



JOSHUA

PRAYER WARRIOR

prayer bulletin of the joshua foundation

DIRECTOR'S COMMENT

alan stephenson

Warm greetings to all our intercessors, this time from New Zealand. After 7 weeks of travel I found Lynda in Tauranga, and from there we covered much of the North Island by car. It's been a busy schedule in all countries – the U.K., U.S.A., and New Zealand – as we've met with leaders, churches, business people, family and various groups. We'll have a further 2 weeks in Australia and Bangkok, before arriving back in Arusha mid-October.

PRAISE God for....

Safe travel, warm hospitality and beautiful weather wherever we've gone! It's been a joy to present Jesus, Africa and mission once again in many places.

First U.S. Board meeting! We're now registered in the U.S.A. as a charitable trust (qualifying for full tax rebates on all donations made) and have started to put wheels on the new entity. In late August we held our first fully-fledged trust board meeting, and have appointed a U.S. rep who will extend the ministry more widely through the States.

New and renewed partnerships: praise God for missions-hungry churches and groups who want to get more involved in Africa, and are ready to partner with The Joshua Foundation in Tanzania.

Progress and safety for missionaries in Tanzania. It's a tremendous blessing to see the various Joshua ministries powering ahead while Lynda and I are overseas. (See department reports re developments and challenges on all fronts.)

PRAYER focus for....

Ongoing Travels: For strategic connections and great spiritual impact for Lynda and me until we reach Tanzania.

Consolidation of new connections and support levels following our travels. Also for the effective scheduling of visiting teams and ministries throughout the next year as a result of travel and ministry.

For new applicants seeking long term missions opportunities in Africa. Praise God for these, and pray for discernment as we consider each applicant and the needs we have.

Staff Salaries and Training: this continues to be a real source of need and concern. Without these, the infrastructure both residents and visitors enjoy, cannot be sufficiently maintained or resulting ministries so effective! Please pray with us for these to be met.

See inside for more information regarding each of our departments!

EDUCATION

lynda stephenson

We are now heading into that time of the year when students finish off the year's work and prepare for exams. No different here in Tanzania! At Joshua Primary School, the Yr 4 and 7 students have national exams which are pivotal to them going on in school. All the other classes in primary and secondary have school end of year exams to sit.

At Joshua Teachers' Training College, the students have college exams in December, but the national exams are not until May next year. This is the students' last term at the college. Next year they will be out for their block teaching practice for three months, then back for exams. As they near the end of this training course, we are pleased with the quality of work and thinking we are seeing. Six of these students will be fully employed at Joshua Primary School, so we are excited about having these well-trained teachers on staff there. They will do their block teaching practice there too, so will be in the classroom starting January 2009. This will see us with the biggest number of teachers trained in Christian education that we have ever had in Magugu. What a blessing!

Before I left Tanzania in August, I had a meeting with the executive committee of the Tanzania Christian School Association (TaCSA). We finalised the documentation to be presented to the government for registration of the organization. Now we are legally allowed to begin the work of the organization while our application is being processed. I meet again with the exec committee on my return to Tanzania mid-October when we will make plans for 2009. This is an exciting initiative for Christian education in the country and we are expecting to see opportunities for schools, teachers and students to be brought together for mutual training and encouragement.

PRAISE God for....

Janet's daughter is doing well in California. (Janet is a teacher trainer on furlough in the USA).

Allan and Sue Dow's support is rising and property deals are looking positive. (Allan and Sue are part of the Education department on furlough in NZ).

Joanna and Rebecca are enjoying a well-earned break from teaching for 2 weeks before we launch into the final JTTC term – they have survived a demanding term and have done well!

PRAYER focus for....

All our students and teachers as they head into the exam and report season of the year

Allan and Sue Dow to get the final support they need to return to us in 2009.

Janet's daughter Shawn to be fully healed and for Janet's return to staff at JTTC in 2009.

Wise planning for TaCSA (of which Lynda is chairperson) activities for the coming year, and for this association to have an impact on Christian education across the nation.

TaCSA to be quickly registered with the Tanzanian government.

BASE ACTIVITIES

paul carstensen

PRAISE God for....

Most of our staff have harvested their crops and the season was reasonable enabling them sustainable food until the next expected long rains in March-May 2009.

Praise God that Mama Witi (Kitchen cook) has now returned to work after suffering moderate injuries as a result of a vehicle accident some four months ago.

The release of the Perth container after 5 months sitting at the port dealing with the bureaucracy.

PRAYER focus for....

Funds required to complete the work started on the Scoullers old house so that it can be utilised.

Increased sponsorship to cover staff wages.

Sponsorship to start building our model pre-school.

Israel's (night guard) wife who has just had a baby and is experiencing mental health problems.

Effective and efficient initiatives for our staff and their families to undertake micro-enterprises to cover the alarming rise in the cost of living in Tanzania.

JLMC LEADERSHIP COLLEGE

owen wagener

Thanks so much for the prayer support that assists bringing revelation from the Holy Spirit to those in the College – and the mentors as they minister.

So far this module, the participants have gained so much valuable insight as they worked through the various series. These enabled the identifying and understanding more clearly of their personal gifts, strengths and weaknesses - and those of the people they are called to live and work with. Topics also covered how to walk through challenging situations in life as faced by Job - without being offended - and how to take control of our lives, to bring them into God's order. These themes, with a counseling and leadership emphasis, continue for October and November.

PRAISE God for....

A really successful 2 months in the College!

The changing of so many limiting mindsets as the Biblical patterns for personal life and ministry replace the many wrong assumptions, teachings and practices previously held.

The faithful and sacrificial giving of the sponsors who enable the training of these African leaders.

PRAYER focus for....

Continuing revelation of God's patterns for His people in leadership of the African church.

The participants' ability in English to grow so that deeper understanding of the truth is gained – through better comprehension of the implications of what is being ministered.

While so thankful for financial provision to date – more participants, their families and their ministries have great needs to be met.

Protection for all – several have had direct attacks from the enemy, such as stolen harvests, poisoned stock and sickness...

A successful Graduation Ceremony on Saturday 29th November.

WOMEN'S MINISTRY

lois wagener

The majority of African women do not have the wonderful opportunities that we as Western women experience. We are given equal opportunities for education and career choice. Most of our African sisters have extremely limited education and very little choice. They are often married at a very young age.

Consequently, reading the Bible is something very few of them know how to approach or understand. Many are very fearful of the Bible.

It has been on my heart since 2005 to write a Bible study series especially developed for the village African women, that will draw them into a deeper knowledge and experience of Jesus.

PRAISE God for....

The assistance from Australia with money for the establishment of a sewing school in Maasailand. This was the project of one of the Women Pastors who relates to the women's ministry.

A very successful leadership weekend at the beginning of September. Eight ladies gathered from different parts of the nation. We spent time studying the 'Motivational Gifts' of Romans 12 seeking to understand how they operate within the church and how the ladies can assist their women to experience all that Jesus has for them to enjoy!

The preparation, translation into Swahili and trialling of the first part of a Bible study series designed for the African women we have contact with.

The establishment of a travel fund for the women leaders to fulfil ministry opportunities in other parts of Tanzania and East Africa.

Very successful ministry into the leadership of the Lutheran Church at Moshi.

PRAYER focus for....

Women leaders to desire to read the Word of God - so they can then lead others into reading the Bible.

Understanding and revelation to the leaders of the power of God's Word and the Holy Spirit to bring change into the ladies' lives.

How the leaders can motivate and inspire ladies in their local congregations to desire to know Jesus in their everyday lives and not just attend church.

The finances to print and distribute the Bible study materials.

The writing of the next block of studies.

The evaluation of the trial studies and their improvement.

Finance for the travel fund.

Wisdom to know how to develop deeper relationships across a broader section of the Tanzanian cultures.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

joanna mcewing

PRAISE God for....

Children's Ministry Training has slowed down somewhat with Joanna being very involved in the under-staffed Teacher's College. Good news though at Monduli. Renewed interest means a good turnout at the training sessions. Last month we focussed on hearing God's voice and seeing what He had to say about the children in the programme. Everyone heard God speak, some of them for the first time, and the time of sharing and prayer as a result was very encouraging for all.

PRAYER focus for....

For the teachers at Monduli that they will continue to practise hearing God's voice!

For Joanna as she prepares for a three-day session for Monduli in October working with first the children's workers, then the children and then also with parents.

For clarity as future direction and strategy are sought for next year's developments in the area of Children's Ministry.