



January 2011

SWYM Prayer Letter 35

Dear Family & Friends

We began the **New Year** by attending the annual Grace Ministers` Conference and were greatly challenged by the bible teaching & fellowship. We returned with a renewed desire to walk closer to our Lord, to love and obey Him in all things.

Short Term Ministry - A big encouragement to us was the arrival of **Tim Phillips** on January 13th for 3 months of ministry. Tim is from our UK sending church. He has practical skills and varied experience in youth work. He began by making us two new easels which we needed and some necessary repair work around the house. As Tim is a First Aid Trainer, he is putting these skills into use by teaching “An Appreciation of First Aid” to Learners & Staff from various schools.

SWYM Offices - Patience continues to help in the offices and with other SWYM events. We are able to purchase more equipment for the offices through a generous gift from our friends in Clarens. Praise God!

SWYM Bible Correspondence Books - We are thankful to Anita & Esther for their translations of SWYM books into Afrikaans. We need to get these further prepared for publishing. Cindy Jonker has also taken on this task in addition to the Bible Correspondence Ministry. **Pray** for Gayle, Gordon, and others who have promised in the UK to write or who are currently writing books, that they will know the leading of the Holy Spirit.

SWYM SCHOOLS

We had assemblies the very first day schools returned in January. We were in awe at the warm welcome. There are many classes & assembly bookings for the year already.

Nick & I were much in prayer for **two new schools** in particular. God answered in detail. Immediately after the two assemblies at one school, (over 1,400 learners), the Principal booked us up for the whole year. Praise God!

Leon also had a **new** school for assembly and Christian Union. He is particularly busy too, like Freddy in Sunnyside. Nick & I have to take some separate assemblies to meet the demands. In addition, Nick & I have commenced support to Johan & Megan at CPBC. They have taken over the leadership of the Sunday School.

Pastor Ivor helps Leon with assemblies on Mondays, because we have more bookings on Mondays than any other day of the week.

Continue to pray for Leon & Tim, Wilna, Ivy & Carol, Ronell, Freddy & Joseph as they continue with assemblies, Christian Union, Buddy Scheme, Clubs and remedial teaching.

Outreaches

15th January - CPBC - Children Desiring God (CDG) Seminar & Shepherding a Child`s Heart. This CDG seminar was led by Bill & Marge Grundling, from Springs Baptist Church, and Natalie Rogers spoke on Shepherding a Child`s Heart. It was a blessed seminar, especially for the Sunday School teachers.

17th to 21st January - Clarens Outreach God is truly amazing for the way He opens doors for ministry. We took assemblies, clubs, and classes at 7 schools. We worked **in partnership with the Police** doing joint visits with the **new Inspector** at the schools. **The Leader of the Municipality** saw us and before we could ask him anything he said “Come tomorrow”. Nick & Joseph conducted devotions with about 30 plus workers. **Grietjie** also accompanied us to the schools and she has commenced ministry into two of the schools. How exciting for the Organisers of the Clarens Outreach! Now they have two workers in **Joseph & Grietjie** in the schools. The **High School invited Joseph, Nick & I as special guests** to their Graduation Class of 2010. **Joseph opened** the Ceremony in prayer and Nick & I also gave Matriculants their certificates.

Outreaches - continued

Many of the 2010 class had attended **Leadership Training with SWYM** and one Learner said to me – “Aunty Sheila, I have known you since I was a little girl. You were teaching us the bible at the Primary School.” We felt very privileged to attend the High School’s Graduation Ceremony.

26th to 28th January - African Pastors’ Conference at Ora et Labora. This conference took place as usual but *not in the usual place*. The campsite is currently being upgraded and although we could have used the facility, we felt that would not be appropriate with the necessary building works taking place. **Pastor Ivor Jefferies**, his Elder and congregation agreed at short notice to lend us their church building. Some of the delegates stayed at the manse and at other people’s homes but a good number slept over at the church itself. It was a great success! The teaching, the food and the ABK hospitality made the conference a great success. Pastor Ivor has agreed for us to use his church again and indeed we are going to do so for Prefects Leadership Training 23rd to 25th February.

29th January – ABK - SWYM Training Seminar with Guest Speakers, Natalie Rogers & Marge Vice. The very next day after the Pastors’ conference, we held the above seminar at Pastor Ivor’s church. **Natalie** is becoming a regular speaker at our SWYM Seminars. **Marge travelled** all the way from **Durban** to lead a practical workshop in the afternoon and it was useful & fun! We are grateful to her for making such a BIG sacrifice in time, money and materials for the seminar. We hope that she will be able to join us for training again later on in the year.

5th February - SWYM Training Seminar at Birchleigh Baptist Church. This date was reserved for the Staff of a local Primary School, but when they postponed the event, we took the opportunity for another SWYM Training Seminar. **Natalie Rogers** spoke again on *Shepherding a Child’s Heart*. She was a great encouragement to delegates as usual, for she is such a godly mother and is quietly encouraging to other Moms & Tots.

Praise/Prayer items

Praise God & Pray for the following:

Praise God for how quickly Tim adapted to his surroundings & work

Praise God for the new schools added this year

Pray that all the Leadership Training will point learners to the greatest Leader of all, the Lord Jesus

Praise God for the financial gift from Clarens for the SWYM office equipment

Pray that our visa submission later this month will be processed successfully

Pray that God will send short & longer term workers to SWYM.

Pray for the following events in Feb/March 2011

Ongoing Schools’ ministry for Feb & March

30th January to 6th February – Assistance with Campsite Construction (Tim)

7th & 9th February – Appreciation of First Aid @ Busy Bee Primary (Tim & Leon)

23rd to 25th February – Residential Prefects Leadership Training @ ABK, Kempton Park

Monday 28th to Friday 4th March - Clarens Outreach, Prefects Leadership Training, Ladies Meeting

Thursday 3rd March - Adullum Mission - Prefects Leadership Training (Leon & Tim)

Saturday 5th March – Klerksdorp Ladies Meeting & Sat 12th March - Training @ Adullum Mission (S&N)

Friends, we thank you so much for your love, your support and your prayers. Be encouraged; God is at work!

With our love & prayers for a blessed 2011

Nick and Sheila Court

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FINANCIAL DETAILS:-

RSA - First National Bank, Account Name: Step Wise Youth Ministry, Account Number: 62149844559,
Branch: Lynnwood, Branch Code: 252045, Swift code: FIRNZAJJ

UK - Lloyds TSB Bank, Chippenham Branch, Account Name: Step Wise Youth Ministry,
Account Number: 03217242, Branch Code: 30-91-99