

NEWSLETTER July 2011

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Emmaus Building Opening

We are very excited to announce that since our last newsletter in March, Arise, in partnership with the Wheeler Avenue Baptist Church (WABC) from Houston, Texas, USA; have erected our first building facility down in Emmaus, KZN. It was a most urgent need as the 250-seater tent, that had been gratefully used for more than a year, had blown down on numerous occasions due to high winds and consequently been seriously damaged. Thus, in answer to much prayer, God has seen it fit to bless Pastor Musa, his church, and the community with this initial facility that will house the nursery school, church activities, and so forth. The building itself is a 12.5m x 7.5m, steel-framed, brick and mortar construction. Complete with a front veranda, and including a small kitchen and storeroom. On the weekend of the 12th of June a delegation from the WABC (including their Senior Pastor Dr Cosby) and a medical team from Arkansas (see article below) travelled down, together with the Joburg based Arise team, to the Emmaus project. Joining together with the Emmaus-based Arise overseers i.e. Bobby and Margie Jones, Pastor Musa and his church, the Emmaus community, as well as members from other churches in the broader area; a celebration and dedication of the building was held. It is estimated that about 300 people were in attendance and enjoyed the festivities. We praise Jesus and trust that the facility will contribute towards a healthy and flourishing ministry for the Kingdom of God. And SPECIAL THANKS to Wheeler Avenue Baptist Church.

Musa fights for his life

Pastor Musa had quite a health scare just before the official opening of the building. He had to be hospitalised and doctors are still not sure what the problem was. We are not ruling out the distinct possibility of direct spiritual attack. Praise God Pastor Musa has recovered well so far but we would ask that you please continue to pray.





Medical Team in Emmaus

The day after the dedication of the building in Emmaus, A 3-person Medical Team from Second Baptist Church Little Rock, Arkansas (2BCLR), went to work helping the community of Emmaus. In so doing, the prayer of Mother Teresa of Calcutta became their prayer.

"Dearest LORD, May I see you today and every day in the person of your sick, and whilst nursing them, minister unto you. Though you hide yourself behind the unattractive disguise of the irritable, the exacting, the unreasonable, may I recognize you and say: "Jesus, my patient, how sweet it is to serve you." Lord, give me this seeing faith, then my work will never be monotonous. I will ever find joy in humoring the fancies and gratifying the wishes of all poor sufferers. O beloved sick, how doubly dear you are to me, when you personify Christ; and what a privilege is mine to be allowed to tend you. Sweetest Lord, make me appreciative of the dignity of my high vocation, and its many responsibilities. Never permit me to disgrace it by giving way to coldness, unkindness, or impatience. And O God, while you are Jesus my patient, deign also to be to me a patient Jesus, bearing with my faults, looking only to my intention, which is to love and serve you in the person of each one of your sick. Lord, increase my faith; bless my efforts and work, now and for evermore, Amen."

During the 3 days of ministry, the team saw over 140 people, as well as ±60 of the Arise nursery school children. They left first-aid supplies for the preschool and helped with the construction of stairs for the water tower; before rejoining the rest of their group stationed in Johannesburg. Thank you to the team, we are so grateful for your service and compassion for the people in Emmaus.



Hundreds of Shoes

1175 pairs of shoes have been taken to the community in Emmaus. The shoes, new and second-hand, ranged from boys and girls sizes all the way through to men and women sizes.

A big thank you to Karen, the driving force behind the "shoe drive", and the teachers, learners, and parents of North West Christian School After School Centre in Northcliff, JHB for this very useful donation.

ArisePrayer Requests

General:

- The Arise Team
- All Arise Partners (local and overseas)

Emmaus project:

- Protection and health for Pastor Musa (plus his family and church)
- ✓ Teachers, staff, and children at the play centre
- A bakkie (truck) for Pastor Musa (For collecting foodstuffs, preaching etc.)

Hidden Treasure Shop:

- A long-term Supervisor
- Continued success of the expanded shop
- Volunteers to assist in the shop

Volunteer Missionaries:

- Mark and Sara Williams; (Sara is pregnant with their first child)
- ☑ Bobbie and Margie Jones; who have worked tirelessly down in Emmaus.

A special thank you to the WABC and 2BCLR partners for their continuing support and invaluable contribution to Arise, and specifically the Emmaus project.

We thank God for you.