


**BETHESDA
OUTREACH
MINISTRIES**

a ministry of
Evangelical Baptist Missions


*"Look at the
nations and watch
– and be
utterly amazed.
For I am going
to do something
in your days
that you would
not believe,
even if
you were told."*

Habakkuk 1:5

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Raised to Praise



October 2007 Newsletter

Dear Friends of Bethesda Outreach Ministries,

We continue to be amazed by what God is doing at Bethesda and are greatly encouraged by His answers to prayer. We are blessed beyond all measure and humbled by your prayers and financial gifts for this ministry. The notes of encouragement that we receive from many of you daily bring great joy to our hearts, refresh us, and encourage us to keep on keeping on as we seek to bring glory to God through this ministry.

Last month we asked you to be praying with us in regard to the government grant that should have come to us starting in April. We are praising the Lord for His perfect timing in all things. We have received the grant. God is gracious in all

things and we are thankful for His answer to our prayers. Thank you for praying.

Please be praying as the board meets in the U.S. this week for our Annual General Meeting. We are looking forward to our board members arriving from South Africa on the 12th of October; they will have opportunity to share at various venues about the AIDS crisis in South Africa. You won't want to miss this opportunity to interact with these godly men!

We praise God for being the Author of this ministry. He is doing amazing, great and mighty things in the hearts

and lives of our children. We praise Him for each of you who have had a vital part in this ministry through your prayers and support, and it is a joy to serve alongside of you as we watch the faithfulness of God work in Africa's children.

Rejoicing in His goodness,

John

FOR THE BETHESDA TEAM



Bethesda
OUTREACH
Compassionate Care for African Orphans



Our Board Wants to Meet YOU!

Don't miss this opportunity! Our board members are all gathering in the States this year for Bethesda's Annual General Meeting, and they will also be speaking at various times and venues from October 14 through October 21. We invite all of you who live in the USA to take advantage of the following opportunities to meet and interact with them on the topics of South African culture and the ministry of Bethesda.

October 14

Kossuth Street Baptist Church
2901 Kossuth Street
Lafayette, IN 47094
Service times: 8am, 9:30am, 10:45am

Calvary Church of Valparaiso*

1325 E. Evans Avenue
Valparaiso, IN 46168
Service times: 9:30am, 11am
*“Friends of Bethesda” forum at 6pm

October 19

Crossroads Bible College
601 N. Shortridge Road
Indianapolis, IN 46219
9am-12:30pm

October 21

Calvary Baptist Plainfield
1290 South Center Street
Plainfield, IN 46168
Service times: 9am Sunday School, 10am Service



Dribbling a Basketball for 26.2 Miles!?!?

How You Can Help a New York City Marathon Dribbler Reach His Dream for Bethesda

Dear Friends of Bethesda,

My name is Dan Occhiogrosso, and the Lord has laid a dream on my heart that I want to share with you. This is a dream that I am praying will benefit the orphans of South Africa in unbelievable ways. On November 4th, I will be competing in the New York City Marathon. The only thing is, I'll be dribbling it with a basketball! Why dribble a marathon? I have a website (www.ballforlives.com) which sells basketball videos to raise money for Bethesda Outreach. I want to dribble the marathon in order to use basketball to get people's attention about the AIDS epidemic and what we can do to stop it.

Would you consider sponsoring a crazy kid from Jersey dribbling 26.2 miles by donating directly to Bethesda Outreach? No amount is insignificant. A friend of mine, Ron Abraham, is running the marathon with me, and our goal is for a minimum of one thousand people to donate \$10 or more. Can you help us achieve this dream? We know the Spirit can shatter this goal using your involvement. You can even check out our progress on the site!

Whether you are able to donate or not, the biggest thing you can do for us (after prayer of course) is to tell others about this endeavor. Get your brothers and sisters in Christ to take part in saving kids' lives! I pray that God will use this to inspire His Church to help the suffering as His Son did. May your involvement bring you to a deeper knowledge of Him and lead you to use your talents and abilities to turn the world upside down in the name of Jesus!

Thank you for loving these orphans and for your role in Bethesda Outreach.

Dan Occhiogrosso



Celebrating the Heritage God has Given

The Jabulane Christian Academy students recently had a fun Heritage Day celebration! Students in Grades 1-3 shared about the history of Johannesburg and how so many people came to work in that city as domestic labourers and mine workers. The children demonstrated how the men and women sang and danced to lighten the heavy loads they often had to bear. The children in Grades 4-6 presented a "tour around South Africa," also demonstrating the various responsibilities that people have held in South Africa such as potter, a craftsman, a king, and a hunter. The Grade R children sang a song about the traditional village tasks of crushing mielies and milking cows. Even traditional food was served, including fetkook (fat cakes) and trotters (sheep's feet)! We praise the Lord for allowing the children the opportunity to look back on their heritage, developing a Biblical perspective of what God has allowed the people of South Africa to experience, and thinking forward to what heritage they would like to leave for future generations.



ABSA Bank Sponsors New Borehole for



ABSA Bank, a large South African bank chain, recently sponsored the drilling of a new borehole at Bethesda's Children's Village. This increased water supply will enable the expansion of the agricultural program that began with children's subsistence gardens two years ago.

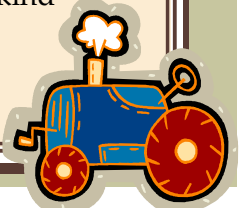
Besides paying for the drilling of the borehole (86 meters deep!), ABSA

has volunteered to give a further R50,000 (\$8,300) necessary for the purchase of the borehole pump, storage tanks, and piping to get the water to where it needs to go.

We want to give a wonderfully big thanks to the team at ABSA and the ladies of ABSA Sesego Cares for their generous donation toward this project!

Tractor "Matching-Fund" Opportunity

Are you looking for a practical way to help Bethesda's Children's Village? The village tractor, which is used for many maintenance jobs including cutting back the tall bushveldt to keep snakes away from the children and grading our gravel roads, is in great need of replacement. A kind supporter has offered a \$10,000 matching gift toward the tractor if we can raise the other \$10,000 needed. To give toward this fund, please use the details on the left-hand side of page 4 of this update. Include a note designating the gift for "Bethesda Tractor Fund."



BETHESDA OUTREACH MINISTRIES

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South African Details:

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Hammanskraal
0400

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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

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For U.S. online giving, go to
www.ebm.org

We're on the Web!

www.bethesdaoutreach.org

Managerial Staff:

John & Lois Mixon

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Michele Geurink

Ruth Rising

Frans Manaka

Dana Scott

Houseparent Supervisor:

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Elias & Mamtjie Matjeni

Jones & Lenah Phago

Fritz & Masello Shikwambane

Frans & Salome Manaka

Houseparent Assistant:

Christinah Moagi

Maintenance/Grounds:

Elvis Raphakgadi

Dorah Maluri

Teachers:

Elizabeth Maboea

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.

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



Calendar of Events

14 October

Bethesda Board at
Kossuth Street Baptist
Lafayette, IN
and Calvary Church
Valparaiso, IN

15-16 October

Annual General Meeting

19 October

Bethesda Board at
Crossroads Bible College
Indianapolis, IN

21 October

Bethesda Board at
Calvary Baptist
Plainfield, IN