



Place of Hope Africa

"For I know the plans I have for you...to give you hope and a future" Jeremiah 29:11

Greetings from chilly South Africa!

The nights have been in the 30's F... remember, we do not have heat in our homes here.

In our last newsletter we mentioned that the house we are currently renting has been put on the market. Now it has sold and we have been given our 60 day notice. We need to be out by the end of July. We take this as another confirmation that the house we have signed an agreement on is the direction we are to go. So this letter comes with urgency that we must raise the funds to purchase this property as quickly as possible. Our goal is \$210,000.00 by the end of July.

There are a couple of options for you to be involved in this....send a check made out to Place of Hope Africa writing "house" in the memo and mail it to Place of Hope Africa, PO Box 1196, Alexandria, MN 56308. If you prefer to make an online contribution, you can go to <http://fundraise.com/Place-of-hope-africa/place-of-hope-africa> and donate or to www.regenerationcenter.org clicking on our link to donate there. We thank you all for your support both in prayer and finances as the Lord leads.

Below is a letter written by a friend, Nevin Smith, who came to visit along with Kevin Iverson to see our life and ministry firsthand. They have been such an encouragement to us and we thank Nevin for this letter.

Marv & Marie Bjorklund

Dear Friends and Family,

I just got back from visiting missionary friends in South Africa. Marv and Marie Bjorklund are from Alexandria, MN and have started an orphanage in that country, taking in, at last count, 15 children! Some of these kids' parents have died from AIDS and some have just been abandoned. As Marv commented, "It's amazing that only one of the children has HIV!" as AIDS is ravaging the country.

Two Americans in a 3 bedroom house with 15 children all under the age of 5. It was an amazing thing to see. And they get NO FUNDING from the South African government.

Now their problem. The house they are renting has sold. They have found the perfect house and have committed to trusting the Lord for the funds. Obviously they have spent all their own money caring for these children, and this is where we, as Christians, need to step in.

They need to raise – quickly – \$210,000 to buy the house: \$170,000 for the house and another \$30,000 for the renovations it will need. So I have broken it down this way: We need either 200 people to give \$1000 each or 2,000 people to give \$100 each to get this house. But any amount will be greatly appreciated as time is running out because the house will be put back on the market soon if Marv and Marie can't come up with the necessary funds.

(KEEP READING BELOW)



PAPA NEVIN WITH SOME OF THE KIDS

ALL 15 OF THE CHILDREN – THEY GO THROUGH A LOT OF HUGGIES!

The best way to give is to make out a check to **PLACE OF HOPE, AFRICA** (Put “House” in the memo) And then mail it to: **The Regeneration Center, P.O. Box 1196, Alexandria, MN 56308**. ALL (100%) of your money will go toward purchasing the house if you mail a check.

If you would like to use a credit card you can visit the website at the link below. I have also given this way and can vouch for its security. But if you give this way about 7% of your giving will go toward managing the website and credit card fees. <http://www.fundraise.com/Place-of-hope-africa/place-of-hope-africa>

Thanks for reading this. Please consider giving whatever you can. These children need the new house. Believe me – I was there!

May the Lord of Hosts bless all of you this day,

Nevin Smith