

# Newsletter Geanne in Africa

## Hi everyone!

"I sing because You are good, and I dance because You are good, and I shout because You are good, You are good to me" – You are good, Bethel Music

Warm greetings from South Africa! At the time I am writing this it is already November and I felt it is time to update you, because a lot has happened in Melusi over the past months. During the last weeks we taught our teenagers a new song during the biblestudy and the chorus says the following: "I sing because You are good, and I dance because You are good, and I shout because You are good, You are good to me". I was reminded of that when I started thinking about what to share with you in this newsletter. God is good. There are so many reasons to be thankful. Time and time again we see His faithfulness and we can testify of that.



## Soccer champions

We can see God's goodness in the small and the big things. Sometimes we underestimate how much something that seems so small and insignificant to us, means the world to someone else. Every week on Monday and Tuesday afternoon the boys of our team spend a lot of time with the Melusi soccerteam. That organize training and share the gospel with those boys. Sometimes we have over 100 boys coming to the trainings. On Saturday's they join the local competition. Our team of under 13 years did so well in the competition that they played in the final last month. And they won! The boys were so incredibly happy. For us it might seem something that isn't so important, but for those boys it meant the world. Many of them are raised in difficult circumstances and don't know what it means to be loved. Winning the cup boosts their selfesteem and gives them reason to rejoice together. After getting the trophée they came to Melusi too show all of us. It was a special celebration. God is good.



## Camp

Another highlight of the past months was the girls camp we organized the beginning of November. It was the first camp since the beginning of the pandemic. I was a bit nervous as to how everything would work out. We have many new team members since this year and none of them ever organized a camp. But we had a great weekend with the girls. We invited the ones who normally join our weekly teenager bible study group. The girls enjoyed it so much to be in a safe place for the weekend, to get a lot of attention, to eat nice food, to play games, to play on the soapslide and so on. The theme of the weekend was 'Forgiveness' and we told them stories, read from the Bible and talked about the topic. We hope and pray that this will change the lives of the girls. In a few weeks time we will organize it again, but this time the boys will join. As a team we were quite exhausted after a weekend with not much sleep and a lot to organize, but again we could say: God is good.



## Chickens and visitors

Last month we got new 'residents' in Melusi: chickens. Already a while ago we built a shelter for them and now they arrived. It's a valuable addition to our community. They started to give us eggs already and hopefully later on meat as well. It is a challenge to keep them in Melusi though. Unfortunately the last weeks we had unwelcome visitors at night again. They stole tools and seedlings from the garden. It is annoying that it happens again and again. Theft is a big problem in our area and even when we do our best, we can't completely prevent it. But because of this we decided to build a better storage for the tools of the garden. That we didn't have to do alone. Since a few years we do have a connection with a church in Germany. Six Young people of this fellowship decided to come over for two weeks to help us build the toolshed. Next to that they also joined the different outreaches and they could experience a little bit of living in community by sharing meals with us, playing games together, have nice chats and join us for a day hiking in the mountains. It was precious to spend time together and it is special to see how God works in different lives and how we cross each other's paths. I am truly grateful for the two weeks we could spend together. God is good.



## Team update

We didn't just have visitors last month, our team became bigger as well. It keeps changing this year. The good news we received was that after waiting for more than a year, my Dutch team members finally got their visa and they are back with us in Melusi. That was a huge miracle. We are so thankful that our team is bigger again and especially that we have more team members that are planning to stay long term. Unfortunately the struggle with the visa continues. My German team members got two out of five back and one of the applications got denied for a silly reason. That means they have to appeal. We have to hang in there and keep trusting God, because we can't change anything about this situation. We believe that nothing is impossible for God and He is faithful.

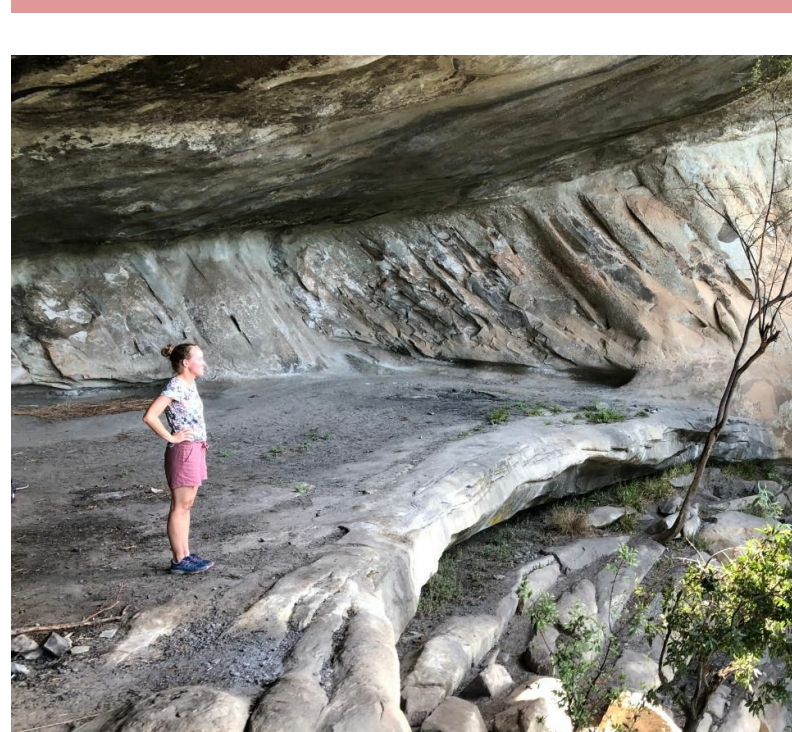


## God provides

He also proves faithful in the ways how He cares for us and provides for everything we need. It is so easy for us to take for granted how God takes care of us and we get used to the fact that we have enough food every day, a house to stay and so much more. As a team we try to consciously thank God for the many blessings He gives us daily. At the moment we get many veggies out of our garden and summer is just starting so that means there is more to come. Our veranda is full with onions at the moment. Next to that we get weekly donations of the dairy factory: a whole bakkie full of yoghurt, milk and juice. Even though it is a big job to clean it and store it, because it is often very dirty when it arrives. But we can bless so many people with this food. We also got new games and puzzles for kids club and bible study. The kids enjoy it a lot and they benefit from these games. God is good.

## Looking forward

The end of the year is coming closer. At the moment we are busy to prepare for the boys camp at the end of this month and for the next weeks we will still organize our kids clubs, teenager bible study afternoons and church services before we will have a bit a break around Christmas and New Year's. I am looking forward to have some rest and to spend more time as a community. We will also have more time for our homeless men we take care of. For them this time of the year is often a difficult time. I realized it will be the seventh time I will celebrate Christmas in South Africa. I am so thankful to look back on the years and also in that I can say: God is good.



## Thank you!

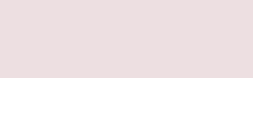
Before I close I would like to thank you for your support and especially for your prayers. We can't work without it! Keep praying: for the girls who joined the camp, for the boyscamp that is planned for the end of the month, for the boys of the soccer team, for our homeless men, for the visa situation and for us as a team.

Be blessed, Geanne



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

**Bankaccountnumber** NL39RABO0305509195  
**In the name of** Zendingscommissie Hervormde Gemeente Barneveld  
**Under mention** Melusi - Geanne van Maanen



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