

PETER & CATHERINE GITAU

February 2019 NEWSLETTER No 29

This Wednesday is our 4 year anniversary of arriving in Rwanda! Sometimes the time has flown by, and sometimes it's crawled. It's been 4 years of much laughter and many tears, some successes and many, many failures. There have been joys and frustrations, highs and crushing lows. While it is next to impossible to clearly and concisely summarise 4 years of life and ministry, we'll give it a crack....

3DCC

- 4 Forma'Camps = approx. 180 young leaders trained and encouraged to use their new skills (and for some, new faith!) in their churches and communities.
- 4 Teens Camps = approx. 280 teenagers; some hearing about Christ for the first time and all being encouraged in their faith.
- 3 Bible Studies have started and continued for more than 12 months.
- 3 KICS 5th Grade camps.
- A couple of other organisations renting the 3DCC facilities, providing some funding to go towards Forma and Teens camps, and providing some income for some of 'our' 3DCC people.
- Pete has done a LOT of facility maintenance and upgrading!



2 Peter 1:5-7

Make every effort to add to your faith goodness; and to goodness, knowledge; and to knowledge, self-control; and to self-control, perseverance; and to perseverance, godliness; and to godliness, mutual affection; and to mutual affection, love.

Praise God:

- For the faithful Rwandans who work alongside as volunteers us in all our ministries.
- For friends, who through their generosity and care, show us that God continues to provide for our physical, emotional and spiritual wellbeing.

Please pray:

- For the relationships we are working on building with some of the church leaders in Rwanda. These leaders have influence on how their churches will be involved in mobilisation. Pray that God will reveal or challenge them to see the need of mobilising the church for missions.
- For the two new Bible studies beginning this month. Pray for Guillaume who will lead them and that leaders will be engaged and equipped to continue leading and/or starting other groups. Pray against any spiritual struggles that will eventuate in the form of theological misunderstandings as we seek to establish Christ-centred study groups.





AIM

- Facilitated 1 Kairos training course (mobilising the local Church for cross-cultural missions to the world's unreached http://www.kairoscourse.org) and covered the cost for some of the 3DCC committee to do the course.
- Sent Guillaume to FUEL and hoping to send a couple more guys later this year. https://aimint.org/ap/wpcontent/uploads/sites/18/2018/08/FUEL-poster.pdf
- Guillaume is starting 2 Bible Study groups with young people this month.
- Pete organised and facilitated a 'meeting of minds' of those involved in mobilising Rwandans into full time mission work (hoping it will become a regular occurrence).

KICS

- Catherine has held 3 different roles; 1st grade teacher, casual teaching (subbing) and now the Whole Child Interventionist.
- The kids have successfully completed (almost) 4 grades!

Play Therapy

- 28 kids have completed over 400 hours of play therapy sessions.
- Introduced counselling students to Play Therapy and working on developing a training curriculum to be used with local counsellors.

Looking at a list like that, it's tempting to think that it's been easy, and we've been 'successful', but there have been many challenges and quite a few stuff-ups. Language continues to be both a challenge and sometimes even a hindrance. Just living as foreigners means we don't understand subtle (or sometimes not-so-subtle) cultural nuances and we make mistakes, which then impact relationships, which can in turn impact the work we do.

As we look forward to being back in Australia for a while, we look forward to sharing stories and more of the joys (and maybe some of the hard stuff). And we look forward to returning home to Rwanda at the end of June to continue the work here. Thank you for joining us on this journey and in this work – we couldn't have done the last 4 years without you, nor can we return!



Please contact us if you would like a copy of our Home Assignment schedule.

Thanks.