

NEWSLETTER Octobter 2010

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Holiday Clubs in Emmaus and Khetani

A 4-person USA missions team from the Real Life Community Church in Fredericksburg, Virginia; came over to run two independent holiday clubs. The first three days in a rural school near our project in Emmaus, and the second three days in the township of Khetani, in Winterton. They were joined by a larger delegation from the local Johannesburg-based Rossetenville Baptist Church. Despite some difficulties with vehicles, and a delay in departure for half the team, the trip commenced 26 September finishing 2 October. It proved to be a very successful endeavour with a total of approximately 600 children attending in the week.

The children sang songs, played games, heard Bible stories and learned memory verses. Most of the children even received a Polaroid picture of themselves in a handmade card frame. Others received special beaded bracelets.

It was a privilege to be able to spend time with the children and they seemed to thoroughly enjoy the attention, activities and input into their lives.

One child in particular moved all our hearts. We were unable to get his name as he could not communicate properly, even in his own language. He appeared to be about 10 years old and had a case of Cerebral Palsy. It obviously affected his movement but certainly not his brain. Despite his challenges he walked to the facility on his own, what must have been 2 km, with his home-made metal walker. His determination was matched by his sheer joy and a smile that lit up the room. We did pick him up and drop him off the last couple of days. And it is safe to say that many a tear was shed, in joy and despair, during the time spent with that beautiful soul.

Our time in Emmaus also included a visit to the local hospital maternity ward where special 'baby packs' (including clothing, blankets, baby powder, toys etc.) were distributed and the Gospel message was shared. A simple hygiene and healthcare workshop was also run through Pastor Musa's church for the ladies and mothers of the community.



A special thank you to all of the team who made this trip possible.



Bobbie and Margie Jones join the Team

We are very encouraged to have Bobby and Margie Jones join us in South Africa. They arrived on the 6th of October. Then after spending a few days with a friend of theirs they made their way down, together with Cheryl, to Winterton. They will be overseeing the project in Emmaus. Margie will be helping to establish the nursery school further as well as running a ladies Bible study. Bobbie is assisting Pastor Musa with visitation, distribution of the food parcels, and general development, as well as teaching Pastor Musa how to fix his car.

Please keep Mark and Sara Williams in your prayers as they continue to look for support and finalise arrangements to come out to South Africa by the end of the year, God willing.

Hidden Treasure Shop Expands

We give grateful thanks to the Lord for all his provision for us with the shop this past year. It has been able to run at a worthwhile profit each month. Covering all the wages of the staff and buying food for the 43 play-centre children down in Emmaus.

An exciting, yet daunting, development has taken place. Our lease was coming up for renewal and at the same time the bigger shop next door became available. After much prayer and consideration we decided to change shops. We especially appreciate Carmen, Brent, Sibi, Anisu, and Barbara who worked particularly long and hard dismantling and removing everything in the old shop and reassembling it in the new shop. The new shop is more spacious and better laid out. It has an office with one-way glass, so the shop can be observed at all times; plus a large storeroom, which will also help with sorting out goods.



With the bigger shop comes bigger expense and now, more so than ever, we need a constant flow of good quality donations. And to this end we trust that the Lord will prompt people to give their unwanted goods for this worthwhile cause. We are still helping a lot of disadvantaged people through the sales and profits. And the things not sold within a limited period go down to our Emmaus project for distribution.

We would just like to take this opportunity to say a special thank you to everyone who has contributed to the success of the shop up to this point.

ArisePrayer Requests

General:

- Carmen, Brent, Jordan and the rest of the family as they continue to deal with the loss of Caeden.
- Arise Staff (Including personal financial support needs)

Emmaus project:

- Bobbie and Margie as they settle in and start overseeing the work in Emmaus
- ✓ Teachers, staff, and children at the play centre
- A Food supply for the play centre
- New church started at Ngobi (Pray for Musa's safety in a dangerous area)
- A bakkie (truck) for Musa (For collecting foodstuffs, preaching etc.)

Hidden Treasure Shop:

- Success of the expanded shop
- Storeroom (we are in big need of a place to store and sort all the donated goods)
- A Volunteers to assist in the shop

Volunteer Missionaries:

✓ Mark and Sara Williams; (For documentation & financial support as they seek to leave the U.S.A. and join us in South Africa)

TENT DILEMMA

The 250-seater tent has blown down in Emmaus. Please pray as we seek to sort it out and erect it again.