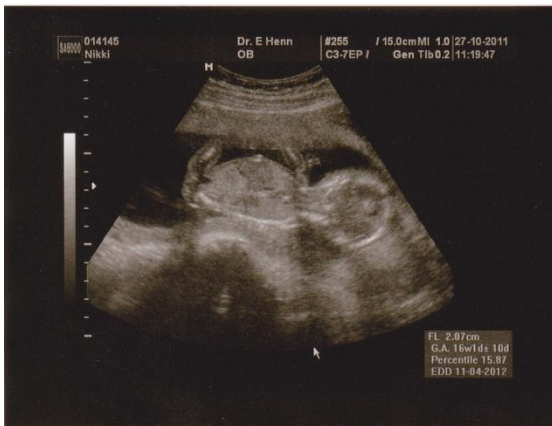


# Gabriel & Nikki's Newsletter

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I greet you all in the wonderful name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Firstly I think I need to share our exciting news for some of our supporters who perhaps have not heard. Nikki is pregnant with our first child which we are so excited about. She is 19 weeks pregnant at the moment and she and the baby are doing great. It was so amazing for us when we went for the first baby scan and got to hear the babies heart beat, something I will never forget about.



September month was a real busy month, starting with our monthly trip into Mozambique to do our pastoral training and take the food into Mozambique for the Orphan Ministry. We are still at a place where customs charge us import tax for the orphan food, so along with two of the church pastors after the pastoral training we met with the Chief of Post and had a nice long meeting with him. He was a very helpful man and told us the process we needed to go through to get the correct documentations. One thing I have learned in Mozambique is that you start with the man with low rank or sometime even no rank and then you work your way up slowly to

the man who has the highest rank or the correct rank to write the appropriate document and sign it to make it a document of meaning. But we had a great meeting otherwise and we left knowing everything we needed to do. The two pastors from Mozambique, Robert and Albert, took it upon themselves to help us out as much as they could on behalf of the churches of Mozambique. In October they went to Maputo to meet with the main people with the high ranks, which really went well and all we need to do now is send them quotes of all the work we will be doing next year for well-drilling, fixing schools, and our monthly orphan shopping and we will get the right documents for 12 months so to not have to pay any import taxes. This is a great blessing and prayer answer for us as a mission and we hope to have the right paper work by the end of this month.

After our September training in the beginning of the month I went to have my tonsils taken out for the second time in my life, they had be 'taken out' as a kid but not 100% or even 50% and were causing me a lot of irritations. Nikki had had hers taken out about 3 years back and I saw her struggle through recovery and so I thought that being a guy I should be back to normal life in a week. Truth is that after a week the only thing normal about my life was physical work but the pain was definitely not normal. I came to learn that my timing for this operation was terrible as we already had plans to build the walls to our baby room as we had Benny and Dianne from the States who wanted to help us as much as the could before the returned at the end of September. Benny has years of experience as a brick mason, so I was there to help with mixing cement and carrying bricks, so with only 7 days after my operation the mixing of cement did not go too well but it happened. I should have believed my wife and doctor when they said for 3 weeks you will be down.



Nikki and myself left on the last week of September to go down to Cape Town for 5 weeks, we went down earlier this year for our friends, Sam and Clint's wedding, as well as to take some leave and some annual deputation. We started our 5 weeks with a week of good leave at Payrus lodge. We were blessed to be able to stay there for a week. We relaxed as much as we could alongside fighting with insurance after some of Nikki's jewellery was stolen on the flight (we are still fighting with insurance).

Our time in Cape Town consisted of preaching at Somerset West Baptist Church, preaching at King of Kings Baptist Church, attending King of Kings Baptists Church's Mission week, attending various cell groups and getting to meet new people as well as sharing with the grade 1 Sunday school all about the mission work we do.

We also had Nikki's parent come down to Cape Town for a week with their ex-neighbours from North Carolina. Nikki and I were their official tour guides, which I must say was a lot of fun. I guess the thing I enjoyed the most was getting to see Cape Town through a tourist's eyes.

Just before we left Polokwane to go down to Cape Town we sold our little Daihatsu Terrorist (it started to give me problems) with the plan of buying a better family car with more boot space. We ended up buying a 2001 Polo Classic with low kilometres down in Cape Town. Without a doubt I feel it was a good buy but our drive home was a bit eventful. We left a 5:30am on Monday only to get 80km from my parent's house when the problem started with a bad vibration and a terrible clucking noise. It was something that was not a simple road side fix, so with Google and a GPS we found Paarl's local mechanic. A really nice mechanic with lots of character and a big desire to succeed in a fault find, initially we thought it was an easy fix and replaced the right in CV joint. We were on the road, only 5km from the workshop, we paid the toll for the road and then noise came back, and we turned around just to have to pay the toll again and went back to the mechanic's shop.

Now our nice mechanic full of character was even more up to the challenge, so with another trained mechanic test he decided it was the left outer CV. That was replaced and then the mechanic came with for a lengthily test drive. With a little success of less noise the problem was still there so we went back to the workshop. On our way back to the workshop the mechanic tried to run next to the front of the car to find the problem, it didn't work so with the bonnet up he basically laid down (please try picture this) over the engine with his head low and legs sticking out the side of the bonnet with me driving at about 25kmh trying to find the problem....it didn't work, but was fun. With some trials of elimination the main mechanic with character and his junior mechanic and I decided it was the definitely the left inner CV and it was.

We only left his shop at 4pm and headed back to my parent house where we spent the night and left the following morning. With my pregnant wife's bladder and a road full of road works the drive home took 21 hours, but we made it.



At the end of October we went into Mozambique for our annual Pastor's Conference, we went in with 3 of our vehicles as well as our bus to pick up the church leaders along the way. It was an eventful trip when our bus window had a stone come through it from a bunch of local kids who thought it would be funny. But as soon as that window got smashed the local church leaders jumped out of the bus before I could even stop, with about 15 men out of the bus in record time with great tracking skills they caught the slowest and youngest kid who when caught in tears named all the kids involved.

The theme of our Pastor's Conference was 'Church Planting' with lesson's varying from Biblical Mandate for Church Planting, Strategies, Methods, Characteristics of a Church Planter, and When is a Church a Church. Our day was broken up into morning devotion and 3 slots of teaching, as well as having an evening service. Overall there was a great turn out

of Pastor's along with nearly all of them bringing their wives.

I believe the teaching over the 3 days went really well from all of us being challenged not just the church leaders but also those who taught. My lesson was on 'Methods of Church Planting' which I really enjoyed teaching, I broke my lesson into 3 sections: 1) Paul's Method of Church Planting 2) Samaria Mission's Method's 3)Methods of church planting in Rural Mozambique.

Our 3 days of teaching went by very quickly, with some good feedback from the pastors as they interacted with many question. I believe what was really encouraging for us is when many of the men through the question and statements the shared that they really feel the challenge to go out to be effective in planting churches in their neighbouring villages that don't have any churches. We just pray that the challenge they feel will result in action and for solid Biblical churches to be planted by them.

We are now coming to the end of our year with our end of year meetings next week. I wish I could say that our work load is slowing down, but 2 weeks ago they stole two wheels off our Samil Bus and we feel as a mission with the continued theft taking place at our mission farm that we need to do something more serious. So we will be putting up and electric fence around the whole farm linked to a sms alert. So we will be spending about two weeks putting up a 630 metre electric fence.

Prayer request:

- For continued health for Nikki and the baby
- For us as we continue to build and finish the baby's room before April 2012.
- For us as we have to review our support situation and raise more support for us next year with our baby on the way

Praise items:

- Praise God for our baby and that everything is going well, we are so excited
- For a wonderful time spent in Cape Town with family and friends.
- For a successful Pastor Conference.
- For being blessed with a gift of 5 4D scans for over the next 5 months of Nikki's pregnancy.

**Gabriel & Nikki Pretorius**

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Reference:Your Name/Missionary You Are Supporting