

The Fentons in New Zealand

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Nov-Dec 2011
Vol. 16-6



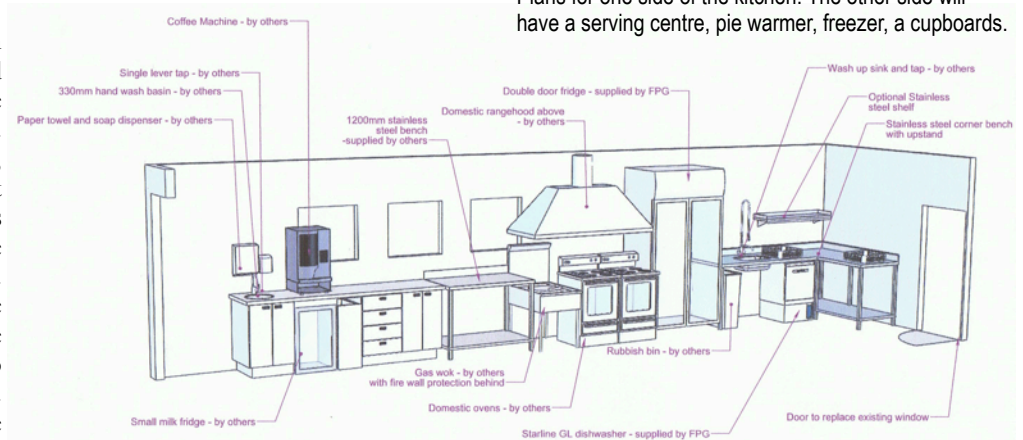
The Community Kitchen

One of my greatest fears when we began discussing the kitchen was that we would overcomplicate the preparation for the ministry and thus drag the whole thing out. Well, in a way, this has happened. However, the reason for dragging the whole thing out is that we now have FOUR businesses wanting to be a part of providing the equipment and supplies for the kitchen. One of them has drawn up plans for the renovation, but because this is a busy time of year for them, they will not be able to begin work until the end of February. While we are a bit disappointed that we have to wait longer, the extra time is giving us more opportunity for preparation of the ministry.

The kitchen, while still several months away from completion, is already garnering quite a bit of interest from our community.

Yesterday, we talked with a community college in our area about having them send some of their students to help us with the kitchen for their work experience. The administration was rapt with the idea.

We have had a few visitors to church who love the idea of the community kitchen.



Plans for one side of the kitchen. The other side will have a serving centre, pie warmer, freezer, a cupboards.

One of the wives is a chef. We are praying that this family in particular will become a part of the church.

I had a man call me last week who works in budget counselling. He had heard about the kitchen and wanted to find out more. In our conversation, I was able to share with this man, a self-proclaimed non-religious man, that our real passion was to not just feed people, but to help them find a relationship with Jesus. We talked a bit more about that and he assured me that he would stop by for a visit once the kitchen was up and running.

One of our chief concerns with this ministry is that it doesn't sink into mere social do-goodism. The extra time before the kitchen is finished is giving us opportunity to further prepare our church for the evangelistic and discipling side of this ministry. Please be in prayer for this aspect of the kitchen. Please be in prayer as we prepare our church further for stepping out of our comfort zone to reach people who are truly hurting, disenfranchised, and living largely without hope.

January Teen Camp

Please be in prayer for teen camp. This will be the seventh year we have run the camp and we are looking for another great year. Please be in prayer for the camp speaker, Chad VanderMark, that he will sense clearly what the Lord would have him preach. Please pray for the teens who attend. Every year we have unsaved teens as well as nominal and "full-on" Christians. The theme of this year's camp is "Transformed" based on Romans 12:2. Please pray that the teens will be truly transformed in their relationship with the Lord.

One of the real heartbreaks that came as a result of our furlough was the loss of one of the key leadership families from the church. We tried to reach out to them when we returned, but they were not interested. For two years, we have prayed for opportunities to reconnect with this family. Through a family tragedy, we have been able to final get back in touch with them. Please pray that the family will be restored to fellowship with the Lord. Please pray that we will be a clear channel for the Lord's love to them.

Two Down...

Our second daughter, Katelyn, is just about a high school graduate! In our September 1998 prayer letter we wrote about her beginning school; now she is finished with it! Please pray as she works for the next six months to save money for college. Her plans at this point are to get a music education degree at Bob Jones University. We are proud of her and look forward to see how she continues to develop her musical abilities.

Christmas Activities

Experience Christmas, the end of the school year, and the beginning of summer all at the same time, and you have the beginning of what is aptly called "The Silly Season." This is also a busy time for churches as we seek to capitalise on the short surge of spiritual awareness. Please be in prayer for the following:

- Our seasonal events - Variety Night, and adult, teen, and Christmas parties. These have always been events where non-

churched visitors have felt comfortable attending.

- We have over 500 invitation brochures to our our Christmas day service. They also include some information about the upcoming kitchen and the gospel message.
- The Christmas Day service is always well-attended by visitors.

Please be in prayer for these specific events as we seek to share the gospel with our community.

Thank you for your continued prayers.

The Fentons
Kurt, Lisa, Katelyn, Taylor

Please send change of postal address for mailed prayer letter to:
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