



JOSHUA

PRAYER WARRIOR

prayer bulletin of the joshua foundation

TEAM LEADER'S COMMENT

alan stephenson

Dear Prayers,

I'm in Wales as I write the intro to this edition of our Prayer Newsletter. Wherever we go, whatever we're doing, we're always conscious of our need of heaven's direction and empowerment, and of the effective prayer support of God's people from around the world. Again and again, thanks so much for being part of the team! Without your genuine concern and heartfelt prayers we could not succeed in what we're doing.

Department reports in this edition will update you on developments and challenges on all fronts as usual. For Lynda and I however, there have been some very special personal events and I comment on these below!

PRAISE God for....

Jeremy Stephenson's wedding to Kendra Woods! Our oldest son's wedding was celebrated in Zanzibar in the place where African girls were bought back from slavery by Christian missionaries in the nineteenth century, and then educated and given their freedom. Jeremy and Kendra are now planning to develop their own (photography) business-come-ministry based in Tanzania.

Family Reunion! The wedding provided a wonderful occasion for our New Zealand-based children and spouses to return for 3-4 weeks of family-time. Now after years apart, solid plans are underway for all to settle in Africa to work together. We're so grateful to the Lord for the fulfillment of His promises to us in this regard, and ask that you pray with us as we plan the way forward over the next 6 months.

Staff Workers salaries: we're grateful for some increases in this area, but continue to seek God for more via new business initiatives and sponsorships.

PRAYER focus for....

Stephenson Family: God appears to have long term plans for us on this continent. Please pray for these to be fulfilled with wisdom and faith.

Support: whether its staff salaries, child/teacher trainee, or leader's sponsorships, or missionary support Africa's impoverishment constantly poses us with many challenges! Please pray with us for these very real needs to be met, and for permanent Africa-based solutions to be found.

New departments: it's great to have Richard and Jenny Wagener with us (although they are completing a surgery locum in Australia at present), and to have commenced the long-planned "*Business Department*" of TJF, focusing on ways to develop and establish a wide range of business opportunities for kingdom ministries and national leadership training. Please pray for great wisdom, and for viable connections both here and overseas to see this happen. The strategically important department of *Administration and Accounts* has now been taken over by Paul Carstensen (just returned with Sally and their 2 children from 4-months furlough in New Zealand). Again, we're asking for wisdom and necessary training to see this department fully established as we grow.

Alan's Travels: Having ministered in Birmingham, Wales and London, I travel to Kentucky, North Carolina, and Arizona to do more of the same. Should ministry and business opportunities materialize, I'll be in the States until September, joining Lynda in New Zealand, travelling to Australia and to Tanzania in early October. Your prayers are coveted for divine connections and revelation, anointed ministry and safe travel.

Tanzania: Remarkable events keep informing us that God is moving powerfully in this country. Large scale corruption is being publicly exposed, Christian MPs are calling the country and its leaders back to God, Wilberforce-style in parliament, and a new openness is being displayed in the media. Please pray this continues until full-scale revival, accompanied by wise pragmatic policies in the burgeoning areas of mining and tourism, accomplishes a lasting transformation.

See inside for more information regarding each of our departments!

EDUCATION

lynda stephenson

We have a lot to praise God for this report, but most of all for new teachers for Joshua Secondary School. We have employed three new teachers – two of whom teach maths, physics and biology!!! Isn't God so good to supply us with these subject teachers in a country where they are almost impossible to find?!! The third one of these three teaches English and Swahili which are the subjects our teacher Lilian teaches and she is due to deliver her first baby any time now. So the Lord's provision and timing is wonderful!

We are also excited to have 'new' desks and text books which have arrived in a container sent by King's Church in the UK. Along with that they raised a donation from a local school which is now going towards completing our computer lab in Magugu. All these things are helping us to offer an opportunity for young people in Magugu to get ahead in life.

Thank you all for prayers for the health issues we were facing in Magugu – things are definitely better now but we need to be vigilant. We are praying about the need for a bore hole to ensure regular and clean water for our school – that will also guard our health.

Joshua Teachers Training College is into its last half year. It's exciting to see the growth in students' understanding as they truly change paradigms and have chances to put new ideas into practice. They have final exams in December. Janet had to leave Tanzania unexpectedly when her daughter in California fell seriously ill. Allan and Sue are still in New Zealand raising support. Joanna and Rebecca are doing a great job of covering for our shortfall in staff – God's grace is evident when the pressure is on! I (Lynda) travel to NZ in two weeks, following a Christian School Association meeting in Dar es Salaam. Celina, our preschool teacher, is working very hard towards sitting her final secondary school exams so she can upgrade her teaching qualifications.

PRAISE God for....

3 new teachers for Joshua Secondary School - we are now fully staffed

Improved health in Magugu

Provision to complete our computer lab and furnish our classes

The sale of a property Allan and Sue needed to sell in order to be able to return to Tz

PRAYER focus for....

The money we need to drill for water in Magugu

Janet and her daughter Shawn who is still sick and waiting for a kidney transplant (this is her fourth – she is a living miracle)

Allan and Sue Dow as they continue to raise their support in New Zealand

Joanna and Rebecca as they hold the fort at JTTC while I travel which is a challenge while we are short staffed as now.

Celina as she studies and prepares for exams in Feb next year.

BASE ACTIVITIES

josh moose

We are praising God for the arrival of the long awaiting container from the U.K., which contains the bridge to cross the river into the “promise land”. The enemy has done everything possible to stop this container from reaching En Gedi ground, but our God is faithful to deliver. Thank you so much for your prayers!

It's also been tremendous to see the response to our “Famine Relief” project in the local area. Each week some 1000 people are being supplied enough maize to carry them over a very trying time. Many have come to the Lord, while our local staff, student leaders and teachers, plus mission team have been involved in the distribution, prayer and preaching accompanying the project. Difficulties however will continue until the September harvest, so your prayers and ongoing support is coveted!

PRAISE God for....

The arrival of the U.K. container and the much needed contents for many aspects of the TJF ministry. A huge thanks to Kings Church!

God's provision for the hunger relief as we share God's love for his people in a practical way

The port arrival of the Perth container carrying the donated well drilling rig

Ongoing success of the “Famine Relief” project

Financial provision to purchase a much needed new well pump. Praise God for clean water!

PRAYER focus for....

The quick release of the Perth container from the Dar port

For the provision and completion for the much needed housing maintenance at En

For the provision to increase wages among our local staff.

JLMC LEADERSHIP COLLEGE

owen wagener

Praise God with us that again we have the maximum numbers of Christian Leaders that our facilities can accommodate for this August to November module. This module further builds competence in growing the church. Last module focused on the principles of church growth and basics of family life and personal discipleship. This module focuses on problem-solving – counseling and leadership through the inevitable challenges that arise in ministry. This is the context for praying for this module!ministries rise to new levels of effectiveness in God.

PRAISE God for....

Most participants being able to return and develop practical application of concepts already taught

The faithful sponsorship continuing for a number of the leaders who otherwise would just not be able to attend and complete their course.

A great range of Mentors again available to impart Biblical truth and the practical ways of implementing the ways of the kingdom

PRAYER focus for....

Revelation of the “ways of the Kingdom of God” needed in so many areas of leadership of their churches and specialist ministries as we progress through this module.

Continued growth in unity among all – each valuing both their God-given uniqueness and the need to be effectively related to those ministers different to themselves.

Financial provision for the participants, their families and their ministries – both through lifting all they are involved with into kingdom order, and, by being assisted meanwhile by outside sponsorships as they are learning God’s ways here!

The continuing need for more resources to provide the facilities to meet the growing demand.

WOMEN’S MINISTRY

lois wagener

PRAISE God for....

A life-changing Women’s Leadership Conference with 30 women from Tanzania and Uganda.

God ministering to open, hungry hearts - so ready to receive all He had to give them.

The anointing of the Holy Spirit ministering to break bondages like rejection, unforgiveness, ungodly beliefs and sexual abuse.

Freeing the women from cultural traditions that have held them in a form of slavery

Giving the women vision to see what potential they have when they allow God time to speak to them and they respond in faith

The testimonies of women who have been to past conferences and who now have radically different marriages and families – with the flow-on affect that is affecting their churches. One pastor’s wife said, “The load of the ministry is now light!” How great is our God!

PRAYER focus for....

Continued financial provision. We have invitations to take leadership conferences in other parts of Tanzania , Uganda, and Sudan. These nations need what the Tanzanian women have experienced so they can then disciple other women in their regions to impact their communities.

Ongoing and maturing vision for the women of East Africa and beyond.

Strategy to see the power and control of the “spirit of slavery” released and broken from the lives of multitudes of African women. Most African women are still slaves in their cultures. They have no say over the decisions for their lives.

The women seeing the reality that God loves women for who they are – not for what they do or because they produce children

Our next leadership team weekend at the beginning of September - for the anointing to continue to mould us together as one, regardless of denominational affiliations.

CHILDREN’S MINISTRY

joanna mcewing

PRAISE God for....

A small but successful first children’s ministry conference. 12 delegates all felt that the conference had exceeded their expectations and they had a lot to take home, think about and try to apply.

Potential networking possibilities and opportunities opening up to train other leaders as a response to the children’s ministry conference.

The conference has led to greater expectation and motivation for those who administer the Monduli training sessions. It appeared that these sessions might have died a natural death through slowing interest but it is back on its feet again!

PRAYER focus for....

The conference delegates as they seek to apply what they have learnt into their individual settings, that the Holy Spirit will remind them of what they have heard and they will see the fruit of daring to see kids as God sees them. Also that as they seek to pass on what they have learnt to others that this exchange of ideas will be effective.

Decision making that needs to occur about future conferences and networking opportunities. That there will be Holy Spirit inspired strategic steps to take!

The Monduli sessions, that with the renewed interest there will also be renewed impact into the lives of the children in the township of Monduli. The Compassion program there has the potential to impact more than 250 kids and their families!