



TARYN and ABRIE'S NEWSLETTER



June 2017

Celebrating New Life!

***"Behold, children are a heritage from the Lord,
the fruit of the womb a reward."*** Psalm 127:3

Dear Friends and Family



We are expecting a baby! Yes, the best news and the best gift (after salvation) is the gift of children. We hope you get to meet our Little Lourens around the 3rd of January 2018. This will be my parents' first grandchild and Abrie's parents' third grandchild. We are all very excited.

I went for my first scan on 6 June, which confirmed that I was 10 weeks pregnant. We will find out the gender of our child on 16 August. After the scan, we went for our first consultation with a midwife from a midwifery team called Birth Options, which was helpful in answering questions regarding the birth and

keeping healthy. We have decided to use Birth Options, who will also allow us to have the birth at Vincent Pallotti Hospital, which is only 5 minutes' drive from us.

Lesotho and Swaziland Mission

Abrie and I completed Missions to Lesotho, Swaziland and throughout South Africa in March and part of April. Driving over 10 260km, altogether we gave 66 presentations, Bible Studies, sermons or devotions.

In **South Africa**, we gave a *Traffick Proof* presentation at three schools; a *Fight the New Drug* presentation at two schools, a Bible College and two mid-week meetings; gave Reformation Challenges and Mission Reports at 4 churches and a school; ministered at an Old Age Home, a Drug Rehab in a prison, and at an Evangelists' meeting. Abrie preached at 2 Sunday Services in South Africa.

If you have not yet read our Reports, with pictures, you can do so here:

[Mission to Lesotho](#)

[Mission to Swaziland](#)

[South Africa Mission](#)

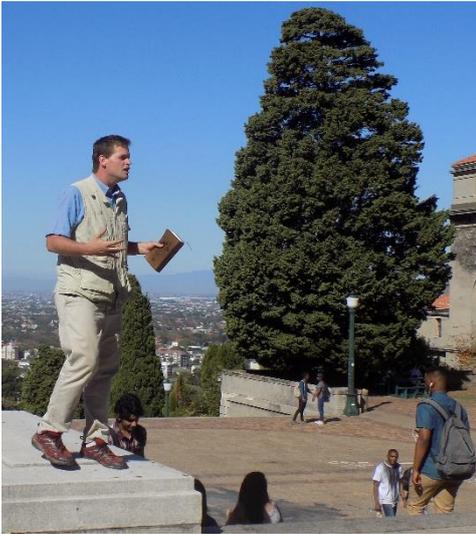
Outreach to Justin Bieber Concert-Goers

On 17 May, we distributed thousands of Gospel tracts to teenagers attending the concert of pop singer, Justin Bieber, at Green Point Stadium in Cape Town. We designed a Gospel tract specifically for the outreach entitled: *Belieber?* (fans of Justin Bieber call themselves Beliebers). Our team also engaged in one-on-one Gospel conversations with groups of concert-goers and even the media. Most teenagers and adults seemed willing to take a tract and many could be seen reading it whilst standing in the ques at the gate and discussing it with their friends.



Ministry in the Karoo

Abrie and Reinhard ran a successful book table at the Karoo Mighty Men's Conference outside Middelburg (Eastern Cape). They donated dozens of Bibles to representatives from worthy ministries that visited their table. Abrie also gave a *Fight the New Drug* presentation at an open youth meeting in Oudsthoorn.



Campus Ministry

Thank you very much for praying for our ministry to university students. Your prayers and support help us to reach future leaders of Africa. After our Lesotho Swaziland Mission, we resumed our weekly outreaches at UCT. We have had many good discussions with atheists, agnostics, relativists, Muslims and even a Buddhist student from Japan.

Open-Air Preaching

Our Evangelist friend, Adrian Clark, from Bristol, England, stayed with us for a week in Cape Town, joining us for ministry at the Ark Drug Rehab, a radio interview on CCfm, and for two outreaches at UCT, in which both Adrian and Abrie engaged in

open-air preaching. Also, uniquely and much to the horse-loving delight of both Abrie and Adrian, and the curiosity of on-lookers, they conducted two street preaching outreaches on horseback in the centre of Stellenbosch! (The two horses belong to a contact of Abrie's).

Answer to Prayer

We have previously asked you to pray for young men that we could train up in evangelism skills. We have found one young man to join us in our weekly outreaches. A UCT graduate, Paul is currently doing a voluntary year of service at The Message Church. Before joining us, he had not received any training in one-on-one evangelism and had never done a street outreach before!

He now says he has the confidence to start Gospel conversations with the unsaved on his own, and has even taken his pastor to UCT to try out one-on-one evangelism. Thankfully, he is enthusiastic to learn and we have donated a number of good resources to him.



Knysna Relief Mission

Last week Abrie, Joseph and Francis travelled up to Knysna to help with relief efforts after the devastating fires that destroyed over 500 homes in the area. Here is Abrie's Report:

Devastating Fires

Knysna is an area known for its beautiful forests and seascapes. Now several areas on the outskirts of the town are blackened with the remains of burned down houses. The devastating recent fires destroyed more than 500 homes in the area and killed at least 6 people.

Strange Silence about the Cause of the Fires

A mission team from Frontline Fellowship drove up to Knysna after the fires to help in any way we

could. It was strange to notice that no one we met in the centre of town was speaking about the fires. No-one, not even firemen, were willing to comment on whether they believe the fires were started by arsonists. We saw some of the owners whose houses had burned down walking amongst the rubble, trying to salvage the remains of any surviving possessions.

Love in Action

A lot of people were helping to sort out the warehouses full of clothes and food that have been donated to victims of the fire. It is encouraging to see Christians standing together and helping generously in times like this. We had the opportunity to help at some of the distribution points.



The people who lost their homes were nowhere to be found. We expected to see massive tents put up to temporarily house people. We were relieved to hear that they had all found a place to stay. Many are staying with relatives, some people made available their caravans and holiday homes to those who had lost their homes.

Besides all the relief aid that came in abundance, fire fighters from all over South Africa were deployed to help put out the fires. We were too late to see the actual fires, or help put them out, but we met some fire fighters who came all the way from Thabazimbi.



Looting and Theft

Sadly there have been cases of people who were not affected by the fires at all, who came and took donations. We should pray that God will give those dealing with the distribution of the donations wisdom in how they handle the distribution and who should get priority in receiving aid.

Many things can be written about the sinfulness of many people in Knysna, and their open rebellion against God. A spate of fires in December 2016 were proven to be caused by arsonists. There has been looting

of houses and businesses, stealing of relief aid and even hijacking of vehicles bringing relief to Knysna. What do we learn from the Bible when disasters have happened and how we should respond? God is a righteous Judge and He will not let the wicked go unpunished. But today He is still offering the free gift of Salvation to everyone that will believe in the one and only Saviour Jesus Christ and He is commanding everyone to repent.

“And Jesus answered and said to them, ‘Do you suppose that these Galileans were worse sinners than all other Galileans, because they suffered such things? I tell you, no; but unless you repent you will all likewise perish. Or those eighteen on whom the tower in Siloam fell and killed them, do you think that they were worse sinners than all other men

who dwelt in Jerusalem? I tell you, no; but unless you repent you will all likewise perish.”

Luke 13: 2-5

The eternal fires of hell will be much more terrible than the fires of Knysna, which only burnt for a few days. We must flee from God’s wrath to come.

“You will be punished by the Lord of Hosts with thunder and earthquake and great noise, with storm and tempest and the flame of devouring fire.” Isaiah 29:6

Pray for Knysna

Please pray for good weather and gentle wind so that last few smouldering fires can be put out and that no new fires will be started. Pray for churches to preach the Word of God faithfully. The so-called prosperity gospel has caused a spiritual decline in many churches. Surely these lies must have been challenged by these fires! Pray that people will go back to the Bible and will study it. Pray that they will see that the Bible is not about “your best life now” but it is about God’s Redemption plan for mankind. Pray that the unconverted people in the Church will either get converted or that they will leave and stop undermining the church. Pray that people’s hearts may be regenerated by the Holy Spirit and that people may come to a true saving knowledge of Jesus Christ.



We as Christians can take courage that God does not change. The fires were devastating to Knysna, yet God is speaking to us through this disaster. May many repent and return to God and His Word.

“Now, therefore,’ says the Lord, ‘Turn to Me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning.’ So rend your heart, and not your garments; return to the Lord your God, for He is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and of great kindness and He relents from doing harm.” Joel 2:12-13

Upcoming Missions and Events

Reformation 500

2017 is Reformation 500. 31 October 2017, will mark the 500th anniversary of Professor Martin Luther nailing the [95 Theses](#) on the church door of the Schlosskirche (Castle Church) in Wittenberg, Germany. Luther was alone in taking this bold stand against the sin and corruption that was in the church of his day. There was only one church at the time – the Catholic church, and ministers had become so corrupt and immoral that they hardly resembled any true leader described in the Bible. Priests were selling salvation – “indulgences” – that were sold as a get out of purgatory free card. Luther did not want to start a new church - he wanted to see the Catholic church repent and go back to the Bible. This however, became impossible and Protestant Churches were formed. The Heart Cry of the Reformation was ***“the just shall live by Faith”*** (Romans 1:17). It was in fact, this verse that God used to open Luther’s eyes to the Good News of the Gospel. The five battle cries of the Reformation (or key points that were emphasised) were:

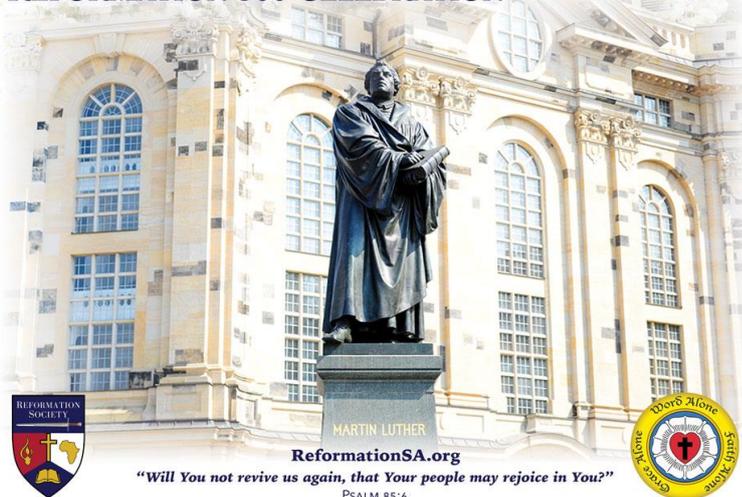
We are saved by Grace alone, through Faith alone. Scripture alone is our Authority and Christ alone is the Head of the Church. Everything is to be done to the Glory of God alone.

Celebrations in Cape Town will include a Reformation 500 Conference, Guided Tour of the Huguenot Museum and a Celebration Service at the Huguenot Monument in Franschoek.

Reformation 500 Church Council

I have been helping to invite key Christian leaders and theologians to the Reformation 500 Church Council to be held from 16-21 October 2017 in Wittenberg, Germany. This Preliminary Theological Consultation is scheduled just prior to the 500th Anniversary of Professor Martin Luther nailing his **95 Theses** to the Castle Church Door in Wittenberg, Germany. These meetings will include Celebration Services and Guided Tours at historic Reformation sites. Since early Church History, the global Body of Christ has convened Church Councils with representatives from many nations to determine by the consensus wisdom of Church's leaders, which side of the controversial doctrinal positions was Biblical and true, and which side was false and worthy of condemnation by the Church's leadership. In this 21st century, 24 issues have risen to the surface as controversial issues, all of which arose from within Evangelical and Bible-believing sections of the greater Body of Christ worldwide. Over the past four decades, Dr. Jay Grimstead of Coalition on Revival has gathered together various groups of Theologians from a wide range of denominations to discuss each of these 24 issues as they emerged into church life. Those Theological teams have boiled down each issue into its salient points, then have expressed the Biblical position on each key point in clear, concise creedal statements of "Affirmations and Denials" as theological documents to be presented to the Global Body of Christ for consideration.

REFORMATION 500 CELEBRATION 31 OCTOBER 2017



Africa Reformation Overland Mission

God willing, Abrie is planning another cross-border Mission, leaving in late August. This time it will possibly involve six countries. Please pray for the right team members to accompany him.

Women's Day Outreaches

I have helped to design a new "stop the traffick!" banner for our Women's Day outreaches in Malls (9 August) and also for use at the numerous opportunities we receive to present *Traffick Proof* at schools and community groups. Due to increasing resistance we have faced from a having an overtly Christian display at Malls, we have had

to create a new banner. Please pray for open doors to have a display and table at big malls in Cape Town on Women's Day – 9 August.

For Praise:

- Every opportunity to share the Gospel.
- Taryn and baby's good health so far.
- God's abundant provision and protection over thousands of kilometres travelled.

For Prayer:

- To increase our burden to reach the lost and effectiveness in ministry.
- Continued health of our baby.
- That God would strengthen and deepen our relationship with Him as Abrie prepares for the next Africa Overland Mission.

We thank each one of you for your love, support and prayers.

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