



Prince Ministry In South Africa

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Greetings,

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Our last letter went out just before Thanksgiving. We had a full days schedule Thanksgiving day, so we had a roast chicken, with mashed potatoes and gravy and corn on the cob for lunch. Nothing like what you all had, but we had something you wouldn't find in the states this time of year. We had watermelon for dessert. We had a bible course that morning and a meeting to go to that afternoon, then on skype for our annual American non-profit meeting. Plus talking to different family members.

We went out the following week with Peggy and Harry Parham to a drug and alcohol rehab center to show the residents how to build vegetable towers. They are way out in the middle of nowhere, and somehow still, some of them manage to escape. It was an interesting trip, and even that resulted in more networking and good information that may come in handy at a later time.

We made the trip to the government run "cluster homes" in Polokwane. This is a children's home, with a safe house (temporary care), and even a juvenile detention center. We thought this would be our best role model yet, since it was government run. We learned more about what not to do. The place had a feel of a prison. We saw no play areas. There was a house mother who worked 7 days on and 7 days off. A very sterile feel to the house. They also did everything in English, which is not the advice we had been told. It was not a wasted trip in any sense, but we did not come away feeling good about the place. As we left, one of the ladies who had been telling us about the place, pulled us aside and said how glad she was that we had been talking about God. She said God would bless us for what we wanted to do, and how we wanted to run our children's home. God was not in the government run home. One of the other ladies mentioned "spiritual matters" as just another project the children could get involved in, if they were interested.

They have some very small nasty wasps here. The nests are very small and you usually don't notice them. The wasps will repeatedly sting you. Paul was pulling some vines down out of a tree and didn't see the nest. He got stung right on the lip. Luckily he was only stung once. It took a few days before his lip felt normal again.

We had the soup kitchen Christmas party on the 10th. The Saturday before that, we took the teenage bible study group out to Terri and Hamish's place, and sacked up all the gifts for each child. I thought it would take all day, but many hands make the load light, and we were done by lunch. The teenagers were rewarded with a great lunch for their efforts. The day before the party, we helped cook all the sausages for the sandwiches. It was over 4 hours of cooking. There was a lot of meat. The day of the party we all broke up the meat, put it in buns and put ketchup on it. The kids loved it. There was a "jumping castle" for them to play on. Lots of singing, good food and snacks and a gift bag for each child. Prince Ministry paid for a bar of soap, wash cloth, toothbrush and toothpaste to go in the bag. We and the children very much appreciate your donations for the Christmas goodies. They also got a sweetie parcel (candy) donated by one of the schools in the area, some chips, a small stuffed animal (from Stu and Marilyn's ministry) and a really nice toy from Terri and Hamish's ministry. Terri and Hamish received a container from the states filled with brand new in the box toys. So it was a really great gift for all the kids. I will attach a few of the pictures on this news letter, but to see all the pictures of the party, please go to our website listed above. Once you click on the main page, there will be a link that says Christmas pictures on it.



The month of December, pretty much everything ceases. All our normal daily activities have stopped until January. So we are trying to do some networking with others who finally have a slow period. Catch up on reading, clear out piles of papers that have accumulated, etc.

We are currently house sitting in Johannesburg. We had a bar-b-que Christmas eve with one of our board of directors and some of her church family. That was nice. Christmas day started with a church service (most churches here have church service on Christmas day), we had a quiet lunch here at the house, and we went to the local mall and saw our first movie since leaving the states. Then back here and we spent quite a few hours on skype talking to most of our family members. We went to church the following Sunday with one of our board members, then had a very long lunch with her and a large group of other people who were interested in what we are doing. We came away from that meeting with two more board members. We can finally get the process started of becoming official now. We still have some more shopping to do before we head back to the country on the 2nd.

We have gotten quite a few donations from friends and family already for the property we hope to buy. We are hoping to hear from our supporting churches in January. After we get back home next week, we hope to start fundraising in South Africa, with the help of local friends. If you go to our website and click on the first page, there is a link to see more pictures of the property we hope to buy. Also, if you go to the "associates" page, there is a link there to see the website that will be associated with the South African non-profit. It is under construction, and not much to see, but you can see our new logo. The name of our South African non-profit is "The Fold".

One other thing that recently happened, after months of trying to talk to the local social worker, we finally have an appointment with her on the 6th of January. We have to have a good relationship with the local social worker, because that will be how we get the children for our children's home. Please pray that this meeting goes well. Pray for quick results with the forming of our South African non-profit, that we would get the money we need to purchase the property, and that no one else will be interested in the property before we can get the funds we need for it.

Have a blessed new year,

Paul and Micky Prince