



JOSHUA

PRAYER WARRIOR

prayer bulletin of the joshua foundation

>>> DIRECTOR'S COMMENT | alan stephenson

Christmas and New Year greetings to our faithful prayer partners! As another year becomes history, we rejoice in knowing it's all "His Story" – the saga of God's wonderful kingdom and redemption being restored to humanity. Since Lynda and I returned to Tanzania in mid-October after a busy furlough, we've continued to see these become greater reality in the lives of many. Thank you for your part in this with us, and to each of you a blessed Christmas and New Year!

PRAISE for...

- >> **A strong and capable team** from diverse backgrounds and walks of life.
- >> **Health and strength** as we come to our year-end and reach into the next with even greater determination and excitement.
- >> **Many African leaders and teachers** who are carrying the "Christmas Message" – "peace to men of good will everywhere" – in their everyday lives, as a result of the training they've received in Joshua Colleges. Africa is on the rise!
- >> **Safety and development in Tanzania!** God's protection is evidently on this country, blessing it so it can be a blessing by:
 - o The televised preaching of the Gospel in parliament by parliamentarians themselves, calling the nation back to "the God of the Bible" in "Wilberforce" fashion.
 - o Exposing of high-level corruption by the media, and at one point the dissolution of government and reappointment of new ministers – largely due to Christian endeavor.
 - o Blocking the nation from joining the "Organization of the Islamic Conference" (O.I.C.) which is second only to the U.N. in the number of nations within it. Recent attempts by senior politicians were strongly withstood by the entire church body, causing this to be shelved (we believe, permanently).

PRAYER for...

- >> **God's wisdom and strength** as we look and move ahead into the New Year.
- >> **God's blessing on the nation** so that the Gospel may flourish in every sphere as authorities acknowledge Christ's lordship.
- >> **For God's blessing on our finances:** many overseas currencies are struggling (not news!) This has a marked effect on all on the field. Please pray for God's miraculous and practical answers to be revealed, specifically:
 - o New business initiatives on the field to take root in African soil, helping us to meet Africa's needs in innovative ways.
 - o Micro-business schemes for many needy African leaders and women to become established and effective.
 - o Increased sponsorships to be made available from overseas for Leadership and Teacher training, schooling for boys and girls, and for the training and salaries of national staff.

>>> SPONSORSHIP COORDINATOR | sally carstensen

As the different areas of ministry here at TJF continue to expand, our financial needs also increase. We are so appreciative of those who have faithfully supported us financially up until now. Our continued needs are:

- **National Staff Salary & Training Sponsorship** – we currently employ 36 national staff here at En Gedi.
- **JLMC Leaders** who commence in February next year.
- **Joshua School in Magugu** will have a new intake of approx 60 new students in January.

PRAISE for...

- >> **Faithful sponsors** whose contributions have changed both the lives of givers and recipients.
- >> A large **increase in sponsors** recently for students at Joshua School in Magugu.

PRAYER for...

- >> **Provision of sponsors for all areas of ministry**

>>> EDUCATION DIRECTOR | lynda stephenson

All Joshua School exams are over and the school closed for Christmas. We open again on Jan 5th with a new head teacher in the primary school. Our long-serving head, Teddy, is getting married on Dec 6th, and she has been preparing Goodbert, our Year 7 teacher, to take over her position. Teddy will be moving to live in Arusha and will teach in our En Gedi preschool. Next year we are planning to open our second preschool class at En Gedi, giving us a morning and an afternoon class.

Joshua Teachers Training College (JTTC) students are just completing their last term at En Gedi with exams coming up. Next year they will be out in schools. As a college staff we have some time before our next course starts and we are looking into developing a new model of teacher training, based on increased mentoring time in schools.

There will be a lot of work to do for the Tanzania Christian Schools Association (TaCSA) next year, as we set up procedures, and plan for our first conferences in June – one in Dar es Salaam and one in Arusha.

Joanna, Meagan (a part-time JTTC lecturer who works for another mission) and myself have just completed a week long seminar at a nearby large Christian school. Our teachings on Christian Education were enthusiastically received and we have been invited to make ongoing input there.

PRAISE for...

- >> **Students** completing exams calmly.
- >> **Great results** for Year 4 students in their mock exams – **TOP SCHOOL IN THE AREA!** 7 of the 10 top boys and 3 of the 10 top girls in our area!!
- >> **A successful seminar completed by JTTC staff.**
- >> Planning completed towards the **launching of TaCSA for 2009.**

PRAYER for...

- >> **JTTC students doing exams** in December and a smooth start to their block teaching practice starting in January.
- >> **JTTC staff** as we develop our **mentoring model** of teacher training.
- >> **Teddy's wedding** and move to a new job.
- >> **Goodbert** as he takes on the **head teacher position at Joshua Primary School.**
- >> **New teachers for Joshua Secondary School** as we begin our Form 3 classes in 2009.
- >> Our plans to extend our **En Gedi preschool program.**
- >> **Wise development of TaCSA** and effective planning towards next year's conferences.

>>> MANAGING DIRECTOR | paul carstensen

PRAISE for...

- >> **The short rains have arrived** allowing some small crops to be planted and providing water for existing vegetation.
- >> **Our third UK container** has been sent and is currently in transit.

PRAYER for...

- >> **Safe arrival of UK container** and smooth clearance through customs.
- >> Continuation of the **short rains**.
- >> Launching of our **first business initiative** – Joshua Automotive Services (Offering garage services).

>>> JLMC COLLEGE DEAN | owen wagner

We are so thankful for the ministry of the Holy Spirit into the lives of our leaders who have returned to their homes and ministries for 2 months. We have continual positive feedback on the benefits of the course - practical advice to meet ministry problems combined with understanding the spiritual principles involved is transforming their personal lives and ministries. The final part of this last module focused on being effective in counselling and management of their ministries – and was greatly appreciated by them.

PRAISE for...

- >> **An excellent season** with a focus on counselling and ministry management.
- >> The special **financial provision for various ministers with sick family** members in their homes.
- >> **The additional sacrificial giving of sponsors** who have assisted to meet much of the shortfall in the finances for the last module.

PRAYER for...

- >> **The leaders as they seek to gain the needed funds to continue** – they only have two months to again find their fees plus what is needed to support their families for the module ahead.
- >> **More sow-ers to make up the difference** – those who can really 'see' the eternal benefits and strategy of preparing quality shepherds for the building of the Body of Christ.

>>> CHILDREN'S MINISTRY | joanna mcewing

The year is drawing to a close for children's ministry with the final seminar for the year conducted last week. The year has been a good one and there is much to be thankful for. There have also been some challenges that could be covered with more prayer! Joanna is leaving for furlough from December until March which means that the children's ministry will have a little downtime.

PRAISE for...

- >> **The last seminar of the year at Monduli was a profitable time** of reflecting on what has been learnt this year and setting some goals for the coming year.
- >> Progress this past month on the **direction of children's ministry** and **new strategies** for the future.
- >> **Our first ever Children's ministry conference this year was a hit!**
- >> Children's ministries we are supporting are all **reporting greater success** and moving from strength to strength.

PRAYER for...

- >> **The Compassion Program in Monduli** as they plough ahead into the new year with much to apply and also to consider as they try to impact all of the children in their care.
- >> **The Children's Ministry work of Regina Lima as she raises up a Children's Intercessory Army**. Demands increase as communities across Tanzania seek to see their children raised up as prayer warriors and worshippers.
- >> **Further development of children's ministry workers** who are effective in their calling, extending the network effectively and for all aspects of strategic planning.
- >> **Joanna's New Zealand furlough**: That it will be a profitable time as she raises support and for relaxation and renewing of focus.