

Genesis Chapter 22

Kalene Mission Hospital

Dear Friends,

Greetings from Kalene. As usual life here is busy and demanding and we are constantly surprised at how long it is since we have written to you. This time we have some good news to report and want to thank those of you who have faithfully prayed for us and for these particular things.

Family

We are pleased and relieved to report that John is back to normal health. After a series of infections in February, we took a week off in early March to Nyangombe mission for a rest. Nyangombe is about 2.5 hours away and has a farm, Bible and Trades training centre in a very quiet location. John spent a lot of time sleeping, resting and "recharging his batteries". The rest of the family did lots of reading and relaxing and enjoyed being together with no schedule to keep to. John's recent illness was a warning to us that we need to do all we can to safeguard his health. This primarily means avoiding malaria. The malaria itself is "OK" but the urological problems and infections that follow (a reaction that John has which is very rare) are much worse and result in pain and chronic infection which take at least two weeks to settle. It is also important to avoid being overworked. This will include trying to recruit more doctors, nurses and support staff and saying "no" to the things others can do, to conserve his energy. The children and Rachel are all well. Katherine is growing taller by the day and has asked about getting baptized. This will probably take place in the dry season when the river goes down to a safe level. Matthew and Peter are very keen on riding bikes and playing soccer with their Zambian friends. Peter has taken over Matthew's old bike and is learning to ride a two wheeler. Woodfield children on Kalene Hill.



Opening of Nursing School

The Kalene Nursing School for Zambia Enrolled Nurses opened on 3 March with 28 students. It was a great day to see the students arrive and settle in to their new accommodation after many months of preparation and negotiations. The students have begun well and there is a good atmosphere among the group. Mission staff are responsible for a 7:30am morning devotion on weekdays and are on a roster for a Sunday afternoon church service in the student lounge. John has preached twice so far on a Sunday and tries to attend when he can to play guitar and help with the singing. We still can't believe the great opportunity for evangelism and discipleship this group of students represent.

Please continue to pray for the student's welfare and the smooth running of the school. There are staff houses to be completed as soon as possible, cooking equipment still to be delivered, some staff who wish to come and work, who have not yet been released from their current government employment and finally termites are attacking the library books.

Mission Staff

Many of you will have seen the article we wrote for the March "Treasury" magazine giving an update of the work at Kalene and the need for more staff. Similar articles have been placed in mission magazines



If you are new or visiting; a special warm welcome to you. We trust you enjoy your time with us.

Today we will be having communion. If it is your practice to participate in this we welcome you to join with us in celebrating the Lord's Supper. If this is not your custom or if you are unsure of what to do please just pass the emblems (bread and wine) to the person next to you.

Today

- Speaker Andrew Stopyra

Next Week

Friday Kids Club

- Kids Club for Year 3 - Year 7
Thursday 6:30pm - 7:30pm
Wray Street Youth Hall
For more information contact:-
Hamish Smith, (03) 4739547

Sunday Ross Pettigrew,
Genesis 23-25

Crèche Roster

- April 6 Lauryn Eaton.
Courtney Stewart
April 13 Rachel Pettigrew
David Hannah

Prayer Requests

Richard & Connie Goodall, Japan, need your continued prayers. Connie has lost around 25 kilos of weight and has little strength. She is on liquid foods with an expected stay in hospital for a further three weeks for continued radiation treatment for her lung cancer.

Ian & Judith Payne, India, thank you for your prayers for Shelley. She is coping very well with her diabetes. Please pray for Karina and Roseann as they provide support for Shelley while Ian & Judith are in India. Pray for Ian as he is inducted into his new role as Principal at SAIACS on Saturday.

in other countries also. We have received some responses and would appreciate continued prayer for long term staff. In the next few months, we are expecting some short term help and are really grateful for this. Dr Brian and Grace Johnson (anesthetist, Tauranga) and three of their children are planning to come from mid-July through September. Dr Justin Beardsley (Cambridge) is planning to come for six months from mid-September till early March 2009. Justin will receive some surgical training from John and will work in medical areas of the hospital too. Nikki Hall (Hamilton) is planning a three month trip to help with nursing later this year. Mark Stewart (Timaru, Dunedin), a medical elective student, will be with us for three months from mid-May. In addition, there are a number of visitors coming from various places for short visits. Please pray for these people as they prepare to travel.



Small Groups

Tuesday

- Ladies Home Group - see Laura Hannah 473-7954
- Mornington Home Group - see Jonathan Gauntlett 453-4195
- Central Home Group - see Steve Clark 479-2070
- Brockville Home Group - see Geoffrey Stewart 476-7888

Thursday

- Pine Hill Home Group - see John Hannah 473-7954
- JCF Home Group - see Gideon Chang 488-2118

Friday

- Friday morning Home Group - see Bethney Stewart 476-7888

Prayer Groups

Thursday

- All Saints main church building from 5:15pm

Sunday

- All Saints Hall from 8:30am

Hospital

The activities of the hospital take up the greatest part of our time here and there is no shortage of challenge and variety. A six year old girl with a very large Wilms' tumour was a challenging case. The family had come from over 100 miles away. The mass began in her right kidney and filled the right lateral and upper abdomen. Removal of her tumour was the longest operation done by John at Kalene to date. After six hours of dissection and a lively postoperative course (complicated by malaria), she made a good recovery and is seen above with her father just before commencing her third round of postoperative chemotherapy. (John produces a periodic medical newsletter of interesting cases with further details and pictures. If you would like to receive this, please contact us.)

General

The seasons dominate life here more than what we are used to in New Zealand. March is almost the end of the wet season. We are having huge downpours and thunderstorms almost every day. Because fruit and vegetables are only locally available in season, you can't go down to the supermarket and buy whatever you feel like eating. In fact our nearest supermarket (7 hours away), burned down in January and the next closest is in Kitwe which is 9 hours drive. The vegetables planted at the start of the season have been harvested and eaten and we are down to cabbage and pumpkin in the garden. We are looking forward to lettuce, tomatoes, beans and carrots once more. The mango season has finished and traditionally now is the season of „meat hunger“ when wild game is hard to hunt because of long grass. Fortunately it is also the season for caterpillars, which provide much needed protein for the local population. We have a caterpillar tree in our garden and for the last two weeks people have been appearing with bags and tins to carefully collect them. The caterpillars are black and red, about 5cm long and fatter than your average earthworm. They can be dried for use later, or dropped into some hot oil and fried for a tasty treat. Do not worry -they won't be appearing on a menu anywhere near you, and we can personally attest that the look of them is much worse than the taste.

Our Easter weekend was disrupted by rain. The inflow water supply to the mission was blocked with debris on Sunday after two inches of rain on two consecutive nights. Then after the water supply was restored, the electricity was off for most of Monday because water from the swollen Zambezi river flooded over the floor of the powerhouse. It felt great to have power and water on Tuesday and the river level has reduced since.

Thanks once more for your prayers and support. **John & Rachel, Katherine, Matthew and Peter Woodfield**

NOTICES

1. A wedding shower for Hannah Leslie will be held Monday, April 7 (tomorrow) at 7:30 p.m., at the home of Maryanne Symons, 211 Ravensbourne Rd. All the ladies of the church are invited.
2. General church invite to Kent and Hannah's wedding on the 19th April, ceremony at 3:30. Caversham Baptist Church, afternoon tea to follow.
3. " **Farewell to Jonathon and Debra and Jessica Gauntlett**", Sunday 27th April everyone is invited to a pot-luck lunch at Wray St chapel following the Sunday morning service. Please bring food and drink to share. Enquiries or offers of help with the lunch details welcome. Ring Bethney 4767888