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...the God and Father...comforts us in all our troubles so we can comfort those who are in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves have received from God. (2Cor. 1:4)

NEWSLETTER MARCH 2020

by: Wiebe van der Heide

Dear Family and Friends

2020 Is our year of 'hope'. Our hope is in trusting that God will make a new world for His People and that in this world He will walk right next to us in our storms. Each one of us has their own life's storms, may we walk with God through them and He with us.

A big thank you to all who are supporting us and our work, your support is so important and it makes you co-workers in reaching young people with hope for this life and the life to come! Thank You!

Our activities in the Township and at the Youth Centre are continuing as other years. Once a child has turned 17 they will leave our programs. Many of them are standing strong and live a responsible life. Every now and then we see a person leaving the programs and ending up in a life of drugs. But even they know that there is more to life and that it is never too late to turn around.

The previous Youth Centre weekend we had an 11 year old coming for the first time; his facial expressions said it all, he couldn't believe that what he experienced could be possible, a clean bed, a well looking bathroom, 3 meals a day and the games they played. He comes from a home where his family lives in constant fear as his oldest brother has gone mad because of drug use. Also for him and his family, there is hope...

"If in this life only we have hope in Christ, we are of all men the most pitiable" (1 Cor. 15:19)



Last YC weekend of 2019 with Henk en Elly from Holland. (Henk is the Treasurer of JTRM)

A visit to the mission of Jesus the Rock Missions in South Africa (by Henk L.)

In November 2019, Elly (my wife) and I visited Jesus the Rock Missions (JTRM) in Gonubie, South Africa. We spent fourteen days with Wiebe and Simone and their daughter Lisa in their work and life in and around the Township. It was a wonderful experience to meet them and experience their lives and work. The Township is located in Gonubie and the youth centre of JTRM, where they also live, is located in the South African countryside, about twenty minutes' drive from the Township. We immediately fell into their programs with the young people and in the preparations for the year-end-party which took place on 22 November in which 100 young people from the Township participated.

We experienced that work and time-off is difficult to separate for Wiebe and Simone. They live there in the calling to be there for the youth of the township, to give disadvantaged young people a chance in life with daily programs and weekends on the farm but also with little subtle things, such as a visit here and there and to be a listening ear. This for more than twenty years, from a deep trust in God trying to help young people rise up above the gritty and often desolate life in the Township.

It was good to see and experience how structure is brought into young lives and how they are shaped into leaders, at the same time conveying God's love in the area. At the year-end-party we saw young people enjoying all kinds of entertainment and good food. We saw how Wiebe and Simone's work is appreciated by all the sponsors who made this party possible. We saw young people who have participated for years in their programs as convinced Christians speak about their faith on stage.

We were thankful and filled with hope to realise that all the work of Wiebe and Simone through JTRM with the youth of the Township in Gonubie is effective and bears its fruit.

Henk Lunshof (Treasurer)



Checking out something at the dam while others are swimming

"Jesus the Rock Missions Foundation" is working amongst residents of Mzamom'Hle since 1997. In 2006 it was registered as a Dutch NPO and since 2015 in South Africa with SARS as a PBO. The object of the Foundation is to share God's love with children and youth and their living environment while working in a holistic manner; giving attention to the physical, psychological, social and spiritual well-being. The community itself is stimulated to be added to this endeavor.