

PASTURE VALLEY CHILDREN'S HOME NEWSLETTER- MARCH 2013

***In faith we grow**

1 Peter 1: 3-4 ... He has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an inheritance that is imperishable, uncorrupted, and unfading, kept in heaven for YOU.

Greetings in Christ's name! How wonderful it is to know that we have living hope and an inheritance that does not disappoint or disappear. So much that happens around us is so disappointing and robs so many of hope beyond what they can almost not bare. Here is our news this month:

WELCOME TO A NEW LITTLE CHILD OF PASTURE VALLEY

A little boy of 6 years was brought to us through the Department of Social welfare this month. He lost his mom a while back and had no one to care for him. He has settled in well at the Preschool at Pasture Valley and made new friends.



ABUSED WOMENS' EMERGENCY SHELTER

Ratsile * (not her real name) came to Pasture Valley a few weeks ago. Her arm was in a sling and she had 2 small children with her. She had been beaten and abused and needed a safe place to go to. She soon became part of the Pasture Valley family. Her little daughter joined in at the Preschool and the housemothers cooked her meals for 2 weeks.

That same week, a lady was found on the boundary of our farm in distress. She had been raped. It was difficult to not feel anger towards men that use violence on women. After we had called the police and calmed her (she had been stabbed too and there was blood everywhere), I was able to pray with her and handed her a small bible. Only Jesus can heal her of this horrific experience. I shudder to think that thousands of women are being raped daily.

COVENANT PLAYERS

One of the best ways to reach people is through drama and play. Covenant Players visited us and there was much laughter as the participated in a "good Samaritan" skit with a message that was applicable for today.



kids

SPORTS AND CULTURAL ACHIEVEMENTS



Luke and Scooby received a couple of medals for athletics this season. Scooby is a very fast runner and got gold medals (first place) for 100m and 200m at her Interschool's competition. We are proud of her! Menzi has qualified for his school's choir and will be competing nationally in June with other choirs in the country.

YOUTH HOUSE PROGRESS

I will let the pictures do the talking...

NEW HOUSEMOTHER- PHUMI



A farewell function was held for Gogo Constance and her family to honour almost 10 years of service at Pasture Valley. The children had an opportunity to say good bye and express their gratitude. Gogo Constance will continue to community development work for Pasture Valley around her village and visit the children regularly.

Phumi has taken on the role of housemother for Stella house and has undergone some training and orientation. She is settling in well too.



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ZONHLE HLATIKULU CHILDRENS HOME

Pasture Valley officially met with the headteachers of the Hlatikulu schools to inform them of our assistance in helping the 20 children at the Girls orphanage. We have met with the Methodist Church Board and have agreed to help for 3 years. The children were given food and the housemother was given a grocery budget. Elizabeth has been trained and we have interviewed candidates to assist Elizabeth in caring for the girls. The girls were so happy when they were told that they would be cared for. For a couple of months they have not had much food and the schools had to help out. There is a lot of work ahead especially with the maintenance of the place.

PASSOVER MEAL AT PASTURE VALLEY

Jonny and Tash Page kindly shared a Passover meal with us and explained the significance of the Jewish traditions and the last supper of Jesus. It was a special evening.



PRAYER NEEDED... ***That God will continue to protect and keep our 39 children and all the staff and volunteers at Pasture Valley safe and healthy. ***Praise Jesus for the health of the children and His protection against the strong storm that destroyed structures on the farm. ***For protection of women against violent men in Swaziland *** Gogo Constance ***the children in the communities that need help *** wisdom as Pasture Valley and its staff support Zondle girls orphanage. Thank you to all of you who continue to help Swazilands children through Pasture Valley. May God bless you this Easter. **With love, Peter, Michelle and the Pasture Valley Family**