

Year End 2011

We have been blessed this past year in many ways. God has directed and challenged us to new heights once again. New friends have come to serve alongside in building God's Kingdom in Botswana. Some partners have taken the Lord's guidance in reaching out in new directions and we wish them His blessings along that journey.

Team ministry is always a highlight of what the Lord does as He brings together multiples of people from both the sending and host side to serve Him. This year we were blessed to have teams from Call to Africa, Highlands Baptist Church, Fresh Start and Student Leadership University. Individuals came to minister either solo or with others from various ministries and included Alice Drive Baptist Church, Baptist Theological College of South Africa, Johnson Ferry Baptist Church, Kelly Green Evangelistic Ministries, Midwest Theological Seminary, South Tampa Fellowship and Valley View Baptist Church. These served in Gaborone, the outer areas of Botswana, Zambia and for the first time in Zimbabwe.

Open Baptist Church added 90 new members and baptized 30 people this past year. New staff included the addition of Amazing Mutangadura as Youth Pastor; Dr. Vimbisai Nhundu as Intern Coordinator; Lawrence Phiri as Sports Administrator and Peter Miano as Technical Director. Associate Pastor Desmond Henry was called to a church in South Africa and Lenos Ngugi graduated from his studies in theology and seeking permanent position with O.B.C. G-West.

The Face the Nation ministry has had a face lift per say as this past year was the first in which the ministry focus was solely on the University of Botswana campus. 70 volunteer U.B. students trained for three weeks to make an impact amongst their peers. Gail Wingreen the training coordinator stepped down due to relocation back to South Africa. Headway is being made with the Ministry of Education/ Health in our prayers to gain support financially and otherwise.

O.B.C.'s community involvement was jump started by the servant evangelism of Operation InAsMuch. Members and staff also participated and served in several musical ministry venues throughout the year in Gaborone. One of the new soccer fields was inaugurated on December 3 with 12 church teams competing. The World of Golf driving complex opened in September to help fulfill the sporting development plan for our plot and is an A Class venture for the whole family.

Through all of this we are confident to say that the Gospel was shared countless times and many souls came to the Lord. Disciples and pastors alike were encouraged and taught individually and in group settings. The Gospel was shown in the actions of all through the helping hand, the kind word and a smile and hug.

We are thankful to God for all He has done and thankful to each partner that prayed, supported and came to show the love of God and forgiveness of Christ. May we all grow in our walk with Him.

God Bless

Pastor Norman Schaefer