

AUGUST NEWSLETTER

What is the fullest, deepest, most lasting kind of joy that a human being can have from God, and how can I get it? How can I find it? Those two texts that he mentioned are pointers for sure. But I am going to go to another text where the answer is given even more clearly; namely, I am going to go to the John 15:11 where Jesus says, “These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full.” The reason this text is so important is that Jesus refers to his own joy as being in us — not just giving us a joy, but his joy in whatever he is joyful in is in us. We are not just rejoicing over what we know about Jesus, we are rejoicing with the very joy of Jesus over what he knows about everything, especially what he knows about his Father. “If we could actually share in the joy of God Almighty, nothing could be greater and nothing would be more stable and lasting.”



UGANDA UPDATES

Student Selection

During the lockdown we planned for a pre-gap year program that we hoped to start as soon as the lockdown was lifted and when it was, we began to physically prepare and get mobilization done for the pre-gap year to take place. Herbert and Prossy were very instrumental in the mobilization for the pre-gap year. They attended community gatherings of social groupings in order to introduce SAY and our programs. From these groups we were able to get recommendations for youths that could be fit for the programs.

The biggest highlight has been the selection of our new team of youths. The selection process lasted for a period of four days, we started off with 28 very enthusiastic youths that were eager to learn. Many of them had skills in mind that they would love to learn and grow in, some of the common skills mentioned were tailoring, hairdressing and mechanics

During the selections we were looking out for a couple of qualities in our youths and among these we looked for leadership qualities, involvement in the community, ability to follow instructions, team work, desire to learn.

To Look for these qualities, we had a couple of activities done and groups made. We introduced ourselves as SAY and gave the youths rules and regulations to follow, this was aimed at testing their listening skills. We had solution/problem solving scenarios/ stories and the youths had to solve the problems and this was testing their problem solving skills. We had a scavenger hunt in teams and this was to test their time keeping and teamwork skills, we had a lot more activities to test the different skills.

At the end of the week we were able to select a total of 11 youths. Our desire was to have 12-15 youths therefore we are still in the process of sourcing for the final few.

Land Updates

The rain season brings quite a smile on our faces for another special reason. The water collection tank, a few months ago, we set up a rainwater harvesting system. The water was to be collected from roofs of all buildings on the land. And this water is then shared with the community. So with the recent rains, we have collected water in our 500ltr water tank and shared it with our community. Our community still continues to suffer with the inadequate water supply. Most get their water from a water spring that is about 2km away and the only bore hole in the center of the village broke down. Therefore, the water collected and shared with some of the community people has really been a great help. The chicken houses at the land are currently under preparations for the next batch of chickens. The houses are being disinfected and simple repairs happening as we await for the next batch. Our hope is that the next chicken batches will have our new youths heavily involved.



SOUTH AFRICA UPDATES

COMMUNITY OUTREACH PROJECTS

FOUNDATIONS FOR FARMING

Most of the projects are up and running, the only project that hasn't started is the one from church 7 at Steenbok. The reason for the delays was first the political unrest and that of a champion, the champion has other responsibilities and it is hard to continue with the project if there is no one to look after the garden.

We joined the team in Zimbabwe Head Office, as well as representatives from other Africa countries (Tanzania, Ruanda, Uganda, Malawi) for three morning sessions via Zoom with Uganda, Tanzania, Ruanda, Zimbabwe and SA.

5 Family Values were discussed.

1. Everyone in Family
2. Christ Centered
3. Committed Couples
4. Valued Children
5. Sexual Purity.

The team went to different churches and had members of AWANA, FFF, OSWW and Youth ministry with them. After the sessions our staff debriefed, prayed together, then shared a meal. Feedback from the team and the field was that it was indeed a time of introspection, learning how important these values are, what our part is in believing and living the values in our family, then in our churches and eventually in our nation.

Open Schools Worldwide

One Project that runs well and the other 2 is battling a lot and they have all the material to start but they have not yet started. Mostly it's the issue of covid 19 lockdowns and also with the trained tutors no longer part of the church.

AWANA

WBusy introducing the lessons from the world lead. TAG time with them and encourage them to continue. Many churches are still in lockdown. Very difficult to see children.

Jewellery Project

- We have gathered our resources for the jewelry project. Work seems to be going well and the people we work with (Nommie and Xolani) have quickly learnt how to make the crafts and are excited to work more on it.
- Working on the jewelry project so late in the year and with little time is a big challenge but then again if you have a team that works well together, is dedicated to their work and enjoys what they are doing, challenge becomes a joyful experience. Now we look forward to completing the task and with joy to

Training

TWAC - "Trauma Informed Care" was attended by Paulette, Sibusiso and Busi. It was facilitated by Claudia Roodt. Claudia is a Clinical Social Worker with 31 years of experience. Her private practice, Designed to Connect, is based in Kraaifontein and the main focus is trauma-informed and restorative training, coaching and counselling. This is for everyone, whether working as first responders or not.

It was very informative and packed with advice, examples and our team also



PRAAYER REQUESTS

- I would like to request an encouraging prayer request for the champions at the churches so the projects may continue.
- Prayer for all Our churches we are partnering with, even sometimes it's difficult but for them to have strength to run their projects.
- Lets pray for the progress of the churches
- That we continue to pray and seek to reach people for God.
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