



Prince Ministry In South Africa

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Greetings,

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It's a new year, and it looks like it'll be an exciting one. We're finally making great progress on our non-profit. We'll have our first board meeting the 31st of this month, and hope to make the trip to Pretoria the following week to file the papers with the non-profit office.

We received lots of Christmas cards this year. It really made us feel good with all the mail we received. We really do appreciate getting mail and e-mail from all of you. We like to know that we've not been forgotten. Please drop us a short note from time to time.

Our appointment with the social worker went well; she likes what we're doing. This is important because we have to get government approval which involves the local social worker.

As for the property that appears to be so perfect for our needs, the seller would like a contract to hold it. He agreed to wait until the end of this month, to give us time to work on funding. We'll probably be talking with him next week to see what kind of an arrangement we can make. We're looking to be able to hold the property without the risk of losing any deposit. A contract will give us the time to begin our fund raising efforts in South Africa; we just need to get the South African non-profit approved. We'll also be testing the well's borehole before we sign a contract, to make sure it has the water capacity we'll need. Another good piece of news; we discovered we'd forgotten to translate the closing costs into dollars, so it's \$5,000 in closing costs, not \$50,000, making the total needed about \$205,000.

We will be coming home for furlough November and December 2009, and already have our first speaking date. Currently, commitments have us tied up from 15-29 November, so please check your calendars and your church schedules and let us know if you would like us to visit or speak.

This month has been busy, not only with setting up the South African non-profit, but the new school year just started as well. We've been busy buying school uniforms and supplies. We've included a picture of the boys with their new book bags. The young girl is Lethabo and it's her very first uniform for her first day of school. Isn't she just the cutest thing? We were talking to Lethabo's aunt who's a second grade school teacher. She has 65 students in her classroom this year and had 58 last year. Be glad you're not a school teacher over here. We've also been visiting the school just down the road from our future property. It's a farm school, so they have much smaller class sizes. We dropped off some supplies to help them out. It's important to establish a good relationship with them, since we'll be neighbors and our children will be attending that school. The school's in this country need lots of help. We'll be able to provide them assistance, and even future visitor's and interns will be able to work with them, not just to improve things for our children, but for all the children who attend the school.



We just got back from a road trip to visit another orphanage. This one was quite a drive, but it belongs to a huge evangelist in this country and we wanted to see how it was set up. It was not a wasted trip at all. We came away with a lot more ideas on how to run our home. We also got a better idea for the physical layout of our buildings. In fact, Paul paced off the homes there, and we believe we'll be able to fit two homes on the extra concrete pad located on the future property.

The day after we returned from our trip, we had an appointment in a town an hour from here, to take our "learner's license" test. Here, you don't just trade in our driver's licenses; you have to start from the beginning like everyone else. Learner's test first, then the actual driver's license test. We're pleased to tell you we passed, but it killed the entire day. We arrived at 7:30 for an 8:00 test. It was almost 9 before the doors opened. By the time we got our license in hand, it was almost 1:00 pm. After we got something to eat, then we spent another two hours at the bank. We have discovered that South Africa pays higher interest rates, so we've moved most of the ministry funds over here and we are happy to report we're getting about 10% interest on it. We also watched the exchange rate and made the change when the rate was in our favor. We're looking for all the ways we can maximize our dollars for the ministry. Now we have to turn around and drive right back to stand in line again, to sign up for the "driver's license" test, and the next available tests are not until June, we've been told. So we can't waste time getting signed up.

A few days before we left to visit the orphanage, we had some really bad weather. Evidently the Oklahoma weather followed us here. No one had seen anything like it. One store keeper who had to go check on his shop at 4am because the alarm went off, found someone's tin shack in the middle of the road. When he got to his shop, the great big tall metal sign near the road had been twisted up and laid flat. Lots of trees down, and all kinds of damage.

Please pray for us to get our South African non-profit in a timely manner, and for the money for the land to come through also. It's all we can do, not to go down there and start working on the property. We are so excited to get started.

God bless,

Paul and Micky Prince