

July 2015



## Warm winter greetings

**from Jeff, Abby, and Beth Hunt in Rustenburg, South Africa!**

We have lots of news to share on the following pages, but we want to start by saying thank you. We are so honored to be doing ministry as part of the Engage Africa team with each of you.

Your prayer and financial support are a pivotal part of this mission.

We may be the hands and feet, but you are the backbone!

If you are reading this and are not yet part of the team, please visit our website to check out any of our projects or to become a monthly partner!

## Quick Updates (See additional pages for more info)

**Hope Church** - Continues to grow. Disciples are being made. We now have 3 adults who have answered the call and are going to Bible College. There is a core of about 8 men who have been meeting weekly for prayer and study.

**Hope Church's First Baptismal Service** - We brought over 65 people to the property we stay at to have our first church baptism. We baptized 55 people (30 adults and 25 children).

**Children's Ministry Training** - We have been privileged to have volunteers from 6 different local churches attend CM trainings. Abby also continues to help with training at Jackson's Ridge.

**Hope Church Builds a Home** - A single mom, whose 3 children attend Hope, lost her shack house to fire. Hope Church responded and built them a new home. Through the church's response, the mother has come to the Lord, and now their family attends Hope Church together.

**Children's Ministry Training at Global School of Theology** - We trained 27 students from the Bible College at a 2 day training. We also had the students come to Hope Church on different Sundays to get some practical experience.

**Stanphill Family Mission Trip** - Tim and Jenni Stanphill and their 2 children joined us for 2 weeks. They worked on different projects on the shelter property and helped with our first Hope Church Home building project

**Valley Christian School's Mission Trip** - A group of students from Valley Christian School in San Jose, California came again this year. They ministered in Hope Church and the community of Freedom Park through house visits and church ministry. They also helped with shelter projects.

## Prayer Requests

- Open doors for Hope Church to obtain property in Freedom Park. Pray that barriers would be eliminated and territory secured!
- Continued growth and maturity in the HC members.
- We are currently providing formula and diapers for 28 babies at our church. Pray for these babies, their mamas, and for provision as more are added.
- The safe and healthy arrival of Baby Hunt, due August 13.
- Health, safety, and provision for our family and interns as we continue to minister here in South Africa.
- Protection and health for our friends in Freedom Park whose homes are often no match for cold winter nights.

## Hope Church Update

This is a time for both excitement and frustration (maybe anticipation sounds better) for Hope Church. Our church members are maturing in their faith and reaching out in the community. We recently had the privilege of baptizing 55 people (25 adults and 30 kids). What an exciting day! We have also seen an increase in the number of men who are committed to the church. Several of them recently banded together to build a shack for a single mom after a devastating fire. 3 of her 4 sons have been faithfully attending HC, and when we heard about the fire, we responded as a body. She and her neighbors were amazed to see a church that helped each other like family. She has now accepted Christ and



has been attending with her boys. On the other hand, we are *still* pursuing property for the church to build a proper structure and expand to multiple sites. It is an arduous process in which we find roadblocks, encouragement, new contacts, failed attempts, unkept promises, and long waiting periods. And yet, God is faithful and we trust Him fully!



## CM Training at GST

We had an exciting opportunity to present basic children's ministry training for the Bible College students at Global School of Theology, North West, here in Rustenburg. The students who participated in our training are all studying to be pastors and evangelists. Only a couple had any interest in children's ministry before our training began. The training time included 2 days of teaching by Jeff, Abby, and Rejoice as well as a



"practicum" time during which groups of 4-6 students

were invited to Hope Church to teach segments of our children's service so that they could practice what they had been learning. This time proved invaluable, and, although they may not all convert to children's pastors, they will certainly begin their pastoral ministry with a burden for children and an appreciation for what disciplined children are capable of learning and experiencing. It was fun for us, eye-opening for them, and a blessing to our kids.



## CM Training at Local Churches

We continue to invest in local churches, knowing that discipling the disciples of children exponentially increases the number of children that we could disciple on our own. We truly believe that evangelism without discipleship is a job only half done. It is vital that children have the opportunity to continue to learn the truth about themselves and Jesus. If we don't teach them, we know that there are others who are ready and waiting to feed them deceit and confusion. During the past several months, we have had the

## Mission Trips

We are often asked about the possibility of arranging a missions trip to visit us. This year, we hosted 2 different groups who came to work, minister, and be a blessing here in South Africa. The first group was from a high school in California, Valley Christian School (top), that comes every year. They always work hard and bless our church, the shelter, and the people of Freedom Park. This year they visited people in Freedom Park, ministered at Hope Church, and blessed the kids at the shelter. The second group was a family, the Stanphills (bottom) who have been long-time supporters of Engage Africa and the shelter here. They did a lot of repair work on the jungle gym (dedicated 5 years ago in the memory of their angel baby, Hannah) and other projects for the shelter as well as teaching and playing with the kids here as well as helping



privilege of training leaders and volunteers from 6 different local churches. It is so fun to see people leaving feeling empowered and excited about the prospect of discipling children!



build the shack in Freedom Park and ministering to the children there. We greatly appreciate all of their hard work and the sacrifice of their time. We know that, when people come here, they are often surprised by how blessed they feel in exchange for the blessing they are able to be.



## Hope Church Kids

It's an exciting season for kids at Hope Church! All of our kids are maturing in their faith, and many are becoming evangelists among their family and friends. Our kids nearly have all of the books of the Old Testament memorized (they nailed the New Testament books already). We were also very pleased by our first review game Sunday since the kids were able to recall nearly all of the information they were asked from previous weeks. We *love* hearing them recite verses from the Bible and tell us about what they have been reading in their Bibles during the week.

One of our young girls recently gave a testimony about how God healed her eyes after the kids

prayed for her at church and her mom prayed for her at home! However, the most exciting to us is the fact that they are boldly talking about and living out their faith. Several parents and family members have now started attending the church because they noticed a difference in their children at home and needed to come check out what was "happening to them" at church. Praise the Lord!

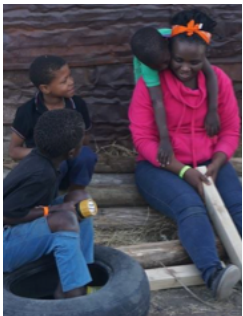


## Intern News

We LOVE our interns! Our South African intern, Rejoice (bottom left), has been with us just over a year now. She continues to grow in ministry and leadership and is now serving as our Children's Pastor for Hope Church. Our most recent American interns, Hope and Carley (top right), did a great job during their "gap year" with us (each postponed entry into university a year and took

several months to immerse in ministry before starting the next part of their journeys). Since both are planning to enter the medical field, our doctor friend arranged for them to have the additional experience of shadowing him for surgeries and clinic visits. It was an unforgettable opportunity for them. Our current American intern,

Jessica (left), hit the ground running, jumping right into life and ministry with Hope Church and the shelter. She is a joy and we are very glad to have her here. We are looking forward to great things during the 3 months she will be with us.



## It's A BOY!

Hunt baby #2 is on the way. Beth is eagerly awaiting the arrival of her little brother who will be making an appearance just before her birthday in August! Mom and baby are staying active and doing well. We are very excited about this new stage of life and ministry. We are thrilled that

Grandma Hunt was able to spend 2.5 months with us and Grandma and Grandpa Sauter are with us now. Beth LOVES being spoiled by grandparents! Of course, her parents love having their parents here as well! We are so blessed to have a wonderful family that jumps right in and does life with us -on any continent!



## Wedding Bells

A few months ago, Jeff was honored with a request to officiate our first Hope Church wedding. This couple had been married traditionally for several years but had never had a church wedding. When the husband made a new and dramatic commitment to Christ, they decided that they

wanted to celebrate their new life together as a couple united before God. It was a beautiful and powerful day. We hope that this will be only the beginning of Hope Church weddings. In the African cultures, it is not uncommon for couples to simply live together, especially if the cultural tradition of the labola (bride price) cannot be paid. 2 different couples have approached us saying they are ready to put God's requirement above culture's requirement and get married in the church. What a beautiful way to honor our Lord.