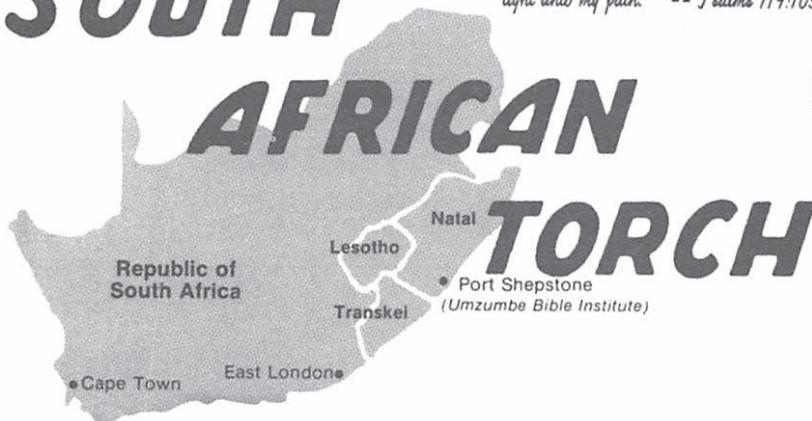


SOUTH

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



Vol. 69

Fourth Quarter, 2018

No. 4



Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas from Michael and Caryl Stanley and our forwarding agent, Duane Stanley.

Furlough

We returned to the United States in July 2018 as we did not get to visit all of our supporters when we were here for only 2 ½ months in 2017.

We have visited the churches and individuals who support us in Nebraska, Iowa, South Dakota, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Illinois, Indiana, and Ohio. We have been so blessed to renew acquaintances and meet new people. We have enjoyed staying with church members who have been so good to us! Thank you for making us feel so welcome! We have been encouraged during our visits.

We attended the International Conference on Missions (ICOM) again this year. We visited with missionaries and church friends we hadn't seen for some time. The ICOM was in Cincinnati and we stayed with good friends, Bill and Verna Weber. Before the ICOM started Bill took us to the Ark Encounter.

It was quite an experience and we were amazed as we stood by the Ark and marveled at the size of it. It is hard to imagine how Noah managed to build it!

We made our home base this year with Michael's brother, Larry, and his wife, Marguerite, in Apple Valley, MN. What a blessing to be near Michael's other brother, Duane, his wife, Kathy, and my sister, Sharon, and her husband, David Huggett. We also had South African visitors when our granddaughter, Gabriella, was able to be here for ten weeks and Michael's sister, Debbie, was here for three weeks. We were able to join in on several activities with them.

Now we look forward to returning to South Africa in mid-December. We will leave the cold and snow of the Minnesota winter to the heat and humidity of the South African summer. We are looking forward to getting home and seeing our family there.



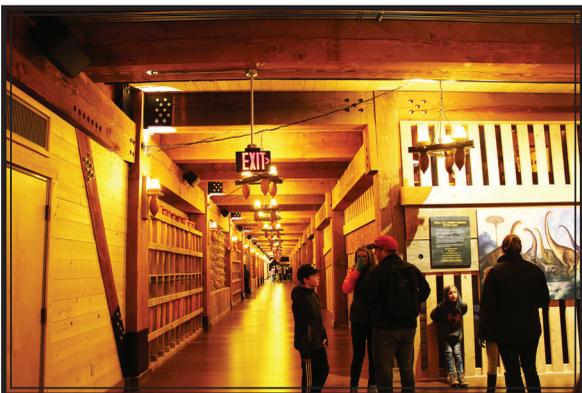
We were in Minnesota long enough to experience a good snowfall of over two inches. Michael had the chore of cleaning off the car before we could drive it!

Visit to Ark Encounter

When we realized how close we would be to the Ark Encounter when we were in Cincinnati for the International Conference on Missions, we arranged to go there with Bill Weber. It was an awesome experience.

The massive size of the Ark is impressive. As one arrives at the Ark Encounter it is an amazing sight. To think that Noah and his family built such a huge vessel so many years ago!

We spent several hours walking through the three-story Ark. When one reads the Bible, the numbers are there, but they don't give a good perspective on how big it really is! The beams and pillars are huge. The builders have speculated on how the food and water were stored and how the animals were caged and kept. Various life-size dioramas showed how certain activities could have been performed. There is so much information on display that we could have spent much more time there.



The Ark is so large that the lines of cages and storage for food and water just seem to go on forever!



When we arrived at the Ark Encounter we were amazed to see how big the Ark was.

Future Plans

We will return to South Africa to resume our work of preaching and teaching. We have decided to limit the long-distance travel we were involved in before. We will concentrate our efforts in KwaZulu Natal, the province in which we live. Michael will resume the South African Bible Institute extension classes with church leaders. The goal is to prepare them for ministry.

We will resume our outreach to the local primary school and high school. We did not have anyone doing that while we were away so we look forward to getting that started again.

The day care and seniors' clubs which are outreach programs for the community continued in our absence. A Zulu lady is overseeing that work and our goal is for her to continue doing that.

Annual Church Conference

The Church of Christ Mission held their annual conference in the Eastern Cape this year. This was the 96th Conference so the centenary is not many years away. The President (John Mpompo) and deputy President (Masupa Boosens) were assisted in making this event happen by ministers in the Eastern Cape.

The Venue was the Mngqesha Great Place (near King Williamstown).

The theme was "The Ministry of Giving".

The conference took place from 30 September to 5 October and was attended by church leaders from all over South Africa. Bro. Sithebe and Bro. Lubanyana from KwaZulu Natal were on the schedule to speak this year.

Praises

Safe travel to visit our supporters

Encouraging visits with churches and individual supporters

Good health

We were able to sell the car we used during our travels in 2017 and 2018



Our nephew David Stanley bought the car we used while in the US last year and this year.

Prayer Requests

Safe return to South Africa

Extension classes

School outreach

Day Care

Seniors' Club

South African Torch

Published quarterly

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Family News

Everyone seems to be doing well in South Africa. I think the teacher (Dawn) and the students (Gabriella, Chayah, Erin, Seanna and Matthew) are looking forward to the December school break. They will finish on December 12 - just as we arrive back in South Africa. We all enjoy the summer activities and times of being together as a family.

We are anxious to see baby Michael who was seven weeks old when we left and will be eight months old when we get back. He has grown from a tiny baby to a little boy who can sit up and play.

I am sure we will see some changes in all of the others as well. Both Seanna and Matthew have been fitted with glasses while we have been away.



*Now what should go in which suitcase?
Caryl packing for our return to South Africa.*



Gabriella was here until the end of October. She really wanted to see snow and God granted her desire. We had a beautiful snow in mid-October that permitted her to see and experience it. She built a "Snow chicken" in the back yard that lasted about a day!