

**A**s we moved into the new year, it happened quietly, suddenly and yet with great impact on the ministry.

Many victories were won over the last year and this year is not going to be any different judging from the start of the year.

We are thankful to our Father in Heaven for giving each one their Daily Bread but also for all the miracles we have witnessed in such a short while.



**A** highlight for the ministry was when SJ Kok and his brother came to visit the ministry. He sponsored the "Freedom House" in Borchards where we want to build a centre at the back. It is HUGE for us to not be standing in front of a shop and Trudie to be fair game for the gangs around. They are safe and we have a little family living in the home for security and also their safety.



**W**e had the privilege of having Philip home for Christmas. It was such a joy to have him around and to be able to see the hand of the Lord move on our behalf and allowing us to be together for this time. It was a joy to spend time with John and Larissa and enjoy our little Abigail who is such a gift from the Lord.

Philip and I stayed for part of the time in Paarl at friends of ours who came on a short term mission's trip in 2016. We have formed a lasting friendship with Brian and Anet and spent precious time with them too.



**J**anuary heralded a "new beginning" for us and we had our Team Building at Carmel together with Gavin who graciously made sure that we did not have one "dull moment". I had the privilege to share with our LIFE Family on TRUST, the formula for "work families", walking in relationship with those around



you. Philip was part of this before departing. He is back in the USA and continuing his mission as a marketplace chaplain.



**T**he Lord added amazing teachers to our midst and we started the year with all in the school ready to go. With a grant we purchased the Pharos curriculum and had the honour of the author of the material to come and train our teachers in the use of the curriculum. It is based on

Biblical values and Godly principles which are evident right through the curriculum.



**O**ur new Grade Ones had an amazing first few days as they settled in under the leadership of our principal Cindy Nortje and deputy principal Estelle Marais who has been a faithful support for the ministry together with some

other teachers.

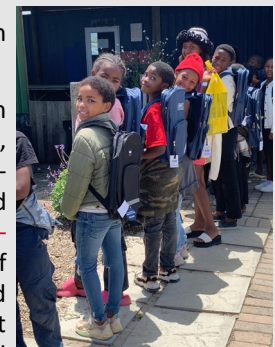
**F**ebruary, month of LOVE was certainly made true for some learners at our "back to School" (Pak 'n Tas Event). Every year for the last 17 years, Eden Gemeente supports our orphaned and vulnerable children and those who just cannot afford stationery by supplying them with all their basic needs.



The impact of this labour of love and deeds of kindness will only be seen one day when we get to eternity. They are changing the trajectory of many children's lives by giving them hope through supporting them with school needs.



The day started with excitement, arrival, registration, icebreakers, Word Worship and the makings of a mini-holiday programme of fun, crafts, games food and all the love that was shown by staff and members of Eden Gemeente who showed up



to shower the children with love, through word, deed and action. THANK YOU FOR MAKING A DIFFERENCE IN THE LIVES OF MANY OF OUR CHILDREN. All in all +- 350 children received

what they needed to attend school this year.

**N**ext we were faced with a reality at our property. We do not have storm water and every time it rains, we are under water.

As much as we tried to negotiate for someone to take responsibility, no one wanted to listen. After much prayer, we took a massive step of faith and started the messy but needed process. It was exciting to see the water disappearing but then we realised that our soil deep down was clay and it retained the water to create swimming pools. This caused a concern so we pumped the water out, back into the playground where it came from. Trial and error but we are winning.



Currently we need funds to conclude this project and waiting on the Lord for direction while we activity seek funding, write proposals and explain our need to those around us.

This project comes at a great financial burden but it is needed before we could even think of the next step to take to correct this problem.

**T**he week before we welcomed our Mission's Team from SC USA, we were privileged to have a group of 55

farmers from the UK visiting our Village. What joy they brought to us with their appreciation, support and sharing the impact the children, the village and staff had on them. The team arrived on a massive tour bus to the delight of the children. They toured our village and then joined in as the children sang for them. The admiration and respect that the team expressed was a blessing to the staff and children. Our Foundation Phase children sang an Afrikaans song for them and it was a delight to see them dance and move with the kids even though they could not understand what was being sung. Thank you team UK— This was a connection through our Friend of many years, Estelle Towsen.



**T**he first week of the missions team included serving in classes, serving in maintenance, serving in the kitchen and wherever they could.

During the weekend, the second team arrived and they overlapped for a couple days during the time of our First Celebration Service for the year, which is at the Village in our "church" (tent) where we prepare the children on what the body of Christ is all about. It was a huge success and we had the privilege of praising, playing, and having fun for Saturday morning. The serious decisions about living for Christ was a privilege to negotiate at the centres after the celebration service. Another blessing is that one of our sponsors donated 350 cupcakes to give us a Celebration kick-off. Mariette has been a sponsor and a massive support for us, especially over Christmas.

**T**he second week was a little different as we had training for the staff which had a powerful impact on those attending. The train-

ing was practical and useful in the workplace to equip staff to work with one another and with the children while displaying the qualities of Jesus.

Amy and Shelly prepared for almost a year and results of the training has been amazing and inspirational.

The rest of the team served us in multiple ways. They were working the gardens. Working on the jungle gym



restoration (which is not completed if anyone wants to help); some were working in the kitchen at Happy Feet serving the children and staff at the centres. All round, every area was infiltrated with the love and dedication that the team operated with. Thank you Cornerstone Church!

**P**astor Mark, the senior pastor of the church, moved around, spoke with staff and children and encouraged wherever he went. Never did he make anyone feel inferior, or intimidated any of the staff or children. He truly reflected the love of the Lord in his mission with us. Thank you Pastor Mark.



Another blessing for our staff was when the mission's team took



several of our staff on a game drive in Botlierskop Game Reserve. The joy and gratefulness with which the staff thanked the team, was truly a blessing to me.

The team also left us with many supplies that we are busy distributing among the team to use in classes, centres and different areas in the ministry. The Missions Team from SC left beautiful memories and footprints in George. Thank you!

The week after they left, was distinguished by many activities. We had the privilege of a film team from John who is in the process of producing our new ministry movie. This will be available when we go to the USA for our fundraising efforts.



Our LCA children excelled in the sport- day we had as they competed against one another. The day was marked with fun, healthy competition and brave kids that raced regardless of the state of the track with all the work going on. The spirit of joy was evident in staff, kids and the film crew as we enjoyed the event.



The new Life-Skills Training for ISIPHO was launched and we are grateful for Katrina, Emmy and Sibongile for imparting their skills so liberally into our young people. They are indeed "Training up the children" to master these skills.



Our gardens have produced a lovely harvest and more to come. Lizzy and her team have managed the garden well and again, training up other staff as well as children how to tend the plants and look after what the Lord gave us to care for. Our kids have turned out to be enthusiastic gardeners and they in turn love telling others about "their gardens."



The activities ended with our Thank-You Breakfast where we got our donors and interested parties who want to know more about the ministry, to attend. It was indeed a joy to see old friends and new ones. Amo, the pastor from Shofar, opened the first session with a powerful scripture on being a shepherd of that which the Lord gives us. The highlight of the morning were the Grade 1's singing and worshipping. It is worth going on our FB page to see it. You will be touched.

Dr Lindsay who is on our board and Dr Herman Jordaan were among the guests. Dr Jordaan has been a longstanding friend of the ministry and has seen countless of our children for free and our staff for a very small fee. We are filled with gratitude and therefore this event.



Another blessing was when we could at last get our containers in for the office to be able to move. What a joy to see the grounds dry enough and



then it rained on the weekend. Thank you Lord. Now the move has begun in all seriousness and hopefully we will be totally moved by the end of the month. (Which we did!)



Then came the crushing yet expected news: The owners of the warehouse are going to demolish it. This is where we store extra stuff for a lack of room. We have been blessed by Andre for years of helping find storage but this is out of his hands. We asked for grace till the middle of April. READY FOR ANOTHER MIRACLE. That seems to be how we roll.

We have hearts overflowing with thanksbut are facing many giants at the moment and we will post our prayer requests. Our beloved Principal Cindy has moved on from the 1st April but we will dedicate an article to her in our next newsletter. We wish her the Lord's richest blessings as she moves to her new assignment. She will be sorely missed by everyone in the ministry. Cindy left indelible footprints in our hearts and the hearts of the whole community she was involved in. She is more than a colleague—she is a friend. We wish her God's best. Cindy is a woman of worth and adds value to her place of influence and ministry.



Join our **Heart for A Child Program** and make a difference in the life of a child. You can be the difference by making a donation and "adopting" a child.

Your donation will make a difference: **Isaiah 58:**

E-mail: [heartforachild@lifecommunity.co.za](mailto:heartforachild@lifecommunity.co.za)  
Or register on our website: [www.lifecommunity.co.za](http://www.lifecommunity.co.za)

*Thank you for blessing us.*

*To contribute the BANKING DETAILS Are as follows:*

**SOUTH AFRICA:**

**BANK: NEDBANK**  
Acct. No. 1091183600  
Branch code: 109114  
Swift: Nedszajj

**THE USA:**

IRM /LIFE Community Services  
PO Box 444  
Leechburg,  
PA 15656-0444

(make check payable to IRM and please specify on the memo line)

**THE UK:**

LIFE Community Services  
A/c no. 00287400  
Lloyds Bank

(Sort Code 30/99/93) (for a stop order)

+44(0)77 9047 4478

**PAYPAL ACCOUNT:**

Life Community Services

**Find us on:**

[www.lifecommunity.co.za](http://www.lifecommunity.co.za)

**PLEASE contact us**

And Instagram



**Address: 18 St. Johns Street, George, 6530. South Africa**

**Phone: (+27) 44 8736601**

**reception@lifecommunity.co.za**

**REISTRATION for TAX-DEDUCTABLE**

**BPO in South Africa**

**EIN number in the USA**

**Charity Aid Foundation in UK**

