

The Joshua REPORT



New Foundations...

The Joshua Foundation Newsletter

April - August 2009

what's been happening?..

Dear Joshua Partners, Once again the months have shot by, and with so much happening on the Tanzanian front, it's no surprise! Thanks as always for being part of all that's going on.

This edition takes off from April 10th when our last leadership module ended.

Another one has now started and ploughs ahead until the end of November when our yearly graduation takes place – always a great event! And in the intervening months – well, enjoy the updates within from each of our departments. For more details, please read on...

[Alan Stephenson - Director]

Education Update

TaCSA – The Tanzanian Christian School Association was successfully launched in the first week of August with two back to back three day conferences; the first in Dar es Salaam and the second in Arusha. The keynote speaker, Dr Bev Norsworthy, of Bethlehem Tertiary Institute in New Zealand, presented five excellent sessions in each, talking about what “Education God’s Way” actually looks like. There were also many workshop sessions presented by Joshua Staff and friends! With over 90 people at each it was felt that we had made a great start to seeing this being an influential association in this nation to impact not only schooling at local levels but Education in the nation as a whole. *con't on page 3*



Dr. Bev Norsworthy at TaCSA

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Agriculture on the job

Our stable is well into the transition from piggery to rabbitry. We have been able to obtain larger rabbits from Kenya which have improved our breeding stock. We have also begun rabbit colonies instead of cages, providing them with a more natural environment. The long-term goal for this project is to be able to supply our colleges with low cost, high quality meat and to be able to provide micro loans (made available from the sale of the meat to restaurants and individuals) for rabbit projects in the villages. We also want to develop a Farming God's Way (FGW) program for rabbits. We have a few more stages to complete before these goals are achieved but we are well on our way!

Christian Missionary Fellowship in Tanzania contacted me regarding a group of 20 community leaders that were asking for assistance with ways to improve their harvests. They had very little rain in their area and obtained extremely meagre harvests. We put together a FGW

seminar for them. (As a reminder to those of you reading, FGW does not focus on agriculture. It first focuses on the complete paradigm change of the individual. No more throwing seeds out in the fields by the handfuls and leaving it all to chance; we teach them to be faithful with the things God has given them and to do everything wholeheartedly.) It was amazing during the seminar to see how God changed their old patterns of thinking and deposited peace and hope into their hearts. The leader of their group said that they will immediately begin implementing the FGW principles in their lives, farms and teaching the villages for which they are responsible in order to bring about restoration! Praise God!

During this disheartening harvesting time due to the drought, we have been blessed to hear how the individuals who implemented the principles of FGW have reaped amazing rewards! Philemon, who works with friends of ours, said that this harvest will be the largest he's

ever had! That is an amazing testimony to hear when his neighbours and family who planted a week before or after he did have NO harvest. We have several reports from different areas who are claiming that same thing! We serve a faithful God!

[Renee Moose - Farming God's Way rep]



Philemon and Renee celebrate a bumper FGW harvest!

JLMC LEADERS low-down

The leaders experienced the challenge we anticipated as they work through new Research Papers, or their Theses, as required for completion of their degrees. The special module dedicated to equipping them for this task was a success – but now they must set aside the necessary time to undertake the necessary research.

They report that the process has been very beneficial in many areas, but finding the time in their demanding situations is a struggle!

The global recession combined with poor rains has greatly complicated the cash available to these leaders to enable them to continue their training and provide for their families. As a result the August–November module has some unoccupied places. This is sad and frustrating as the theme for this module of 'Church Growth and Strongholds' carries many vital keys to effective ministry, particularly focused on the African situation.



Owen under Plastic: training leaders under plastic

While working on these challenges we continue to be greatly encouraged from the reports and testimonies received here of the effectiveness of the training programme. The



Determined Missionaries use any means to get to their appointment!

multiplication process is underway, some of those trained supplying monthly training sessions to many other pastors and leaders in their areas; others planning such strategies and yet others receiving senior appointments within their ministry settings – all extending God's kingdom.

[Owen Wagener - College Dean]

Education Update

con't from page 1

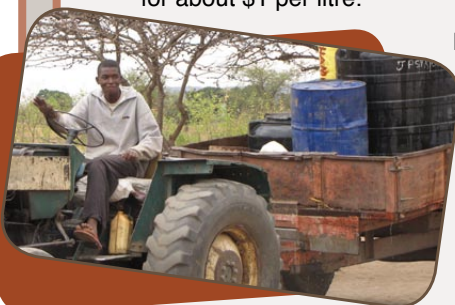
Joshua Schools Magugu – Allan and Sue Dow have been down in Magugu for a term now getting acquainted with the schools and their staff. They write:

“Sue’s focus on developing schools which will model high quality teaching and learning, and facilitate such teacher training relates directly to the situation we find ourselves in on a daily basis. We feel very privileged to be living in Magugu and doing this work. Ashleigh Tuck, a young artist from NZ now lives with us at En Gedi. Ashleigh will be helping at Magugu until December. Two more NZ teachers, Amy Shanks and Shelley Bishop, have also arrived and the education effort into Magugu increases!”

They continue, “We are right in the dry season in Magugu now:

- > Wells dot the dry river bed through town
- > Whirlwinds of dust are frequent
- > Water is delivered daily by tractor and trailer to school
- > ‘Salty’ water is sometimes used for cooking, cleaning and even drinking
- > Bicycles with buckets constantly ply the town

BUT we are pursuing a contract to put down a 100 metre well for the school! - We seem to live on the edge of dehydration day and night just now, and are constantly rehydrating with bottled water purchased for about \$1 per litre.”



Water is delivered daily by tractor and trailer to school

Please also be praying for our Standard Four class: this year will be the first year that a class in our primary school has sat examinations in English.



Sue Dow enjoys walking to school each day accompanied by happy students

Amy Shanks and Shelley Bishop (teachers) and Ashleigh Tuck (school leaver cum artist) from NZ have joined us till the end of this year.

Joshua Schools Arusha – Celina and Teddy are doing a great job in our school here at En Gedi, teaching reading and writing, phonics and mathematics. The roll is expanding offering the extra challenge of getting new students up to speed with the rest of the class, but also helping with the school finances. At the beginning of August Teddy’s class (Pre-primary 2) moved into their new classroom built with two containers and materials supplied from the UK. This included new uniforms for all the children! It is starting to look like a really smart little school! But we are growing in other ways too... both Teddy and Celina are pregnant!

Opening of School



Joshua Teachers Training College – After much deliberation about the future of the college – despite having a superb course on offer – we have decided to change the nature of the course. It will now be conducted largely through a form of distance learning. Student teachers will be placed in schools where they will actively engage with what they are learning on a daily basis in the classrooms, being visited by JTTC staff members every two weeks to mentor them and monitor development. The current challenge is to get all of our current course material down into written form!



Former Teacher College students

The Team – While Amy, Shelley and the Dows will be working on the Magugu front, assisted by Ashleigh, Rebecca and Patrick Lubilanji (now with their baby girl, Olivia), as well as Catriona (and her husband Paul) from Australia will help Joanna with the writing of units for JTTC. Lynda focuses on the development and direction of TaCSA as well as writing curriculum for the pre-primary classes of our schools. It’s all stations go!

[Joanna McEwing and Lynda Stephenson]

Women's MINISTRY



Praising Jesus at the Women's conference

This year our annual conference took a giant step forward as the ladies were confronted with the lies and deceptive approaches of the enemy that hold them in bondage. Subjects ranged from puberty to leadership and from incubating a vision, to menopause! We had 16 sessions, some of which included Dr. Jenny Wagener who spoke on medical and health issues. She was greatly appreciated. (These ladies are robbed of basic education. Our confer-

ences are the only place they can openly ask any question about anything!)

We have held bi-monthly leadership weekends which will continue. The team is now ready to lead others – there is now an emerging young set of women's leaders being raised up by the leadership team. Watch this space as traction grows and more young women commit themselves to discipleship so they can in turn disciple others!

[Lois Wagener]

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what's ahead?

Alan Stephenson has been travelling in New Zealand through September, ministering as far a-field as Christchurch in the South Island to the North Island's Bay of Islands.

The Carstensens – Paul, Sally and the two children Talia and Boaz – are returning to New Zealand at the end of this year. They have been a great part of the team and we'll miss them after some years of huge input into this nation.

Owen and Lois Wagener return to New Zealand mid October. They plan to be there for just over 6 months of each year from hereon in order to meet pension requirements. This will enable them to build the Joshua Vision base in New Zealand, but pray for our ongoing staffing needs in Africa!



“I can do all things through
Christ who strengthens me.”
Phil 4:13

The **JOSHUA**
Foundation

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