



# "Raised to Praise"

June 2005



*“Therefore, since we have a great high priest who has gone through the heavens,  
Jesus the Son of God,  
let us hold firmly to the faith we profess.  
For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses,  
but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are—  
yet was without sin.*

*Let us then approach the throne of grace with confidence,  
so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.”  
Hebrew 4: 14-16*

Dear Friends of Bethesda,

What a tremendous source of strength and encouragement Hebrews 4: 14-16 has been to our team during the last several weeks. Through those verses we are reminded that we can go directly to our Heavenly Father, to the throne of grace with confidence, to receive help in our time of need.

## **Dana Scott:**

The Bethesda team has been interceding on Dana's behalf; we would ask that you join us in prayer for her as well. For several weeks now, Dana has been battling with an illness that the doctors are struggling to diagnose. It began with a severe headache, moved to her neck, and then developed a sinus infection. The sinus infection was treated with 2 rounds of antibiotic and after battling at home for some time she became weaker and weaker. On June 8, the doctor made the decision to hospitalize her. She began antibiotics intravenously as they continued to run tests. During her stay in the hospital, she progressively weakened. She was consistently running a low-grade fever, developed unexplained back spasms, developed an unsteady gait when walking, and is unduly fatigued. The doctors had also put her on two seizure medications to control the back spasms although this has not helped.

On the 17<sup>th</sup> of June, Dana's mother, Susan Beckett, arrived in South Africa to be with Dana and to assess her health condition. After some discussion, we all agreed that it was best that Dana be evacuated to the States to be evaluated by the doctors there. We consulted with her neurologist who was also in agreement with this decision. Dana was requesting that she not leave South Africa until she could get the necessary documentation for Lerato to leave with her. However, on June 18, Dana's condition worsened and her back spasms began in full force. The doctor was called immediately and after examining her, he seemed quite concerned. The decision was made that Dana be evacuated as soon as flight arrangements could be made. Dana left South Africa on Sunday evening with her mother accompanying her and arrived in the States on Monday morning. From there she went directly to the University of Michigan hospital to be evaluated by specialists there. Please be praying that God will give wisdom to the doctors as they evaluate her condition.

**Jabulane Christian Academy:**

Friday, June 24 is the end of the term for Jabulane Christian Academy. It has been a great term and much has been accomplished in the lives of our children. Jacy Hobb's classroom put on a Medieval dinner for the Cedarville ministry team that is working at Bethesda. The children served the 4-course meal dressed in the costumes they designed and made. It was great fun for all.

Today the children are participating in a sports day. Many of the children have never had the opportunity to be involved in any kind of sport activities and they are really enjoying the day.

**Cedarville University:**

Eight students and a team leader from Cedarville University arrived on June 9 for three weeks to work at Bethesda. They have worked very hard on the Bethesda property digging and laying a foundation for a 2-bedroom apartment being added to the Team and Training Center that is designed to house our Team and Guest Coordinator. They have also been involved in running a day camp for our children and a couple of community outreaches. We are thankful to them for their selfless efforts to help Bethesda and for their commitment to see God glorified through their efforts.

**In closing:**

May each of you be blessed in knowing that your ongoing support and prayers for Bethesda Outreach have encouraged the Bethesda team. We are thankful that you are allowing God to use you to help move this ministry forward. We are excited for the days ahead of us. It is a huge responsibility that God has entrusted us with in caring for these orphaned children and we pray that God provides utmost discernment in decisions that will affect the future of Bethesda. Also, please pray for God's continued wisdom, guidance, protection and provision for each step that is taken as we seek to see His name lifted high through the ministry of Bethesda.

Persevering for His Glory,

John Mixon for the Bethesda Team

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