

The Branch Family

Serving the Lord in South Africa

Mpumalanga
4,000,000 people

*Also I heard the voice of the Lord, saying, Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?
Then said I, Here am I; send me. - Isaiah 6:8*

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Grand Opening
Service



Naude Preaching

BRANCH FAMILY UPDATE

MARCH / APRIL 2017

Praise God we serve a Risen Saviour! With the celebration of His resurrection, cooler Fall weather has come to Kimberley and it's a welcome change for us. God continues to do amazing things here for which we are thankful!

PERSONAL

The beginning of March saw yet **another move** for the Branch Family (our 4th in 15 months!). The house we were living in was being sold and necessitated us finding a new house to rent. God quickly found us a nicer house in a safer location for less money! We're also thankful to be given a 2-year lease, which means we should not have to consider moving again for a while. Meanwhile, **Malachi celebrated his 15th birthday** in April. We are thankful for our children and their love for their South African home and the help they are to us.

MINISTRY

CHURCH: Thank you for praying for a church location. Because we were meeting in our home, moving would have left us without a meeting place. But God provided right on time! He led us to an office building with a thousand square feet of space right in the middle of the city that fits within our ministry budget. It has two large rooms, one we use for services, the other for fellowships, along with two smaller rooms for Sunday School and Bible Institute space. The people were so excited as we held our first service there on the first Sunday in April. This past Sunday, we held a BIG Grand Opening Celebration service. The people worked very hard to invite friends and family to be a part of this great day. We rejoice to report that we had a new record attendance of 27 with 9 first-time visitors! What a great blessing of God and a great encouragement to the church!

SALVATIONS: Since our last letter, two more have been saved. Norman, the father of one of our new converts had been attending for several weeks and was under conviction from the preaching. Having spent most of his life attending a "dead" Anglican church, it was the first time in his seventy years of life to hear true gospel preaching. Thank God for the glorious Sunday he repented of his sin and received Christ as His Saviour. Also, the wife of Joshua, the man from Zimbabwe I mentioned in the last letter, asked me about being baptized. I spoke with her briefly after the service and she told me of how she, too, had placed her faith in Christ as Saviour. She was baptized right after the service along with Cecil, who we also mentioned in the last letter.

BIBLE INSTITUTE: Naude and Wonder continue to make good progress in their training. We finished the first class and they both scored good marks on their tests and exams. Last month, I had them preach a short sermon from the subjects we had covered and they both did an outstanding job in honoring the Lord and His word.

SCHOOL BIBLE STUDIES: We continue to go to Olympic Primary School each Monday for morning assembly. I wish you could hear over five hundred children singing "I Have Decided to Follow Jesus!" And while the weekly Bible study at Diamantveld High School is struggling a little, the one at Pescod High School continues to grow averaging over forty students each week.

PRAYER

PRAY as we host the Bible Baptist School for the Deaf out of Pretoria as they present the drama "The Final Judgment" on May 11th here in Kimberley. We are praying for many souls to be saved.

PRAY for Naude and Wonder in their continued Bible training. Pray for Naude's wife and baby girl also.

PRAY for our oldest daughter Tiffany in the U.S., who is expecting our granddaughter in August.

A big "thank you" to Eastside Baptist Church in Mebane, NC and Pastor Chuck Perkins for the love offering toward Vicki and Anna's flight to the States in August. Also, to Lakewood Baptist Church in Chattanooga, TN and Pastor Ronnie Gilbert for the love offering toward our new church building.

In Christ's Service,
The Branch Family