

**BETHESDA  
OUTREACH  
MINISTRIES**

a ministry of  
Evangelical Baptist Missions  
**ebm**

# Raised to Praise



November 2007 Newsletter

*"Your steadfast  
love never ceases;  
you mercies  
never come  
to an end;  
they are new  
every morning;  
great is  
your faithfulness!"*

*Lamentations 3:22-23*

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## Growth and Goodness

Bethesda's mission, to encourage and assist local churches in meeting the needs of orphan children that they may become disciples of Christ, was affirmed strongly at our recent board meeting. We are thankful for the men on our board who have made great sacrifice and commitment to encourage this ministry with godly wisdom, accountability, and direction of this ministry. As we met together in the States to discuss matters of Bethesda, the unity of the board was a blessing and we look forward to the days ahead as we expand our borders to meet needs far beyond the original facility in Hammans-kraal. Please pray with us that we will please and glorify God in all we do as we seek to meet the needs of the children affected by HIV/AIDS.

Lois and I traveled many miles across the States in the month of October and had the privilege to meet and greet new and old friends throughout our travels. It is wonderful to be encouraged by so many who are praying faithfully for us personally and for the ministry of Bethesda.

We have some new faces at Bethesda! John and Primrose Kolokoto have moved to the Bethesda property to be houseparents in our last available house. They have taken on the huge responsibility to lovingly teach, train, guide, nurture, and admonish children who will be placed

into their family. We welcome them with open arms and know that God will use them mightily because of their commitment to the Truth.



**John & Primrose  
Kolokoto**

We are delighted about the addition of another child, 10-year-old Lawrence. His placement has taken many months of work with a social worker. We praise the Lord that His timing is always perfect.

Thank you to the many churches, individuals, and organizations who give in so many different ways to help provide excellent and holistic care for our children. As we continue to seek God's plan for the future expansion of Bethesda, we are greatly encouraged by the many ways we have seen God's provision. We are thankful for the wisdom He freely gives and would ask that you continue to pray that each decision that is made will search for only God's best. For your prayers and support, we are deeply grateful as we join together to share the hope of the Gospel with generations yet to come.

Rejoicing in His goodness,

*John*

FOR THE BETHESDA TEAM

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



## We Welcome You Home, Lawrence

We are so pleased to announce the arrival of ten-year-old Lawrence to Bethesda. After many long months of working with social workers, Lawrence was able to leave the institutional “place of safety” that he has been living in for the last seven years and come be a part of a real family. Houseparents Fritz and Masello Shikwambane have welcomed him with open arms, and describe Lawrence as a loving child full of giggles, who enjoys being with people, reading, and having a place of belonging. He has a real strength in being a help to others in his new family. Please pray that Lawrence will quickly master the English language so that his schoolwork becomes easier, and that he will continue to adapt well and be content in his new family.

## Candy for a Cause

### How an 8-Year-Old Girl Sacrificed to Help her African Friends

Seven-year-old Caitlyn was so excited she couldn't sleep! It was December of 2006, and tomorrow, she was getting on a huge airplane to do something she'd only dreamt about. She was going with her family to visit her grandparents in South Africa! She'd heard a lot about Africa since her grandparents had been missionaries at a place called Bethesda since Caitlyn was three years old... she wasn't looking forward to the snakes and termites her brothers kept talking about, but she knew there were children there that used to have no moms and dads, and now had new ones, and she was looking forward to playing with them!

Caitlyn loved the time she was able to spend in South Africa with her grandparents. Though the termites were really gross, it was so cool to see lions and elephants! And playing with all those kids at Bethesda who used to be sad but were now as happy as she was, well, it had an impact on her. When she received a gift of \$17 for her 8th birthday, she promptly went and spent it on candy bars. But she didn't eat them! Instead, she took the candy, grabbed some brochures about Bethesda, and went door-to-door in her neighborhood, telling people about the kids in Africa and what Bethesda was doing to help them. Within a short time, the candy bars were gone, and God had used young Caitlyn to raise \$75 for the children of Bethesda!

*Religion that God our father  
accepts as pure and faultless is  
this: To look after orphans and  
widows in their distress...*

*James 1:27*

Bethesda is so grateful to those who look for creative ways to raise funds so we can care for more orphaned children. We encourage those of you who want to practice James 1:27 in a more effective way to look for the opportunities God is giving you, just as Caitlyn did! God has given His church the responsibility of caring for orphans, and we look forward to seeing all He will do through you!



Caitlyn in South Africa  
with her grandma, Lois Mixon

## Retirees Make the Bethesda Team Better!

Have you who are “chronologically challenged” wondered about how God can use you after retirement? Al and Nancy Teed did! After retiring from a long career with IBM, Al and his wife moved into a high-rise retirement complex in the heart of Denver to provide building maintenance for elderly residents. But then they heard about Bethesda, and God really began working in their hearts not just to pray, but to GO.



Al and Nancy arrived at Bethesda in 2003 and spent three years labouring on the Bethesda team; when their son was diagnosed with cancer, they moved back to the States to help him and his young family. Now the Teeds assist Bethesda by coming to the village for three-month stints, and what a help they are! Al assists with maintenance tasks, and Nancy is a help and encouragement to the housemothers. We thank God for “Grandma and Grandpa Teed’s” deep impact on the children and staff of Bethesda, and encourage other retirees to think about how you can help as well!

## Sponsored Borehole Update

Last month, we shared how ABSA Bank, a large South African bank chain, had recently sponsored the drilling of a new borehole at Bethesda’s Children’s Village.

subsistence gardens two years ago.

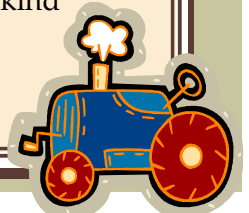
Thank you, ABSA Bank, for a job well done!

Since the drilling of the borehole last month, it has been put into action! The pipe was laid, the pump was installed, a concrete slab was poured, and three 5000 liter water tanks have now been filled with the water that flows deep under the Children’s Village property. This increased water supply will enable the expansion of the agricultural program that began with children’s



## 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

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

John & Primrose Kolokoto

## Houseparent Assistant:

Christinah Moagi

## Maintenance/Grounds:

Elvis Raphakgadi

Dorah Maluri

## Teachers:

Elizabeth Maboea

Jacy Hobbs

Tryphina Ledwaba

Heather Rumley

Tonya Small

## 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).

## 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 November

Full staff meeting  
Continuing Education

### 15 November

JCA School Play, 17h00

### 22 November

Thanksgiving

### 30 November

JCA Last Day of School

### 1-31 December

HIV/AIDS Awareness  
Month