

Hot off The Press

News from Peter and Kay Goodchild at
Emmanuel Press in South Africa



Hello! Although it seems a little strange to us right now, with hot days and warm nights, there is still something within that wants to say: "Happy Christmas to you!"

There is little here to coax us into the festive season however last Friday evening, with windows & doors wide open, overhead fans whirring and tumblers of cool fruit juice on the tables, we enjoyed a 'Carols by Candlelight' at Calvary Church. Almost 80 of us sat down

to a lovely meal after which I led the traditional Christmas Carol singing. "The best in years" one remarked, "What a special evening!" another said with a wide smile. "Oh, that was so relaxed and special." It was a happy time enjoyed by all.

On Dec. 9th I had my debut leading the Calvary Church Sunday morning service from the keyboard, before preaching The Word to the gathered church. Several were impacted by God's Word and His presence.

Kruger for Jesus

On 30th November, we drove 280km north to the Mopani camp in the vast Kruger National Park, where we would be staying for the weekend. We were invited to the quarterly Kruger For Jesus committee meeting to assimilate the latest news of this vibrant outreach. It was good to meet Ezrom the

leader, and his friendly group of helpers. My preaching was the final item on the agenda.

There are 20+ "camps" in KNP, which is about the size of Wales. Each camp compound hosts an army of staff who serve the tourists pouring in throughout the year. KFJ exists to encourage the Christian staff and reach out with the love of Jesus to those who don't yet know Him. They are hoping to start students' groups at the Olifants and Satara Camps. Emmanuel Press will help by providing literature and discipleship courses and I've been invited



Zebra in the arid Kruger National Park



Peter, Ezrom & Kay



Look who came to say, "Hi!"

to preach at a camp once a quarter.

After a 8.15am start we drove slowly back through the park (there's a 50kph speed limit so you don't hit a passing elephant or giraffe) arriving home in a terrific thunderstorm at 6pm. We thought the aircon wasn't working until we stepped out into 40 degrees.

Back at The Press

Last Monday (10th Dec.), I led our first 'New'

Directors' meeting. Time sped as we talked and I updated Ronas and Steve of changes; some made and some anticipated for 2019. We meet again next month to pray, discuss, review and plan further.

As you read this letter, Emmanuel Press office is "closed" for the summer/Christmas break, but let me share that November recorded 'highest' for any month this year: 6,898 lessons sent out and 402 certificates issues for Discipleship Courses completed. Glory to God in the Highest!

We concluded with a staff lunch on Thursday 13th and will open again Monday 7th January. South Africa 'closes down' for December – January... apart from airports and holiday resorts. So, 38 Hennie Van Till Street Flat 3 can accommodate guests at fairly short notice. If *you* can't come, please pray that God sends us workers in 2019 who have a passion to see more people discovering Jesus Christ for themselves and becoming followers too. Qualifications for applicants: Passion for God; a true disciple who is not risk-averse; plenty patience; resourceful and a team-player. Oh, & faith for finance!

Our Christmas Plans

Our Christmas day starts with church at 8.30am. Later we will receive our dinner guests which will be a special time. Although he is a paraplegic, he and his dear wife love Jesus and are so looking forward to coming. His hefty wheelchair should make it through our front doorway with a 5cm margin - I checked carefully!



Our little neighbour wearing his Dad's shoes!

So, we wish you a blessed preamble to the Christmas week. Live carefree and careful. Be happy about the stuff that really matters and keep life in good perspective. We give you one Bible verse to chew on: But first you need to know what God our heavenly Father is saying to your own heart, then read and be blessed: Luke 1:v45. Two beautiful women each had an encounter with God, then with each other, and these words were spoken. Immense, insightful and incredible... paving the way for the Incarnation of God with us: EMMANUEL! God bless you as you see that and walk in to 2019!

With our love and gratitude to you and to our Heavenly Father always be Praise!

Peter & Kay