



# Zonk'iZizwe Church News

Feb2013

## Greetings

Dear Friends



We hope and pray you are well. Last year when Mix and family came to visit she suggested I send out a newsletter. Although she no longer lives in Ingwavuma she still would like to know what is happening in the church. I guess she is not the only one. A lot of you have left your mark on our church and community.



Nhlanhla

Smange

Believe you me these two guys don't look like this anymore. They have just come back from doing a gap year at NCF Church in Pietermaritzburg and they put on a lot of weight and have grown up a lot.

Nhlanhla learned how to play the guitar and is very much involved in the worship team. He is also a teacher's assistant at Khetani Christian School.

Smange has been employed by the church as a youth leader and he is very much involved in children's church. Both bring a level of professionalism and take their responsibility's very serious.

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### **Building a Kitchen**

Yes we have taken on a new building project. This time it is for all those devoted lady's in our church who slave away preparing nice meals for us on family days. This building will also be used for children's church and prayer meetings. We hope to have it completed by March, in time for the Easter conference. Originally my plan was not to go so big because of the budget but the builder felt I was not being faithful. All these men are committed to giving up their time, at no charge, to make sure this project is completed on time. So I guess I need to show some faith. What is nice about a building project it does bring the men closer together. It also allows me to get to know them better.

We are also putting plans in place to electrify the church building. We want the children in the community to use the building on weeknights to do their school work.

This year the church is Seven years old and for the Easter conference our theme is **How Great is our God**. It is amazing how everybody is behind this Easter Conference to make sure it is a success. The churches from Qwabega, Ndumu and a team from Solid Ground Empangeni will be joining us.



### Visiting the church in Mozambique

Last year I was invited to visit some churches in Southern Mozambique. There is about 10 churches there who leaders are in need of help. This year January I went back again and we had a wonderful time with some of the leaders. We are hoping to collect Portuguese Bibles with concordance, clothing, food etc. We are one of four churches who go. The church who is leading the outreach work is River Side Church in Mtubatuba. The vision is to come along side these pastors and help hold up their hands as they lead. At a later stage we will have conferences, and hope to send teams who can help with some maintenance work.



Our worship team has grown in more ways than one. When Simon left to colder waters in Cape Town we were very scared what our worship would start to look like. I must say God has and is and always will be amazing. The young guys Simon left us with have grown so much it is amazing. And God still send us people who can help them. Michelle has taken over the management of the worship team. They are giving her more grey hairs. Every day she has to remind herself that they are still at school.

The next generation of leaders. We have started training the next group of guys from the ages 12. Hopping in two years they will be ready to lead. Most of our guys leave Ingwavuma once they have completed grade 12.





### **All the above guys were leading our worship last year**

along with Yito, Nokwazi and Nondumiso. This year we had worship auditions and have added more members to the team. Sadly Nokwazi had to step down because of work commitments and Chilombo has left us to go to boarding School. We have also had three new faces join the worship team.

The church is growing but our focus is not on the numbers but on the spiritual growth. We are faced with some big challenges. Lots of teenage girls falling pregnant, lots of youth drawn to worldly temptations, still more women attend church than men, still lots of young couples moving in together and not committed to marriage. We also give out food parcels every month to family who do not receive a grant or are finding it hard to make ends meet.

This weekend we will be having our first men's beach trip. We have 20 men going. I know for a lot of churches out there this is small but for us this is big stuff. Slowly slowly God is moving in the hearts of our men. They are coming back to him and want to put their family right. We as a church are committed to walking alongside them. Not condemning them but loving them and pointing them to Christ. Hoping they put their faith in Christ and not men.

Please pray for the work in Mozambique and if you can find Bibles for us to give to the pastors there.

Also please pray for the building of the Kitchen.

Thanks

God Bless

Neil, Michelle and Family at Zonk'iZizwe Church



**"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**