

The Johnsons In South Africa

May-July 2025

If any man serve me, let him follow me; and where I am, there shall also my servant be: if any man serve me, him will my Father honour. -John 12:26

Greetings from South Africa,

The above verse was our theme for our youth camp in July, and what a joy to preach and teach our young people about the wonderful opportunities of serving the Lord. Sadly many people look at God's will as something to be feared or avoided instead of recognizing the great privilege that we are offered to serve the King of Kings!

May and June kept us busy with more construction work at Hope Baptist Church. We completed and opened the church washrooms at the end of May. This was a major milestone and blessing! For the first time we have running water and flushing toilets at church (when the water is on of course:) With the remaining finances, we began to price out and pray about the electrical work to be done next. To our surprise the electrician offered his time and services at cost to be a blessing to us. We purchased all of the material, but just as the electricians started at the the church, they had some other emergencies and urgent projects that came up. They decided to leave one electrician at the church, so my boys and I became electrical apprentices. For the next two weeks, we pulled wire, installed lights and plugs as the electrician oversaw our work. Thankfully it saved us a lot of expense, and Sunday, June 15th, we turned on the electricity and had a "Powerful" Service. Our Sunday School teachers and youth classes are now enjoying being able to make coffee and tea on our winter Sunday mornings, and we have been able to begin a Friday Night Young Adults Bible Study. Truly God is good, and we look forward to many new opportunities in using the building. Please continue to pray with us for God's provision to complete the remaining construction and obtain our official occupancy permit.

After all of the construction labour, it was time to turn our attention to our youth camp in July. Thankfully, Bro Marcus, Bro Raymond, and Bro Bafana all helped with the teaching as we have 16 sessions throughout the week. This year our theme was "Learning to Serve the Lord". Our prayer was that the young people would see and find the joy of being involved in serving the Lord, both with their spiritual gifts but also with their practical abilities. We had 26 young people attend, and even though we are in our winter months and it is cold at night,



the young people had an attentive spirit and good attitude throughout camp. Please pray for them to continue to grow in their Christian life and to make practical choices to serve the Lord.

Several years ago God enabled me to obtain Permanent Residence here in South Africa. This was a great blessing as many missionaries are having problems renewing their visas. However, because of Covid19, government shutdowns and a 2 year delay in receiving renewal visas for my wife and children, they do not yet have their permanent residence here. We have finally been able to submit their applications to the government, and we ask for your prayers that the applications would be processed quickly and without problems.

We are so thankful for God's protection over the 17 years we have lived here. Crime in South Africa is increasing at a rapid pace and we need the protection of the Lord as we go about serving Him. We covet your prayers for our families health, safety and wisdom. God has truly blessed us with many individuals, friends and churches that pray for us and financially give to the ministries, and we love and appreciate each and every one that prays, encourages and gives as we continue serve Him.

Gratefully Serving the Saviour,

The Johnson Family Jeremy, Rebekah, Titus, Tanner , Tayden & Tianna

Email: jrjohnson@fastmail.com Phone: +27 82 768 5698 <u>Sending Church & Support Address:</u> Harvesters Baptist Church - Phone: (519) 673-9978 9488 Westminster Dr. London, ON, N6P 1P3 Canada

"To give light to them that sit in darkness and in the shadow of death..." Luke 1:79