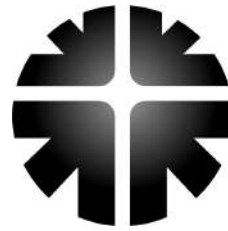


The Hunter Family To Knysna, South Africa

Church Planting | Theological Education | Biblical Counseling

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bmm
Baptist Mid-Missions



Hunter, and Nala were with us one Sunday afternoon at Buffalo Bay.



A visiting missions team from Maryland joined us for dinner one chilly evening in July.



We had no water for 2 days so we filled buckets from rain water tanks behind our house.



Wendy with her baptism certificate after her baptism.

Dear Praying Friends,

July - August 2025

1 Peter 4:9 says that we are to “Use hospitality to one another without grudging.” If this newsletter were to have a theme, it would probably be hospitality. We have hosted numerous people in our home over the past couple of months, for the purpose of fellowship, evangelism, discipleship and encouragement.

Lee-Ann is a regular guest at our house. She is a single, divorced lady in our church who has become a foster mom to two children, Hunter and Nala. She meets weekly with Janet and they go over parenting principles. This Titus 2 relationship has been a great encouragement to both Lee-Ann and to Janet.

In early July we travelled to Cape Town to collect a visiting missions team who had come to visit our coworkers. Since we own a van with 11 seats, we are often asked to help with moving visiting teams around. The visiting team helped at our church plant as well as running a VBS program for kids from the community while they were here. We hosted them for a meal in our home in early July. Many of the children from our church attended the VBS program.

Herb has spent considerable time counseling with T. T has been a friend for several years and has been very involved in our church. But, he has been battling severe depression for the past several months and the darkness overwhelms him at times. Herb has shared scripture, prayed, listened and admonished T, but still the darkness persists. Please keep T and his wife R in your prayers. This challenge has put a strain on married and family life as you might imagine. Anja, who has been faithfully attending church has also been meeting regularly for counseling with Herb. I know she would appreciate your prayers. Finally, Nonthombi has also regularly been engaging with Herb. She is very alone in her life, but she and her daughter have attended church a couple of times. Pray for her as well, that the Word would take root and bear fruit!

This story is also a blessing: Wendy was attending the Launch computer classes offered by some of the ladies on the Knysna Hope Team. She was seeking counseling and was referred to me. We spent several sessions together talking through her life and trying to understand how we could help her. Part of my counsel to her was that she come to church where she could find community. So, she came. And she stayed! She was saved as a younger lady, but she expressed an interest in baptism. So, we baptized her and she joined our church in mid-July. Pray for Wendy. Her life is not easy. She and her daughter Enchle live in the Knysna township where she has many challenges, but we have seen God at work in her heart and life through the ministry of the Word.

In late July we hosted Dudley and Mario for dinner. Dudley is a single man who lives in Knysna and is pursuing theological studies at our Bible Institute, and Mario is also single guy who regularly attends our Tuesday morning men’s Bible study. He attends Knysna Baptist Church. In early August we hosted four dentists who were in town for a Rotary project. We had a great time meeting these folks and learning more about South Africa. Throughout these past couple of weeks, Janet has had coffee with several church ladies, and Herb met for breakfast with Waldo for elder training. Waldo is a dear brother who has been attending with us for years and we believe God will use him in the leadership of our church. So we meet regularly to discuss the ins and outs of pastoral leadership. Pray for Waldo.



Herb teaches BLI classes in Sedgefield.



The Straubs were in town from Zambia and we got to connect!



The guesthouse portion of the property which could be used as a Sunday School building



We took this 5-generation photo with Grampy the last time we were in Canada.



We had the De Kock family over for dinner near the end of August.

In August Herb began teaching at the Biblical Leadership Institute. He is teaching the third course in the counseling courses that are taught at the Institute. This one covers difficult counseling issues that arise - and it's called "Counseling the Hard Cases," named after the textbook that is used for the class. The class is offered every other Saturday (called "a fortnight" in South Africa), and meets from 8am - 12pm. This class is being held at Lakeside Baptist Church in Sedgefield. There are currently 8 students. Pray for them as they complete the course.

Near the end of July, several of our teammates were involved in hosting a camp for MK's (Missionary Kids). The Wilds helps to organize these camps on various mission fields around the world, with the hope of getting missionary kids together to talk about their unique perspectives. Many MK's struggle with a sense of belonging, since they are "third culture" kids. They don't really fit in the culture of their parents, and they don't necessarily fit in the culture where they live. We had the responsibility of driving teens a couple of days, and we enjoyed an afternoon of hanging out with them while they were in George. In fact, we got to see some missionary friends of ours from Zambia! We enjoyed a lunch and showing them some of the Knysna sights before they had to get back to camp.

We have some exciting news regarding a place to meet. Christa and Owen, who own the hall and guesthouse that we used for several weeks a couple of years ago, have finally evicted the man who was leasing their property. You might remember that we were using the facility for several weeks but decided to leave when there was a court battle over the terms of the lease. With the lessee gone now, Christa and Owen are ready to proceed with a subdivision of the guesthouse and hall from their main property and to sell it. The subdivision is nearly complete. Once they receive a valuation from a realtor, then we can begin a conversation. However, we met together with them to walk the property again and to dream and imagine if this might finally be the moment we (and you) prayed for. Don't stop praying. We'll keep you posted about any developments. For now we continue to meet in the Brenton Community hall.

In the middle of August my grandfather passed away just 4 days shy of his 100th birthday. My wife and I would dearly have loved to make it home for the funeral, but alas, scheduling and finances conspired against us. It's moments like that when the distance from family is most acute. We are rejoicing; however, since we know his love for Jesus. Since Janet grew up far from her grandparents, my grandparents have been like grandparents to Janet as well. Pray for my grandmother, Hazel, who must now carry on without her spouse of 78 years!

Please keep praying for Azola Nqulegu, the young man from our ministry who is at Faith Baptist Bible College in Iowa. His grades last year were all in the mid to high 80's. He has worked on campus all summer and saved his money. He has been able to start the year with a credit of \$3500 on his school bill. However, it won't be long and that will be gone. His remaining balance for the fall term is about \$4500 USD. He has also had to purchase USA healthcare since the school is no longer offering it as part of tuition. We've managed to find a plan for \$350 for a year! But Azola could use a sponsor for that. Many of you have given and Azola is grateful. I asked him to update you on how things are going in his life at Faith (he is doing an internship at his local church as well)...just click this link to see his update: <https://youtube.com/shorts/iTDoTTxDAsY?feature=share>.

Finally, please remember to pray for Michelle. She and Nelson have been fighting and it recently turned violent. Social workers got involved and now the kids are staying at a safe house, away from their father - and their mother, unfortunately. Michelle is anxious to get her children back but she needs to file a protection order against Nelson first. She seems reluctant to do that - whether because of fear or some other reason - we don't know. But, Janet has been helping Michelle and speaking truth into her life. Janet is even in the process of being designated as a safety parent in order to pick the kids up from where they are staying and take them for the day. We miss the children and are hoping for some way to have a small, but positive influence in their life for good. Please pray with us for Michelle and her children!

May God richly bless you for your faithful support and prayers. We count on you!

Herb and Janet