



# the WOMACK family



### New Year and New Growth!

Our New Year commenced on an encouraging note, marked by our highest recorded attendance of 82 individuals on January 7th! This may have taken us by surprise, but we know that it didn't take the Lord by surprise! Even though we didn't have room in the current building to seat this many people, our sovereign God had already arranged a beautiful sunny day for us to just move outside!

### Teammate Hannah Bennett

As some of you may be aware, our teammate, Hannah Bennett, is currently on a much-needed furlough in the United States. As she visits supporting churches and establishes new connections for new support, we eagerly anticipate her swift return to South Africa. If you are aware of any churches seeking experienced missionaries, we kindly request your referral to facilitate this process.

### New Discipleship Initiatives

Over the past few months, our church has experienced substantial growth, particularly among teenagers participating in Friday Night Youth Clubs and Sunday Services. With over 15 teens (ranging from 13-19 years old) consistently attending, the demand has led us to initiate Thursday afternoon sessions for personalized discipleship. These young people love the detailed weekly classes (they even enjoy doing the homework). Several of the parents have joined us as well, which makes it special to teach families on a personal level. It is so exciting to see how they are growing and soaking up everything they learn! Matthew is working with the men/boys and Courtney is working with the girls/ladies to make sure that the groups get as much attention and understanding as possible. Not only is this helping the teens learn about the Lord, the Bible, and the gospel, but it is also helping them with their English and vocabulary while helping us learn more Xhosa!

### Baptisms

In January, we baptized three new converts, and we have a few new candidates to be baptized again soon. Praise the Lord! Please pray for these new converts. Due to the deep cultural challenges, language barriers, and general lack of understanding, we have been doing extensive discipleship to make sure that the people truly understand and aren't confused in anyway about their newfound walk with the Lord and His plan for their lives.

### Inaugural Soup Kitchen

Since we have been working in the Walmer township, we have been renting a flatlet and yard there to use for our Holiday Clubs. This is the same house that we use for discipleship and Bible Studies as well. At the beginning of the year, we were able to host our first "Soup Kitchen" at this house. Though we have done a few other feeding ministries, those were exclusively for the children. We are now branching out to feed not only the children but the adults as well. Many in the community have started calling it the "church house". Watching the children's excitement when we pull in is such a joy! With the help of some of the Mama's from our church we were able to feed over 150 people a very hearty, nutritious stew with chicken and lots of vegetables over rice. This meal was just a small way to show the community that our church (Solid Rock Baptist) loves and cares for them. Please pray as we hope to do these more often.

### Building Project Update

Since finalizing the purchase of our church property in August 2023, progress has been made on enhancing security measures like a new front wall, motion sensors, and private security. At this time, we are waiting for the Municipality to approve the building plans to modify an existing building into the new church building. While \$40,000 has already been donated towards the project's \$80,000 cost, additional funds are needed to complete this endeavor. Join us in prayer for the Municipality to give favor to our plans as we go to resubmit as well as for the remaining funds to come in so we can pay for the work to be completed.

### THE WOMACK FAMILY

New video on our YouTube channel "Womacks to South Africa" Jan-Feb 2024 Update

If you do not receive our email updates, you are missing out on dozens of photos as well as video updates. Please contact us to get added to our email list.

### January/February 2024



Contact: Matthew & Courtney Womack womacks2sa@gmail.com ph. 803.360.5636

Sending Church: Gantt Street Baptist Church 2121 Gantt Street Cayce, SC 29033 Pastor Gene Rowell

Support Address: Macedonia World Baptist Missions, Inc. PO Box 519, Braselton, GA 30517 ph. 706.654.2818