



Linda & Brian Davelaar

serving with Child Evangelism Fellowship® in
Namibia, Africa

Praise & Prayer Items

January 23, 2012

Please note our new mailing address in our new town, shown below under "In Namibia."

What have we been doing?

The past month has been one of the hardest times for us. After returning from the children's camp in December, we went to our home in the north and packed up our life's things and moved to a new area at the coast to work to get the children's ministry going, still with *Child Evangelism Fellowship* and still in Namibia. We left the old area in the north with Trudie, Gabes and Erika and their volunteer teachers to go on with *CEF* ministries.

We put our house in the north (Tsumeb) for sale and rented a house in Walvis Bay. We will work for now, as God leads, in Walvis Bay and Swakopmund, two towns about 30 km apart.

The physical and emotional aspects of this move really wiped us out. Of course, the train people did not deliver the containers on schedule. When they did bring them, everything had to be lifted up to (and down from) the containers which sat up on a trailer about 4 1/2 to 5 feet high!! EVERYTHING, including appliances, furniture, copy machine, boxes, etc. We had some friends help in Tsumeb, but did not know who would help us offload the containers. Brian said God would have to provide someone when there seemed to be no one ... and He did - after Brian and I began doing it ourselves! Isn't that just like God?

Since moving in, we have had some challenges as well. We had an underground water leak which led to the backyard being dug up and water switched off (I felt like the widow in the Bible with the oil jars, trying to collect my many containers of water), getting sick for several days with GI symptoms (contaminated water?), a lack of "basic" things like curtain rods (there were none the length we needed in town until a few days

ago), waiting for weeks to get telephone and internet and alarm services, power outages, repair people who say they are coming and then do not (again and again), etc.

Some of you have been wondering what we have been doing and if our ministry is up and running??? Basically, we have been trying to survive and set up our home and office so we can begin!

We have begun meeting with people to see who is interested and for help with planning. We have been in contact with a young man from the USA, Chris, who wants to come to be with us for three months to check on his call to missions. We have been going to churches. We have been looking for locations for *Good News Clubs* and teacher training classes and *Christian Youth in Action*. We have been praying and seeking counsel

Praise God for...

... the move is mostly finished. (Although unpacking could take a lot longer, it can be done as needed.) God allowed us to survive the toll and even provided help at the last minute. We are so thankful for some who gave money to help with our costs of moving!

... the big house and garage we rented, which has a lot of room for us and our pets as well as the many, many boxes and shelves of *CEF* ministry books and supplies. We have more than one bathroom (which is new for us) and a guestroom so you can come and visit!

... a new sofa and chair for our new house! First new sofa in over 14 years! Hope to outfit the house with a couple more new things and get some chairs re-upholstered in the future if we can (our mattress is about 24 years old and our chairs are threadbare!)

... those pastors and their wives and others who are encouraging us in our planning and making contacts with those in churches who may be interested in children's ministry.

... safety and patience for Brian as he dealt with three tire problems on our vehicles in about a week: one car tire losing air, one blow-out while driving the truck, and another flat tire while driving the car during the actual move (Linda's first flat tire while driving.)

... we were able to find a new coffee maker to buy when "the unthinkable happened" (our old one stopped working). That may sound small to you, but believe me, it was a huge problem in the past when this happened, to find one that did not make the coffee smell and taste like plastic! So thank God for this too.

Pray to God for...

... the sale of our home in the north, Tsumeb, for a good price, which will help us in paying the increased cost of renting in our new area. Pray for protection of the house and property while vacant. Pray for us to find a way to transport the things remaining there in the garage to the coast (ran out of space in the containers).

... us to **be bold** in making appointments regarding the ministry. Pray for God's choice of people to get involved. We have some scheduled to meet with and others who have expressed interest - if God leads them to be involved.

... good places to hold *Good News Clubs*. We just heard that the tent in Swakopmund where we had a club last year was taken down and is not available. This is the place where we both wanted to return to so we could teach the same kids. We need God's help to find a new, good location.

... good places and right timing to have teacher training classes for potential teachers and helpers for clubs.

This email is longer than most of ours, but it has been a few weeks since we had "normal" internet. I wanted you to know more of what our life has been like here in Namibia. The starting over is not easy. But we seek to be thankful in all things. And we look to the future with anticipation of what God Himself is going to do here at the coast!

Proverbs 19:21 (NIV) "Many are the plans in a man's heart, but it is the LORD'S purpose that prevails."

Thank you for praying for, giving to, and loving us!

We pray for you too. Please send us your specific requests.

Helping you evangelize the children of Namibia

Linda & Brian

How to contact us.

Write us an e-mail: davelaars@gmail.com

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