



IMD AFRICA UPDATE JULY 2023 - MARCH 2024

Greetings Everyone,

We really want to thank you all for your faithful prayers and support. We as an IMD Team really appreciate that.

Our last newsletter ended off with the team from Kentucky leaving in June 2023, so I will be picking up from there.

ILLRETT, KENYA: 9-18 July 2023

“Go and preach the gospel to all nations” Matt 28:18-20



Soon after the team left, I left for Kenya to teach and train leaders in Lumadang Church, Banyafort, Illrett. I was joined by our local partner, Nathan Onyango and his son, Tony.

It was a great time of teaching pastors from that area and a few from Ethiopia.

We taught through Phil Largent’s material on “Building the Inner Man.

Pastor Stephen Mugiira says:

“We are so thankful to God for sending you to bring us spiritual refreshment in season”



Pst. Stephens’ Land Rover was our mode of transport and I wasn’t sure how we got from A to B with all the grating of gears etc.

We have been able to send funds to help him replace the gearbox on his Land Rover, as that is an integral part of the ministry, as you can see from the picture on the left. On the right is Pst. Stephen.



Please pray for our return in October 2024 where I will be teaching and training leaders and congregants from Ethiopia and also the northwest part of Kenya.

MEMPHIS TEAM PUT UP ZIPLINE: 2-9 September 2023

“Go into all the world and preach the gospel to all of creation” Mark 16:15

A team of 5 men from Memphis, USA, blessed us by setting up a zip-line at The LAND and going to high schools to teach the learners on ethics and volunteerism, which is part of their Life Orientation curriculum. Initially Don Stroud started bringing teams and this is a group of men from his Bible study who he recruited to come alongside us.

One of the team members spoke to the Mathematics and Science stream learners about how it is to be a pilot. He drew the analysis between flying by and trusting your instruments and not what you see on the outside and



God's Word being our guide in life. It was inspirational for the learners and it gave them the motivation to carry on working hard on their studies and to apply God's Word to guide their lives. Others spoke on Ethics in the workplace and Volunteerism. Their deeds matched their words. What a humble group of strong, Godly men. We enjoyed every minute with them and their attitudes and lessons were so well received.

The zipline has already been a major blessing in adding to our Adventure based learning and was put to good use on Fun Day, as you will see later in the report.

RAISING A NATION (RaN) TEAM: 13-24 September 2024

"Jesus said, let the little children come to me and do not hinder them" Matt 19:14

High Schools:

Lynne Shelton from RaN also brought three new team members, Elysse, Bill and Celia, from California, USA, to teach in the high schools and minister at the LAND and Maruda Christian School. Comfort and Nancy had been teaching in the Life Orientation classes throughout the year and the RaN comes in when they are covering Career choices. They also did Vocational tests with the students to help them make informed choices regarding school subjects and further education.



Maruda Christian School:

At Maruda Christian School, Lynne again handed out Bibles to the grade 2 learners and the team introduced them to the books of the Bible. How exciting it was to see these learners diving into their own Bible to find the passages of Scripture in Habakkuk 3:17-19.

"Though the fig tree does not blossom, and there be no grapes on the vines, though the olive crop fails and the field produce no food, though there are no sheep in the pen and no cattle in the stalls, yet I will rejoice in the Lord, I will rejoice in God my Saviour".

They brought the message together so beautifully, teaching the children Natural Science principles and how that applies to the Scripture they were learning.

Annual Teacher's Retreat:

Jeni organized the Teacher's Retreat and the team participated in this through bringing various teachings to build up the staff so that they can be more intentional in pouring into the lives of the children. As always, the staff enjoyed being together and having time to pause and reflect.



Young ladies Conference:

That evening, the teachers went back home and we received 15 young ladies who are being discipled by Phyllis, Joyce and Nancy. The team shared with the youth during the main sessions and Phyllis and Nancy and Jeni gave invaluable input. Joyce had us all in stitches as usual with her ice-breakers, whilst testing our knowledge of the Bible.

What a wonderful two days of getting to know them better and being able to minister into their lives. We will be getting

together with these young ladies about 3 times a year, building into their lives, to better equip them to build into the lives of others.



Heritage day: Reach all men by all means: 23 September 2023

“I have become all things to all people so that in all possible means I might save some” 1 Cor 9:22b

We had our first Heritage Day celebration at The LAND with people from 7 different cultures under one roof. Each person from the different cultures shared their history, the kind of food they eat and how they make them, everyone had the opportunity to taste the food from the different cultures. Pst. Kgalemo, from Christ Baptist Church, Mokopane, blessed us with a powerful sermon themed “Our heritage in Christ” and Lynne shared on what ‘Thanksgiving Day’ means to Americans. We shared food, recipes, traditional dances and songs and celebrated our joint heritage in Christ.



FELLOWSHIP OF OAKBROOK, PST. STAN & DEBBIE CRUSE: 7-27 October 2023

What a blessing it is when a church sends us their best. Two quality, gifted, Godly people with a heart to serve. Pst. Stan taught with Koos in SA and Mozambique, whilst Debbie remained behind with Jeni to teach at Maruda Christian School. They were also the main speakers at our annual Parents Seminar.

Debbie came so well prepared and full of excitement. She had a chance to touch base with our representative in Kentucky, USA, Elizabeth Estes, and they could exchange ideas as two experienced teachers. Debbie retired as vice-principal the year before and came with a wealth of knowledge and the educational aids to go with it.

A very beneficial time for teachers and learners alike, both academically and spiritually.



Mozambique: 17-20 October 2023

“As the Father has sent me, so I also send you” John 20: 21

Pst. Stan and Koos headed to Mozambique from 17-20 October, together with Nancy, Comfort and Ishmael.

Nancy reports: Koos and Pst. Stan Cruse were teaching men, while Nancy was teaching women. Over 50 leaders of women and men attended the training. We showed Jesus Film in the evening and shared the gospel. Men and woman responded as well

as youth. Whilst doing door to door visitation, we entered a home where they just buried a man and were able to comfort the widow and pray with her.



NEPAL: 5th -19th November 2023

We will report on the Nepal trip but separately as it may make this newsletter too long.

LEADERSHIP ACADEMY FOR NEW DIRECTION (THE LAND)

As reported by Nancy Mosebedi:

Career and Entrepreneurship Day: 09 December 2023



As part of The LAND youth development program, we hosted a career and entrepreneurship day to give youth a better understanding on how to make the right career choice and how to make it as an entrepreneur. Mrs Ramsy Shika spoke to the young people partly from her testimony and partly from her vast business experience. Knowing her and her husband for many years, it's hard to believe that they lived in a shack when they first married. Through perseverance she obtained her degrees and through sheer determination she has risen to the top in her field of Human Resources. She and her husband, Pst. Fanta, are strong Christian's who are also a Pastoral couple of their own church and board members with IMD Africa.

Most young people get to grade 12 having no idea as to which career path to follow so such initiatives helps them in discovering which career they are most suitable for. We do this by giving them a personality test to write. Mrs. Shika shared on very important topics such as *"Top scarce skills in SA, Career development and guidance"*.

MCS Prefects selection camp: 25-26 January 2024

The camp was for Maruda Christian School (MCS) grade 6&7 learners. It was such a great opportunity to teach the learners about servanthood, teamwork and being a good ambassador for Christ and MCS. During the bonfire worship some learners were praying and crying unto the Lord because they wanted to have a true love relationship with Christ and follow Him with all of their hearts.

We are hoping to have such events for other public schools in the area. Please pray for favour and open doors.



African Pastors' Conference (APC) : 30-31 January 2024

"We proclaim Him, warning and teaching everyone with all wisdom so that we may present everyone mature in Christ" Col 1:28

IMD Africa was privileged to host the APC once again this year. Nico van Zyl brought his team of speakers who did a great job of expositing the Book of Romans. Such a necessary clarity on Salvation. The pastors attending were



appreciative of the input. Nico and his co- presenters, Pastors Thapelo Mpai and Chris Mnguni each did a great job in sharing their part of explaining the portions of Romans allotted to them.

They also gave each participant a few books and had amazing books and commentaries on sale for low low prices. Thank you to the APC team for coming.



MCS staff team building: 02 February 2024

“Carry each other’s burdens, and in this way you will fulfil the law of Christ” Gal 6:2-5

The staff had a beautiful day filled with fun, learning, teamwork and overcoming their fears. They did a series of team building games and obstacle activities where most of them had to be out of their comfort zone and they were amazed at how they managed to do things they never thought they could do. The big lesson for the day was that they work together as a team and carry one another so they can serve the learners at MCS even better.



YOUNG LADIES DISCIPLESHIP GROUP: 10 February 2024

“These older women must rain the younger women....to live wisely and be pure...”Titus 2:4

Nancy organized for Jeni to meet with the young ladies who we had a conference with in September 2023 at our house, together with Phyllis, Nancy and Joyce and they had a wonderful time of fellowship and teaching.

They started out by diving into Genesis 1 and discovering who God says He is, what He does, what He has instructed us to do, and consequences. This led to the discussion on setting healthy boundaries and knowing and taking care of what we are responsible for.

We ended off the session by listening to a presentation online, by a Christian Clinical Psychologist, Erich Schoeman. He has a number of presentations on his ‘Matters of the Soul’ facebook page which we really recommend if anyone wants to refer someone to input from a Christian perspective.

We had such a special time together and look forward to meeting up again in June this year. Please pray for these young ladies as they seek to serve the Lord in sometimes very difficult circumstances, and that God would show them whose lives they need to be pouring into.



MISSISSIPI FRIENDESHIP BAPTIST CHURCH: 11-18 March 2024

This was the second trip for the team from Mississippi, who will be coming annually to work alongside the school and the youth ministry. They split up between the high schools, MCS and a practical project at the LAND, putting up dry-walling for offices.



High schools, Maruda Christian School and Centre of Hope

“Whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me” Matt 25:40

They blessed us and our community by going to junior schools to teach dental hygiene to the learners and giving out a toothbrush and toothpaste. They also checked their teeth and gave the teacher a list of those in need of dental attention. They also went to senior schools in the morning to share the gospel during chapel. In the afternoons they showed the grade 11’s how one would do CPR in a medical emergency. The team at Maruda School came with loads of creative ideas to leave with the staff and were such a blessing. The older learners really responded to the gospel in a meaningful way and they had the privilege of leading some of our precious learners to the Lord.



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The team had the opportunity to visit the Centre of Hope for disabled people where they taught the staff how to rescue someone who is choking, CPR and compressions. IMD Africa gave food to the centre and gave each staff member a food package to take home with them.



Fun day @ the LAND

We had over 100 young people at The LAND for fun day where the team from Mississippi had different game stations and music and IMD staff facilitated the zip-lining. We divided the young people into 4 groups for teachings of the Word of God. It was a beautiful day filled with joy and laughter. Most of the young people are from homes that are not so peaceful and joyful. Just seeing the smiles on their faces every time they are at The LAND is so fulfilling.

Even when he had a hard downpour of rain in the middle of the day, they just bundled up out of the direct rain and kept on worshipping. Words cannot describe what an awesome experience it was for us and for all who came.



Thank you so much for scrolling through our lengthy newsletter. Hopefully the pictures made it easier to wade through quickly for those of you who want to go back and read more later.

Please be on the lookout for our report on the trip to Nepal which was a very exiting and rewarding time of being part of meeting real needs and teaching and training leaders.

Our team will be going to Mozambique next week and we are excited to be reporting on our IMD staff team's first solo trip after they get back.

Blessings,

KOOS AND THE IMD TEAM

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