




# Umndeni WaBantwana

- Family for Children -

November 2012

Issue 3

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You must love the LORD  
your God with all your  
heart, all your soul, and  
all your mind and  
second to love your  
neighbor as yourself."  
Matthew 22:37-39

**BANK DETAILS**  
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### November Greetings

Wow! It is the month of November and I can't help but feel this year is going by so fast. Michelle keeps on telling me we need to make plans to take the kids away for a Christmas holiday. I keep on telling her not to rush things we have plenty of time. Well guess what? Time has almost run out.

We have all been sick, especially Michelle. For the last two weeks she has had flu and today is the 1<sup>st</sup> day she has woken up not feeling sick. A few of our kids are battling with skin rashes and sores that they seem to get every summer. They have been on an antibiotic, and are all much better now.

For almost eight months we had no rain, all our rain tanks were empty and we were starting to panic about our water situation. Well you won't believe it for the last two months it has almost been raining nonstop. Our road turned into a river. For two weeks we had water running down our road. Cars were finding it difficult to get off our property because of all the mud. Pity we could not harvest all of the water, but we have managed to fill up all of our rain tanks. The last two days have been nice and sunny.

There are 5 weeks left of the final school term. We have a number of kids writing end of year school exams. Most of them are older teenagers who don't live with us permanently, but we are involved in their school activities. Michelle always tries to help them with materials their school can't supply them with. We also had to say goodbye to young man, who lived with us for the past year, Andile. He has gone over to Cuba to study medicine. It is a very stressful time of year for everyone. To me it always feels as if everyone is trying to get things done at the last minute.

One of the things Michelle and I try to do is expose a lot of the older kids to life outside of Ingwavuma. Nathan and his friends play in the church band and so we have managed to take them to some events. We took them to Louie Gigeo Passion Tour. Matt Redman and Chris Tomlin were leading the youth worship. We also took them to a local conference and on the one day they were asked to open the one session with a song. The guys were very nervous but also had a good time.



Children doing homework after school



Rebecca and Lisa

**"Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understandings, in all your ways acknowledge Him and He will make your paths straight." Proverbs 3:5-6**

*Fear not, for I am with you, I will bring your offspring from the east and gather you from the west.*  
Isaiah 43vs5

*Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it*

*Wrath is cruel and anger is an overwhelming flood, but who is able to stand before jealousy*

We have also had a number of birthdays, 4 birthdays to be exact. We can't afford to have big birthday parties for the kids but Michelle will make them a big cake and buy them some small gifts. Lisa got so stressed out about her birthday that when the big day came she was not feeling well. It was all a bit too much for her. Aidan starts to celebrate his birthday a week before the event by reminding everyone that his birthday is coming. On the day friends start arriving from all over to wish him happy birthday.



Showing off their certificates



Some of our kids doing a Gumbo Dance at school

The children are all getting older and school work and activities is starting to take up more time. For some of our kids school is a lot of hard work and for some it is very easy. We find a lot of our kids need remedial help. A lot of one on one help with reading and maths. Some days we feel we are making progress and then some days we realize we have a long road to travel.

The school Michelle started for 4 to 5 year olds, **Jacobs Ladder**, is going along very nicely. I am going to have to vacate my office so that the class can get more space. We are expecting 15 kids to enroll for next year. We are going to have to make plans to build bigger class rooms for them. Michelle and Beatrice also employed another lady to help them in the class room, especially when it comes to cleaning up time. In our last newsletter we told everyone about the new jungle gym that was built for the kids. After the team left us they gave us some money to buy furniture for Jacobs Ladder. We managed to get more chairs, tables, games, stationery and toy bikes. Michelle has put it all away for the kids for next year. Thanks to Mark and the team at **Solid Ground Church** for all their help.



Mandy and Debra showing off the new toys and furniture

Michelle will also be resigning from her duties at **Khethani Christian school**, the school we started 5 years ago, Michelle wants to focus on our kids schooling and feels with her sister-in-law joining the school there is too much family involvement. I will remain on the governing body, sports coach and counseling the older boys. At the moment I am very much involved in building three new class rooms for the school for next year. Please go onto our web page and read our **Fan Club** letter, under **Khethani Christian School**, and forward it to people who you think might be interested.

The kids are all really looking forward to the end of the school year and are already planning their Christmas Dinner. We always have a big dinner on Christmas Eve, with turkey, roast potatoes and all the trimmings. Everyone really looks forward to it and the kids love setting the table and helping to get everything ready. We always try and plan a few activities over the Christmas holidays to keep everyone busy and are hoping to take some of the children to visit Michelle's parents over the holidays. Some of the older kids will be going on a church camp for a few days.

We also want to take this opportunity to thank everyone for the support we been receiving. The finances we receive help us to manage Umndeni WaBantwana. One area I am happy to report is going well is the vegetable garden. In our garden we have tomatoes, green peppers, lettuce, onions, mielies, beetroot and potatoes. We also planted some orange trees and looks like next year this time we will be eating oranges. Nathan and his friends dug the hole to plant the trees. I must warn people my teenage boys do not come cheap. With the holidays coming up they are always looking for ways to make money.



Some of the rain we been getting. What I have managed to do is channel some of the water to the vegetable garden. The picks were taken a day after the rain stopped. We are finding constant maintenance work around and in the building a challenge. Toilets seem forever blocked, door locks always braking, rooms in need of paint and all our funding helps us to maintain the buildings and the grounds. For the first time since we have been in our houses we have managed to stop all the leaks in the roof when it rains.

Please note our banking details, web page address, face book page and other information is in the yellow column on the left.

[www.umndeniwabantwana.org.za](http://www.umndeniwabantwana.org.za)

[www.Facebook.com/UmndeniWaBantwana](https://www.facebook.com/UmndeniWaBantwana)



Today some of our children are off to the beach on a school outing. They are well stocked with snacks and plenty of juice and very excited. We will have tired children tonight.

Have a nice day! The Coetzee Family