

Hot off The Press

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

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Hello again from Calvary Place. July is one of the coldest months and jumpers are needed in the long dark evenings however today it's well into the 20s. It is Tuesday which, like Thursdays, means our offices are closed and we have time to catch-up. From the beginning of July we are now open Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays and visitors are slowly starting to venture in again.

Today is an eggcellent day; 240 farm eggs were delivered for distribution among EP staff & tenants. Kay is busy cooking biscuits for our Bible study group this evening and I have just completed writing the notes for that too. We're making our way through the book of Acts, finding challenge and blessing as we go.



Some of today's egg-ceptional delivery

Last week I took a day trip into the Kruger Park to visit a few friends who have felt particularly alone during the lockdown. We saw a few animals but the park was generally devoid of tourists. There are no international flights and travel between provinces is still banned so only local people are able to go in.

We took a trip into Nelspruit (20Kms) and Kay is now the proud owner of a sewing machine. It's not a Rolls Royce version but good enough to make buffs, face masks and do the odd bit of needlework. Our Sunday mornings continue to be blessed as we gather to worship the Lord and share from His written Word, then join the livestream from our home church.



Kay and I are continuing our "Read the whole Bible in 4 months" and are approaching the final straight. It's been challenging, yet refreshing, to hear again the great heart of The One True God of Eternity. We've seen again how He longs for us to come near to Him, but down through the centuries, we clever people get distracted from God's highest plans for us, getting lost in our own tiny ideals and crooked choices.... But still He loves us and longs to

draw us again to His highest ways of love and peace.

You will probably be asking the same question as us... Can it really be July? What happened to the last six months? Here's my little poetic insert: Do you recall the 19th century poet Emily Dickinson?

"Answer July—
Where is the Bee—
Where is the Blush—
Where is the Hay?

Ah, said July—
Where is the Seed—
Where is the Bud—
Where is the May—
Answer Thee—Me—

Nay—said the May—
Show me the Snow—
Show me the Bells—
Show me the Jay!

Quibbled the Jay—
Where be the Maize—
Where be the Haze—
Where be the Bur?
Here—said the Year— "



*We do like a good cup
of coffee; this is our
favourite coffee shop.*

*But now we have a
coffee plant we could
be roasting our own
beans in time...*

We want to say a heartfelt "Thank you" to you dear supporters who faithfully stand with us in these days. Our travel plans are still on hold so we're still here, at peace where HE has put us. When so much is under stress and strain, we sit here asking many questions and some evenings we do long to be with those we love and miss. Video calls are good, but "being with" is unequalled. Questions tease our minds when it's quiet, cold and there's little activity, but the words of a song Chris wrote have been a real uplift: "It's time to believe the Word of The Lord." (click here to listen to it)

Well, beyond questions of the year, we fall to our knees and ask The Lord of His harvest, "Lord How long?" The words of the prophet Habakkuk suddenly seems poignant as he cries out 'How Long?' Of course we have to rise to sing the words of the last stanza in chapter 3, "Though the fig tree does not blossom.... Yet I will rejoice in The Lord! I will be joyful in The God of my salvation... He is my strength... as sure footed as the deer!" We're praying you will know God's good blessing through it all.

THANK YOU FOR BEING "WITH" US!

Peter & Kay