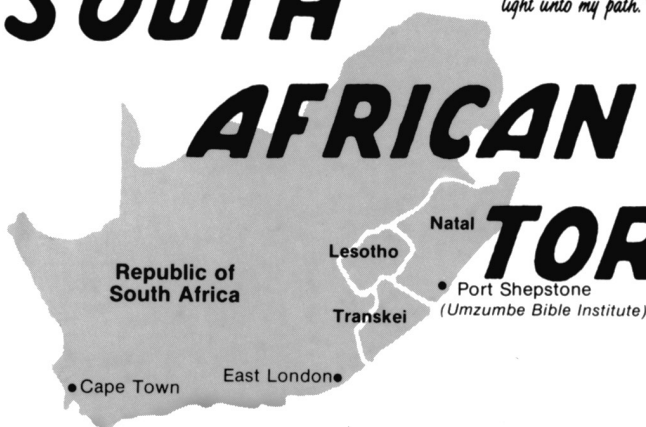


SOUTH AFRICAN TORCH

"Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path." -- Psalms 119:105



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No. 2

Care of the Elderly

By Caryl Stanley

When an elderly lady from near Umzumbe Bible Institute ended up in hospital with high blood sugar, her daughter became very concerned about her and other elderly people in the community. She is quite an influential person and she approached us and others in the community about starting a club for the elderly. She asked us to be involved because she wanted it to be held at Umzumbe Bible Institute. We had a personal meeting with her and then a meeting with a few people from the community and some people from the Department of Social Development. Then we met with the elderly people from the community to assess their interest in a club. The response was very positive so the Magog Senior Citizens' Club was established.

The club meets two days a week and provides for social interaction between the elderly people in our community. They have a snack, discuss issues of interest and do some activities before having lunch and returning home.

One of the first goals was to establish a garden and the ground was quickly prepared and cabbages were planted. Some of the ladies from the club come regularly to water and care for the plants. More garden space is being cleared and

tomatoes and onions are being planted.

We plan to bring in experts to speak on health issues, to provide some health screening, and to involve the elderly in handwork, exercises, and games.

Pray for wisdom for those of us who serve on the committee and for Michael and me as we participate in this new venture.



There is a committee to head up the Magog Senior Citizens' Club. It consists of two men and three women who live in the Magog community and Caryl. Behind Caryl is the project coordinator; a lady from the Umzumbe church, who helps with transporting people and food and organizing the meetings.

South African Bible Institute Classes

By Caryl Stanley

In March we went to Kimberley to teach our annual two-week intensive classes. We both taught classes that we hadn't taught before so we spent a lot of time in preparation. I had four first-year students and the subject was Reading the English Bible. Basically, it was an English class using the Bible as a text. I was a bit disappointed with the class. Michael had six students in his

class on General Epistles - James and Peter. They had good discussions in class, but assignments were not up to the standard of senior students.

We stayed with Roy and Jenny Murray again and we were thoroughly spoiled by Jenny's delicious meals. We just wished we had more free time to visit with them.

Easter 2012

By Caryl Stanley

The KwaZulu Natal Easter services were held at a school near Jozini in the far north of the province. We traveled part way on Thursday afternoon and were able to arrive early on Friday. Throughout the day sermons were preached by various church leaders on the Seven Last Words of Jesus on the cross. Between the sermons there was a lot of singing and prayer.

On Saturday morning Michael did devotions and then there were classes. Men, women and youth met in various places on the school campus. In the afternoon there was a business meeting and then there was an evening service.

Sunday morning we got up early for a service and then everyone left for home. It was a long journey, but it was a good weekend.



The youth did not have a room in which to meet, so they gathered outside for a lesson on relationships taught by one of the women.



Michael led the devotional time on Saturday morning. He stressed the fact that at times God prepares us for service by meting out discipline and then by giving us peace and rest.



Isaac Mguzulwa taught a class on Ministers and Divorce. I did a good job of preparing and presenting his material. N all of the people speak the same language, so Isaac (rigi spoke in English and John Mpompo interpreted into Xhosa

Family News

Dina, Sean and the girls are doing well. Sean's job is going very well. In fact, he commented that his office has done better than the main office over the past couple of months. Dina is in the process of changing jobs. She has been at a private hospital maternity ward for the past couple of years. Recently, South Coast Hospice approached her and offered her a job. (She had worked for them before.) She enjoyed her work at the hospital, but she has not been happy with the work environment for a while. She debated long and hard before meeting with the Hospice administrator with a list of questions and concerns and finally decided to make the move. She will be finishing work at the hospital at the end of June and starting at Hospice the middle of July. She is looking forward to a couple of weeks of vacation. It comes at a good time as the girls will be on school break so she can be at home with them. Rebecca and Gabriella are flourishing at their school and are very happy. Erin is now 2 and is keeping everyone occupied!

Diane is back at work - half-time. She works from home so she has a nanny for Matthew. She has made two trips to a campsite near Johannesburg to do training - one in April and one in June. She



While Diane was doing training, Caryl spent a lot of time taking Matthew for walks on the campsite.

asked me to go along to care for Matthew while she was doing her sessions. In April I went alone, but in June Michael also went along. We enjoyed being away and thoroughly enjoyed our time with Matthew! He loves to be outside so we took him for long walks on the campsite, which is a farm. John is busy with his responsibilities at Halfway Toyota. He has applied for a promotion, but is still waiting for the decision. In the meantime he is doing his job and doing a lot of the job for which he has applied. He is putting in long hours.

Dawn is looking forward to the school break. Unfortunately, the education department has made life miserable for teachers with a lot of paper work. She puts in a lot of after school hours marking papers and filling in forms! JP is doing very well at VW. They have added Health and Safety Officer to his IT responsibilities so he is quite busy, but very happy. Chayah is 3 ½ now and she keeps us all entertained with her chatter. She is a very clever little girl and sometimes amazes us with what she can do. Seanna is almost a year old. She has not mastered crawling, but she can scoot around with great speed and can get into everything!

When I visit with friends I realize how blessed we are. We have all of our children and grandchildren within 30 minutes drive from our home. Many of our friends have children and grandchildren in Australia, New Zealand, England, Canada, the USA, etc.

Michael and I are fine. We keep busy and active. I had cataract surgery in May. I had a cataract removed from the right eye in 2005 and the now had the left one done. Both operations were very successful so it is wonderful to have such good vision. I have reading glasses, but really only need them if the light is dim or the writing is very small

Ministers' Week 2012

By Caryl Stanley

Ministers' Week was held in Cradock in the Eastern Cape. The church was very well-prepared and everything went very well. We stayed in homes in the area and ate our meals at the church.

The theme for this year was "Ministers, Servants of the Lord". There was a lot of good teaching and preaching and we pray that the ministers and their wives will put into practice what they were taught. Everyone enjoyed the fellowship we had during breaks and free times.



Last year the ministers' wives decided that they wanted to spend some time learning a craft of some sort that they might be able to use to supplement their income. This year we learned how to make red and white AIDS ribbons from beads.

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Day Care Center Update

By Michael Stanley

The Day Care Center continues to operate with the new constitution, new name, new committee, a teacher and a new teacher's helper. The number of children has declined slightly, but we still have about 15 children on the roll.

We knew that the Day Care Center would not be sustainable if parents did not pay the fees for the children. We have therefore been conscientious in sending out letters to remind parents of their responsibility and the parents have responded. We only have to deal with about one default a month.

I am now the director and the chairman of the committee. The department of Social Development informed us that Caryl and I are a married couple and so we cannot both serve on the committee. I have learned that I took on more responsibility than I expected. Checking the records of the center, collecting and receipting the money, writing letters, and dealing with other interpersonal relationship issues has proved to be time-consuming.

Our teachers continue to receive training and we see improvements in the instruction that the children get. The teacher's course continues until the end of the year, but the teacher's helper has completed her course. Caryl and I have been paying for the instruction as the center does not have funds for that. We trust that the conflicts which took up a lot of our time earlier in the year have now all been resolved and we look forward to a smoother ride for the rest of the year.



Nomsa Mvuna (front row - right), our teacher's helper, did the Child-minder course during the first half of 2012. The instructor told us that she was very impressed with Nomsa's work.