



JOSHUA

PRAYER WARRIOR

prayer bulletin of the joshua foundation

DIRECTOR'S COMMENT

alan stephenson

Dear Praying Friends and Supporters, the first month of 2008 has already vanished into history. May our labours together especially in prayer, enable us to make it! Prayer is indeed our number one option to change the course of events, be transformed, and transform the world around us. Thank you once again for joining us in that transformation process in Africa and beyond – “Thy kingdom come, O Lord!”

PRAISE

praise God for:

Great Endings! 2007 finished with a wonderful wedding of team members Patrick Lubilanji and Rebecca Bell; our first on-campus Annual Graduation (brilliant!); the arrival of new Canadian missionaries, the Owens family (they're settling in wonderfully); plus student and staff celebrations for a blessed year.

Great Beginnings! 2008 has brought Richard and (Dr.) Jenny Wagener back to us from New Zealand to handle new business, sports and medical programs. Successful preparations for both the Teachers' and Leaders' modules have been completed.

TJF USA registration: we are now registered in the USA as a tax-exempt trust! Thanks for your prayers and concern.

PRAYER

prayer focus for:

Joshua Colleges: the first Teachers' College and Leaders' College modules of the year are already underway. These are always times when God moves powerfully through our student body (some 65 great men and women from around 5 African nations), plus Joshua's 20 missions staff! (See inside for more details.) Please keep us in your prayers over the next four months.

Base Developments: building at one level or another – and now the step-by-step development of 14 new acres across the river – is a constant feature, as is our need of prayer for wise decisions; healthy, safe working conditions for all; plus funds to do it all and salary our national staff.

Staff and Student sponsorships for staff employment and student training are always areas of need.

Team Accommodation: yes, our need for further accommodation continues!

Business Ventures: we continue exploring this vital area for developing Africa-based funding sources, and for getting deeper into the fabric of African society as a whole.

See inside for more information regarding each of our departments, and always many thanks for joining with us in prayer ...

We have just gotten over the initial hurdle of new year start up for our schools. New curriculum, new staff, new resources, new methodology.....lots of time and energy! But we are excited with the potential for this new year. We have focussed on developing Maths. Science and Social Studies curriculum with Biblical worldview for our primary school for the next year. So far we have written draft documents for Term 1 and will be overseeing this with regular visits to Magugu.

We praise God for 6 new staff in preschool, primary and secondary school!! We have some well qualified teachers who are strong Christians with a vision to disciple children. We still could do with a secondary Maths/Chem/Physics teacher. Tanzania produces approximately 72 Maths/Science teachers each year for a demand of 4,800 teaching positions in Tz schools but our God is a God of miracles!!

Our combined total of students of all Joshua schools as of Jan 2008 is about 400. In both preschool and Form 1 which were open for intakes at the end of last year we had many more applications than we could cope with - I guess that's a good problem! But it is always hard to turn children away.....

At the beginning of December, Joanna, Meagan and I did the first Effective Teaching trainers training. This is a new programme from New Hope International for the training of school teachers in Biblical worldview. All our teaching staff will go through this programme over the coming year. We also trained school pastors in this material earlier this year.

Last weekend I travelled to Dar Es Salaam again for another TaCSA (Tanzania Christian School Association) meeting. we have now completed the constitution and ratified it, so the association was 'born' on Saturday 19th January, 2008! Documents now are ready to be submitted to the government for registration, which could take a long time, but we are legally allowed to operate while we wait. The executive committee was elected and I have the honour of being the first Chairperson of TaCSA. A big responsibility and a lot of work to establish this association but I believe it is God's next step for me in seeing strong Christian education established in Tanzania.

PRAISE

praise God for:

For Committed Education Staff who worked hard to prepare the new curriculum (based on the Tz curriculum) - once trialed this curriculum will be available for other Christian Schools.

For all the new teachers God has given us for JPS and JSS for this year.

For the good reputation Joshua schools have earned over the years - our students did very well in national exams last year.

For successful training of key teachers and pastors in the Effective Training Programme

For birth of TaCSA and my position that will give me great opportunities to make input to Christian schools/education at a national level.

PRAYER

prayer focus for:

For Ed. Dept. staff as they press on with writing curriculum for the next term.

For our new teachers to settle in well

For a good secondary Maths/Science teacher to be employed

For our teacher trainers as they implement the Effective Teaching programme

For school pastors as they step more into their specific roles in the schools - discipling and supporting teaching staff

For myself as I help get TaCSA off the ground, including its registration

MANAGING DIRECTOR
paul carstensen

PRAISE
praise God for:

For the completion of the Owens' house renovations.
For opportunities to improve our staffs financial situation through utilisation of the new land
For contracts that can benefit the local people as well as The Joshua Foundation

PRAAYER
prayer focus for:

For the expeditious release of the UK container and safe travel to the base.
For the obtaining of the legal title of our recently purchased land
For the completion of renovation work on one of the residential houses.
For the finances and completion of the Wageners' (jnr) house

JLMC COLLEGE DEAN
owen wagener

As the leaders settle into this first module of 2008 your prayer support for them and those who minister to them needs to be seen as vital - the result of intercession for them is not to be underestimated. The theme this module is on God's order in the family and church with particular focus on leadership. Generally the level of understanding of the kingdom order in all types of relationships – particularly in regard to leadership of others - is very poor. Domination and control with resulting exploitation is seen everywhere – and this course is an opportunity to see transformation in the lives of so many in this area.

PRAISE
praise God for:

For the faithful support received in prayer and finance which has enabled the training to continue for most from last year and for the new ones joining us.
For the new resident mentors that have strengthened the core ministry base. To this base is added diverse visiting ministry resulting in a powerful impact on those receiving the training here.
For the growing appreciation among the East African Christian world generally for the work done here – we have such an open door from others seeing the fruit of the ministry and desiring to receive also.

PRAAYER
prayer focus for:

For revelation in the 'eyes of the understanding' so that these leaders can see God's truth in the areas covered in this module. There is a huge contrast between God's ways and the lies and evil that has shaped the presuppositions of the great majority of the population both inside and outside of the church. To break out of those strongholds of error and thereby set thousands of church members and their families free is a spiritual work in direct opposition to entrenched powers of darkness in Africa.

For our growing ministry off-base to follow through on what is accomplished on site – availability of resident mentor time and the finance to travel being two obvious issues.

For the continuing need in funding this training programme – the corporate cost of operating such an equipping centre as this is substantial. Greater sponsorship for the leaders is a real need – many more could be trained as the network of contacts grows and increases the demand from those anxious to be equipped but lacking the resources.

WOMEN'S MINISTRY

lois wagener

The focus of the team now is the next women's conference that has been brought forward one week to accommodate Joanna's conference on ministry to children. The women's conference will be in June 08. Please pray for God's anointing on both conferences

PRAISE

praise God for:

David and Judi Owens joining the TJF team - Judi having a similar vision and experience from God for the African women.

Continued Eagerness of the group of African women working with us to see the necessary changes in their families, churches and nation.

The reports of multiplication continuing as the result of the July conference and seminars conducted this year.

Bimonthly meetings of the leadership team. This has been a catalyst for unity and bonds of friendship across the denominations and tribes from different regions of the nation.

The ladies, who are maturing in their relationship with Jesus and their faith to hear His voice and implement what God says.

PRAYER

prayer focus for:

Revelation by the Holy Spirit so the women can really "see" the answers in God for their desperate situations. When they see the truth and enter it the promised freedom results.

The planning for the June conference as we seek to take the women another step forward by presenting them with material they can use and teaching them how to utilize it.

For Financial supply - Costs are rising all the time and their meagre earnings are not keeping up! The conference will cost more and therefore the subsidy will need to increase. Our leader meetings every two months are so beneficial but also require cash for transport and similar costs as the ladies gather from up to 600 kms away.

The continual growth of the leadership team, both spiritually and in relationships together, as we move across denominational and cultural boundaries.