IN THE NAME OF JESUS



We are awaiting the birth of a baby, due on 25th December!

This is one of the baby packs which we give to each mother we come across who is pregnant. Filled with the basics of clothes soap, vaseline, blanket, toys and nappies. Christmas is the time of remembering when God came to this earth to dwell with us . We celebrate Jesus!

We are born in the Image of God, we are like Him (Genesis 1:26).

Our good hearts are hidden under the rubble of life. (John Eldredge - writer). From his book 'Waking the dead, a heart fully alive.'

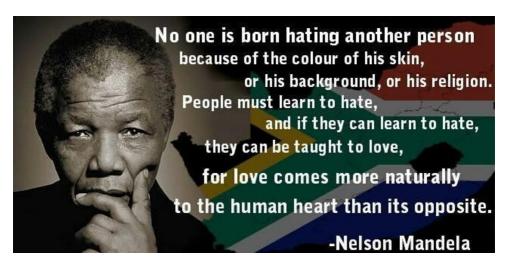




Ellen and Patrick hold pictures of Jesus. Following the showing of the Jesus film at Ellen's home, she retrieved the pictures from the top of a cupboard. 'Gladys said Ellen has dusted off Jesus and we can see Him. now'. This statement is literally what is happening in people's lives. Patrick has helped Ellen, doing some work for her. He said watching the film made me realise about life and I wanted to help. I asked him where is Jesus - he said 'In my heart.' Watching the film has brought a renewal of faith for many people, as they rediscover their hearts where Jesus is, under the rubble of life.



A pre Christmas break – I have been fortunate to have been able to take a couple of days away to Addo Elephant park. It was very special, to see the mothers care for their little ones. The amazing sunsets and just be with nature. On my return God was speaking to me about peace and reconciliation. That morning I heard that Nelson Mandela had died.



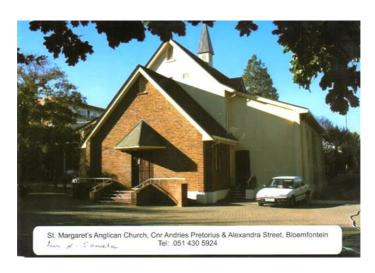
South Africa has had 10 days of mourning – which was a huge celebration of Madiba's life. The people truly loved this man as he lead them to freedom from the oppressor. It has been a wonderful time of reflecting on his life as the TV showed many aspects of his life and the people who knew him. South African culture loves 'quotes' words and especially the words of God are very important to them. Nelson Mandela's words are very profound, and life transforming if put into action in our lives. They speak of the gospel in very real ways. He was a man who put the gospel into action in his life. This required the sacrifice of imprisonment and his own heart to God.



The vehicle has had to have some major work done, costing R5000. As the car was in the garage I felt God say it would be that amount, so trusted in Him. The day after I was rung by the Cathedral here in SA – a donation had been given by a parishioner for the work we do – the amount R5000!

PRAISE GOD THROUGH WHO ALL BLESSINGS FLOW!

CAROL SERVICE ST MARGARETS CHURCH



As Christmas draws nearer – much preparation is happening for the children's parties (2 this year) One on 20th December and one on 24th December. We also will have the Christmas Day Service. I was invited to the Carol service at St Margaret's by a friend. It was very special, especially as they spoke of the Incarnation of God – the coming to earth of God as Jesus, to dwell among humanity. The carols always take me back to my childhood at school which is where I learnt them. The words of Away in a Manger were very real to me – little

did I know until 30 years later that actually it was true! Now I know He dwells in my heart and He takes me to people and places I would never have known. Following the service someone came to me and said could you use some toys? I said yes please! Tears started coming in my eyes – I was gob smacked and I kept saying are you sure? (You see for the party on the 20th December we have no toys for the children – it is the first time we are doing a party in this area, so we decided we would play games and have a cool drink and biscuits). The church had collected many toys for needy children 'We want them to go to those who really need .' I said I can guarantee that. So home I came with a car full of lovely toys! The day after I am sat writing this prayer letter and my phone rings – it is a lady from the same church. She explained that she couldn't attend the carol service but would like to donate some money for food for the party on Friday!!!! It doesn't stop there! I opened my email account to see that there is a payment on the way from St John's Church Baxenden with a donation and from 2 new sponsors for regular donations too!! My goodness - we are so blessed - to be a blessing – what a privileged position. I just wanted to share this with you all for you to be blessed too. May you know the One who came to live with us this ADVENT, to show us our hearts and to free us from the rubble of life and to truly live as we were meant to live – ABUNDANTLY!!!!

PRAYER POINTS:

Thanks for the Abundant blessings from our wonderful Father

For the answer to prayer for encouragement (last on the list last prayer letter!)

For obedient hearts to answer God's call on our lives (JUST DO IT !!!)

Thanks - answer to prayer - Marcia has passed Grade 11

Continue to pray for Mapaseka – she is now missing

For Maqueen and Motse who failed their examinations and will have to sit the year again

Thanks for the many children who passed this years examinations

For Gladys who failed to pass the theory test (she wasn't shown how to answer the multiple choice questions – she takes the test again on 2nd February

For the Children's parties 20th and 24th December

For the Christmas Day Service (the people are doing a sketch of the Nativity)

For our hearts and all hearts who read this prayer letter to be uncovered and found

For safety during the Christmas period, especially when driving

For the people you have come to know through the prayer letters – pray as you are led For Christine and Johns daughter in law applying for a visa to reside in the UK – she is South African.

For my children Christian, Dominic and grandson George – I miss them !!!!!!!

Please contact John and Christine Walker d.johnwalker1@googlemail.com, 01772780152 for more information / donations and prayer support Hilary's contact: hilaryemurphy@hotmail.com. Mobile 0027825010469