



Prince Ministry In South Africa

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Greetings,

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It's been a busy month. We turned over the entire sum of money for the property to the lawyer. At this point, it's a waiting game for the deed. We've been told it takes an average of 2-4 months. It's already been a little more than a month, since the process began.

In the mean time, we need to introduce you to Harry and Peggy Parham. They are currently living on the property, keeping an eye on things, roughing it and doing lots of work for the children's home. The one big building on the property is nothing but big empty rooms. Using their wardrobes, they have made walls, and it's pretty homey in there. However, there is no bathroom or kitchen. They have to walk through the woods to the bathroom facility back in the caravan (camping) area. There is sort of a kitchen in what used to be a restaurant. They put a refrigerator in there, we gave them a two burner gas hot plate, and there is a very leaky sink. But they are able to make do. We have gone out a few times and spent the night in one of the other rooms. It's a little strange, but once the building is converted into proper living spaces, it will be fine. When we visit the property, it's to do some work on the property.



We are not used to this type work, but we're getting by, as long as we have our bottle of aspirin. ☺ One day Harry was able to borrow a mowing tractor from a neighbor. The day after doing the mowing, we were out there working and another neighbor came by and asked what we were going to do with all that cut grass. We had planned on raking it up and dumping it somewhere. This guy asked if he could come back and pick it all up for his cows. Yea!!! We love those win/win situations.

Early in the month Peggy and I had left the guys working on the property, and went to the nearest large town. We pretty much walked the streets and did networking for two days – Ellisras is a booming town right now. We made a lot of good contacts. A lady with Remax wanted to help and offered to send our information to everyone she knows. Another individual has a good contact with the mining industry in town and will pass on our info. The good contacts just went on and on. We feel the ball has started rolling now in South Africa, and we anticipate a lot of great things happening soon. As a result of all the networking, we also met a man who prints a local paper in Ellisras. He came out to the property a few days later for an interview. His paper is not sold in our town, so we are hoping the end of the month we can go back for more networking, and get a copy.

Another good contact is Billy, the son-in-law of good friends. He occasionally gets jobs to gut buildings, and gave us a call mid-day on a Thursday. He was asking if we needed any of the stuff he was removing. We hurriedly located a trailer, and were off to Joberg, arriving about 5pm. It took longer to get the things out of the building than we thought, so we spent two nights and loaded up and hit the road Saturday morning. We got some great stuff. Lots of carpet tiles, 12 doors, 2 pink toilets (who cares what color it is when it's free), a lot of ceramic tile that can be cleaned up and reused, a decent looking kitchen cabinet, and a huge industrial sink. What a

great haul. There was also a regular kitchen sink, which we were unable to get, because they needed someone to shut off the water first. But Billy said he'd get the sink and hold it for us.

Paul, Micky and Peggy attended stress and anger management training at Bethesda House. It was very good material, at a time when we need to keep the subject in our minds. Due to cancelations on Bethesda's part, and our upcoming furlough, it looks like the last of the training we can attend this year. We sure appreciate what they do for us. Harry would have come, but he'd over done it at the property and hurt his back. Luckily he wasn't out of commission for too long. Just needed to rest up and get some muscle relaxers.

This month seemed to be the month for playing in poop. We used impala poop for fertilizer on the flowers we bought; spent more time scrubbing years worth of accumulated owl poop off a door; and Harry said he found brown hyena poop just outside their front door. Harry is knowledgeable on identifying animal poop.

The end of this month has been very busy and very exciting. We had an open house/birthday party for Paul on the property the 23rd (pictured is one of the large rooms). We had about 30-40 people show up to share food and the vision of what the children's home will look like. We even had someone volunteer to paint our sign for us, so people passing by will know what's going on.



The 25th was a huge happy dance day!! We got word our home church gave us a donation which resulted in enough to cover the closing costs, and we have a little extra for a much needed plumber. We also received money from some individuals as well as a private foundation. We had a huge dining table and kitchen cabinets donated, and we were loaned 3 sets of bunk beds. Then while praying for a reduction on the electrician's bill, he agreed to cancel the entire bill. We also were able to bring out 3 of our directors from town for a picnic late that afternoon. It was a great day. God is so good to us.

Although we've made some possible future contacts with more than 100 letters to foundations, only one – the MGN Family Foundation – made a grant for the purchase of the property. We appreciate that they feel they can trust us with their money. We've also received donations for various needs from another foundation, but that one is a personal friend. We will soon be sending out more than 100 letters to South African corporate sponsors and foundations, in hopes we can get donations in this country. We have already received a donation already from MacSteel South Africa, for which Micky has personal ties.

Prayer requests: That we get the deed to the property soon. We are able to find the perfect house parents. Our borehole (well) situation is sorted out and we can obtain our own water, instead of asking the man across the street to provide us water. Our furlough plans-two months away, and we already have a packed schedule.

God bless,
Paul and Micky Prince