



An Outreach Ministry of Hilton Christian Fellowship

March

3/2015

Proverbs 19:17 Whoever is generous to the poor lends to the LORD, and he will repay him for his deed.

Partner with us as we partner with the poor

Dear Friends,

We have some exciting developments to report on and some testimonies that are an encouragement to all of us. We have been thrilled to see the Holy Spirit at work accomplishing that which we cannot.

Hope Trust Governance

The Elders of HCF, who are currently the Trustees of Hope Trust, have determined to delegate this responsibility to a new Board of Trustees. They should bring specific skills such as financial, legal, social work etc to effect an improved running of the organization. A similar action is seen in the early church (Acts 6:3-6) where the apostles delegated the function of serving to a group of men filled with faith and the Holy Spirit for this task.

This year the HT Annual General Meeting will be separated from the HCF AGM so that the new Board members may be announced (even if not yet registered). Date tba.

Welfare

The challenges and hardships in the community in which we work are many and varied. But there is much **joy and thanksgiving** when prayer is answered in challenging and hard circumstances!

One young woman defaulted on taking her medication and became very ill. We managed to get her into a medical facility run by Ethembeni in Mpophomeni. With medical support, the care and encouragement of our Carers and prayer she is home, well, taking her medication responsibly and perhaps most important, **cares for her children.**

S'li¹, a young girl of 12, lives with her grandparents. Her parents are divorced and have each '*re-married*' under common law. Her mother has totally rejected S'li because she now has children from her second husband. S'li's Father loves and cares for her but she does

not get on with the stepmother. She has struggled in the grandparents home as the grandfather is a difficult and abusive man. Much time has been spent with S'li offering prayer, counsel and guidance but she has become increasingly rebellious. This last



This Granny cares for 3 grandchildren as the mother is an alcoholic & regularly abandons them. 3 jerseys were donated by an HCF-er. They fitted these little ones as if they had been made to measure. Provision & need came together.

week there was a break-through! Her granny found a woman in a neighbouring community who was a '*Sangoma*' but has repented and been born again!! This lady is gifted prophetically and runs a daily prayer session for anyone to attend. So Granny and granddaughter went to her for prayer. This has produced a turn-around for S'li. They are attending prayer sessions regularly and she avidly reads her bible!!!

Footnote

¹ Pseudonyms are used to protect identity.

We have walked with Sibu, a young single mother of 34, for the past 10 years! She is an alcoholic and has become increasingly neglectful of her children. This past week she accepted Christ during a 'gospel-preaching' visit to her home. The next day she willingly visited the South African National Council on Alcoholism (SANCA) with one of our Carers. Appointments have been made with their Social Workers for ongoing counselling. Our staff will pray with her regularly and draw her into a church body. When she collects her social grants (amounting to several thousands of Rands) our Carers will accompany her and help her to develop a budget and manage her funds, keeping away from alcohol. There is a road to be walked but the breakthrough has come. Glory to Jesus!

Youth Empowerment

Our team 'God With Us' continues to make us and themselves proud. They have played 10 matches this year with 7 wins, 2 draws and 1 loss. This is all praise to the Lord because many of the team are still school boys and their opponents are generally young adults in their twenties and even thirties.

Economic Empowerment

The savings and credit groups are in full swing. They are busy saving monthly, borrowing and paying back. Quite a lot of borrowing happens in the first half of the year. The members pay a flat interest rate of 10%. This, as they borrow, pay back and borrow again etc translates into an overall interest rate for the group savings of between 30-40%.

This is shared out among the members at the end of the year. The banks cannot compete!! Shouldn't we all be members of a savings club in which we benefit from the interest on borrowings?



Have a great Easter as we celebrate the risen Christ.

Our staff have purchased seedlings which they supply at cost to households with vegetable gardens. There is a market niche to grow and supply seedlings for the right person. But it will need a little capital to finance secure fencing that will keep out cattle, chickens and other thieves!!

Finance

As an outreach arm of HCF we have a vision for financial support coming through 500 people giving R100 a month which will cover our present costs. However, to meet our future plans of training in healthy living, parenting and foster parenting we need 500 people giving R250 a month. This will create a stable income base for the organization.

Ministry Opportunities

- ◆ Pray for those mentioned in the testimonies. Their very survival depends upon continued support, changes in lifestyle and a growing relationship with Jesus.
- ◆ Pray for the changes in HT governance.
- ◆ Join the prayer time at our home between 4-5 on a Wednesday afternoon. (Call Dave on 082775 8833 or Jean on 082 858 0443)
- ◆ Giving financially.

Our special love and appreciation to you all

Dave, Jean and the Hope Trust staff.

Nedbank Account Name: Hope Trust; **Account No:** 1343 058 546; **Branch Code:** 134325;

Type: Cheque a/c; **Contact details:** Dave: 082 775 8833; Jean: 082 858 0443