



Dear Family & Friends,

August 2008

“The fear of the Lord - that is wisdom....” Job 28:28

SWYM Prayer Letter16

For those of you who might have missed our last newsletter, we are delighted to say that **Jenni Meyer** settled into rooms at the local Afrikaans Baptist Seminarium, very quickly indeed. She is a full time missionary with SWYM, with established youth ministry experience. By the end of July, Jenni had commenced 3 After School Bible Clubs in Tembisa Schools and 1 Friday evening club at the Family Upliftment Centre in Kempton Park. She has made Birchleigh Baptist Church her spiritual home, yet keeping the old links with Constantia Park Baptist Church, Pretoria. It was such a blessing to see how material needs were met so Jenni can feel at home at the Seminarium. We thank God for His goodness & kindness to us.

Nick & I and Pastor Irving returned from Vancouver, having attended Diandra`s (Sheila`s niece) marriage to Chris, the Associate Pastor from her church. It definitely was a privilege and joy to be at their wedding. **Upon our return to South Africa**, we immediately got back into ministry.

Nick & I have been busy with the school assemblies whilst **assisting Freddy** with his assemblies at Sunnyside. He should be in a position to run those assemblies on his own, quite soon. Alishea & Wilna are in weekly at Mamelodi and Ronel is busy with Busy Bee assemblies and library. Gayle Staegemann completed Book 4 of the Bible Correspondence Courses and a few adults have either completed or are in the process of completing Book 4. Nick manages the marking and certificates. He has also put in a **big order** for SWYM teaching materials from the Augustine Book Room at Constantia Park Baptist Church and we have yet to get the **SWYM Resource Room equipped** and ready for use at the Afrikaans Baptist Seminarium. Do pray that this will get established real soon. Praise God **a donation for the Resource Centre** has also come in. Pray that **more helpers** will join SWYM to get the Resource Centre set up and ongoing. Can you help?

You remember the **Skogheim Conference Bible Club** we ran from the 27th June to the 2nd July? Since then we have bumped into two sets of parents on different occasions and both parents have said how much their children learnt and recall the memory verses and bible stories. We were so very encouraged to get that feedback because we did keep the programme tight with added teaching sessions in this year. Thank you for praying.

We shall be going to Cape Town for the **Sola 5 conference from the 4th to 7th September**. Whilst there, we shall be meeting with the Youth Team at Goodwood Baptist Church to share about our ministry and explore possible joint ministry opportunities in the future. Nick has also been asked to **drive the “Sola 5 Kombi Van”** with equipment and books from Kempton Park to the conference and when in Cape Town to transport Sola5 Committee members and Speakers to and from the conference. Hein Strauss of Sola 5 could not drive or attend the conference because he had a recent back operation. Nick was glad to help out as it helped us some with petrol expenses. Do pray that we will know safe journeying mercies.

We are running an **Inter School Youth Camp from the 27th to the 30th September** at Ora et Labora. As usual, we will not know the exact numbers attending until the start of camp though we do try our best to get this information out of the kids and teachers well before the date. Each year, it is the same though. The tensions build up with the kitchen team needing to know numbers and Nick and I unable to supply this information, accurately. This is Africa and we just have to be flexible. This year, we have had to raise the camp cost to R80 per person. Do pray that the right numbers, right ages will attend camp and we will have enough food for everyone. Talking about food, we had a major problem. Camp was announced and **we learnt the bad news!** All the kitchen equipment at the camp had been stolen! SWYM will have to provide its own kitchen equipment. The **good news** is the gas cooker and the fridge was not stolen. We immediately sent out **urgent prayer requests for equipment**. I am pleased to

Nick and Sheila Court – Serving the LORD in South Africa

report that **a donation was given** to SWYM to purchase kitchen equipment AND we have a spontaneous offer to borrow all we might need from the Family Upliftment Centre. We may well go to them to borrow and purchase as they have experience in catering and suppliers. **Wilna & Louise** will be pleased to know that they will have some kitchen utensils in which to cook the food. What an answer to prayer! Praise God.

After camp, we have **an outreach booked at Clarens from the 5th to 10th October**. We anticipate the usual assemblies, classroom work, after school club and some adult training classes to encourage 3 local people from the township churches to minister to the young people. We **value your prayers** for energy, stamina and wisdom for this outreach, especially as I (Sheila) have been ill recently with a prolonged chest infection and associated general malaise. Nick has been carrying all the responsibilities himself and we are thankful that **not one appointment** had to be cancelled.

From the **21st to the 23rd November**, we have an outreach booked with one of the SWYM Trustees, Bert Pienaar in Badplass, Mpumalanga. We will appreciate prayers for the radio, youth & women ministry and preaching opportunities for the small team going up there. It will be our **first visit** but Bert has organised visiting teams on previous occasions.

Items for Praise:

- For the commencement of 4 Bible Clubs by Jenni Meyer
- For Freddy's integration into the SWYM assembly team
- For answered prayers at Skogheim Conference Bible Club
- Opportunity to drive the Kombi and share petrol costs to the Sola 5 Conference
- The new opportunity to share about SWYM at Goodwood Church, Cape Town
- The donation towards SWYM camp kitchen equipment and Resource Room
- The opportunity to borrow or source equipment from the family Upliftment Centre
- For Dr Gray's generosity in allowing SWYM to use the campsite, without charge
- The Clarens and Badplass outreaches
- **Items for Prayer:**
- That the seeds sown at the Assemblies and Jenni's Bible Clubs will bear fruit
- That Freddy will soon be able to take the Sunnyside assemblies on his own
- That petrol monies will come in for additional SWYM travel costs (now double with Jenni)
- Do pray for Alishea, Wilna & Ronel as they continue with the schools ministry
- For Gayle as she produces the SWYM Bible Correspondence Courses
- For travelling mercies everyday and especially on the long journey to Cape Town
- That a good number of learners will attend camp and that their lives will be changed through the Bible teaching
- That the outreaches at Clarens & Badplass will be a blessing
- We will be able to set up the SWYM Resource Centre, with the right materials and with additional helpers
- For more **prayer** supporters & **SWYM** workers, short term or long term
- That Nick & I and all SWYM missionaries will know safety and good health

We continue to thank God for sending Jenni & Freddy to SWYM and for greatly encouraging us in ministry. We do covet your prayers and thank you for praying for the work of SWYM. The Lord surely hears and answers our prayers. Praise His holy name.

*With our love & prayers
Nick and Sheila Court*

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