



## NUUSBRIEF JANUARIE 2025

### Hello ATAIM Family

We are so grateful for the Lord's provision throughout 2024 which has enabled us to continue with the ministry in our beloved Beaufort West. It has been hard at times without Pierre but we can see how the Lord has guided us every step of the way. I am so grateful to have worked alongside Pierre and to learn the ministry from him.

Our family is doing so well and our precious little Owen has brought so much joy into our lives. He is 6 months old and we love seeing his little personality developing. Having Owen in our lives has definitely helped us begin to heal from the loss of Pierre.



### Feeding

Johnelle Johnson, Dalene Botha and Jeanette Martin continue to cook for the many children in their communities. We pray for strength for our partners as they continue to serve so faithfully. Cooking multiple times a week in extremely hot weather (40°C/105°F) with no relief is exhausting. Yet they never complain. We are thankful to the Lord for how He has not only provided for the feeding programs but for their households as well. We have been able to continue to bless and



assist our pastors monthly with food and electricity for their own families too, which has helped them greatly.

## Youth Ministry

Pastor Freddie continues to encourage the youth in physical fitness and Body Building, a personal passion of his. We received lots of donations of sports clothing and sports shoes from Masiphumelele CrossFit which has greatly blessed these young people as they persue their goals. Pastor Freddie and some of his youth took part in a body building competition last month. We were so proud of them all. We were especially so excited to hear that two children, that we were able to sponsor, took top placements in their weight divisions.

Jeanette was so happy to also receive some sports shoes as she does lots of prayer walks around her community and is on her feet all day.

Music continues to be a huge part of the youth and their outreach ministry.



## School supplies

We have been able to provide more children with stationery, school bags and school uniforms/shoes for January 2025. This has been an answer to prayer as the parents are not able to afford to buy much for their children especially those starting grade 1 . Most of our schools in BW have a uniform for their dress code. If children are unable to afford the uniform, they can attended school in their own clothing but then they are teased and ostracised for being so poor. This forces them to stay home and get into trouble on the streets. So these school supplies and uniforms are such a great blessing. Our hearts are so full knowing that there are going to be a lot of happy little children who are going to be excited to go to school properly dressed and have school supplies.



## Dignity Fund

Johnelle continues to distribute sanitary wear to the young ladies in her community. With the tremendous heat of this summer, we were able to purchase soap and deodorant for many children. These basic provisions make such a difference in the young children's lives.

## Spiritual Dance

There have been many competitions over the past few months in which the groups have done very well. They also continue to dance at various churches and other outreach functions. There has been an increase in those joining in on the fun.



## Pastor Barry and Petro Swanepoel

They continue to have many outreaches in their community which we have been able to assist with throughout the year. Their church has such a heart for ministry and it has been a blessing to partner with them. They have had an increase in attendance at their church which has been wonderful. Their youth also continues to grow and thrive. It is awesome to see the next generation following the Lord and encouraging their friends to do the same.

They are also very excited to host more outreaches on the farm in 2025.



## **Building projects**

We have added a front porch area to Pastor Freddie's house with interior plastering and tiling. This has extended the living area which has been great for them as they have a constant flow of people in and out of their house. There is always room for more people in their home.

Some of their youth meet there to exercise in the early morning and they also meet there to play music. Jeanette loves her plants so she has set up an area in the corner for her plants which looks lovely. Growing plants in BW is a labour of love.

## **Annual Cancer Ladies function**

This year we held the event on our farm for the first time. It was wonderful to have Toy Roley from the USA to be with us for this special occasion. We decorated the barn and gave each lady a gift of a Bible, cup inscribed with bible verse, Christmas cakes and chocolates. It was a day full of fellowship, prayer, arts and crafts, and singing. Johnelle made a delicious lunch and we had tasty cake and savoury snacks. Each lady felt so special and loved.

One of our family friends who is currently undergoing cancer treatment donated 20 scarves so each lady got to choose their own scarf. Toy brought wooden nativity sets from USA to paint and we also painted pot plants in which they each planted a succulent to take home. The joy and laughter was so wonderful to hear. Those in remission encouraged those undergoing treatment. They said they didn't have to think about their illness for one day and that it is a highlight of their year.

## **Trash Dump**

There has been an increase in people working on the trash dump. The summer has arrived so the heat on the dump is incredibly harsh with no relief from the burning sun. Sadly, another young lady living on the dump has fallen pregnant. She was very embarrassed and didn't want me to know as she already has two children living in town who she is not able to care for. She has no idea how far her pregnancy is and so all I could do is encourage her to go into town to visit the clinic. They feel so ostracised from the community and don't like to visit the clinic which is so sad. We continue to help all the ladies monthly with toiletries and provide as much food, clothing and water as we can. They are always so genuinely appreciative for anything they receive.



As we look back on the year, we are just in awe of how the Lord has faithfully and graciously seen us through. He has been faithful in every season. He has blessed our ministry and family abundantly. And even though we are about to begin another year without our beloved Pierre, we turn our eyes to our Lord.

From the bottom of my heart, thank you to each and every one of you who takes the time to read our updates, to pray for us, that support us financially and provide us with such incredible encouragement and wisdom. Your prayers support keeps me going and I am honoured to partner with you in ministry.

I pray that 2025 is an incredible year for you and your loved ones and, in the words of my Pierre, "May the Lord bless you exceedingly, abundantly and above all you could ever think of ask for".

Sharon Roux