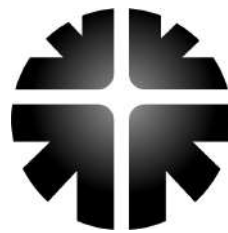


The Hunter Family To Knysna, South Africa

Church Planting | Theological Education | Biblical Counseling

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bmm
Baptist Mid-Missions



Noah and the "Boys of Rheenendal" Many of whom are foster kids of Hester's.



Megan visited for a couple of months. She is pictured here in front of Oakhill school.



We are now meeting at the Oceanview Lodge.



Noah surprised us with a visit.

Dear Praying Friends

March-May 2026

We greet you from Knysna, South Africa. We hope that our prayer letter gives you insight into our lives as we endeavor to share Christ, disciple believers, and offer counseling to those stuck in persistent sin. Our lives have been met with health challenges and hospital stays (as you will see). Through all of our trials, our God has been faithful, giving us the strength to carry on day by day. We can echo the words of the psalmist in Psalm 18, As for God, his way is perfect: the word of the LORD is tried: he is a buckler to all those that trust in him.

The month of March began with a quick trip to Cape Town to collect our daughter Megan. For a couple of months, she did her student teaching at a private school here in Knysna. She enjoyed the experience and she is now looking for a position in Eastern Canada. Pray that she will find employment, maybe even in a Christian school.

In early March, Herb was also hospitalized for low hemoglobin. After a few days and a blood transfusion, he was feeling much better and was released from hospital. During the hospital stay, our church family jumped into action. They worked hard to provide meals and visits and to keep our spirits up. We thank God for the love shown to us from our church family. We see the love of Christ through them.

As March carried on, Herb was able to counsel A and N. They are both responding well to truth. Pray for them, that God would give them the wisdom, strength and capacity for thinking right. Pray for T also. His broken thinking, which has produced depression means that he has withdrawn from church. The very thing he needs, he avoids. We do see a little progress, but there is a stubborn cloud of darkness over T and his thinking, and we are asking God to remove the cloud so that T can engage again with his wife, kids and church. Pray with us, would you?

March saw a change in where we are meeting for church. After much consideration we moved to the premises we hope to purchase and are renting there until the purchase is complete. We did that, and the premises is working well for us. We haven't been below 50 since we moved in! We now have monthly rent to contend with. God has been so good to us. I know I told you that we were nearing our goal to purchase our own building. Well, as a result of God's goodness and your generosity we have in hand or promised all the money we need except \$50,000. Pray with us that we reach what we need. One church had a donor give \$25,000 and they are trying to match that with another \$25,000. What a perfect idea. That doubles the impact. We're praying for a good response to the ministry of the Word as the church grows...pray with us

For her part, Janet has been baking up a storm. Thursday is baking day, and Janet can be found in the kitchen baking till her heart's content. She says cooking is therapeutic. Not sure if that means she needs therapy or not...in addition to cooking for Thursday evening Bible study, she cooks food for the office staff of our doctor. And, she has started to bake a birthday cake for all the kids (and many of the adults) involved in our Sunday School ministry. Pray for this aspect of the ministry...you'd be surprised how disarming it is to hand someone baked goods. The opportunities for gospel witness are increased through Janet's willingness to cook good food.

Herb has been extremely weak with the cancer and dialysis, and has not been able to preach. But Matt Oser, Dave Rudolph, Bill Emberley and Tim Harpur have filled in for him.



Herb was given oxygen at one of his dialysis treatments

Late in March Dr. Stupka from Faith was here to observe Megan do her student teaching. He was pleased with her work. He joined the family a couple of evenings and we enjoyed his company. He was in town for three days and then left. Herb never got to meet him between dialysis (which is from 3:30—8:30 each Monday, Friday and Saturday). Herb was admitted to the hospital for a C Diff infection on March 25.

On March 28 after chemotherapy, he went to the Knysna hospital at the oncologists recommendation. He believed that the pain Herb was in was from the C diff infection (cramps and diarrhea) and could be better treated in hospital. While being examined in hospital, Herb suffered a stage two heart attack. His heart was over 200 beats per minute and none of the normal ways of slowing it down seemed to work. Finally, Herb was given a special medication which slowed his heart rate back down to normal levels. Herb was transferred from Knysna to Mossel Bay, where the cardiac unit is. He had a angiogram which determined everything was okay. The heart attack caused no major damage, praise the Lord. Continue to pray for Herb's ongoing health needs.



After 6 days, Herb was happy to finally leave the hospital in Mossel Bay

Janet stayed at an Air BNB nearby and came to visit Herb as often as the hospital would allow. Herb was so grateful to those teammates who filled the pulpit during Herb's hospitalization. Rob, one of our church members, drove the bus to pick up people from the township who need transport to church. Praise the Lord for him too.

Besides her ongoing ministry to the ladies in our church, Janet attended a knitting group in Brenton on Sea in order to meet new ladies in the community. Hopefully Janet will be able to continue to meet with the knitting club and make new contacts. Pray about this opportunity. Janet also continues with teaching Sunday school, baking for Bible Study and leading the ladies Bible Study with ladies from our church.



Steve Gault came to visit and encourage us

Noah and Megan also served in church, They both sang and helped to lead the singing when Herb was too weak to do so. They helped in the Sunday School ministry too. It was a blessing to have them around. Pray for them. Noah is back at work, and Megan is looking for a summer job, please pray she would find one.

Since Herb was battling nausea, and battling weakness from kidney failure, he was unable to preach. At first, our BMM rep Steve Gault came to visit us and stayed long enough to preach on a Sunday. Then Pastor Bill Emberley came from Grace Baptist in Halifax, Nova Scotia, and he stayed for a month. It's a good thing he did since Herb was hospitalized for 9 days during Bill's stay. And then Tim Harpur, Janet's oldest brother came from St. John's, NL to help us move out of the Coon's house in Brenton on Sea to our new location on Thesen Island in Knysna. Each of these men helped in different ways, ministering the Word to our church and loving on them. We appreciate their service. Join us in thanking the Lord for them.



Megan and the "Grans" at Faith's Graduation

In late April/early May, Janet flew back to Canada with Megan to attend Megan's graduation at Faith. While she was in Canada, Herb fell down the stairs at the house in Brenton on Sea. His weakness led to a trip to the emergency department where it was discovered he was in septic shock. So, he was hospitalized for surgery. He had a piece of his colon removed and a colostomy bag attached. In addition, the doctor cleared out an abscess which developed. Thankfully, Herb has recovered from the surgery well and is getting stronger every day. In fact, the doctor said his recovery was "miraculous." That can only be God's people praying. Janet decided to cut her trip short and returned to South Africa before Megan's graduation. Thankfully Herb's mom and Janet's mom were planning to go, and so they were able to attend. Pray for Herb's ongoing health needs. He has an upcoming overnight stay at the George hospital where he will have a fistula installed. This procedure should help with dialysis and allow him to have his chest port removed.



Through all the trials we have experienced, God has been faithful. And God's people have prayed. That has encouraged our hearts. Thanks for all the cards and well wishes you have sent to us. We read and treasure each one. May God richly bless you.

Herb and Janet Hunter