

Dear Friends and Faithful Supporters,

October-November 2024

Season of Thanksgiving Update

As we enter this season of Thanksgiving, we are filled with gratitude for how quickly the construction of our new church building is progressing! If the weather holds, we are hopeful to be able to move in by Christmas or New Year's. The anticipation for our first service is growing, and we're planning a special Ministry Open House service shortly after the move-in. Please join us in prayer, asking God that the move-in happens sooner rather than later.

It's hard to believe that back in August we were just pouring the foundations, and now, they are putting the finishing touches on the interior painting, tiling, and paver work outside. To God be the glory for His provision and faithfulness in this project! We are deeply thankful for all of our supporters and the individuals who have sacrificially given to make this possible. While you may never have the chance to visit Port Elizabeth and witness firsthand the work God is doing here, one day in heaven, you will see the fruit of your sacrifice!

Ministry Spotlight: Medical Outreach with Ms. Hannah Bennett

In October, we had a month FULL of medical emergencies and needs. We were able to help a young mother get to the hospital just in time to have her baby. She had silently labored all day waiting for an ambulance. By about 4pm she realized the ambulance was not coming and reached out for help. Hannah and Courtney rushed to help her and thankfully did not have to deliver the baby together in her shack. She made it to the hospital and by 2pm the next day was being discharged from the hospital. An absolutely beautiful, healthy 1-month early baby girl is now the newest member of our church.

The next 2 weekends after this excitement, Hannah hosted medical clinics with blood pressure, blood sugar, and cholesterol screenings. This is a very needed ministry, as most people may have "free" health care, but they must walk to the nearest clinic about the time the sun comes up to wait in line and hope that you are in the first 30 people there to be seen for the day. If you are not, you must go home and try the next day! Once inside the clinic yard, you take a seat and wait all day until they call you. It is often outside, in the heat or cold, wind and elements. Many people have to take time off work to go to the clinic and miss much needed pay. Therefore, they just don't make the needed time to get regular checks for what we (most Americans) would think to be simple and easy "checks."

During one of our medical clinics, a woman came in, knowing she had high blood pressure. After taking her medication, she wanted to check her numbers. Savannah took her blood pressure and gave a concerned look to Courtney and Hannah. After asking the woman to relax, they took another reading, which was even higher—220/122. Hannah quickly took over and, within minutes, the woman showed signs of a stroke. We urged her to go to the hospital, but with no ambulance available and her husband hours away, Matthew immediately drove her there. By the time they reached the hospital, her blood pressure had risen to 234/127. God orchestrated this clinic for just this moment, and we are so grateful He allowed us to be there! Hannah was able to share the gospel with her, though she did not make a decision for Christ, the seed was planted. It's a reminder that we are meeting physical needs to open doors for spiritual ones, just as Jesus did.

A Slight Change for our Township Ministry (also a BIG Prayer request)

Unfortunately, the house we've been renting in Walmer Township since February 2023 is no longer available to us. Since June of 2023, the owner had been in discussions with us about selling the property for ministry use, and we had worked diligently toward that goal. Our attorney even visited to help with the legal paperwork. However, two weeks ago, the owner informed us that he would sell the house to a family member, which simplifies the process for him. As a result, we must remove all our belongings— benches, pulpit, soup kitchen supplies, and more—by the end of November.

Although this news was unexpected, we know that God is in control. We had planned several important events for December, including soup kitchens, Bible studies, and holiday clubs, and now find ourselves without a venue. This was also the space where Hannah ran her Medical Outreach ministry and hoped to establish a clinic. We ask for your prayers as we trust God to provide a new location for these vital ministries. Though we're disappointed, we believe that God has a greater plan and will open the right door at the right time.

A Blessed Visit from a Supporting Pastor

We had the privilege to host Pastor Aaron Hartman from Victory Baptist Church in Boonsboro, MD in October. We love when supporting pastors take time to visit us and see how the Lord is working in our area. Pastor Hartman was a blessing to us as he taught Bible studies, Youth Club, Sunday School and preached at Solid Rock and the service at MES. At the afternoon service at MES (the drug and addictions home), Pastor Hartman preached a Spirit-filled salvation message from John 3:16. The Lord convicted several hearts during this sermon and 2 people made professions of faith! One was a very special for all of us, as this particular lady had been "on the fence" between coming to Christ or following the Jehovah's Witnesses. For the past year, Hannah has been dealing with this lady specifically about Christ. Many prayers were made on her behalf and many times of counsel and Bible studies were given. Though we can plant and water the seed, only God gives the increase, and He gave us an



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