

NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 2009

www.arisemg.org.za | +27(0)11 6822630 | arise@arisemg.org.za



We want to wish you all a very blessed Christmas and a prosperous new year.

Thank you for all the support you have given us in various ways throughout the year.

We value and appreciate it immensely.

Emmaus Outreach Trip 20-26 November

Our latest trip to Emmaus proved to be very encouraging and productive. Though each time we are there we realise afresh how great the need is and how much work needs to be done.

Bobbie and Margie, who are still planning to join
Arise MG accompanied Cheryl, Don and Richard
(Gran also came along for the ride). Through people
at Northcliff Union Church God really blessed us by
miraculously providing wonderful accomodation at
the Drakensberg Sun Chalets – free of charge.

The purpose for this particular excursion was to be present for the 'handing over' of the land, to deliver and distribute goods and food parcels, and to introduce Bobbie and Margie to Pastor Musa's work.



In a traditional ceremony, of sorts, the land that has been acquired was demarcated and 'handed over'. Included in the group of witnesses was the local Nduna (community leader), Mayor Mlotshwa and King Hlongwane. We have also been in talks with a young, like-minded architect. We hope to proceed in our planning and design of the community centre in the next while.

We delivered a bakkie-load of goods (clothes etc.) upon arrival, as well as Christmas presents - which included school bags for numerous children. And we also bought and distributed food to local needy families. At this present time Christmas food hampers have been ordered and shall be delivered shortly.

Pastor Musa is doing a good job in his community and he is finding more and more openness and opportunity to share the gospel of our Lord Jesus.

The King, Mayor and the people have made it clear to us that they are very happy about the work we are doing – and planning – and will support us all the way.





HIDDEN TREASURE Charity Shop

The shop is doing well and is making a good profit despite some substantial initial set-up costs. Donations are flowing in from many sources and the shop is bursting at the seams. It is great. But don't stop cleaning out your garages and homes - keep on bringing those unwanted treasures. We have made friends with the surrounding shop owners and some of them have become our most regular customers. Sibi, one of our manageresses sometimes has prayer time with some of the customers before she opens. We pray we will be a shining light for our Lord Jesus Christ in the centre and that the people will sense God's presence when they come in to our shop.

We are still in desperate need of Volunteers. The shop cannot run successfully without the help of dedicated volunteers. There is so much that needs to be done and there is no way that one person can do it all.

We also still need a Glass Display Counter to put all the small items that people donate like jewelry, sunglasses, wallets etc. which can be easily stolen. If anyone knows where we can acquire one at a reasonable price please let us know.

2009 Family News in brief

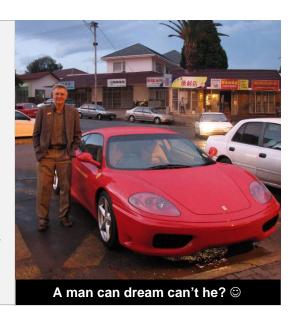
This has been a fairly difficult year in many respects but the Lord has brought us through.

- Cheryl and Richard have both been quite ill. Cheryl has had the flu at least three times and it does affect
 her asthma -even at this moment she is experiencing difficulty with her breathing and has had to be put
 on medication. Richard still has a couple of health concerns but has recovered nicely since his battle
 with Guillain Barre Syndrome.
- Caeden was ill with high fever and nausea. He lost weight and went squint. But he seems to be recovering well.
- Kate was involved in a motor accident on 12 November; fortunately she was not badly hurt and the children were not in the car with her. She is recovering from the whiplash effects. The car unfortunately did not fare so well and will cost a lot to fix. There are also some hassles with the insurance payout but we thank God for His protection in the incident and we trust Him to undertake now also in the situation.
- Carmen has joined Door of Hope as a General Manager for three mornings a week. In addition she supervises the Hidden Treasure shop.

Don's 60th

Don celebrated his 60th Birthday this past November and we thank God for giving him to us for all these years.

We hope and pray that he will have many more and continue to be used in the service of the King bringing glory to our God.



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