



Prince Ministry In South Africa

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Greetings,

February 2009

It's our anniversary! We have been here for a year now. Where did the time go?

After getting our "learner's license" for driving last month, we had to go back a few days later and stood in line for 2 hours to start the process to get a driver's license. That's when they gave us an appointment for the 14th of May, to get an appointment to get a driver's license. Only in Africa!

We had our first official meeting of "The Fold" on the 31st of Jan. Currently it's the rainy season, so the electric and internet are not always reliable. We prayed that the electric and internet would be working during the meeting. Those prayers were answered, but we forgot to pray about the skype working. We had a few problems getting everyone on line together. We managed about half the meeting as a group. We finally had to give up with the conference call part of the meeting. Once we finished the meeting, I called each individual and let them know how the meeting finished up. Everyone is excited about being involved and seeing The Fold become a reality.

We made the trip to Pretoria the following week to drop off our non-profit application. We tried to get behind the scenes to get a sympathetic ear to our problem. We got part way, but they're so overloaded they could not help us. In fact, we were told that people are informed it would take 2-3 months to process, but in actuality it's taking 4-6 months to process. They did give us one piece of advice. We could get a letter from the seller of the property we wanted to buy, asking them to speed up the process. We have submitted that, but were told that it needed to be on letter head. It's an elderly man who is selling the property and does not have letter head. We will write another letter about the letter head, and try again the end of this month. If nothing else, we are persistent.

As for the property, we approached the owner about a contract earlier in the month, but since we couldn't guarantee the money by July and he's received a few other inquiries, he wants to keep his options open. However, we recently found a way to get a loan in the United States (where the interest rates are much more reasonable), just in case we can't raise all the money in time. So we're going to approach him again about a contract. Our fund raising efforts are going strong. Stu and Marilyn's supporters have joined our efforts and sent \$2,500 in donations; we also just got word of a \$10,000 donation; and we've sent out more than 50 grant requests to Foundations since January. We have already heard from one Foundation who plans to present our request to the board at their March meeting. We really appreciate all of the suggestions, offerings of help and donations we've received from everyone.

We got to eat corn on the cob out of our own garden this month. We've attached a picture of us in the garden. Wish we could take credit for the great food, but Harry planted it for us, and Givn



(our worker) took care of it for us. Harry uses the back part of our yard to grow seedlings for his vegetable towers in the township and he planted a few items for us as well. Paul planted some potatoes in the yard but they aren't ready yet, so we don't know how their doing.

Our website for The Fold is live. Please check it out: www.thefold-sa.org We still have lots more stuff to put on the site, but you can see who all our directors are, for our South African non-profit.

We recently met another American who has moved here and is in the construction business. His business involves a type construction that builds with Styrofoam which has been done in the states for some time, but not here. We've seen pictures and Paul has gone out and helped with some construction, just to see how it works. It's a whole lot cheaper and provides better insulation than the standard construction. This may be the future building material for some of our housing for the children's home.

Our Section 21 company is still not done. I talked with the man setting it up last week, and he said there was a backlog. We'll be getting a new status this week. It's important we establish either the non-profit or the Section 21 as soon as possible so we can start the paperwork allowing the organization to be exempt from taxes. We have heard conflicting advice about how long it takes to get that certificate, and if we don't have it when we purchase the land, we will have to spend an additional \$12,000 in taxes. Not sure if we can have the taxes returned after the fact.

Paul went out and spent the day on the 20th, walking the property we want to buy and praying over it. While there he saw two snakes (this is Africa) and he found a grave yard with about 12 graves, some dating to the 1800's. We didn't know about the graveyard.

When we come see you the end of this year, we may be using strange words, and you won't understand what we are talking about. They use other English words than we do for some things. A mosquito is a mossy, hot water heater is a geaser (not sure about that spelling), a text message is an SMS, and the list goes on. There has been a couple times that I (Micky) couldn't remember the American word for something. And in addition to all that, we have both picked up a habit of making noises. Paul picked up his habit just after getting here and I found it extremely annoying, but I've gotten used to it. His noise is made at the end of a sentence, and a lot of people here do it. I've recently discovered that I'm making a different noise, that is kind of a word, that is in response to something someone says, or something that has happened. I actually saw a cartoon in the paper a few months back, making fun of that noise, because they were trying to figure out how to spell it, so it could be an official word.

We know that a lot of you are praying for us on a daily basis. For those prayer warriors, would you please let us know who you are, so we can make an additional mailing list just for you. This will allow us to inform you of any immediate need for prayer. Our prayer request for this month, is the speedy resolution of all the paperwork we need to get done, so we can operate as a South African non-profit as well. Also pray that some of the letters to Foundations for grants will receive approval, and our fundraising for the next four months will be a great success, so we won't have to take out a loan.

God bless,

Paul and Micky Prince