

You are the light of the world. A city on a hill cannot be hidden. (Matt.5:14)

Hi All. It is hard to believe that it has been four months since our last newsletter, four months that have been busy, busy, busy. We have learned quickly that church planting is a lot of work! But we absolutely love serving the Lord in this way and we "press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me" (Phil.3:12).

➤ **Church Meetings:**



- **Sunday Morning Service** – We have settled in at the school premises and are enjoying being there. We are still four families and we are really blessed by our group, everyone loves the Lord, loves being a part of the fellowship, and everyone has got involved somehow in the church. We really have become a close family of families.

- **Mid-Week Fellowship** – Our Wednesday evening meeting is a blessing. We have all got to know each other well & this meeting has become a time of sharing and praying for each other, which has bonded us even more. This, along with worship and a Bible study, is just as we had hoped and prayed this meeting would be like.

➤ **Ministry:**

- **School Ministry** – This ministry has been going well, we finished teaching through James and are currently doing a creation series at the school.
- **Surf Ministry** – This ministry has been very busy and the Lord has been using us a lot amongst the surfers. We continue to have our surf club with the school and between the church and school the club has grown, some days we have had to use two vehicles to get everyone to the beach. We have also done two outreach evenings at our home showing the various "Walking on Water" surfing DVD's, both events were well attended. I was then approached by Sonsurf and asked to be Chaplain at some of the Pro surfing events in Durban, so I worked at the Quiksilver Pro in April and then at the Lizzard Pro in May, it was wonderful to be able to minister at these events. Further to this we have partnered with Walking on Water and Sonsurf and are doing surf outreaches throughout KZN, these events are falling into place and will run through July and August.
- **Molweni Ministry** – This ministry is also going well and we have built wonderful relationships with the fellowship in Molweni. We finished teaching through James and are going to start a course doing an overview of the whole Bible.



- **Love Them Like Jesus** – As a church we have taken “Khulani Kahle Orphanage” under our wing. Every month we visit the orphanage and we take a cooked meal and any clothes and items we have managed to get together for them. We have also built a strong relationship with them and there are lots of needs, so we are prayfully trying to love and care for them in any way we can.



### ➤ **New Ministry:**



- **Junior Youth** – We started a Junior Youth ministry in the second term, it is called **JaM** (Jesus and Me) and we hold it at the local primary school on Friday late afternoon. It has been a lot of fun as we do games, songs, and a Bible lesson each week.

- **“Fireproof” Outreach** – We did an outreach in the hall at the school and used the “Fireproof” movie for this. We had about 50 people attend and all really enjoyed the movie. We also gave away many Calvary Chapel books, these were all taken and appreciated so much that we even had phone calls from people asking for more.



### ➤ **Looking Ahead**

- **Men’s Breakfast** – As a church we have decided to launch a Men’s ministry, our first meeting will be at the end of July and Julian will be our guest speaker. The purpose is for both discipleship and outreach to men in the community.
- **Senior Youth** – Next term we also plan to start a ministry for the teenagers. The school has not given us permission yet to host it at the school so we are going to start it at our home on Friday evenings.

### ➤ **Personal Note**

Last newsletter we put out a request that we needed to purchase the school curriculums for all our kids for the year. God is so amazing! On the morning of the day of our order deadline all the money came in and we were able to place the order. Everything was ordered, arrived on time, and the kids started school as per schedule, praise God. Lastly, just a thank you again for the prayer, love, care, and support, without all of these we would not be able to do this work. Please pray for us and for the work here.



Yours in Christ,  
the Strauss clan

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## On the Home Front

Well, yes it has been a long time and so much so that I have a lot to share in a

short space! We have had such wonderful fellowship – in April Jethro joined us first, Mitchel was so blessed to have him with us. Later we were joined by Mark and Ashley (Batman and Robin!) - Who did the real tourist thing and we all got whisked off to the local attractions – It was an amazing time of dashing from place to place. We were also blessed by a visit from Demitri – we had a

few moments wondering if he had to be rushed home with Karen so close to giving birth and having a lot of activity in his absence – praise the Lord it never came to that and baby Chloe was born in her own sweet time on daddies arrival back in Cape Town. In May Jason came for a long

quick surprise visit – it had been so since last seeing him that even one night was a blessing for us all. Then, sorry, yes, and Then! My sweet man was swept off to the Maldives for a holiday he is still trying to believe happened...I am sure he is still pinching himself occasionally, ha. He had the most amazing time on the islands surfing and fellowshiping to his hearts content.... What a dream. I received this very brown tanned, fit and very unshaved man from the airport looking rather taken aback with all the people and vibe about – I am sure he

he could to just turn around and return to his dreamland... we on the other hand were so pleased to have him back of course. During all this activity we have been so blessed and can share that we are very busy with schooling – praise the Lord for our new books - Seth has now turned

a very big 8 years old and pulling his weight now with more responsibilities and our little Jude has not only lost his first, but two of his teeth in the last month. He too will be celebrating his birthday in a few

days turning 6, not so little anymore! Paige her very stressful and time-consuming dance exams as well as two theatre shows – she passed and looked like a star on stage. Mitchel is still leading our worship, with Natasha, at our Sunday morning services and Wednesday night study – his concussion is long gone and he is very

much enjoying the sea and surf once more after a six week break. Thank you all for your prayers and support, they are so dear to us. Much love & blessings from us all, Shaun, Gail, Mitchel, Paige, Seth and Jude

