

## **WCF Report – October to November 2009**

**Laure Iredale**

Report back on the main projects I have been involved in since arriving in South Africa in October:

### **Lamontville**

Lamontville Youth is arguably my favourite class. I co-teach this with Julie Machacek and Laura Skinner on a Friday evening and there is usually a group of about 20 kids – mostly girls – who are all lovely. We play a game and relate it to a spiritual lesson in order to make it memorable. It's not just their enthusiasm to learn about the word of God and sing – very loudly – but the relationships that we have developed with them that make them special to me. One of the older girls recently confided in me some of her worries – just teenage girl worries – but I was really pleased that she felt able to come and talk to me about it.



### **Mariannahill**

Mariannahill amazes me as an ecclesia. I never want to miss a Bible class because the singing is such a beautiful expression of praise.

The Mariannahill Gospel Choir concert has been a highlight of this past month. We organized a concert and went around the township the day previously knocking on people's doors to encourage them to come. It was a testament to the ecclesia that they worked together to promote the concert, telling their friends and neighbours which made

our job easier. The choir put on a brilliant show to an audience of 90 adults and around the same number of children.

The Centre was buzzing with energy. Everyone felt that sustaining this energy in the centre is the dream for Mariannahill. I hope that it will increasingly become a central focus for the local residents as we open it up as a community centre.



### **Happy's**

I also co-teach with Laura S and Julie at Happy's school for disabled children. We have been working through Bible stories from Noah to Abraham alternating between crafts and games on a weekly basis.

### **Margate**

We organized our first praise morning in Margate, advertising it through leafleting at the local mall and the nearby township. We managed to fill the hall for both the praise session and the service the following day. It was encouraging in that it showed us just what can be done by team work!

This lead onto Pietermaritzburg where we followed the same structure of billing then praise morning after hearing about their expressed interest in getting involved with 2010 activities. We had a good response and again filled the hall.

### **Candu**

Candu was an interesting place. A little bit of the real Africa. We arrived in Candu unannounced late on Saturday night! – Oops - But Templeton and family gave us a really

warm welcome and put us straight to work the following morning. We did Sunday School and people were picked up from literally miles around for the exhortation.

We stayed for a few days during which time we helped out with the crèche and taught Sunday School. What I found most beneficial was spending time with Templeton (who was very pleased with the recently water supply they have drilled down to in their garden) and his family (especially his son Siyanda who spoke to us about his plans for baptism).



Then in the evening we went to have another breaking of bread with three sisters out in the middle of nowhere! It was lovely to know that even in what feels like one of the most remote parts of the world we can come together to share fellowship with people who have the same faith and the same amazing hope as us.

### **Workshop Concert**

One of the projects I've taken on personally is to organize monthly concerts at the Workshop – an open air space in town by a busy shopping centre and market. We all headed down there for the afternoon on 23<sup>rd</sup> of this month. Richard Alleyne, Julie and myself provided the music, which was interspersed with short talks directing people to the BEC and promoting the correspondence course. The others did a brilliant job of handing out leaflets with the same purpose. It's the perfect place to advertise the BEC, being only a two minute walk away. We got some good audience participation in 'Walk in the light' and about 7 people signed up for the God's Master Plan course. It was an encouraging trial run and I hope the next one – booked for the 21<sup>st</sup> December – with a Christmas theme will again be effective in getting more people into the BEC.



**Lessons I've learned so far:**

It's been brilliant meeting, working with and having fellowship with so many new Christadelphians passionate about the spreading of the Good News of the Kingdom of God.

God seems bigger and more real to me every day.