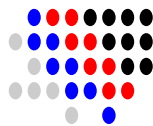


Newmarket Alliance Church

Transformed people, transforming the world



E-Update
March 4, 2008

Please use this e-update is to stay informed, and as prayer reference, when you and your cell are praying about what's happening at NAC.

You may also refer to website www.nacnet.net for more complete listings, and unedited letters.

March at NAC:

- March 9 Love that lasts forever!
- March 16 Palm Sunday
- March 21 Good Friday at N.C.C.
- March 23 Easter Sunday

Listening to God this week: (Zechariah 4.1-14)

NOTES: This prophet revealed God's message with lots of symbolism Here are some of the highlights:

- 4.1 A golden lampstand, and (4.3) two olive trees, as symbols of God's Spirit, operating in authority, and speaking a message of hope to His people
- 4.7 No matter how small things may appear, God is able to turn your availability into something powerful for Him
- 4.9 When God is in your work, it will be completed, regardless of the obstacles
- 4.7 The demonstration of God's hand on your work, will results in shouts of joy, and glory to God

This week's promise from God:

"Not by strength or by might,
but by My Spirit,..
you will know the hand of the Lord."

-Zechariah 4.6,9

Primary Strategy: Prayer

NAC's Prayer Room is open for all who wish to come and pray:

- Monday 7:30p.m. - 8:30p.m. (last week 4)
- Wednesday 7am-8am (@New Hope) (last week 4)
- Friday 7:00a.m. - 8:00a.m. (last week 4)
- Saturday evening (Ask Matt Litow) (last week 5)
- Sunday 9:00a.m. - 9:30a.m. (last week 9)

NAC Announcements:

- 2007 Donation Receipts** are now available in mailboxes at the church.
- "The Triumph of the Cross"** our annual Good Friday Celebration of Unity, will include 5 Newmarket churches, meeting at Newmarket Community Church, 145 Pony Drive, Newmarket
 - Friday, March 21
 - Service begins 10:30am
- March 2008 Lobbezoo Link** is listed at the end of this e-update, and is available to read in full text, at www.nacnet.net.

Other Announcements:

Please pray for:

- Children's Ministry volunteers (there are several vacancies)
- **People who are in need of healing**
 - Ailsa (Andre & Arlene Dembski's friend)
 - Alan (friend of Rob and Diane Whiting)
 - Christine Hunt's sister
 - Linda Hurren's cousin, Adrian Cooper
 - Mike Coles' mother, Wanda
 - Rob Lees' mother
 - Mary Ann Cowie's mother
- **Away from Newmarket:**
 - Jessica Agnew (Guelph)
 - Jon Alle (Brandon)
 - Matt Alle (Brandon)
 - Aynsley Bateman (Tyndale)
 - Josh Bojakra (Tyndale)
 - Amy Cloutier (Tyndale)
 - John Dew (Brock)
 - Stephanie Dunn (Brock)
 - Nicole Griffith (McMaster)
 - Mary-Lynne Hurn (Redeemer)
 - Rhobi Jacobs (McMaster)
 - Michael Klauke (Georgian)
 - Sarah Klauke (Ambrose)
 - Suzanne Perdeaux (Waterloo)

- Josh Perry (Georgian)
- Lynette Pretorius (U of T)
- Jessica Robinson (Brock)
- Nick Wallar (Waterloo)
- Robin Wallar (McMaster)
- Ryan Willems (Orillia)

♦ **Preparing to be out of the country:**

- Jordan Fast (YWAM China)
- Robin Green (Mozambique)
- Jonathan Hurn (Cdn.Forces Afghanistan)
- Matt Litow (Mozambique)

♦ **Out of the country: ** denotes an "enote" has been received and appears at the end of this e update.**

- Andrew Gordon (YWAM Sweden)
- Lianne Litow (Australia)
- Meredith Lopez (Kenya)

My prayer for you for this week:

- I pray that you will see a vision of how powerfully God wants to move in your life, removing obstacles and helping you complete everything He calls you to.

Ian

From Meredith Lopez (edited):

Wow, it's great to be home again. I arrived in Kitale on Tuesday morning. Daniel was there at the airport in Eldoret to pick me up. We arrived in Kitale in the afternoon and headed straight to town to pick up a few things.

Since we were only in town for a few minutes, I only saw one street boy, Jeremiah. As soon as he saw me, he came running, "Mary, Mary!" I gave him a big hug. He started saying in Swahili, "You came back; you came back." I said, "I told you I was coming back, didn't I." He then said in English, "its good, your word, you keep it."

On Wednesday, I got to see Anne again, our social worker. We were so excited to see each other. Daniel, Anne and I got to work, sorting out what had been done over the past 4 weeks that I was gone and what was to be done over the next 6 weeks that Daniel is gone.

We headed to town later in the day and thankfully, I got to see more of my street kids. I was just as excited as they were to see them as they were to see me. I showed them how much snow was on the ground back in Canada; I told them how cold it was there. They said they were glad to see me back here in their warm weather and that I can start to get brown again.

The next few days, Daniel and I went over all things that needed to be done. At 4:00 am, on Saturday morning, I drove Daniel to the bus station so that he could catch the 5:00 am bus to Nairobi.

On Saturday afternoon, Anne and I went out to visit our kids at the children's home, Hope Bright Future (HBF). The kids could hear us coming and before we saw them or they saw us, they started screaming and then they started to shout my name, "Mary! Mary!" As soon as they saw me, they came running for the car and as I got out, I had 20+ beautiful children surrounding me. If only my arms had been long enough, I would have hugged them all at once.

One of my little boys, Loya, clung to me. He asked me to pick him up and he just covered my cheeks in kisses. That was the first time he ever did that.

The home has four new children and I got to meet three of them on Saturday. There is Patrick (8) and Paul (6); they are brothers. They were a bit timid with me at first but once they saw me interacting with the other children, they were totally fine and came to me for hugs.

The other two new children are Veronica (8) and Martin (6). They are brother and sister and are siblings to Samuel Mwangi, one of our children already in HBF. Martin is 6 years old but he is about the height/weight of a 3 year old. He is just absolutely precious.

Anne was telling me that when she and Daniel took the new children to town to purchase clothes and shoes for them, they had told her that they had never been to town before. Anne also found out on that day that Patrick and Paul had never worn shoes before....EVER. Something we couldn't even imagine in North America, isn't it?

Martin still needs to be sponsored, as well as 10 other children so if you would like to read a bit about Martin's story or any of the other 10 children, please go to <http://www.transformedinternational.org/sponsor.php>

In other news:

If you keep up to date on Daniel's blogs, you will know that there was an agreement signed between the current president, Mwai Kibaki and opposition leader, Raila Odinga. This is an amazing thing that has happened; it is definitely a sign of peace and order for the country. In speaking to the Kenyan people over the past few days, they are so happy with the current event. They believe that life is going to get back to some type of normalcy. Some people have said that there is regret running among some Kenyans for what they did, what they are a part of and that they are starting to see what the consequences of their actions will be.

The country is realizing that the cost of many things has gone up and that they are starting to be told that there will be a lack of food in 2009. Because of so many displaced people in the country right now, people who still may fear to go back to their homes or may not have homes to go back to, these are people who will not be planting their farms this year in prep for food for next year and therefore, 2009 will see a shortage in food and unbelievable high prices in food that is available.

This is what the people are starting to see as a consequence to their actions. This year and next year are going to be incredibly difficult for the Kenyan family.

I just want to take a moment to THANK everyone for all of your support and encouragement while I was in Canada. I had an amazing time and was so thankful for the time that I got to spend with each and every person.

Each and every one of you has been an amazing part of my life and I'm so glad that I get to share the journey that God has for me, with you. Again, thank you for your support, your encouragement, your prayers and your love.

Blessings,
Meredith

From Bill and Ilana Lobbezoo (edited):
MARCH 2008

Thank you for your prayers for our team as we gathered for prayer retreat early last month. There was a good spirit among us and sense of anticipation as we entered our second year of participating in a "Solemn Assembly" format. As is the character of our God, He was faithful to speak to us and through us as we quieted our hearts and minds before Him. Please pray for our team and our leadership in the coming months as we consider God's Words to us. In many ways it requires Spirit-led insight and discernment to determine those nuggets of truth and reproof and how to put feet to hearts longing to live faithfully before our God in this land. The demands are many and one of the pitfalls of many of us working here is that of becoming too busy, to detriment of our health and the quality of ministry we can offer. To that end we continue to ask questions of strategy and best use of resources as meet and plan future directions for our city ministries.

The future of the university dorm ministry has continued in a state of constant uncertainty and change, as we have discussed several scenarios over the past weeks. The steering committee met a couple of weeks ago, and Bill was encouraged by the discussion they had. It seems that it continues to be a strategic ministry with support coming from many different levels, and so our minds have been stretched to consider all of the possibilities. It now looks like we are moving in the direction of having 2 separate facilities and ministries - one for males and one for females, given we can find appropriate leadership for both. Our dream would continue to be that these facilities would serve as ministry centres, opening up other avenues of reaching the student and city population for Jesus.

Thank you for your prayers as we persevere through this process.

Together in His Service,
Bill, Ilana, Holly and Kimmy
website: www.lobcam.homestead.com

PRAYER REQUESTS:

1. Pray for us as we continue to give direction to the university dorm ministry and the young leaders serving there. The future of this ministry following this school year is truly in God's hands, so pray that we will truly understand how to proceed in the coming months. Pray that we would be lead to appropriate leadership possibilities fo the ministry.
2. Pray for the new National Youth Committee and Bill's involvement with providing direction to this group of young men and women. After having a gifted national leader for the past several years, the leadership has been passed to new (and different) blood. Pray that they will faithfully serve the youth ministries around the country. Pray for Bill as he considers his future with this particular area of ministry.
3. Pray for our city missionary team as we consider creative and effective ways of reaching further into the city population with the Good News of Jesus. Pray for God-given ideas and a united purpose to persevere.
4. Pray for new colleagues arriving and for those newly arrived and in language study. Ilana is passionate about serving these individuals well that they might adjust easily into their new lives and ministries here. Pray for time and energy to offer them sufficient attention.
5. Please continue to pray for our protection and good health. Several of our team-mates have been struck with illness and strange symptoms as of late. Pray for our protection that we would be effective. The mosquito population also seems larger than usual this year - pray that they would spray the city to curb that threat.