

Hot off The Press

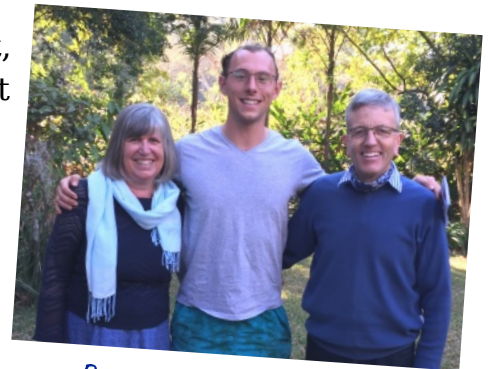
News from Peter and Kay Goodchild at Emmanuel Press in South Africa



As I sit at my desk I look for the "2020 de-mist" button, but struggle to see beyond the clarity of today. We pinch ourselves to awaken to the fact that it's August. Days blur into weeks, and now months. Are we *still* in lockdown? The whole year seems locked up in a misty mix of months. The SA climate adds to our confusion; the days are beginning to get longer and the cold nights are

interspersed with some warmer days. Maybe in a month or so we'll have some clarity on a possible visit to UK.

Thank you for whatsapps and emails, for your interest, love and care. Thanks for standing with us on our shift here. Your solidarity and support means a lot as we imagine the warm UK climate and church gathering on the school playing field. We have enjoyed The Vine Church livestream each Sunday, and know that others away from there have also been blessed by the live connection. It was SO GOOD to have a surprise visit the other week. Ben, who we last saw as a young boy back home in The Vine, popped in from Stellenbosch University whilst in the area.



Ben and his family were members of The Vine before moving back to SA in 2005

Our quiet office routine is very familiar these days, though still not comfortable as we miss so much of the former activity. It's still Monday, Wednesday and Friday in the office, although I usually snatch a few hours on Tuesday and Thursdays too. Kay's home-made soups are "souper" for Gillian, Kay and me to enjoy on a cool office day. Along with rewriting our courses I've been busy preparing for YouTube and Zoom speaking engagements.



We had been scheduled to visit TWCF on Sunday 12th July so I recorded a segment for their Livestream instead

I've completed the rewrite of our John's Gospel course and started working through The Book Of Acts.



*The pleasant garden at
Emmanuel Press*

Our Doctrine Course needs a little expanding and then I aim to write an "Introduction to the Holy Spirit". These are days when we are aware of the need to follow God's simple guidance as He speaks by His wonderful Holy Spirit.

Kay is usually busy each Saturday with baking for our Sunday gatherings and sometimes we have guests for lunch too.

Many of you will be aware that 'church' as

we have known it may well be changing; we are forced to consider why we do what we do, and how best to do it. Discovering what we really believe in times like this is pretty important. People who have confidently said that they believe in God's power and presence are now being tested on what that means in everyday living. These days are good for testing our faith; to know how genuine it really is. Make sure you have the real thing based on God's Word. Jesus really is THE answer in every situation.

It's been exciting to see the arrival of new signage around the site (more of that in the next EP Newsletter). I took advantage of borrowed ladders to paint a little of the building whilst the old sign was gone and worked on a few modifications before the NEW sign arrived. Kay was my 'prayer-partner' on the bottom rung of the ladder whilst I worked aloft. All achieved without incident, you'll be happy to know.



Sunday afternoons are a good time for walks around the neighbourhood and its always lovely to see the colour that God has put in place for us to enjoy. Last Sunday we were joined by 3 'youngsters' - other residents (in their 30s) on our sortie.

So as we wait before the Lord for His unfolding of plans, I'll close this Newsletter with a verse from Isaiah's prophecy that was quickened to me from chapter 64:4, "For since the world began, no ear has heard and no eye has seen a God like you, who works for those who wait for Him." With peace in our hearts and patience in our souls we continue to wait on Him - The Sovereign Lord of all.



And finally, THANK YOU AGAIN for your interest, prayer and faith in God for His purposes here.

With our love, *Peter & Kay*

peter@emmanuelpress.org ~ kay@emmanuelpress.org