

# The Johnsons In South Africa

2023 February - March UPDATE

# **Prayer Requests:**

- People to be saved
- More labourers
- Safety/Health of our family
- SRBI students
- Hope Baptist Church—to be strengthened and to grow
- Building Plans and approvals for Hope Baptist Church
- Financial support for SRBI

# Sending Church & Support Address:

Harvesters Baptist Church 9488 Westminster Dr. London, ON, N6P 1P3 Canada Ph: (519) 673-9978

## Personal Contact:

Phone: +27 82 768 5698

E-mail:

jrjohnson@fastmail.com

"To give light to them that sit in darkness and in the shadow of death..." Luke 1:79 "Wherefore we labour, that, whether present or absent, we may be accepted of him."

2 Corinthians 5:9

### Greetings from South Africa,

It is hard to believe that we are already in the month of April. It seems like only a few days ago that we were busy with our youth ministries in December and January. Time is passing so quickly and we must all pray daily for God's wisdom to use each moment wisely and to make them count for eternity.

The beginning of 2023 began with a bit of transition in the ministries here. God led me to commit more time and involvement at Solid Rock Baptist Church, as well as continuing with overseeing Hope Baptist Church and the Bible Institute. It has been an increased challenge to organize everything, but I am thankful for the young men that God has given as fellow-labourers in both churches. Both Bro. Marcus and Bro. Raymond are serving as assistant pastors, and the Lord is blessing the ministries as we work together. We are continuing to see visitors at our services, people trusting Christ, as well as spiritual growth in the lives of those in the church. It has been encouraging to see a large percentage of our youth and adults excitedly working through weekly discipleship lessons and memory verses.



The churches have also been busy assembling packets which contain a John & Romans, several gospel tracts and a church information brochure. Once a month we have been going out to distribute these house to house in our communities. Through this labour God is continuing to bless and open further doors to witness. We have seen our Sunday School and youth classes growing in attendance, and we are excited for what God will continue to do. We pray and desire for what the future could hold if these young people will trust Christ and then choose to live whole-heartedly for Him.

Our Bible Institute is continuing on and we are over half-way through our first semester. There is a sweet and teachable spirit among the 5 young people we have this year. It has been a blessing to have Marcus, Raymond, Evangelist Bill Smith, and Missionary Don Kilmer all helping with the teaching. Please continue to pray that God will raise up young people who are serious minded about training to serve Him. Please also pray for one of the students named Phumi, she is having some serious health issues and we need the Lord's wisdom in how to best help her.

We continue to pray for God to open the doors for us to begin construction on a church building and parsonage at Hope Baptist Church. They keep telling us that the site plans are almost approved and that we can begin dirt work and ground preparation, but one little thing after another are still causing delays. But we serve a God that can open the doors and put everything in place. He has already done so many great things with providing the land and about 25% of the anticipated building cost to start with. Please pray with us for His perfect timing and continued provision. Please also pray for wisdom for housing for both assistant pastors. Marcus, and his wife Mathapelo have outgrown their small living space as they now have two young children. We are praying and asking God for wisdom and an open door to help them with this need. Raymond, the assistant pastor at Hope Baptist Church, is preparing for to be married July 1<sup>st</sup> and they also need God's provision for housing until the parsonage can be built on the church property.

Our family is doing well, the children are all busy with school, and the extra busyness that comes with being missionary kids. My wife is a tremendous helpmeet and blessing as she not only takes care of the home, but also teaches the youth girls SS class, monthly ladies meetings, and helps keep me organized! I am so thankful for the privilege God has given us to serve Him here in South Africa as a family and we truly appreciate and covet your prayers!

Gratefully Serving the Saviour,

Jeremy, Rebekah,

Titus, Tanner, Tayden & Tianna