

Levendal Family News

We hope this letter finds you well and you enjoy catching up with all our news. We have a lot to share so bear with us as we try to bring you up to speed on what has been happening with us since our return from the UK at the end of June.

House



Our last communication regarding the house was that we were still in need of the deposit to be able to move in at the start of July. Just 2 days before we left the UK some friends of ours gave us a 2 year no interest loan for the deposit on the house. We moved in with much excitement on our return! After the initial rejoicing, we received a major unexpected blow just 10 days later when we heard that all the banks denied our loan.

The owners agreed to give us a new deal that after paying the lump sum (which is our inheritance money we are still waiting for) we can pay the rest of the money we still owe on the house over a 3 year period in yearly instalments with interest. This means we will need to pay R450,000 in total over 3 years (close to £25,000/\$33,000). This was not a decision that we took lightly as this is not a small amount to have to pay and way beyond our current means. We really went back to the drawing board and prayed and talked through our options if we should still go ahead with buying the house. After weeks we finally came to the place where we both had peace and were in full agreement to take the new deal from the owners.

An opportunity to partner with us?

With all this it means we are looking for new supporters who can commit to come alongside us for the next 3 years so we can pay off the house. It will help us become established here and continue to build the ministry that God has entrusted us with. If this is something you would be interested in you can decide to just partner with us for 1, 2 or for the full 3 years. No amount is too small.

At the moment we are **£800** short of what we need every month (including house payments). It isn't the house alone but the cost of living that has vastly increased in South Africa. If you want to know more about our budget/monthly expense please don't hesitate to contact us.

YWAM Jbay

Since coming back a lot has changed, especially with our staff team. We have said goodbye to 8 of our staff! As well one family is in Brazil until December and one of the elders has gone on extended leave to the States due to her mum's ill health. Our team is currently half the size it was before we went to the UK. We are now 12 people in total (2 new staff joined in the past few weeks). We do have 2 ladies and a family in the process of coming on staff in the next few weeks/months.

As we said in our last update we visited the Glasgow Prophetic Centre while in the UK, one of the words they gave us was, 'there was going to be a reshuffling of our staff when we got back. We are entering a new phase of pioneering, the building of the vision and God is moving on the people that came to birth the base and is bringing the long-term builders'. This has been such an encouragement to us as it really gave us perspective that God is in the midst of this and we can trust Him in the process. It does mean that we are now alone leading the base, we no longer have an eldership team, which means more falls on us to carry especially in stewarding the vision and keeping things moving forward. In some ways it is quite a grace for us that it is a quieter time for the base. The DTS just started this week, there are 5 students from 4 different nations.

New Property



We are in the process of making steps towards moving to a new location but we will communicate more on it when all is finalised as things are still in the early stages of negotiations. We are very excited and look forward to sharing more with you in the near future! Watch this space...

Vernel's trip to Cambodia & Thailand

I (Vernel) has the opportunity to travel to Cambodia & Thailand for 10 days at the end of August/start of September. Even though it was quite hard for Katie & the boys we felt like it was an important trip for me to go on both personally and on behalf of connecting for YWAM Jbay.



Cambodia: 'The Malachi 4:6 Gathering'

This was a gathering for up and coming young leaders in YWAM. It was based on Malachi 4:6, turning our hearts back to our Spiritual Fathers and Mothers, together running after all that God has. It was an amazing time of connecting with young leaders, but it was also good to hear from the 'mothers' and 'fathers' in our mission and remember the people that have gone before us and receive some of their wisdom they have for the younger generation of leaders.

Thailand: 'YWAM Together'

Every 2 years YWAM hosts this conference (in different locations) for everyone working with the mission to come together and hear what God is doing globally in the mission. This year's one was in Thailand and as I was already going to be in Cambodia it worked out for me to attend the first few days of the conference. I was really excited as I have never been to **YWAM together** before. It was incredible to be reminded of how big the organisation is that we are a part of, there were close to 4,000 people there and over 100 nations represented! One of the messages and mandates from our leader Loren Cunningham was to see an end to bible poverty all over the world and to see a bible in every household and language. What really stood out to me personally was that we need to be aligned to our YWAM family. We can't do this alone or in isolation but we are meant to be connected and working with our greater YWAM family and friends in order to be successful.

And finally, a little news on the family.



The boys are both doing very well, they are enjoying the space they have in their new home and are very content playing in the big garden. They are also so thrilled with the latest addition to the Levendal tribe, Frankie the dog!

Lastly but my no means least. We are happy to share with you that Katie is 12 weeks pregnant. Its been quite a rough first trimester for her, she is just starting to feel a bit better now so please keep her in prayers.

Prayer requests

- That our inheritance money would come through soon so we no longer have to pay occupational rent on the house (which is quite high)!

- To see an increase in our income so we can meet our monthly expenses and make off the money we owe on the house.
- We are handing in all the paperwork for Katie's Permanent Residency Permit in the next few days (it could be close to a year before we hear an answer) but pray it all goes smoothly.
- For YWAM Jbay – that the right people at the right time would come on staff, especially people who will also be more long term. Wisdom for us as we lead as a couple and for the negotiations for the new base property.

Thanks for reading to the end we know there was quite a lot of info in this update. Much gratitude and love...

Vernel, Katie, Judah & Zach xxx

Banks details:

Paypal: katielevendal@hotmail.com

South African Account:

Vernel Ashley Levendal

First National Bank

Cheque Account: 62125740086

Swift:FIRNZAJJ(International transfers

UK Account:

Katie Levendal

Nationwide Building Society

Savings Acc: 26914661

Sort Code: 070116

UK support. We have an account with stewardship.org (which one off donations or monthly support can be given through) and we receive tax back on them.