



February 2014

SWYM Prayer Letter 51

Dear Family & Friends

**1 KINGS 8:20** The LORD has kept the promise He made ... **NIV**

### Introduction

Nick turned to me and said “That is **our** house alarm going”. Still groggy from sleep, I glanced at the alarm clock, which glowed 5:57AM. Grabbing the cell/mobile phone, Nick went out of the bedroom and I could hear him speaking on the phone to the Security Company. “Yes, yes, send someone out. I don’t know what is going on at the front of the house”. He returned to the bedroom saying “You will hear the alarm going off again when Security man enters the property to investigate”; the alarm had stopped screeching by then. We looked at each other and almost simultaneously said “Back in Africa”. It was our first morning at home after being away for nearly two months in the UK.

Are you wondering what caused the alarm to go off? We don’t know - Security did not bother to tell us. Our day in South Africa had begun, much earlier than we had planned.

In the excitement, we do not want to forget to say a very **special thank you** to all family, church friends & SWYM Trustees who showed us such warmth and unexpected kindnesses during our visit. Yes- it rained and it rained, but that did not stop the people of God from soldiering on with so many outreaches, during the Christmas & New Year period especially. Thank you so much for making room for us too.

### Integration & Planning

David had welcomed us back home the afternoon before with freshly brewed coffee and hand over. It was a delight to see our small, familiar dwelling place looking so clean and tidy and not the usual jungle of weeds, leaves, debris etc. **All** had gone well during our absence and now *David is having a break away with his Mom & Dad* who are visiting from the UK. On the **Administration** side, there were several requests from organisations for us to help them with their Children & Youth programmes, and additional “Specials” at the schools. **Together**, we **prioritised** and planned events with David, including Outreaches, Holiday Bible Club, Prefects Leadership Camp, Bible Clubs & Assemblies.

### Clarens Outreach

**Clarens Outreach- First of five, Scheduled for Monday 24<sup>th</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup> February.** Apart from planning the usual Assemblies and Bible Clubs at the various schools, we are also facilitating 4 Teaching Seminars on “The Young Peace Maker-Managing Conflict God’s Way” for the youth at Tshepong.

### SWYM Schools` Ministry

David, Nick & I continue to share the **Schools` Ministry** working our way prayerfully through the bible. The **schools appreciated** David’s enthusiasm for teaching the bible. **Nick** continues to **write** the weekly teaching lessons on the 1689 Baptist Confession of Faith for the Lynnwood Baptist Church (LBC) Sunday School, and we have the joy of positive feedback also with the Sunday School, Creche, Youth Group & Administration at LBC.

### Lynnwood Baptist Church

At LBC, we noted numerical growth and additional helpers with both Creche and Youth Group. A **new Mini Bus** was donated to LBC, as the old bus really had given up some time ago, so with such a useful tool, **pray** that Pastor Sybrand will have wisdom for the various Outreach Opportunities. We commenced **SMTI studies - (Strengthening Ministries Training Institute)**, given by Dr Mack in February, with lectures on Marriage & Family Counselling. Nick & I though married for decades, appreciate all the more, such insightful, biblical teaching. We **thank God** for preserving us all these years and **favouring us** with togetherness in ministry.

### SWYM Bible Correspondence Course

We welcomed the interest in the SWYM Bible Correspondence Books, and the offer of help to Anita Dekker with Afrikaans translations from **Bulford Chapel - UK**. It is always a delight to visit our friends there.

## **PAK-A-BAG SCHEME & BIBLES**

Without doubt, **the women from St Mellons Church**, in Wales, have put their “hands” towards this project. We were simply bowled over to see their enthusiasm and efficient organisation in making the required bags. Some of the **more able** women from **Ladyfield Church**, Chippenham, are also with us in this project, and we returned from both these churches with bags, goodies to go into the bags, knitted goods and ideas for crafts from our Church visitation. These bags will go towards the **neediest children** in the schools we work in. A Big Thanks to **family members** and **individuals** for supporting the schools ministry. We appreciate the **sacrificial giving** from each one of you. We returned with **four suitcases** from the UK, **three** of which were packed with ministry goods, (60kg), and the remaining *one bag* with our personal belongings, (20kg).



**Sewing Group at St Mellons Church, Wales**



**Completed Pak a Bags for SWYM**



### **Praise God for the following:**

For our safe return from the UK Church Visitation  
For David`s successful management of the ministry in our absence  
The commitment from the Women`s Groups for the Pak-A- Bag Scheme and their encouragement of us  
For the blessing of joy in planning and implementing ministry programmes  
The commitment of help & prayer with the SWYM Correspondence Books & Prison Ministry  
The offer of help from Short Termers for the Youth Ministry at the Lusaka Reformed Family Conference & Sola 5 Conference in August & September

### **Pray for the following:**

For all those teaching & helping in the weekly Assemblies & Bible Clubs. Pray that each one will have a burning desire to faithfully share the gospel and for God`s mercy to rest upon lost souls  
That the various outreaches will bear spiritual fruit  
For clarity in Nick`s writing, and our teaching of the 1689 Baptist Confession of Faith  
That long term & short term workers may join SWYM

***We truly covet the prayers of All God`s people, everywhere! Be encouraged - for God is at work in Southern Africa.***

*With our love & prayers  
Nick & Sheila*

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**RSA NPO Registration number:** 048-124-NPO      **UK Charity Number:** 1124118

### **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