

# **ENGAGE AFRICA**

Engaging the Children of South Africa in Life to the Full

November 2014

Greetings,

Happy Thanksgiving! I think that, in some ways, I love the Thanksgiving holiday even more than the Christmas celebrations. We want you to know that we are so grateful for you -now and all year long. We are settling into our new normal after being in the States for 2 months. We are so enjoying our 2 new interns from the USA, Carley Abbott and Hope Schommer, as well as our South African intern, Rejoice Temane. What a fun and productive season this will be!



-Jeff, Abby, and Beth Hunt



### **Hope Church Christmas Party**

It's that time of year again! We LOVE Christmas at Hope Church in Freedom Park. What an incredible time to bless our church family as we close out one year with a celebration of all that God has done and look forward with anticipation to all that God will do in the next year.

Each year, we, the Engage Africa family, reach out just past our comfort zone and give gifts to our Hope Church family. We give food parcels to the adults to help with their holiday gatherings, and gifts to the children to help them get ready for the new school year starting in January. Of course, each gift also contains some fun and impractical elements as well! We also treat the whole church to a meal -Happy Meals for the kids (usually the only restaurant food they eat all year) and something more traditional for the adults. This year we are anticipating about 300 kids and 100 adults. If you want to purchase a gift for \$15, please visit our website where you will also find photos and video from last year!

## **Hope Church Update**

During our rainy spring, we almost always find that fewer people are willing to make the walk to church. This year is no different. Although we are seeing fewer faces on Sundays, we are seeing a depth and maturity in those faces that is so encouraging. Our church family is mobilizing to visit and care for those who are absent. Our ladies' and men's Bible studies are digging deeper. Our home groups are visiting their neighbors and sharing what God is doing. Last Sunday, one of our sweet church members came forward for prayer and, although there were many things that she could have asked, the one thing weighing heaviest on her mind was a plea for God to help her to remember His word so that she can recall it from week to week and use it day to day. Praise the Lord.

#### **Amazon Smiles**

As you prepare for your online Christmas shopping, please visit <a href="http://smile.amazon.com/about">http://smile.amazon.com/about</a>! It's still amazon, and you can designate your favorite non-profit to receive a percentage of what you spend. Designate Engage Africa and give 2 gifts at once -the one you are purchasing, and the one Amazon will send us! So

## **Prayer Requests**

- Safe travels for our many friends in Freedom Park who will travel home for December using public transport.
  Vehicle accidents are very common this time of year.
- Health and wholeness (for our family, our interns, and our SA friends) during this season of rapid and frequent weather changes (cold and rainy to hot and sunny).
- Successful Christmas party with the blessing of abundance and the opportunity to share Christ with many who may not normally attend church.
- That visitors to Hope Church will find Jesus and a reason to stay for weekly discipleship, regardless of their initial motivation to attend.
- That Grace Help Center (the children's shelter where we live) will continue to be able to be a beacon of hope to the community of Rustenburg.

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