

US pastor to motivate men

Promise Keepers NZ expects the visit of a man considered to be a 'father figure' for men's ministry to be a turning point for many men's ministries in New Zealand.

Steve Sonderman is the "go to" guy for men's ministry, says national director Paul Subritzky. "His impressive credentials in ministry with men are based on years of hands-on, practical experience in his 24-year role as associate pastor at Elmbrook Church, United States. Steve is considered a father figure for men's ministry due to his long, faithful and successful service.

"We have been aware of

Steve's track record in men's ministry over many years," said Mr Subritzky. "When we had the opportunity to meet with Steve in the States a few years ago, we were impressed as much by his humility and down-to-earth approachability as by the outstanding results he has achieved in working with ministry with men in churches. We consider it a great privilege to be hosting Steve's visit to this country".

Sonderman, who is visiting New Zealand for the first time, will speak at the Promise Keepers Auckland Event from October 8 to 9. At the main event he will talk

about positioning ourselves to fulfil God's purpose in our lives.

He will also be addressing pastors and men's ministry leaders at the Church for Men breakout, on several topics including 'What men are looking for today' and '10 keys to unlock effective Men's Ministry in your church'.

Following the Auckland event, Sonderman will present ministry with men workshops in Auckland, Wellington and Christchurch.

There will be two different workshops held in each centre. The afternoon workshop will be geared towards pastors and men's ministry lead-



MENTORS: From left, Steve Sonderman with Paul Subritzky.

ers, and topics will include 'Principles for ministering to the men of your church' and 'Building blocks of an effective Ministry to Men'. The evening workshop will have a broader scope, aimed at men and men's ministry leaders,

and will cover such topics as 'God's model for manhood'; 'Building spiritual muscle'; and 'leave no-one behind'.

It is expected that as more men grasp these foundational principles men's ministries will turn around.

Sonderman founded Top Gun Men's Ministries, to equip churches in this field and has written *How to Build a Life-Changing Men's Ministry* and most recently *Mobilising Men for One-on-One Ministry*. ■

Pro-lifers to meet in Nelson

The second major gathering of pro-lifers to ever meet in New Zealand will be held at the Rutherford Hotel in Nelson from October 29 to 30.

A diverse group of speakers from overseas and around the country have been confirmed for the All For Life conference.

General practitioner Dr Cushla Hassan who along

with her husband Joseph, also a GP, is organising the event, says it "is designed to bring together health professionals, counsellors, pastoral care workers and all the pro-life groups, individuals and organisations in New Zealand to support and encourage one another."

Dr Hassan says the meeting was also aimed at encouraging delegates to learn from

each other and develop strategies for the future. "Come on New Zealand, let's lead the world reclaiming the culture of life," she says.

"We will share experiences and encourage the development of supportive networks for those involved in pro-life work. We will discuss ... improving sexuality education, crisis pregnancy support and adoption services and post-abortion care".

The last conference was held in 2008.

Keynote speaker is David Reardon, a biomedical ethicist and researcher from the United States, who is a widely recognised world expert on the adverse after-effects of abortion. The other conference speaker is Archbishop Charles Balvo, the Pope's ambassador to New Zealand and the Pacific, based in Wellington.

There are 12 programme speakers from a wide range of organisations and backgrounds. ■

Stirring interest in mission

By Gemma Margerison

Manukau City Baptist Church in South Auckland recently hosted people from all over New Zealand and Australia for the Destination World: THE CALL missions conference.

Said to be the most significant missions event in New Zealand since the '80s, THE CALL conference was testament to the hard work of the 30 organisations that make up Missions Interlink NZ. Formerly the New Zealand Evangelism Missionary Association, Missions Interlink aims to get Kiwis playing their part in expanding the Church. Some of the sponsoring mission groups included: Asian Outreach, Chinese CSM, International Nepal Fellowship, Life Resources, Africa Inland Mission, Mission Aviation Fellowship, Missionary Ventures, Pioneers, Reach Across, Tandem, Tranzsend, WEC, World Outreach,



INFO: Delegates check out the Destination World booths.

Wycliffe and YWAM.

Billed as "a Kiwi mission experience focused on helping you find your next step in mission, about authentic intimacy with God and Scriptures, with like-minded people in a broken world," the conference sought to allow attendees to explore the different options for mission and talk to the different agencies present.

"The feedback from all that attended was very encouraging," says Missions Interlink

director David Hall. "So it does beg the question, will there be another Destination World: THE CALL missions conference?" says Mr Hall. "The simple answer is yes. But we haven't put a date in cement yet. We're interested in collaboration as much as we can with others, not competing with all the other good Christian camps and conferences around the nation. Sometime in 2012 will likely be the next Destination World: THE CALL." ■

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Embracing change

with God, if it's just an ego trip, it will come to nothing," says Mr Bhana.

Using examples such as Abraham and Jacob, Mr Bhana gave a talk at the launch on 'what's in a name?'

"With both of these men their names reflected who they were and the name

change reflected who they would become. It's going to be a real challenge to live up to our name".

Next Sunday a Church Unlimited celebration will look forward to opening satellite churches, beginning at the Mercury Theatre in Auckland's city centre at the end of October. ■

Israel Tour



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Rahiri Youth Hostel

Manawatu Assemblies Youth Accommodation welcomes new applications for 'Rahiri' in Palmerston North for 2011.

Rahiri provides very affordable, furnished accommodation for young Christian adults living away from home, often for study purposes. The environment encourages Christian living. It is a flattering situation that provides safety and support within its community.

The 'Rahiri Parents' live on site and surrounding them are three houses and three attached flats. Flatmates are arranged by the Rahiri parents.

Please contact the Rahiri parents for more details.

Brent & Heather Gennills
30 Limbrick Street
Palmerston North, 4410

Phone- 06 3574996

Email- brent.heather@clear.net.nz

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