

the OUTCRY

May/June 2011

Many Thanks!

Thanks to all those who have given financial support for the work in hospital. It is good that the finances are now on a more stable footing. Two thirds of what is needed is now committed on a monthly basis. This is a great blessing and the whole ZB team thanks you for joining in the work with us.



Because of the financial situation, the team decided not to have an annual pay rise this year. Instead, it is hoped to pay a 5% bonus at Christmas if the funds are available.



From Chiang Mai with Love!

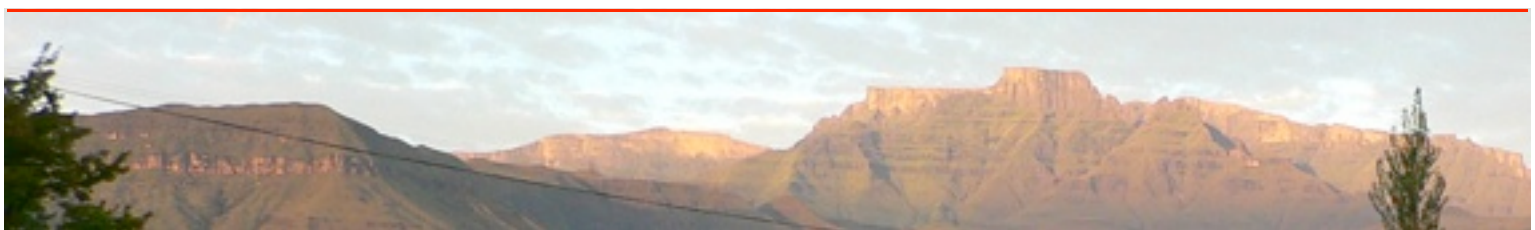
Over Easter we had two visitors from Thailand. Amy and Emily were visiting a friend in Pietermaritzburg and were keen to see the children in hospital. They are both teachers and work in a children's home in Chiang Mai so they were very much at home in the wards. It was lovely to see how the children responded to them. God's love looks much the same in any language!

Please Pray...

....for Sihle's family. His mother has been ill and is still not able to work. Also, his brother is in jail after being involved in a robbery. Praise God that Sihle is strong in his faith and his wife Pumi and daughter Lindelwa are well.

....for an intern to come and work with us. The ZB team has become an established part of life in the three hospitals. The quality and consistency of the work are much appreciated by the hospital authorities. However, we would like to see the work develop further and we believe someone with experience in working with children could add greatly to the effectiveness of the team at this time.

Our help comes from the Lord who made heaven and earth.



Khayelihle

IT'S A MIRACLE!

We are already into the second school term of the year here. It is the start of autumn and we notice that the mornings are crisper, the trees are losing their leaves and the atmosphere is drier. Gone is the humidity of summer and the rains are getting less.

Sipho (7) and Sihle (6) both started primary school in January. This has gone well - much better than we thought. We had been told that Sipho would probably struggle with learning to read. We had envisaged an unhappy Sipho, unable to cope with the demands of school life. However, we are very pleased that has not been the case and, in fact, we have seen Sipho thriving on the stimulation of school. This has been a great joy and quite a miracle.



Sihle at the school gala. In at the deep end as usual!

Sihle (6) also enjoys school and has coped well. He continues to charge at life. Everything is SO exciting and he gives it all 110% of his energy. A myriad of ideas and questions bounce around in his mind.

"Can a fish get stuck in a balloon, Dad?"

he chirped recently. He is a bundle of energy and agitation. Sitting beside him is like sitting beside an octopus - he is all over the place. He continues to be difficult at home, but perhaps less so. We have consulted a family counselor and have been given some helpful advice about the best way to handle and help him. We have seen some improvement for which we are very thankful. There is still some way to go, so please don't stop praying.

As the 2 middle children start school, Henry (13) is finishing primary school and will go to High School next year. He does quite well at school, but needs encouragement and assistance to be organized and plan work effectively. However, Henry has come a long way. He is very healthy and we find it hard to believe that this was the boy who was in hospital for over a year (Dec 2004 - Jan 2006). The doctors didn't

really expect Henry to survive - again, a miracle.

Nzuzo (34 months) is Mr. Chatty. He is a bright, happy and lively little boy who loves life. He loves staying with mum and dad but needs the routine of a playgroup. He was in hospital from 8 to 12 months old and, on his discharge, was described as "dead" and "lifeless". What a pleasure to see him now, skipping everywhere he goes. He is alive, in every sense of the word. It's a miracle!



PARTNERSHIP

It is very easy to get bogged down in the routine of life and not see the big picture but when we reflect we can clearly see God's hand on the children and His work in their lives. We are thankful too that they have an extended family through this prayer letter who can cover them with prayer. Thank you for the vital part that you play in all our lives.