

Hot off The Press

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

Issue 13
June 2019



Good morning dear friends from a pleasant White River winter's day. Yesterday we were down to 12 degrees, but today we are basking in 22 degrees. Much has happened since I last wrote, but notably we have been blessed by actually being with many of you, despite tiredness chasing us wherever we ventured. Our six weeks in England flew by and suddenly the anticipated reunions were history.

It was lovely to see and hug family and friends and visit churches across Kent and Sussex and beyond. It was also good to meet new friends, like the folk at Gateshead AoG church, who have been supporting The Press for many years.

THANK YOU for the heaps of love and kindness expressed in many different ways during our time in the UK. You make it hard to leave, but make our being here a God ordained reality. Having so many unique and moving moments with so many friends makes us more committed to the mountain that God has called us to climb. Thank you for being a blessed base camp.

Some of you have been aware of the testing and trying times for us. We faced some personal difficulties and challenges stemming from the EP board meeting in early April – these could not be resolved until a subsequent meeting, last week. Praise The LORD, we have turned a page and it's "a new day" in terms of united affirmation from the SA Board for us both.

Sunday 19th May - I preached in Cranbrook. God's message still rings in my heart for us all: Come Back To God! (2 Cor.5:20) We said our goodbyes, gathered our bags and our dear Joy sped us to LHR. We landed in Jo'burg 7am on a chilly Monday morning and took the shuttle bus to



Outside the Legogote community hall where the church meet.



Some of the Legogote students



Preaching at Bushbuckridge church in their marquee.

White River. Our new friend, Barbara Fraser, met us to take us the last kilometre to The Press in time for a cuppa. Barbara was happy to house-sit for a couple of weeks whilst we were in England, and we're glad God has opened the door for her to join us working at The Press. She has a heart for mission and is currently helping Kay in reception whilst Gillian is back in the UK for 2 months.

Within a week of our return we hit the road for Legogote. A lady has been coordinating a group of EP students; it was Graduation Day for almost 20 of them. They were delighted to welcome us and young pastor Arthur made it memorable as he conducted the occasion.

Then the next day (Sun.26th) we drove 1 hour north to Bushbuckridge for an unforgettable moment in a church in a marquee. We could hear the prayer lady preparing for the morning before we even opened the car door. Another spectacular graduation, then 3 hours later we were treated to a table of African hospitality - no need to stop for lunch on the way home. Pastor Derrick Nyathi was effusive in his thanks, "We thank God for your coming today; The Word of God was awesome. Thanks a million!" No wonder I felt an affinity; he proudly introduced his wife, 3 sons and daughter.



Presenting Pastor Derrick Nyathi with his certificates.

Back at the Press on Monday, there were many administrative, practical and pastoral needs to deal with before preparing for the extra-ordinary Board meeting on 7th June. This included 4hr drive to Jo'burg, and an unexpected 200km trip to rescue one Board member, Jason, whose car had broken down.

Despite the uncertainties and unforeseen problems the Board gathered at Pastor Steve's church premises. We progressed, united, from a delicate dilemma into the dawn of "a new day" of harmony and fresh horizons. Join us in praying for heaven's touch as we plan to consolidate decisions next month.

So here we are, exhausted from months of 'not knowing' but relieved to be moving forward in God's purposes. We are standing in the premises as you keep standing on God's promises. THANK YOU for standing with us.

With love,

Peter & Kay