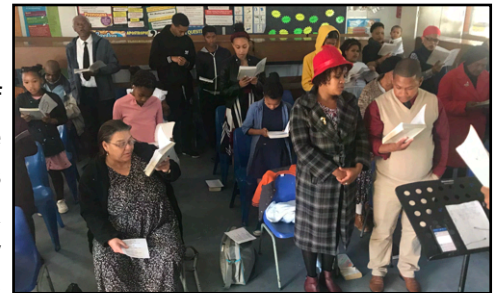


Dear Praying Friends,

October 18, 2022

Greetings from South Africa! It is hard to believe I have been here over a month already. When I first arrived, I almost felt like I was back in the Philippines as we passed vendors selling food and other goods on the side of the road, children buying items from little variety stores in front of their homes, and crowded neighborhoods that resembled areas of Manila. But it is different too. There are no jeepneys or tricycles (motorcycles with sidecars) like I had become accustomed to in Manila, only minibus taxis and relatively little traffic compared to Manila (fortunate for the cows that tried crossing the street in front of us). The variety of cultures and nationalities in Cape Town is also different for me. When I shop at the grocery store, I blend in with the white population mostly of English or Dutch descent (the latter known as the Afrikaners). There is also a large population of black Africans, and then more than half of the residents are a mixed race known as the Coloureds, most of whom speak Afrikaans as their first language.

Though I only know a few words in Afrikaans, I have been welcomed warmly by the believers at Eindhoven Baptist Church. The service is predominantly in Afrikaans, but fortunately most of them can also speak English. Pastor Tony and Cathy Payne planted this church in 2011 in the township of Delft on the outskirts



of Cape Town. The church currently rents a room at a school for their services, but **they are praying that the Lord would provide a piece of property in the area for them to purchase.** Up until now, they have had no musicians in their church and have been singing to prerecorded music. I have enjoyed hearing their enthusiastic singing as I play the keyboard for their services. My first Sunday, the children were intrigued by the keyboard and gathered around curiously. Little did they know that soon they would have the opportunity to learn more about music.

Shortly after arriving, I enjoyed attending a multi-church ladies retreat. It was a great blessing to connect with ladies from the church as well as some from other churches. The speaker was from Johannesburg and all the sessions were in English, which I thoroughly enjoyed. The theme was "Joyfully His" (Phil. 4:4), going from Fear, Depression and Sighing to Faith, Praise and Singing. How sweet it is to fellowship with other sisters in Christ anywhere in the world!



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Since we are in the southern hemisphere, winter is past, and we are heading into summer, so the first week of October was spring break for the schools. Because of that, we were able to hold a music camp for the children and young people from the church. None of them had been exposed to any music



training in the past, so we had fun with the basics. By the end of the week, they could read the notes of the treble clef, name the notes on the keyboard, clap basic rhythms and play "My God is so Big" on the resonator bars. Many of them have not yet made a profession of faith, so we also had a gospel emphasis time each day and are praying that the Lord would work in their lives to draw them to



Himself. It was a blessing to have a visiting mom and grandma attend the Sunday service after camp to hear the children play their special number. **Please pray that the Lord would save these children and young people and give further gospel opportunities with family members that are not yet saved.**

I am grateful for the continued contact I am able to have with the Philippines while I am here. My church family and students are enjoying hearing about what God is doing in this part of the world. It has been a thrill to hear several of them express how the Lord is burdening their heart toward missions. I had many eager volunteers that wanted to come and help me with music camp earlier this month, if only I could have pulled them through the computer. 😊 I have also enjoyed introducing the South Africans to life and ministry in the Philippines. A couple of weeks ago, I shared about the Philippines with the children in Sunday School here, and they are currently learning how to sing a song in Tagalog. **Please pray with me that the Lord would use this exposure to burden more South Africans and Filipinos for His harvest fields around the world.**

Other Prayer Requests:

- For wisdom as we continue training the children and youth in music and prepare for a Christmas program in early December
- For the Lord to multiply His work through me in the less than two months that I have remaining here, especially that He would open hearts to the gospel and give specific opportunities for gospel conversations
- For spiritual growth for the members of Eindhoven Baptist Church and Living Faith Christian Baptist Church
- For BJMBC students to grow in grace and in the knowledge of Christ this semester

Thank you for your faithful prayers for South Africa and for the Philippines! May the Lord bless you!

In Christ,
Sara Morris

