



# SHADES of Brown JAN 2010

## Happy Christmas

"She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins"—Matthew 1:21

Once again another Christmas has come and gone. We hope and pray you found a little time to reflect upon the true significant of 'God with us'. This is our last Christmas in South Africa and so it is with a tinge of sadness that we write this newsletter and greet 2011. If you are reading this then praise God that he has spared your life to see in another year! We want to take this opportunity to thank you for your support and prayers throughout 2010. May the Lord richly bless you, keep you, and cause his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you in the coming year.

## The Past Year

In many ways the past few months have been quite stressful as we have tried to put in place plans in preparation for our leaving South Africa to take up a church planting role in South London later this year. We cannot sort out schools for our four children until we have a permanent address in London, and we won't have that until much later in the year. **So please pray with us that** the Lord would provide schools for our kids and somewhere for us to live, while helping us to trust that the He knows what he is doing even if we don't.

We also have to sell our house and ship all our worldly goods back to the UK while dealing with a new staff team (Goodenough & Mary, Ant & Kim, Graham and Nina, Thapelo and Lili), and of course the normal routine of daily life. **Please pray that** we would know the peace of God that will keep us trusting in him despite the chaos.

The joy of receiving new staff followed saying goodbye to old staff. Scott Seivewright moves on to take up a position at another church on the north coast. The Kimble family leave us to go to George Whitefield College to train for ministry. **We want you to join**



Barnet, London, June 2010

25 Harriettwood crescent, Umbilo,  
Durban SOUTH AFRICA  
Tel: +27 31 4655853 or  
Mobile: +27 0847427215  
Email: rbrown@wol.co.za

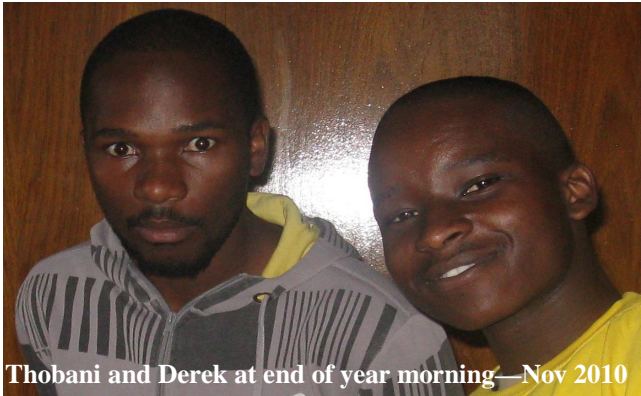


us in thanking God for them and for his provision as they live and study in Cape Town for the next three years. We also say goodbye to Thembeke a former member of our student church since 2005 and apprentice at CCG of the last three years (pictured left). She hopes to go overseas to teach English as a second language, but eventually to enter full time paid Christian ministry at some point in the future. **Please pray that** she would know the Lord's guiding for her future plans.

Sadly financial difficulties have meant that we have had to take some hard decisions. Our children's worker Tom who has only been with us for a year will be leaving our staff team in February because we simply cannot afford to keep him, and Marianne our long standing administrator will also be stepping off the staff team. **Please prayer that with** people emigrating, relocating for various reasons and the global economic downturn that the Lord would meet our needs as people give willingly, sacrificially, generously and cheerfully.

**We have had the privilege of seeing** students grow through our student ministry; The Bible Talks. Our year ended with a morning together with

students from the three campuses (Howard, Westville and Pietermaritzburg) coming together to hear what the Bible has to say about what it means to truly live under the blessing of God, as Raymond gave two Bible talks from Matthew 5:1-12. We sang



Thobani and Derek at end of year morning—Nov 2010

together, ate together, prayed together and listened to the word of God together. **Please pray for our** students that they will remain faithful to Jesus as they return home for the holidays, many of them to situations where they will be tempted to compromise both spiritually and morally.

## The Coming Year

**As our student church starts up** again next month, please pray for the new staff team and for the various structural changes that have been planned. That all we do would serve to promote the glorious gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ on the campuses of the University of Kwa-Zulu Natal.

For the first time ever and for about 4 months we will have all our children at the same school. **Please pray**



**for little** Noah (see Noah's Art left) as he joins his siblings at Penzance primary school. Give thanks that all our children have made good progress in their schooling.

Naomi and Nathanael won both sporting and academic awards, while Noah and Natalia received good end of year reports for 2010. Finally with the year getting going in late January at CCG, **please pray for** Ray, Rebekah and the kids as they enter the final stages of handing things over to the new staff at CCG and TBT, say goodbye to friends and get prepared and organised to re-enter British culture and society.

**Please pray for our** church family that we will leave behind, that the Lord would continue to grow the church and meet all its needs as the council and staff team work together. Pray that the Lord would

bless their efforts according to his riches in Christ Jesus and to the glory of his holy name. And pray for wisdom as we start making plans to lead a new church plant in London.

With all our love,

**Ray, Rebekah, Naomi,  
Nathanael, Natalia & Noah**

## Kids Quotes

Noah 5 : I've said grace everybody, you can gobble up your food now!