

the
AARON FAMILY
Missionaries to South Africa

Hello Churches and praying friends,
Here is a look into what's been going on in our lives in January and February here in Africa.

As we mentioned last time, we purchased a new church bus in December. However, there were some mechanical issues which needed fixed on it before we could use it. The repairs turned out to be a longer process than we were expecting, but we're happy to say it is now running well, and we are using it for church transport. It is very comfortable, and our people love it! Thank you again for giving toward that need!

We started a program for the kids where they can earn points by attending church, bringing visitors, and learning verses. Those who earn enough points will go on an activity in a few months. This is similar to what we do with the teen group, and the kids responded well. Many have already brought visitors, and one boy has already memorized the Books of the Old Testament, as well as the verse of the month. They are working hard!

In January, we took an adult activity to a craft/farmer's market. Several of our adults joined us that day, and we had a wonderful time with them. We also stopped by a beautiful waterfall on our way home, and while we were there, we got to witness an interesting ceremony from an African traditionalist group as they made animal sacrifices and graduated sangomas (witch doctors). It definitely opened up some discussions for our ride home.

We baptized four people in the month of February. We're so proud of them for giving their lives to Jesus. We've seen a lot of growth in these converts, particularly in the lives of two the teenagers, Azile and Matthew. Azile comes from a Muslim background. She first started coming a year and a half ago, but she got upset when we talked about Islam while studying false religions during our Bible study, so she left our church for a while. Since then she has come back, gotten saved, and recently gotten baptized as well. She has been reading her Bible and asking lots of questions. She is faithful to all of our church services, and she is taking a stand for Christ at her school too.

Matthew started coming while we were on furlough, so we've only gotten to know him recently, but we are increasingly proud of the way he is growing. He recently started a Bible club at his highschool entirely of his own accord. The first time, he had eight other students stay in the classroom during lunch break to attend. He has also faced opposition from some of the students, as well as several temptations, and it is a joy to see him respond with wisdom.

We were able to put a full sound system in our church and get some other equipment that has really improved our services and helped with the music.

Selah turned six at the end of February, and she just started taking piano lessons from Natalie. We're thankful for her and Mercy and how much they help us in the ministry.

We wanted to give you an update on our visas. Many of you know we waited over two years for any response from the government after we finished the initial applications. Last month, we received rejection notices, which was a disappointment, but our immigration lawyer is currently making an appeal in court on our behalf. This is a common problem that many missionaries face in this country. But we trust the Lord will work things out according to His will. We will keep you updated as we have news, and we'd appreciate your prayers on this matter in the mean time.

We have a burden to see our teenagers grow and flourish, so we want to have as much Godly input in their lives as possible. While thinking and praying about ways to do this, we came up with the idea to have an after school program for them. While it is not logistically possible for us to have a Christian school right now, we still desire to help counteract the peer pressure and many wrong influences they face at school. Most of their schools are overrun with smoking, drugs, and immorality. We are just getting this program started for them, and we look forward to being able to tell you more about it in our next letter. Please keep them in your prayers, as they are the hope for their communities and for the future of our church.

Another one of our more long-term goals is to raise funds specifically because we have a desire to start a camp and orphanage in the future so we need to purchase a plot of land. We are grateful that a couple churches have already contributed towards this need, If you or your church would like to help in this area also, you can do so by sending it to: International Baptist World Missions 1729 Gross Rd. Mesquite, Tx 75149 and my name and camp in the memo

We are so very grateful for what God is doing in Durban, South Africa, and we're extremely thankful to you for being part of it through your love, prayers, and support. By the way, If you would like to contact me you can do so by email or by calling my South African number on whatsapp, (+27 078 399 3015). Thank you for reading this update!

Your Partner for the Gospel in South Africa,
-The Aaron Family



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