

Greetings from Jos



Hi everyone. I trust this newsletter finds you well as we continue to go through strange times; the year is fast flying by. These last few months have been challenging as we have been getting back into a routine with the girls, whilst at the same time experiencing many spiritual attacks. Thank you to all who have been praying for us during this time.

We began our Life-skills programme which is really making the girls think through topics to do with growing into women of integrity. Alongside this, we have our weekly Bible Studies helping the girls to understand for themselves the truths of their faith, and how they should be living their lives. Hopefully they will all be better equipped to live independently after they leave the ministry. The girls have all been living on top of each other during restrictions (52 at one point) and mostly they have done well. It has been a time of revelation with many opening up about past hurts as they have time to reflect, a time of healing, a time of supporting and encouraging each other, a time of praying together and a time of being family.

My Trauma Healing Group, which I mentioned I was starting in my last letter, has been going well, the girls are finding it very helpful. It's been challenging, but awesome to see them healing and to hear them testifying about how they feel so much better. It motivates me to go each week and lead them; what a privilege to walk alongside them. 😊



Our school is finally completed!!!!

As you can see, we have completed our school buildings, by furnishing our science lab and completing our courtyard 😊



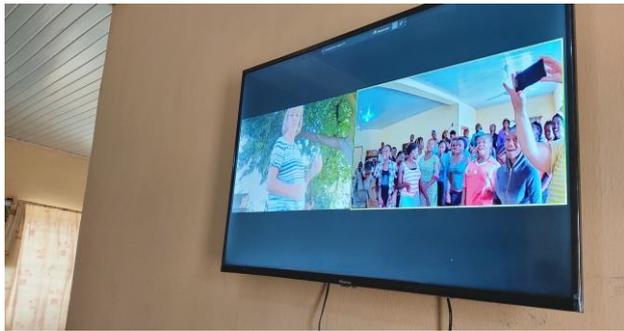
Praise the Lord for his amazing provision. We are enjoying it **BUT** already we can see a need more classroom and storage space, and so will need to expand at some point in the future . . . watch this space 😊 Hopefully, we will welcome some more community children to come and enjoy our facilities, when schools can officially open again at the end of October.

It is such a testimony of God's provision to see just how far we have come in the last few years. Many thanks go out to many of you who have contributed in some way. Hallelujah! What a team effort 😊



The girls have been busy during lockdown looking after their animals and farm, getting very proficient at looking after the fish. Our aquaponics system, designed by Farmer Ian, is working really well for us. Many hands make light work when it comes to changing the water and cleaning them. Fancy sticking your feet in??!!!

Normally, by now we would have enjoyed several visiting teams, but with a closed airport and quarantine issues now that it has just opened, it won't be possible this year. We have been fortunate to receive gift of a smart TV and a booster aerial system, which has enabled us to connect with some supporters and a couple of



churches. We have taken part in services via zoom and led worship with our awesome singing girls and it has really made us feel like one family across the world; hopefully we have been a blessing too.

You can see in the picture Aunty Gaylynn enjoying dancing with the girls all the way in Texas!! If this is something you would like us to do with you

or your church please let me know. Click on the link below to hear our girls leading worship.
https://drive.google.com/file/d/1CNHK7DcGJxFT_zNRWOamX8iLbTNWCOZ/view?usp=sharing

At the beginning of August, sadly one of girls ran away. She had been with us for seven years and was our head girl and very much trusted. She suddenly ran and later we discovered she had been living a secret life by way of a smuggled in phone. She ran back to her M. family and that was just the start of trouble. Her family got the Pastor who brought her to us arrested and imprisoned on child trafficking and abduction charges, which were not true. However, the media got hold of the story and suddenly our ministry was under threat. We had to remove some girls who are from a similar background to a safe place, hire armed security guards, and put in place other security measures to protect us. It was a scary time for all concerned and unfortunately our centre leader became very ill and we nearly lost her. But God has been protecting and sustaining us as we have prayed and relied on him, and things have calmed down a lot. At the moment, the Pastor has been released on bail and the family are trying to settle out of court; please pray for an end to this and for our girls to feel safe in their home.

Things like this remind me of the instability of the country I am working in; things are tough for most people. Praise The Lord that Covid 19 has not ravaged the country, it is here only in small doses. People are struggling as food, electricity and petrol prices have dramatically risen. There have been a lot of attacks by Fulani herdsmen in villages around

Jos and, as a result, many more children are orphaned and women widowed, all needing help. Many of these are living in IDP camps (Refugee camps) and we wish we could take more children into our ministry, but existing facilities don't allow us to take many. Maybe God wants this to change? - I don't know.

Kidnapping for ransom is on the rise as people struggle to live and find ways to make money. Please pray for this country and for the government and authorities to have their consciences seared to try and help their people.

We are Christ's vessels serving here, helping those we can and shaping the next generation to shine as lights to their communities across the country. Please keep praying and supporting us in whatever ways you can.

James 1 v 27 " Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this, to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world."

Contact me at nicky.brand@sim.org or donate to our SIM project Kings Kids 96901 to help us meet the needs of orphans and widows in this country.



Thank You

Love

Nicky x