IN THE NAME OF JESUS

January 2014

They shall rebuild the old ruins, they shall raise up the former desolations and they shall repair the ruined cities. The desolations of many generations. Isaiah 61:4

In the last week of December I started to read 'The Broken Down House' by Paul Tripp, who likens our lives to a broken down house which needs restoration through God who created us. As I was reading I felt God say to me I am going to give you a house – it is going to need restoring, but through the restoration I am going to restore you.'

I have been praying for a while now for a house. Not just a house to live in but a special place of guiet and prayer, where people can be restored.

My house shall be called a house of prayer for all nations. Isaiah 56:7

On 30th December a friend, Louise came to me and said she believed I had to meet a lady – she was my neighbour living on the next farm. We arranged to go on 2nd January. It turned out that the lady owned the giraffes which I often see when I go walking around the farm where I stay in the cabin. We had tea and conversation opened to what was happening on the farm. She was renovating a property and a second house she had was dilapidated and not fit for anyone to live in. She took us to see them, the first one didn't have a roof. The second one had animals living in the roof, it was in a terrible state, BUT it was in an amazing position, nestled quietly in a little forest. As we looked around (climbing through the broken window to get in.) The lady said 'if you want this place you can have it rent free for 2 years.' I knew God was giving me a gift – yes the broken down house needs lots of restoring but I knew I could trust God.

I knew we had a mountain to climb but I was full of joy and gratefulness and I wasn't alone.





The little house in the forest



Louise with her team of people and Gladys came to clean and paint



Septic tank dug by hand took 3 days digging (thru rock too)



Walls and floor on the verandah need rebuilding and plastering



Joseph is rebuilding the walls and plastering them, you can see his handiwork here with Gladys .



We have installed a tank for a water supply.

Now we have a toilet and a sink with running water, but it is not drinkable water.





We have painted inside and out



We are currently researching solar power to have electricity.

And restoring the windows and applying safety bars and shutters.

All this has been done in 3 weeks!



Jabu loves his soon new to be home. Here he is in what will be the bathroom and storage space – leading to the back door.

He has chased off the dassies – the animals which were in the roof space.

But we have a way to go yet and expect our first UK visitor, Dorothy on 10thFebruary. So we are all working hard to get everything ready and moved in. Hopefully we will make it.

Meanwhile in the township, life goes on. But there is an excitement because 'pastor ' has got a house. Everyone wants to come and see it. When we have finished the restoring we will have a big celebration and it will be a place where people can come and be with God in a beautiful quiet place in the little house in the forest.



Part of the garden outside the house

PRAYER POINTS:

Thanks and praise for an answer to prayer for a house
Thanks for all the help and good friends
Thanks for God's faithfulness and leading
For Hilda – to get a grant and monetary provision
For installation of solar power
For safety and protection
For the ministry which will restore peoples lives in a quiet place
For completion of the work
For rest

For the people coming from the UK for a special blessing for them : Dorothy on 10th February, Fiona 22nd February, Marie 12th March For beds for the house For cooking facilities

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