



# William & Sharyn's News April 2020

18 April 2020

Dear family and friends,

We greet you in the matchless name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. A Saviour who is sovereign and who is perfectly in control of His world and all that is in it.

If we had sat down and written a newsletter at the beginning of the year we would have started this greeting with well wishes for a New Year, wishing you all much courage and strength to go forth and shine and share the love of Christ to all you come in contact with as you go about your daily lives. Well, seeing that procrastination won and we never got around to sending our New Year newsletter off, we will start this newsletter off like this...

We wish each one of you a blessed year. Even though this year is quickly turning out to be very different to what any of us would call a "normal" year! We pray that this year will help you to realise your absolute need of our Wonderful Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. We hope that each of you will use every opportunity that you have to demonstrate the love of Christ to everyone that you encounter, even during this time of social distancing, etc.

As Christians, we are called to let our light shine and we need to radiate our absolute love and trust in our Sovereign God, even in this uncertain time.

**Many are the plans in the mind of a man, but it is the purpose of the LORD that will stand.  
Proverbs 19:21**

We are currently at home in South Africa – a country that is on day 23 of a 35-day Lockdown, due to the Covid-19 virus. Our 2020 ministry plans have changed drastically, if things were "normal" we would be writing this newsletter from Chikombedzi, Zimbabwe.

We were loaded and ready to travel to Zimbabwe when our president announced that he was shutting our borders down on 18 March and we have not been able to leave South Africa since then. However, we are grateful to the Lord that we were able to spend time with our brothers and sisters in Christ in Zimbabwe and Mozambique before the world went a little crazy.

## HOT OFF THE PRESS!



**TRANSLATION MINISTRY** - In our previous newsletter we shared with you about our translating ministry and the need for financial assistance – unfortunately, we are still in desperate need for finances for this ministry!!!

Despite the lack of funds, we have very EXCITING News!!!! Member has completed the translation of "Building on Firm Foundations: Acts" which is the next book that we will be using to teach the church leaders in Mozambique – this work will now go

through the process of proof reading, editing and layout formatting and then we will be able to take it to the printers! Stanford Chauke is currently busy with the proof reading. Aaron Ndove continues to diligently work on translation "Building on Firm Foundations: Book 2 - Creation to Christ for the unbeliever". Please join us in celebrating this good news!

**Are you in a position to support this vital ministry in Samaria Mission?**

# Ministry Update...



## ZIMBABWE AND MOZAMBIQUE

Our year started as planned. We travelled to Chikombedzi at the end of January and spent 11 days with there. It was exciting to start the 1<sup>st</sup> session with the new group of students that have started their 3-year course at the Chief Shepherd Bible School. We returned to Polokwane and spent 4 days replenishing supplies and preparing for our next trip.



We left Polokwane on 5 February and only returned home on 27 February. During our time away, we spent 11 days in Mozambique for the first of the monthly leader training for the year. We spent time teaching both the Dumela and Xikumbane teaching hubs, together with Derrick Chauke and Stanford Chauke. During this trip the men in Xikumbane completed "Building on Firm Foundations: Book 3 - Creation to Christ for a new believer" and Sharyn completed teaching through Fundamentals of the Faith with the women in Xikumbane. We started working through "Building on Firm Foundations: Book 3 - Creation to Christ for a new believer" with the church leaders and women from the Dumela hub.



## RAIN, RAIN, RAIN!!

While we were in Xikumbane the Lord sent wonderful rain to the area! Unfortunately, there were numerous flood warnings in

South Africa at this time and we had quite a number of people concerned for our safety. We are grateful to the Lord that we were safe and enjoying the blessing of rain with our friends in Xikumbane. Everything was bright and beautiful when the sun came out again! Also, the rain ensured that our trip out of Mozambique was very muddy! We were, however, very excited to see how full the rivers were!



After the Mozambique training, we returned to Zimbabwe for the 2<sup>nd</sup> session for 2020.

## EXCITING NEWS!!

Derrick Chauke and Stanford Chauke are being mentored to take over the leadership of the teaching ministry in Mozambique, with the goal of the local pastors in Mozambique taking over the leadership of the teaching ministry when the time is right.



## MAPUTO

On 2 March William, Sharyn and Member travelled to Maputo in order to obtain the Invitation letters that our international teams need as part of their Mozambique visa application. When dealing with a government department (especially in a foreign country) one thing is certain... Things always change! This year saw an added need to the already long list of requirements needed to obtain approval from the government of Mozambique. Due to the fact that the official language of Mozambique is Portuguese, all documentation required by the government has to be translated into Portuguese – by an official translator that is recognised by the government. This added to our running around, Maputo is a very busy, very congested, very large city! We are very grateful to the Lord for the Pastor of 1<sup>st</sup> Baptist Church, Maputo for all of his assistance in getting everything sorted out. **We are especially grateful to Member for all that he does during our visits to Maputo – as William explains to anyone who asks; "I am the driver, Sharyn is the typist and cook and Member does everything else!"**

While we were in Maputo, Derrick and Stanford were in our area of ministry in Mozambique for the monthly leading training sessions, with both the Dumela and Xikumbane hubs.

## 2020 MINISTRY TIMELINE

Right now, at this moment in time... we simply cannot answer the question of when we will be able to travel into Mozambique and Zimbabwe again.

Due to the Covid-19 lockdown in South Africa, we have missed two teaching sessions in Zimbabwe, as well as another pastor training in Mozambique. We have also had to postpone most of our outreaches for this year. Because of the travel bans and limitations that have been imposed by the South African, Mozambican and Zimbabwean governments, we have no choice but to wait for our president to announce when he and the other two presidents are going to re-open the borders and allow travel into their countries. While we are waiting, we continue to work on ministry related materials, teaching material and administration, etc.



## VAUGHAN FAMILY UPDATE...

We are doing well and are grateful to the Lord for the beautiful home that we have to spend lockdown in, we are so conscious of those who live in apartments or worse, tiny informal dwellings during this time of lockdown. We have used this time of no travel to catch up on things that have been neglected at the house, as well as being able to spend extra time in God's Word.

When we heard that the borders had been closed, we made the decision to have William's mom stay with us, which we extended to include the lockdown. We felt that we would rather have mom with us than to have her stuck on her own at the old age home where she lives – we are grateful that the Lord led us to this decision as the home imposed a lockdown of their own and are not allowing any visitors into the complex at this time.



**Nathan and Kimberly** - planned to visit the USA from the end of January until the end of March of this year. The plan was to raise ministry support, visit new and existing supporting churches, visit with supporters and friends, and to spend time with Kimberly's family and for Nathan to attend a conference and meetings in Los Angeles. We are grateful to the Lord that they have accomplished most of this and have had very positive visits; the only thing that they have not been able to accomplish is return home to South Africa! For now they are stuck in the US as their flights out were cancelled and the airline has not indicated when they will be flying again and South Africa has not lifted their travel ban yet. We are aware of the fact that the South African government is allowing their citizens to return home, but they are not allowing anyone with a foreign passport to enter the country and that is the problem, Kimberly has a US passport! Nathan is in communication with the authorities in the US and we are praying for wisdom during this time. We are grateful to the Lord that they are "stranded" with Kim's parents and not in a hotel somewhere. As you can imagine, we are looking forward to the time when we can be reunited with Nathan, Kim and Lilly. **Please join us in praying for them as they wait for the appropriate time to return home.**

**Brendan and Monique** - are doing well, along with Monique's siblings who live with them. Brendan continues to work from home and Monique is involved with sending school lessons to her students so that they are able to keep up with their school work during this time. We are grateful to the Lord that we were able to spend a weekend visiting Brendan and Monique before the lockdown.

**Timothy** – spent the first two weeks of the lockdown with us here in Polokwane, but his company has been cleared to sell products that are deemed an "essential service" and so he returned to Hazyview on Monday. We are grateful for this time that we were able to spend with him.

Thank you for your interest in our ministry and for your love and support over all these years! We love and appreciate you very much and we are grateful to the Lord for your love.

All our love,

William and Sharyn

And he said to them, "The harvest is plentiful, but the labourers are few. Therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out labourers into his harvest. Luke 10:2



### SUPPORT INFORMATION:

#### SOUTH AFRICA:

**Samaria Mission (A Ministry of Christ Baptist Church),  
ABSA, 1210152845, Current Acc.**

#### USA:

**M.E.E.K. Inc, 2531 Smith Blvd. San Angelo, Texas, 76905**

**REFERENCE: YOUR NAME/VAUGHAN/MINISTRY**

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