

**BETHESDA  
OUTREACH  
MINISTRIES**

a ministry of  
Evangelical Baptist Missions  
**ebm**

*"I will come and  
proclaim your  
mighty acts,  
O Sovereign Lord;  
I will proclaim  
your righteousness,  
yours alone.  
Since my youth,  
O God,  
you have taught me,  
and to this day  
I declare your  
marvelous deeds."*

*Psalm 71:16-17*

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# Raised to Praise

May 2007 Newsletter

## Modeling the Word

Our desire is that one day our grown children will boldly proclaim the marvelous deeds of the Lord that He has shown to them since their youth. As David expressed his appreciation in Psalm 71 for what God had taught him, we pray that our children acknowledge God's sovereignty as they are led down the path that He has designed for them to walk.

I am thankful for the God-given opportunities to come alongside churches, individuals, and organizations and help them develop ministries to meet the needs of orphans. Unfortunately, the problem that many of these organizations face is the lack of knowledge to get their program going. Having had some experience and understanding of the laws of South Africa it has been a joy to encourage them and help as needed. Of course, the most powerful tool that we have to offer is the Word of God. We want to be models of the Word to people who do not understand the true Gospel. The mandate to make disciples is one that we take seriously so we can impact the world for the glory of God.

This month, I have been invited to a church in Lusaka, Zambia to present the ministry of Bethesda. During that visit I will meet with government officials to help them understand the ministry that

Bethesda has to the orphans of South Africa.



We trust the Lord to reveal His will in these matters. We have had additional contacts from other countries requesting information and help to begin similar ministries.

One of the obstacles that I face at Bethesda is waiting for key team members to raise support so that they can get to the field. We have 3 individuals who have been appointed to Bethesda and are working diligently to reach full support. If you or others you know would like to help meet this need, please contact us.

The needs of Africa are great and it will take time, money, and risk to show pure religion and compassion to orphans. Please continue to pray that we will rely on God's wisdom in all matters. Your prayers and support are greatly appreciated as together we strive to raise up generations of children who will boldly proclaim God's marvelous deeds!

Persevering with Great Joy,

*John*

**Bethesda**  
OUTREACH  
*Compassionate Care for African Orphans*

## Staff Spotlight

### Appointees: Heather Rumley & Roger & Carol Cryan

Bethesda is always thrilled to welcome those individuals who have responded to God's call to not only support and pray for the ministry of Bethesda, but to "go," dedicating this time of their lives to physical long-term ministry with and for the children of Africa. A Bethesda missionary must come prepared to be flexible as the needs of a growing ministry change, and these individuals also come expecting to dedicate the gifts God has given them to building His ministry in South Africa. But before they can join the field, they must first raise the support that will enable them to care for their living expenses without needing to use Bethesda funds for that purpose. Three very gifted individuals that are currently in this stage of their missionary journey are Heather Rumley and Roger and Carol Cryan.

**Heather Rumley** is a graduate of Faith Baptist Bible College, and has wonderful talents in the areas of teaching and helping those with special needs related to education. She spent two years teaching at Grandview Christian School in Des Moines, IA, and is now helping in Evangelical Baptist Mission's home office as she works on raising support to come minister at Bethesda. We are eager to get her to the field, where she will be a great help in taking over the upper grades of Bethesda's school, as current teacher Jacy Hobbs will be returning to the States at the end of this school year. Heather's experience in helping children with special needs will also be largely used; often orphans that come to Bethesda are behind in their schooling, or may struggle with slight learning-disabilities because of the impoverishment and lack of nutrition in some of their backgrounds.



**Roger and Carol Cryan** have wonderful abilities in strengthening the Christian family through counseling and support. Originally from western New York, they have been married 34 years and have embarked on a journey of faith, making a ministry change at a time of life when most people are settling into well-established comfort. They are members of First Baptist Church of Elkhart, Indiana, and are no strangers to full-time ministry. Roger has held roles in churches of Youth Pastor, Associate and Head Pastor, and Pastor of Family Ministries. He and Carol have also worked with Baptist Children's home in such roles as Houseparent, Counselor, and Houseparent Supervisor. Through all their roles, they have always had an emphasis on the family, and we are excited to have them come on board with Bethesda to help with continued training and counseling of our Bethesda houseparents; we can care for hundreds of children, but without a spiritually mature Christian couple leading each home, the chances of making eternal changes in the hearts and lives of our children is slim.

Both the Cryans and Heather desire to be fully-supported and able to minister full-time with Bethesda by the fall of this year. Their roles are urgently needed at Bethesda by that time. Currently, Heather is at 56% of her needed support, and the Cryans are at 30%. If you should feel led to give a one-time gift or monthly support to either of these appointees, we invite you to do so by sending a note and check to Evangelical Baptist Missions, PO Box 781438, Indianapolis, IN, 46278. Please designate your gifts to the individual you would like to support, and indicate whether it is a one-time or monthly gift.

## Thank You to Houseparent Couple

We want to thank Moses and Francina Mmotlana for their faithful year of service at Bethesda Outreach Ministries. Sadly, Moses requested to be released from their employment contract and with regret we honored their request. We were able to move the children that they were caring for into different homes and they are adjusting well to the changes. Please continue to pray for the children as they adjust to their new families and for the Mmotlana's as they make the transition to their new job opportunities. Please pray for us as we search for the right couple to add to our Bethesda team.

## From the Lips of Children

Following is some writing and artwork done recently by the students of Jabulane Christian Academy:

### "This is My Land"

A song  
by Prudence Mabala  
Grade 4



This land is your land,  
this land is my land!  
From Cape Town  
to the Canola Field;  
from Drakensburg  
to the Table Mountains,  
this land is made  
for you and me!

This land is your land,  
this land is my land!  
From Kimberley  
to the Horseshoe Falls;  
from Gold Gate  
to the Tribal Pastures,  
this land is made  
for you and me!



**A Tribute to Workers**  
by Mooketsi, Grade 1



**Self Portrait**  
by Thandiwe, Grade 1



**A Boat**  
by Lerato, Grade 1

### "My Hero"

Excerpts by Sipho Ngwenya, Grade 6

I think Paul is a hero because he stopped killing the Christians. He repented and started to preach the Word of God. This is a good example that shows you can repent from your sins to be a believer. I want to be like this man because he made a good example that you can repent from your sins. God wanted to show us that even if you are very difficult, He can change you.

### "A Worker I Respect"

For Worker's Day, by Johanna Ngwenya, Grade 4

I respect Ma'am Maboea for what she has done in my life. She has done a lot in my life like telling me about the Word of God. And for teaching me times tables too. Ma'am is such a good teacher, when you do wrong things she will tell you it is not right. And she likes to build others up. Ma'am, thank you for building me up in the right way. I love you, Ma'am.

## BETHESDA OUTREACH MINISTRIES

Email: [bethesda-temba@boi.org](mailto:bethesda-temba@boi.org)

### South African Details:

Plot 13 Klipdrift  
PO Box 2643  
Hammanskraal  
0400

Phone: 012 711 0087

Fax: 012 711 3472

Bank Details:

Standard Bank, Brooklyn

Branch Code: 011245

Account Name: Temba Bethesda

Outreach

Account Number: 011818743

### United States Details:

Evangelical Baptist Missions

Bethesda Outreach

PO Box 781438

Indianapolis, Indiana 46278

Phone: 317 872 4488

Fax: 317 872 4489

For U.S. online giving, go to

[www.ebm.org](http://www.ebm.org)

We're on the Web!

[www.bethesdaoutreach.org](http://www.bethesdaoutreach.org)

### Managerial Staff:

John & Lois Mixon

Klaas Mashabela

Michele Geurink

Ruth Rising

Frans Manaka

Dana Scott

### Houseparent Supervisor:

Fritz Shikwambane

### Houseparents:

Elias & Mamtjie Matjeni

Jones & Lenah Phago

Fritz & Masello Shikwambane

Frans & Salome Manaka

### Houseparent Assistant:

Christinah Moagi

### Maintenance/Grounds:

Albert Nkuna

Elvis Raphakgadi

Dorah Maluri

### Teachers:

Elizabeth Maboera

Jacy Hobbs

Tryphina Ledwaba

## Compassionate Care for African Orphans

Bethesda Outreach, a ministry of Evangelical Baptist Missions, was born in October of 2000 out of a desire to show compassion to children in Africa who had been orphaned by AIDS.

Bethesda's mission is to encourage and assist the local church in meeting the needs of orphan children that they may become disciples of Christ. That mission is accomplished through Bethesda's Children's Village, Orphan Care Resource Centre, and Hands of Mercy Ministry.

Bethesda Outreach Ministries is registered as a non-profit organization.

For more information, please visit our website at [www.bethesdaoutreach.org](http://www.bethesdaoutreach.org).

## Cast Your Burdens...

Frans and Salome Manaka, houseparents to seven children aged 9 years and younger, are learning creative ways to chase toddlers since Salome dislocated a bone in her foot a few days ago! Please pray for extra strength for them for the next few weeks until she gets the cast off.



## Calendar of Events

**16 May – 6 June**

Cedarville University  
Team at Bethesda

**16 May – 17 July**

Samantha Smith (Intern)  
at Bethesda

**22 – 25 May**

Baptist Bible College  
Team at Bethesda

**16 June**

YOUTH DAY – all are  
invited to picnic on Be-  
thesda grounds

**30 June**

Mini-Seminar by Mark  
Kingon on topic of  
Finances – all are invited  
to join us at the Bethesda  
training centre



## Opportunities

### Capital Project Needs

Children's Home

Construction:

R 1,320,000 (\$220,000)

Village Road Construction:

R 480,000 (\$80,000)

Combie (2 needed):

R 220,000 (\$36,670)/each

Tractor with Equipment:

R 120,000 (\$20,000)

### Children's Home Needs

(for donors living in South Africa)

Non-perishable food items

  
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Compassionate Care for African Orphans