



January 2010

SWYM Prayer Letter 28

Dear Family & Friends

Schools

This is our first prayer letter for 2010. We had an enforced rest in December as Sheila's niece, Carrie & her ten year old son, Callum, were visiting us. It was their first visit to South Africa, but they plan to return in August 2011, God willing, when young Callum hopes to help us in ministry at one of the farm schools! We are excited about that possibility.

We began January 2010 by attending the **Grace Ministers Conference**. The bible teaching from all the speakers, including Stephen Reece from the UK was superb. We were truly privileged & blessed to attend the conference. **Freddy & his wife** attended the conference for the first time and they were just in awe with the teaching.

We started the first week of school by **adding a new school** to our list. Then, we had to find ways of meeting all the Monday morning assemblies, which are held all at the same time! **Leon** spoke to Busy Bee Primary and they **willingly changed** their Monday assembly to a later time on Mondays to accommodate us. **Praise God!**

We cannot take for granted that our Christian assemblies in the schools will continue. **Freddy** has just reported to me that there are **changes in one of his schools** where we were to commence a mentoring scheme from this month. The Deputy head is a **devout Hindu**, the new Psychologist is a **Moslem** and the new Play Therapist is a **Jew**, and a Pastor who began last year occasionally doing assemblies at the school, which Freddy witnessed this morning, did 80 percent music from a CD with the Learners jumping around and then he gave a short talk - nothing much. Freddy has requested **prayers for this school**. My heart is sad because SWYM have been going into this school for nearly 5 years! We are not totally surprised because in November, we had noticed quite a negative influence as demonstrated through the worldly content of the Christmas Concert and it was then that an appeal was made to us to help with the challenging problems arising at the school, with agreement for us to use biblical guidelines. That **mentoring door** has been **closed** for the time being. **Pray with us** that the Learners will have continued opportunities for sound bible teaching through Freddy.

Another item for **urgent prayer**- FF Riberio Primary in Mamelodi. Carol's regular teaching job has changed this year and she has no time to go into this school with Wilna. Please **pray that someone** will step forward quickly to assist Wilna.

Hospital & SWYM Correspondence Ministry

Dr Gray's Hospital Ministry –

Pray for this ministry. At the end of February, Dr Gray has organised for a Staff Family Conference to be held at Ora et Labora, campsite. Freddy & Leon will be teaching on “The Relevance of the Ten Commandments” and Wilna, Louise & Amanda will be doing the camp catering. This is a new venture and we appreciate your prayers for all those attending the conference.

SWYM Course Books –We asked you to pray for us to get assistance with this sphere of ministry. **Kobus Du Plessis**, CPBC Missions Chairperson has organised for someone to mark the test quiz papers, document results etc and independently handle this branch of SWYM ministry. Nick has to arrange to finally let go to another person. Please **pray for a couple in Durban**. They are considering writing course books & other ministries for SWYM.

Prefects Leadership Training: - (PLT)

We have completed our first training scheduled in January 2010 for our own local schools. This was a treat. We enjoyed the teaching and opportunity for the gospel. **Dawid**, Wilna's husband, gave a devotional message to the Prefects on “**Why the greatest Leader of all had to die**”. They listened intently. The prefects and their teachers appreciated their time at camp. The food was delicious, as prepared by **Wilna & team**. **Louise conducted a craft session**, challenging the prefects to work as individuals and as a team to transform used baked bean tins into something beautiful and fit for use. (See outreaches for more info on PLT).

Outreaches:-

The Africans **Pastors Conference** at Ora et Labora was also well attended. SWYM, through Wilna and her team did the camp catering. Apart from **Wilna, Louise & Amanda, Gladys Sithole & her daughter** also helped in the kitchen. As usual, the conference books are such a blessing to these Pastors. Freddy was able to attend as a delegate on this occasion and was so blessed by the bible teaching. One delegate said to me that “it is so sad- but in my culture the people like the altar calls, they like the name it & claim it teaching “He was glad to hear bible truths from the mouths of his own people. SWYM got some further requests for training & camp opportunities for the youth from other churches.

We are preparing for **Clarens Outreach** & further Prefects Leadership Training (**PLT**). Do pray for us. However, we also need prayers for **Adullam Mission Prefects Leadership Training**. The Adullam Mission has access to 16 large primary schools all wanting PLT as well as 5 High Schools. The **Educators** want Leadership Training and they all want their Prefects to have training and individual **certificates of attendance**. Quite a challenge for us to achieve but **Helene Du Plessis, CPBC Secretary**, has stepped forward to design & print all 100 to 150 certificates for these schools.

Polokwane Outreach

We have a full days training Seminar booked for the 13th February in Polokwane. This request & opportunity came from the African Pastors Conference held there last September. We pray that God will raise up many willing & Godly workers for the Youth Ministries in the local churches and Polokwane local schools.

Praise/Prayer items:-

Praise God for another year of Gospel opportunities

Praise God for the following:

The new farm school in Kempton Park, for the additional opportunities for Prefects Leadership Training at Adullam Mission and the **extra help from Helene Du Plessis**; the Hospital Staff Family Conference, for assistance with the SWYM correspondence course, for physical & spiritual strength, personal safety, financial means etc . We praise God & thank Him for His goodness & kind provisions already shown in 2010.

We thank God for the loan of a trailer this month from John Hocknell. This makes transporting all our teaching/training equipment possible.

Praise God for sending Ray Mundin from Ladyfield Evangelical Church, Chippenham, UK, to help us for 3 weeks in the first term of 2010. Pray that in 2010 more local people and those from overseas will be **galvanised into action** in the “Soccer” harvest field.

Pray that God will send us more short & long term workers.

Pray that SWYM missionaries & Helpers will always be faithful in their private & public witness and in their teaching to young people & adults alike.

We do need a *Resource Centre* in 2010. **Pray for the impossible to become possible.**

We say it every time, but we truly covet your prayers. Be encouraged for God is at work! Blessings upon blessings to you all in 2010.

With our love, prayers & grateful thanks

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