



Dear Family & Friends

SWYM Prayer Letter 31

SWYM Deputation Report

During the months of April & mid May, we were in the United Kingdom on deputation, (or church visitation). Although prayer/news letters keep people informed of the ways in which the work is progressing, it is also very important and valuable to be able to share information “face to face”.

The deputation trip gave us the opportunity to meet members of the SWYM (UK) Trustees, and also to share about the work and ministry of SWYM in Southern Africa with a number of churches in England and Wales. We did this at after church service meetings, mid week prayer meetings, meetings with individuals, and at the Birmingham City Mission Annual Conference. Nick also preached at a number of Sunday services. Regrettably, Sheila was unwell with a troublesome cough throughout the UK deputation and Nick had to take several meetings on his own. No church meetings were cancelled.

In total we travelled over 5000 km, and visited 20 churches, (some for several different meetings). We also went to an After School Bible Club which we had been involved in before leaving the UK. A number of people showed an interest in writing books for SWYM users, or in translating our books into other African languages. A church member from Bradford on Avon Chapel sent us a number of tracts he had already written for use in Africa. A Sunday school in Wales gave us the usual box of materials for the youth, and the airline gave us extra luggage allowance which meant we were able to bring these back at no extra cost, to South Africa.

We stayed with Sheila’s niece, Carrie, in a town called Trowbridge, near Chippenham, in the West of England. When travelling a distance from our “home”, we were given overnight hospitality by church members.

We noted that in a number of churches that it was the retired people who were engaged in the schools ministry and Bible Clubs, even going out to Romania to facilitate Holiday Bible Clubs!

We spent some time also with an elderly lady who is housebound in a small village in Wales, but who prays faithfully for the ministry.

It is humbling to know just how many people are praying and supporting the ministry in various ways, young and old alike. On completion of our deputation, we took a trip through Europe with Pastor Irving Stegges. It was both relaxing and rewarding to visit missionaries in Romania, Switzerland & Germany.

SWYM SCHOOLS

Meanwhile, back in South Africa, Leon was taking Nick & Sheila’s schools work as well as his own. He managed to get additional help from Pastors Ivor Jefferies and Michael Rogers. Sadly, Freddy Mogashoa suffered a serious heart attack followed by necessary surgery. Leon was able to keep everyone informed of this and many churches in the UK prayed for Freddy. Praise God, he is making a straightforward recovery.

Dr Gray’s Hospital Ministry –

In early May, SWYM & Constantia Park Baptist Church members did some outreach ministry at the Pretoria East Hospital. It was pleasing and most encouraging to know that we were not required to be physically present for existing partnership outreaches to take place. That was a tremendous encouragement to us.

SWYM Bible Correspondence Course Books –Upon our return, Gayle completed a course book on Joseph. Gordon & Marj Vice, from Durban has produced a draft on “The Lord’s Prayer”. Pray for those who have promised to write in the UK and for those who are currently writing SWYM books in South Africa.

Outreaches:-

Skogheim Annual Conference

What a delight to return to South Africa and to prepare immediately to lead the Children's programme at Skogheim. It is a joy & privilege for us to share the gospel with the Skogheim children, building upon the teaching of parents, grandparents, Sunday school teachers etc. We taught on "The Life of David – From Field to Fame".

Anica & Amanda both teenagers, worked diligently alongside us, and whose able assistance with the pre-schoolers added value to the teaching. We look forward to them helping again next year, especially as it would be the 40th Skogheim Conference. Nick & I did manage to hear live some of the teaching from Pastors David De Bryn and Karl Petersen. We later caught up with all the teachings through CD/MP3 recordings.

Holiday Bible Clubs

Both Leon & Ronell were involved in separate outreaches & Holiday Bible Clubs in Kempton Park & Hennenman. Thank God, for these additional opportunities to share the Gospel.

Praise/Prayer items:-

Praise God for the following:

For the ongoing recovery of Freddy from heart surgery
Leon's management & leadership of SWYM during our UK Deputation
The partnership outreach at Pretoria East Hospital
Safe journeying mercies on deputation and visit to Europe
For swift integration back into South Africa and Skogheim Conference

Pray for Gordon & Marj as they move from draft, to completion on SWYM Correspondence Book

Pray for those **in the UK** who promised to write books for SWYM - which they will now write!

We do so much **need** a *Resource Centre* in 2010. **Pray** with us that this will become **possible**

Pray that we will be able to cover **Freddy's schools** during his recuperation period

Pray that we will return to the schools and planned outreaches with a **renewed passion and zeal** for sharing the gospel.

Friends, we thank you so much for your interest in SWYM and your kind hospitality during our UK deputation and European visit. Keep on praying and be encouraged for God is at work!

With our love, prayers & grateful thanks

Nick and Sheila Court

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