focus on online outreach from Chalmette, with more time on social media, video, and website evangelism.

Because of the decline in membership, the Chalmette church is not able to pay a full-time preacher's salary, much less two. Therefore, we will need to **stay on support** from other Christians and churches.

On the very edge of the largest city of Louisiana (New Orleans), there is a lot of work to be done. Prior to 2005 and Hurricane Katrina, the Chalmette church was doing very well and growing. Although New Orleans is known as having taken the blunt of Katrina's force, Chalmette faired much worse overall. After the storm, so many people fled southern Louisiana and never returned. The ones who were left were in desperate need of physical and daily needs, but also, as Jesus puts it, ready for "harvest." Over fifteen years have passed since the storm, but that is still the case.

Behold, I say to you, lift up your eyes and look on the fields, that they are white for harvest. John 4:35b

When you first started helping us, you originally "signed up" to help the Moshers in New Zealand. Since then, we have expanded our work worldwide by teaching online, writing and distributing evangelistic books, training evangelists in multiple countries, working in Fiji, and heading up a Bible institute. You've stayed with us throughout it all. Thank you, and thank God! It's our prayer that you'll be with us in our future efforts too. Two congregations have informed us that they will no longer be able to financially support us once we are stateside, as their budget is for foreign evangelism. We fully understand. And if you must make the same decision, please let us know as soon as possible. If you can stay on board to help us, we thank God.

If you have more questions, please feel free to contact us. We haven't been able to do this work without you, and we cannot continue without you. Please pray for us. God bless you.

Lance Mosher

(See the next page for a letter of recommendation from Dr. Kevin Moore.)



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17 February 2021

To Whom It May Concern:

Each year a missionary is invited to serve as Freed-Hardeman University's missionary-inresidence, spending an entire 9-months' school year with us (August-May). The missionary-inresidence position is designed to bring greater missions awareness to the campus each year by inviting a missionary to teach, influence, encourage, and mentor students. The benefits of this program are fourfold: (1) the students benefit from the missionary who brings a variety of experiences to the classroom, chapel speeches, extra-curricular missions meetings, and one-onone interaction; (2) the missionary benefits from a change of environment and activities and the spiritual boost this affords; (3) the mission field where he has worked benefits by added exposure among students who are choosing areas to serve; and (4) the church as a whole benefits from increased interaction between the missionary and local congregations.

The university provides housing, utilities, and an office, while the missionary is expected to maintain church support as an extension of his missionary work. This is also a unique opportunity to train and recruit workers for the mission field in general and for the missionary's field of interest in particular.

Bro. Lance Mosher has been invited for the 2021-2022 school year, provided his church support can be maintained. Among many other things, Lance will be assisting with our Missions Emphasis Days in the Fall semester, co-sponsoring our bimonthly Missions Group meetings, teaching missions and Bible classes, serving as a guest speaker in other missions classes and related activities on and off campus, assisting with supplemental instruction for missions majors, mentoring mission-minded students, helping to organize campaigns, stimulating greater awareness of and interest in missions on campus, and working closely with our missions faculty. Please consider this as a worthy investment in the Lord's great cause.

If you need additional information, please contact me via email (<u>kmoore@fhu.edu</u>) or office phone (731-989-6788) or cell phone (731-608-3919).

Thank you for your prayerful consideration,

Dr. Kevin L. Moore Director of Missions Studies Freed-Hardeman University 158 E. Main Street Henderson, TN 38340