

# 7<sup>th</sup> Trumpet Ministries International

Revelation 11:15 & Joel 2:12-14

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1/30/2019

Dear friends,

We greet you in the Wonderful Name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ!

All is well here in Johannesburg and the Lord is ever faithful and kind. He has taught us so much in the past months through our work in Claremont and we can never thank Him enough for His provision and direction. It is sometimes hard to work with people, we know that from being in ministry so long, but working with the hopeless and lost on a daily basis moves the soul to another level of deep compassion. We have learnt more than ever before to not lean on our own understanding and have come to a new appreciation of the value of staying in an intimate relationship with our Lord. Fighting to retain our Shalom and stopping the war at the gate is a daily battle, however one we face with confidence in the power of the Holy Spirit. (Zech. 4:6)

Many years ago, in the 90's God sent an American Evangelist to our home. She had a message from God to encourage Amanda not to give up on the calling of God on her life. Sister Evelyn Williams from Washington D.C. taught us many valuable and groundbreaking lessons for our ministry that sustained us in years to come. But one of the fundamental truths she embedded in our hearts were these words: "You can't reach if you don't touch." And it is so true. May we all be encouraged to break free from our personal space, the bondage of our own limitations and reach out to those who need a loving helpful touch.



## The wall:

It took Nehemiah 52 days to complete the wall around Jerusalem. We completed the wall of safety around this little community by the power and the provision of God in 52 days also. The wall spans 364 meters and encompasses 44 apartments. In the process of building the wall, we could employ 54 people and put food on their tables. The gates are hung and the place is clean. Now the hard work is only beginning as we are starting to rebuild the brokenness in some broken hearts in this community. Those who are employed average a minimum of 4 hours a day at the minimum wage of twenty South African Rand per hour. There is a lot to be done and our team works on a daily basis. They do not get paid on a Friday since that is their reasonable service to God and the community and also serves as their tithing unto the Lord.

This is a picture of a model of what Amatola Crescent looks like:



The white boundary surrounding represents the wall. This area comprises a small part of the whole of Claremont, but it is the place where the Lord said we should focus on. There is enough work here in this small place to keep us working for Jesus until He comes!



Workers next to the completed wall.

Amanda discusses the plans for the day to some of the workers.

**“Violence shall no longer be heard in your land, either wasting nor destruction within your borders; but you shall call your walls Salvation and your gates Praise.” Isaiah 60:18**

Because of the high unemployment rate and severe poverty, we like to distribute food parcels such as these on a regular basis to our people in Amatola Crescent. These food parcels include basic necessities and a little extra.



Movie nights:

Some Friday nights the kids have the opportunity to come watch a movie and have some popcorn and cold drink with us. They love it! We generally show two movies, a kid’s show and also a Christian movie for the adults. It is something they really look forward to as some of them do not own a TV.



Workers outing:

We were able to take the team of workers to McDonald’s for a meal and ice cream. Some of them have never been able to eat there before and it was a real treat. We just love seeing those faces light up from excitement. God is so good! We’re lovin’ it!! Haha!!



### Current focus:

At present we are very concerned about the amount of children in our community of Claremont that does not go to school. Some of them dropped out and it is very disheartening to see young and vibrant minds being drawn into the abyss of drug abuse and lawlessness.

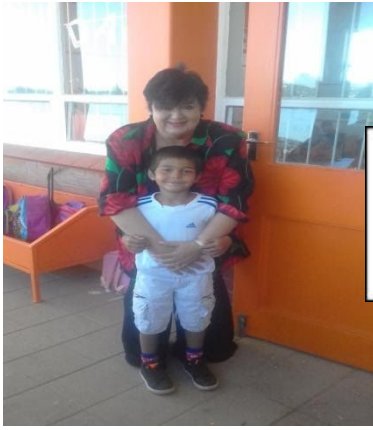
We are liaising with the National Education Department to bring forth a way in which we can get these kids back to the classroom to further their education.

In South-Africa our school terms run from January to December, meaning that the school year starts somewhere in January (depending on the Province) and is divided in four terms with vacations in between and then the year ends in late November or early December. So right now, at the onset of this new school year, we are assisting in this very important part of our social development in Claremont.

We have also started giving some special attention to the very young children by having an open air crèche. We interact with play and coloring and also give a light meal for 3 to 4 hours twice a week. Our vision for this is to have an ongoing daily crèche where kids can be taught, entertained and protected. So many little children between the ages of 1 and 6 roam aimlessly without supervision and this has to stop. Parents are just not involved and there is a lot of neglect. This is the sad truth of this society and we are there to restore and change. It is a tedious task but with the grace and power of the Holy Spirit all things are possible.

Thanks to your generous sponsorship, we were able to purchase and erect this little Jungle Gym for the smaller kids and it provides hours of fun and entertainment. We are planning on purchasing another much larger Jungle Gym to place elsewhere as well.





We were also able to sponsor this little boy to go to pre-school. Here he is with his new teacher. We want to do this for many more kids in our community.

### CHRISTMAS 2018!!!

Christmas day was the highlight in Claremont last year. With all the hard work building the wall and cleaning the area, everyone was ready for something light and cheerful. With your generous donations we could give all 44 families a splendid Christmas party packed with gifts and snacks. Every single person received their own little gift and it ensured many smiles and happiness. We gave the Christmas message and a few Christmas plays that warmed and moved the hearts.



Families arrived early in the afternoon to make sure they had seating on the now trimmed lawn.



The platform we built became our stage. Everyone joined in singing Christmas carols and listening to the timeless message of hope. All the Glory to the Lord!



We invited every one of the workers to come and receive their special gifts from us as a token of our appreciation for their hard labor and effort. Here are some pictures of some of the workers receiving their gifts.



Maud



Drienie



Tina

Hilda



Gerda



Edwina



Some of the men receiving their special gifts.



An example of two gift parcels.

This is our team of kids who are being trained to bring the Gospel through dance and drama. They delivered the most beautiful mimes and we are very proud of them!





**But Jesus said, "Let the little children come to Me, and do not forbid them; for of such is the kingdom of heaven." Matthew 19:14**

Our children are the fundamental building blocks of every society. Every little bit of influence in the right direction draws a line in the sand for them ushering them into making the right choices for their lives in the future. The brokenness and need is evident in their little eyes but every time they can participate in something special, receive a little candy or just get a hug, their faces light up like stars and it makes all the effort and hard work worth the while.

We love our people in Claremont and wish to do so much more for them. We are there all the time and cannot break away from the nagging feeling of being drawn to that place. The gifts always make a way and we are so joyful in the Lord to say that we truly love our work here. May the Lord always be glorified in all we set our hands out to do and may He accomplish His will in all of our lives.

We ask that you please continue praying for this community and its people. Thank you again for your kind support and benevolence.

In Christ Jesus with love,

Ria & Amanda.