

**BETHESDA
OUTREACH
MINISTRIES**

a ministry of
Evangelical Baptist Missions
ebm

*“Defend the cause
of the weak
and fatherless;
maintain the rights
of the poor
and oppressed.
Rescue the weak
and needy;
deliver them
from the hand
of the wicked.”
Psalm 82:3-4*

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Raised to Praise

October 2006 Newsletter

A Word from the Director

Again we are rejoicing and praising God for all that he has done for us at Bethesda. It is a blessing for me to sit in our administrative meeting and hear the staff recount the many ways that God has blessed us throughout the past couple of months. We give God the glory and honor for all that He has done.

On a sad note; some of you may remember the story of our Ngwenya children who came from Stinkwater. Lethabile Baptist Church was instrumental in helping us with the placement of the five children, who lived with Celina (aunt to four of the children, mother to one of them), until she was too sick to care for them. I remember very early on a cold Saturday morning, going into the small tin shack to see her lay on the only bed in the house. She was weak and helpless from the ravages

of the disease. We were able to transport her to a local hospice where she could receive the care that was necessary. Her body quickly began to respond to treatment and nutrition, and she was soon able to return to her home.

Now, a little over 3 years later, she was unable to fight the deadly disease any longer. Celina passed away last Thursday evening as she was being rushed to the hospital. Please pray for the five children, especially Celina's 8-year-old son Bongane. There is a sense of loss for them. Nevertheless, when their house-mother Lenah Phago told the children about the death of Celina, Bongane's response was, "at least I still have you, mommy."

That is the reason Bethesda



The Phago Family

Outreach Ministries is in existence; to come alongside of local churches to rescue children like Bongane.

Please continue to pray that we will rely on God's wisdom in all matters concerning the responsibility God has given to us. Your prayers and support are greatly appreciated as together we strive to raise up generations of children who will boldly tell of God's marvelous deeds!

For his glory,

John
FOR THE
BETHESDA TEAM

Bethesda
OUTREACH
Compassionate Care for African Orphans

Staff Spotlight

An Introduction to Frans & Salome Manaka

Bethesda is delighted to introduce to you Frans and Salome Manaka, who have just begun as our newest houseparent couple this month. Frans serves as Bethesda's Administrator of Facilities and Grounds, and he and Salome have two biological children—daughter Gladness (9 years) and son Thato (3 years).



Frans has a remarkable testimony, beginning with his own life as a street child and developing into his salvation through the witness of a friend at the age of 19. He pursued God's call to the ministry and began serving as a pastor 10 years ago; he also began a ministry to street children, as well as a gardening and landscaping business. He continues to serve as the pastor of El Shaddai Baptist church in Soutpan along with his many responsibilities at Bethesda.

Salome came to know the Lord in middle school through the teaching of a visiting pastor. She has always enjoyed ministering to young children, most recently through the running of a crèche for children in Soutpan. She is currently working toward a degree in Early Childhood Development.

Frans and Salome evidence a mature relationship both with each other and with their Savior. They have a vibrant ministry to those in the community around them, and have learned the secret of possessing great joy even through intense hardship—trusting in Christ to work all things for good. They are excited to teach garden service skill development to and through the Bethesda children, enabling them to create more job opportunities and serve the poor. They are also excited about the chance to reverse the problems in the community by addressing the root problem—lack of Biblical morality and Godly character—and are eager to see children develop in these areas. Please pray for Frans and Salome as their family grows over the next months, that God would give them wisdom and strength and the joy of discipling responsive children in His ways.

Remembering Our Heritage

Zulu warriors dancing in strong rhythm, Venda traditions displaying customs and clothing, a tribal family greeting guests with respect of times past. These are pictures of what you might have seen if you had joined the children of Jabulane Christian Academy, Tyndale Christian School, and the North



American International School as they gathered together in Bethesda's Team & Training Centre on 14 September to commemorate Heritage Day. Remembering one's heritage is a vital part of most cultures, and God has commanded it of us as Christians since the early days of Israel's existence. It is profitable to do things that prompt us to remember how God has led us, things that help us recall our dependence on Him and his provision for us since ancient times. The heritage of the students from the various schools was celebrated through dance, drama, speech, and craft as each presented a part of the program and then ate a snack complete with South African food and drink. We praise God for the privilege of remembering, and the joy of sharing it with others.

From the Lips of Children



Tumelo



Neo

Africa is Special

by Tumelo Mogoboya

Africa is special because there are many different people who speak different languages. The people of Africa don't dress the same and it's a beautiful place. There are some wild animals but other countries don't and the people in the other countries love of the animals and some African stuff they love to come in Africa. Some of the people love the African song. The many different people sing in Africa. They love to learn different languages that people love to speak in the other countries. They have the many different holidays they celebrate.

Bush Lady and Girl

by Neo Maema

I am a bush lady
 I go and look for food
 For my family to feed them
 I am who I am
 I am beautiful
 Yes I am
 I am a bush lady
 And who are you?

 I am a girl
 I love to help
 Yes I am beautiful
 Yes and who are you?

Running for A Cause

In the Kalahari Augrabies Extreme Marathon

Tim Doyle is about to do something crazy. At least *you* might think it crazy. The Kalahari Augrabies Extreme Marathon is a unique race held in the beautiful and contrasting landscape of South Africa's "Green Kalahari" in the Northern Cape. It is a self-sufficiency run held over seven days, in which participants carry all their supplies, clothes, and compulsory safety/survival equipment for the duration of the event. Runners cover set distances each day, which range between 28 and 75 kilometers and total 250 kilometers in extreme conditions.

Tim's love of the African bushveld and wildlife contained there, coupled with his love for people, have compelled him to put all sponsorship funds raised for the event toward Bethesda Outreach's Children's Village, and a wildlife conservation project called Mun-ya-wana.

We are so grateful for Tim and others like him who are pushing the limits not just for personal satisfaction, but to support organizations that are interested in the sanctity of human life and good stewardship of the world around us, both of which God created to shout His glory. We pray God's strength for you Tim, and look forward to seeing how our children's lives are impacted for eternity through your efforts.



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For U.S. online giving, go to

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We're on the Web!

www.bethesdaoutreach.org

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John & Lois Mixon

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Michele Geurink

Ruth Rising

Frans Manaka

Dana Scott

Houseparent Supervisor:

Fritz Shikwambane

Houseparents:

Elias & Mamtjie Matjeni

Jones & Lenah Phago

Fritz & Masello Shikwambane

Klaas & Martha Mashabela

Moses & Francina Mmotlana

Frans & Salome Manaka

Houseparent Assistant:

Christinah Moagi

Maintenance/Grounds:

Albert Nkuna

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.

Photo's: Administration Building Construction



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)

Security for Admin Bldg:

R 10,000 (\$1670)

Children's Home Needs

(for donors living in South Africa)

Non-perishable food items



Calendar of Events

13 October

Annual General Meeting

14 October

Open Day has been
POSTPONED

20 October

L.I.F.T. Seminar for
pastors—counseling crisis
pregnancies

21 October

L.I.F.T. Seminar for
community—counseling
crisis pregnancies
ALL ARE WELCOME


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