

# Newsletter Geanne in Africa

## Hi everyone!

"Cast your cares on the Lord and He will sustain you;  
He will never let the righteous to be shaken." – Psalm 55:22

Warm greetings from Melusi!

It is time for an update from South Africa! It is already February, time is flying. A lot has happened over the last months. Here in South Africa it is summer at the moment, which means hot. We can also see it in our garden. We harvest so many vegetables at the moment. It is such a blessing! As a community we eat every day a healthy meal and we can share our veggies with many people around us. Over the last months we did have proper rain too and our small dam, which water we use in winter to irrigate the garden is almost full. We are so grateful! Even though a lot happened over the last months, we could see how God cared for us. The scripture I mentioned above has proven so true: when we cast our burdens on the Lord, He cares for us.



## A special wedding

In the beginning of December we had a very special party. It was a day we will remember for a long time. The story started last year. One of the ladies who works in our garden got to know Jesus. She used to be a traditional healer. In a miraculous way the Lord changed her life. Not long after she converted, her boyfriend became interested too. He came to church and gave his life to Jesus some months later. After that the story wasn't finished, they approached us if we could help them organize a wedding. They realized it wasn't right that they were just staying together without them being married now they had become Christians. Of course we wanted to help them making things right. That Sunday we had a very special service in Melusi and they got married. To God be the glory! Would you like to read the full story (in Dutch) and see more pictures, read [here](#).



## December

After the wedding we entered the festive season. But before that we had to change our plans. Some of our team members tested positive for corona. That meant we as Melusi had to be in quarantine and we had to cancel our ministries a week earlier than planned. At least they were fine before Christmas again and we could celebrate together. At Melusi we focus to spend time together around Christmas and New Year's. Especially for our homeless men we try to make it a special time. For many this time of the year is a hard time with bad memories and regrets. For them it was very special to celebrate as a 'family' and you could notice how they appreciated and enjoyed our time. It costs time and effort, especially to prepare all the food and clean up afterwards, but it was definitely worth it.

## Holidays

After a busy December and after some months which were full of work, it was great to have some days of holidays. Together with the Dutch family of our team we went for a week to the Kruger national park. It was so good to be out of Melusi and to not think about work. Because we work and live at the same place it is not possible to have holidays in Melusi because you are still at your work place. Afterwards I also went with the German family of our team to the Drakensberg to go for a long hike and sleep there in a cave. It was definitely an adventure and we enjoyed the beauty of nature so much.



## Kitchen

After the holidays I thought I would be able to start in a good way, but unfortunately that week was different than I planned. In the kitchen we did have a situation with one of the ladies who works there with me. There were problems before with the ladies and we did give them a last warning. Sometimes it is extremely difficult what is wisdom. These ladies don't just work at Melusi, it is more than that. They live in one of the poorest areas in Dundee and feed their families with the food parcels they receive for working at our place. Next to a food parcel we try to talk to them, tell them about Jesus and give them counselling if needed. Mama Nomusa worked with me for the last four years. We experienced a lot together and I invested a lot in her and our relationship. Unfortunately she started often a conflict between her and the other ladies. After some warnings about her behaviour it happened again in January. She didn't want to solve it and wasn't able to change her behaviour. So we had to take the difficult decision to send her home. It was a hard decision, but we knew it was the right one. It broke my heart though and I was sad about it. It felt like a disappointment. However we told her that we don't judge her as a person and that we would still love to see her in church and at bible study during the outreach. We pray that she won't lose her faith and that even in this situation she will cry out to God. Do you pray with me? For mama Nomusa and for wisdom whom to approach as a new kitchen mama?

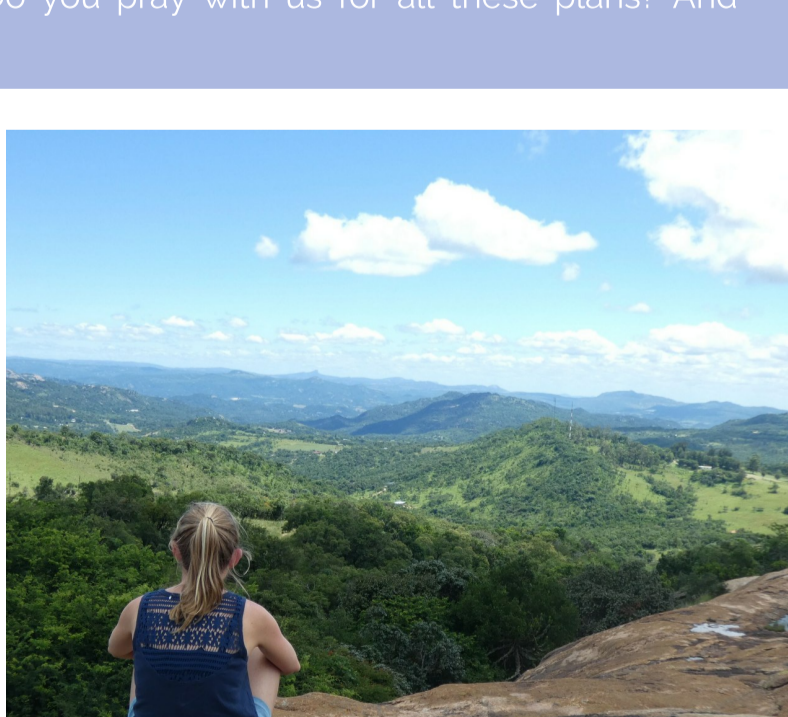


## Gogo Mhlanga

Another lady who touched my heart this month was gogo Mhlanga. Gogo means granny in Zulu. She lives in one of the poorest townships of Dundee and we visit her regularly during our outreaches. She has a tough life. Despite the hardship she decided last year to follow Jesus. When we gave her an audio bible to get to know God better she was as happy as a child with a Christmas present. It was so special to see her joy. The last months were difficult for her. She stays with two of her grandchildren, teenagers, but they cause a lot of trouble. When we visited her last week she told us a special story: 'Last week I didn't know what to do. In the tree next to my house stayed a swarm of bees, I didn't know what to do, but I had to get rid of them. I already took a tyre and wanted to light it so the smoke would be able to chase the bees away. But then I thought of Jesus and asked Him to send the bees away. And there is power in His name. The bees disappeared!' It was such a testimony of how God cared for this old lady and I had to think again of this scripture: when we cast our burdens on Jesus, He sustains us.

## MYC

That is also the truth we hold onto for the next months. In South Africa the whole situation around covid is pretty stable and we have almost no restrictions anymore. As a team we decided that we will try to organize our youth conference again end of April. For the last two years we weren't able to do that. It is a step of Faith, but we are also thankful that we can make plans again. Over the last months we see more and more teenagers coming for bible study and the outreaches and we realize what a need they have for Jesus. It is our desire to spread the gospel amongst them and we pray that this conference will be a tool to do that. Because of our bigger team we have more possibilities. We also decided to start a second teenager bible study group in the township. Do you pray with us for all these plans? And especially for the lives of our teenagers?



## God cares

In the meanwhile I have shared a lot with you and it's time I will wrap up this newsletter. Thank you so much for your support in whichever way. It is truly appreciated! Whatever the coming months will bring us, we give our cares to the Lord and trust that He will care for us.

Greetings, Geanne



Would you like to support Geanne's work financially with a donation? That's possible!

**Bankaccountnumber** NL39RABO0305509195  
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