



IMD Africa Ministry Update

JANUARY—JUNE 2023

Dear friends

Covid rest is done. We are back to our busy routines. Whether it's construction, travel and teams coming and going... we're busy!

We're really grateful to the Lord that we are involved in Kingdom work.

The Great Commission passages are always a reminder that the work is not done. Jesus' words in John 4:34 after His encounter with the Samaritan woman and speaking to His disciples,

“My meat is to do my Fathers' will and to accomplish the work He has called me to do”,
are a strong reminder to pray, and focus on reaching the nations.

FRIENDSHIP BAPTIST CHURCH, Starkville Mississippi - 14-19 March 2023

We are so grateful to this wonderful team for coming to help at LAND (Youth Centre), even though it was for such a short time.

We needed a ring beam on the new lecture hall/dining room before we could put the roof up. We got this done in record time. They helped put up the steel for the ring beam as well as the shutter board boxing to hold concrete for the beam. After the team left a few of the local guys helped complete the project.

The ladies helped at our school and in the High Schools, with lessons on First Aid and Emergency response.

WORSHIP EVENING @ THE LAND—29 April 2023

The LAND hosted a worship evening earlier this year and what a wonderful time we had. About 150 people attended. It was a time of focusing on the Lord and exalting His name. A big thank you to the youth from different churches who volunteered for the band and put so much time into practicing.



TAIWAN - 24 March - 13 April 2023

Taiwan was a very special time for us in seeing the official marriage of Shaun and Cathy at a local magistrate's office in Taipei. They were later married in August before the Lord in South Africa. Both were wonderful moments for Jeni, Jessica and myself. More about this in the next newsletter but included are some photos to enjoy.

We also connected with the Taiwanese Church through precious Taiwanese friends, Freeman and Nancy Cheng, who organised meetings with different men of God and ministries. We held an introductory Conference at Pastor Lee's Church in Taipei where we shared on how the work of IMD Africa evolved in Africa and beyond.

This was well received as a challenge, "To lift up your eyes and see the Harvest". We also shared the principles to be applied through the Inner Man teachings; a flagship teaching of IMD International fleshed out and written by Doctor Phil Largent.

We trust that a seed was planted for further ministry in Taiwan.

Jeni shared about raising kids on the mission field and how wonderful it was that Shaun and Jessica were able to be there alongside Jeni and I as a testimony. Jessica was asked to share her testimony, and was even able to minister in worship and be interviewed on the radio.

It was wonderful time for Cathy to see us in action as a family and for us to see Shaun interacting so comfortably with a foreign nation. He seems so at home and shared how he loves Taiwan and it's people. We had such a wonderful time with them.

Thank you to the Cheng's for all the arrangements that they made and for Pastor Lee hosting the conference.



MOZAMBIQUE - 15 - 23 May 2023

It's always a pleasure to return to certain places. Mozambique is one of them. The Sabie area is full of African Traditional churches and the need for teaching is essential for any growth to take place.



So we work with churches with strange names like Fendeza, Pai Nosso, Jerusalem Betsaida, Igreja Jerusalem, Igreja Etiopia and not so strange Assemblies of God. Faithfully they attend meetings. Many of the initial leaders have died. Freely we have received freely we give.

Pray with us for a break through where polygamy is common and holiness is not a concept easily grasped. Please pray that the Holy Spirit be poured out to convict sinners and people come to truly be born again by the Spirit of God.

We had about 12 leaders attending and taught part of the Inner Man teaching and how men were to treat their wives biblically.



Nancy Mosebedi, an IMD Africa staff member, taught about 35 ladies The Heart of Man chart, which is great for illiterate or semi-literate people. This was well received by the women.

She usually works with Comfort Mathebula in the High Schools, so this was new territory for her and she really did well.



LIVING HOPE FELLOWSHIP, KENTUCKY - June 15-26 June

Living Hope Fellowship, Kentucky came and helped with the Dining Hall/Lecture room roof at The LAND. Really looks good. Thank you for sending such a quality team, as well as those from other churches who Charles teamed up with, including two of his grandchildren. What a delight.



Not only did they help with the roof, but Pastor Chris helped minister in our high schools . Their serving helped minister and meet needs in a large area in the mission.

Elizabeth and her nephew, Josiah, came earlier to minister at our School (Maruda Christian School) and meet with our graduates who are now all studying or working, for a reunion and also ministered to Youth.



We also held two vacation Bible schools during the July school holidays. One in Moshate and one in Masodi.Village.

There were between 200 and 300 kids attending and Comfort Mathebula and Nancy Mosebedi headed this up with the help of our secretary, Joyce Chaba and youth who volunteer.



Many of the volunteers are graduates from our school and we are delighted to see some of them teaching the Bible lessons and various rotations.

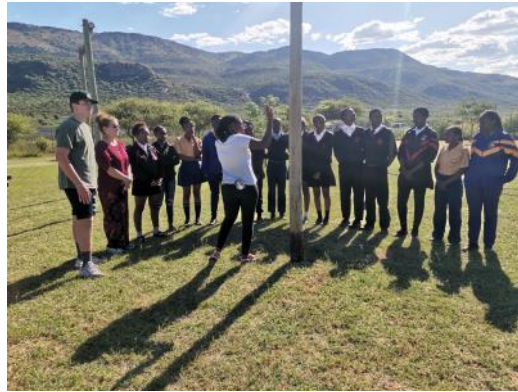


THE LAND MINISTRY - NANCY'S REPORT

We kicked off the year on a high note at the high schools. It is a great pleasure to go into the classrooms and interact with the learners. We are busy with learners from grade 9-11 and these learners come to the LAND twice a week since they have afternoon classes on the other days. We have good relationship with the Principals, Life Orientation HODs (Heads of Departments) and teachers. They have noticed a positive change in both behaviour and marks of some of the students we teach and minister to.

Sometimes when we have special events or teams over at The LAND, the principals are able to release the learners early just so they can be a part of what's happening at the LAND.

L.O gives learners an opportunity to refresh their minds from the rest of the stressful subjects such as math and science. Whenever they see us walking into the schools, their mood changes. They get renewed energy and there is a positive, peaceful atmosphere. L.O is actually a subject that is not taken seriously by both the learners and the teachers but the presence of the team brings a positive attitude towards the subject and they see the value it adds for life after school.



SOME TESTIMONIES OF KIDS FROM THE HIGH SCHOOLS .

1. A lady from one of the high schools said she wishes to be born again but it is a challenge for her since she has ancestral spirit and has already gone to the Sangoma initiation school.
2. On the 1st week of the term we were asked by a group of learners, *"When are we going to the LAND, the school work is a lot and tough, so we want to go to the LAND as soon as we can because that's where we find a place of rest after all the hecticness of school work"*.
3. *"I managed to figure out which career path I want to follow because of the teachings we get at the LAND, writing the profiling test really helped me a lot in making that decision"*.
4. *"The LAND is the place where we feel the love and sense of belonging, is a place of encouragement and motivation. The team building obstacles we do at the LAND has really helped us a class (11A) to work together as a team and help each other with our school work"*

I believe lives are being changed in this great initiative and I have to say for myself that this has been life changing and knowing that I am playing a role in making a difference in the community through Jesus Christ our Lord.

MARUDA CHRISTIAN SCHOOL UPDATE– JENI'S REPORT

We started the year with 98 learner enrolled. We look forward to the day when we can hit the 100 mark again.

Looking back, we officially started the school in 2006 with Pre-School/Kindergarden (Grade R), and our first Grade 1 class in 2009, making us 15 years old this year. What a journey of grace and seeing God's hand on the school and the learners and staff every step of the way.

We have never had to advertise the school, or advertise for posts outside of word of mouth and up until this year. Every year we have to turn people away because we keep our classes small and individualized and only enrol 20 maximum in the Reception year.

Please pray for our enrolments this year as we prepare to share the vision with pastors in the area and trust that they share the vision for discipling kids through Christian Education.



According to our parents, Maruda Christian School is known in the community for its strong Foundations in Literacy and Numeracy, and building Christian Character in the lives of their kids. Our grade 1 learners were reading and writing within 6 months of school starting and they will most likely be finished with their Grade 1 curriculum well before the end of the year. Our grade 2's are also speeding ahead. How did that happen? God's grace, a great curriculum, dedicated staff, years of learning from our mistakes, parents willing to invest in their child's future, your generous support, and God's grace.....

What a privilege it is to have USA teams who come and assist us to stimulate these little minds and encourage them to read with comprehension. Our system is individualized and learners work mostly on their own, so volunteers bring in a lot of fun activities and approach learning and teaching from an angle that excites their little minds to learn not just academically, but about the One who made them and the One who saves them.

The demographics of our school has changed over the last 15 years, and parents who now have children in our school have had better opportunities than those who were enrolling when we started. At the beginning of the year, we had our Annual General Meeting and explained to the parents the low school fees are only made possible because of generous donations from churches and individuals who have a heart for Biblical Education. In fact, parents only pay under 50% of what it cost to have their children there and the rest comes from donations. A small amount comes from a government subsidy.

A huge thank you and whoooah to those of you who have contributed through Child Sponsorships, Adopt a Teacher Programme, donating paces (workbooks), equipment, building fund, teachers conferences and training,

It would not have been possible without you.

Next year, we are challenging the parents to take on a larger chunk of the pie so that we can offer more sponsorships to children who are less advantaged, and to ensure the sustainability of the school over the next 10 years. Please pray for the transition as we make the adjustments and reach out to those children who would not have been able to afford to enrol their kids. Let us know if you are interested in our Child Sponsorship or Adopt a Teacher Programme.

LOOK WHAT GOD HAS DONE!!!

Last year, in October, I eventually finished my studies and graduated Bachelor of Education with Cum Laude. I had mixed emotions between being proud and embarrassed at being the oldest one in the room, but I am sure glad that is behind me and it definitely has its benefits.

In November we had an awards day with the older learners and they were so excited to be recognized for their hard work. We had Sir Comfort as our motivational speaker and prizes to acknowledge hard work. We also have some of our ex-learners come in and encourage them and speak about their experience in high school. It was exciting to see the preparation take place and some of our more technical learners jumping in to man the sound system. One of the learners who got a prize was so emotional and broke into tears. The year end concert was also loads of fun and colour and a great celebration of achievements, as well as celebrating Christmas.



This year we have had a few teams and individual come to assist us at the school. The pictures below should tell the story.

The team in **March, from Mississippi, USA**, lead by Tri Nason, assisted in the classrooms and one of the team members is a nurse. She taught on some basic first aid and also showed the learners what a career in Emergency Response would look like. She showed them CPR and gave them the opportunity to practice on a live doll. Did they and the teachers have fun!

In **June**, our newly appointed IMD Africa co-ordinator for volunteers to Maruda Christian School, Elizabeth Estes, came with her nephew, Josiah, and they spent a week at the school before the rest of the team joined them for the building project at the LAND.

Elizabeth's interventions at the school are always received with great appreciation and anticipation. So much of the school's success has been due to her hard work and input into the teacher's and children's lives.



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(SEE DONATION DETAILS ON OUR [www](http://www.imdafrica.co.za) LINK)
<https://www.imdafrica.co.za/make-a-donation>

PLEASE NOTE THAT OUR HOME LANDLINE HAS BEEN
DISCONTINUED: 015 4913016



Blessings

Koos on behalf of the IMD Africa Team

Thank you for your partnership in the gospel