

Next week is Easter . . . So soon!

I was deeply moved reading the Passion narrative this morning. Oh the deep, deep love of God. Vast, beyond endless. Swelling up, bursting forth, and new everyday. Still available . . . even for me.

I've just received a report of the past month's contributions to our work. I'm overwhelmed at the faithful generosity of so many people! Many working with non-profit groups, even some missionaries, are being cut for lack of funding. In the midst of all the globalized gloom on the economy our financial partners are standing strong. Thanks! We're blessed!!

Forgot to mention our website has a new face and some updates. Thanks to Sean Dean in Tacoma, Washington!! Check it out at www.africanleadershippartners.org

Please Pray for us. We've been under intense pressure the past couple months. The challenges are too numerous to mention here. But here are a few:

1. We've had to remove one child from our New Life Children's Homes. It's been at least a year that we've been struggling through a cycle of misbehavior (many facets) with this teenager. We've managed to have him accepted into a one-year, appropriate program for his age and issues. It's been so very difficult, and especially painful for his caregiver!
2. I've been struggling for over a month to get some equipment arranged to do some site excavation for the two-room school building we need to put up. Still not arranged.
3. We are moving. Next week we shift out of Mbabane where we've lived for almost 18 years, to live at the New Life Children's Homes farm, an hour and a half south of Mbabane. I will lead further development of the New Life Homes projects, plus continue leadership development projects in Swaziland, Zambia, and Mozambique. At the New Life School we've started this year, Mary Jean will continue her teaching of 12 first and second graders. In the afternoons, she also gives special ed. assistance to older children who are struggling. The results are amazing! All the children are making exciting progress. Especially exciting for them. Some of the older ones who have had years of discouraging experiences with school were dragging their feet to come for the extra lessons after their days at the local school. But when they saw the results . . . A twelve year old, fifth grader, who for the first time said, "Look at me. I am reading!" He had been kept back two different years, but then just passed along without much improvement. Now he comes early for the extra lessons, and is all smiles, proudly carrying his book home for practice reading with his caregiver. Another way to experience the love of God!

4. Our colleague Daran Rehmeyer has been denied a resident permit. There's a couple avenues of possible response. We need wisdom on our side, and some open minds and hearts at the Department of Immigration. Daran & Teresa's CHIPS program (Children's HIV Intervention Prevention and Support), implemented through a local church and impacting several squatter communities is going well, growing, and getting many children and caregivers identified and into care regimens. That's just one aspect of their work. Read more about all their projects on our website, or at their www.rehmeyers.blogspot.com

5. On Saturday, 4 April, I will present another offering of the course "Money Matters: God's Answers to Poverty." I expect up to 100 to attend. We have 17 from the New Life Homes farm staff and their local community committed to attend. I will teach from 8am to 6pm. The principles are so new, we need 'extra help' to get them to penetrate, germinate, and bring transformation.

Thanks for praying,

Peter & Mary Jean