

AUGUST 2013

1 Peter 1:13 "So then, have your minds ready for action. Keep alert and set your hope completely on the blessing which will be given to you when Jesus Christ is revealed."

CHOOSE TO WAIT COURSE

"It is all the girl's fault!" This was the response to a debating question asked to the teenage boys that attended the recent Choose to Wait course 2 weeks ago about who was to blame for the thousands of fatherless homes and orphans in Swaziland. "The girls flirt with us and tempt us and then when they fall pregnant we are not ready to be fathers," they replied. It reminded me so much of the Adam and Eve and the snake story. The blame game still continues today and yet we all ate from the fruit! We had a great debate further on cultural versus Christian weddings and whether it was a good thing to pay "labola" for your wife. The boys did a good job at cooking their own meals and Leo Baan has had good feedback from them on the course. One boy wrote: "I will share the message during our youth convention in my church".



HOLIDAY PROGRAMME- WHAT'S COOKING? COMPETITION



We have talent! When it comes to cooking and table decorations, the children did not hold back. After a small training session the previous day on how to lay a table, general waitressing skills and hotel management, the

children were divided into 4 groups and then competed for top spot for their cooking and presentation skills. A menu was prepared with a starter, main meal and dessert. The tables looked great, the children all dressed neatly in chef hats and jackets and the food was delicious! The judges all dragged their bellies back home and the children had fun!

Aunty Gail has taught the children how to play field hockey and Uncle Mike taught the older children how to write a CV. Besides the reading, computer studies, movies, fishing, crafts and gardening there is a lot more happening during the holidays. The children have also had an opportunity to visit their relatives under supervision of the housemothers.

VISIT FROM ANOTHER CHILD CARE CENTRE



Twenty four children and eight staff members came to visit Pasture Valley as an outing to the farm. We prepared a programme for them and Pasture Valley children showed their visitors where the chickens, horse, rabbits and dairy were, while Sandile and Ncamiso donned their bee suits and gave a talk on bee-keeping. The children then did some flower drawing and painting and then went outside for fun games such as sack and wheelbarrow races. Our visitors were then treated to lunch and ice- cream and jelly before they departed. We only hope it was a blessing to them.

VOLUNTEERS ARRIVE

Wendy Kessman and Elizabeth Nguyen have been seconded to Zondle (at Hlatikulu orphanage) and Pasture Valley respectively through PeaceCorps for 2 years. We are really grateful for their assistance and willingness to help.



SUNDAY SCHOOL CAMP

Six of the boys attended a Sunday School camp at St Michaels church in Manzini where the theme was "Jesus is the Light of the World".

PRAYER REQUESTS:

- Thankfulness for safety of children * Pasture Valley will be hosting a farmers day for 2 farmers associations on Thursday. Please pray that it will go well and safe travels for those attending. * For the preparation of missionaries to Swaziland to help Pasture Valley. Praises that God has provided for all of Alicia's financial support. * Safe travels and preparation of OM Trek Team due to arrive at Pasture Valley on the 14th of September * Thankfulness for the safe arrival and birth of baby Henrij Van Raaij (a large and healthy baby!) * We have had many challenges at Zondle home at Hlatikulu. Please continue to pray for the girls and staff and that they may feel God's love every day. * God's protection over the farm.