



STEPS OF FAITH



ECAP UPDATE

For over 11 years, ECAP has educated and trained over 650 voluntary caregivers to provide Christian Counselling and Home Based Care in their communities. Churches and community leaders were recruited to respond in the ECAP HIV and AIDS Awareness, Prevention, Support and Care Programs. ECAP's program is a God-given gift to these communities throughout the Province of KwaZulu-Natal. ECAP's Christian program is designed to impact the whole of South Africa who suffer the highest infection rate in the world.

The recession has hit hard. This month ECAP sadly had to close its doors for a period of time due to lack of funds. They hope to continue their ministry as soon as funds allow. Much prayer is shared in the hope that God will provide through His people. To make a donation to ECAP:

Account name: ECAP
Bank: First National Bank
Branch: Boom Street
Branch code: 221325
Account #: 62117126286
SWIFT Code: FIRZAJJ

Pastor Albert Chetty
ECAP Manager

Dear friends,

Sending prayer updates is always a time to reflect and rejoice in what God has done in and through the staff, graduates, and current students of ESSA. We also praise God for your partnership in the ministry of prayer, especially during these times of serious financial struggles. Please remember the following needs, as well as what comes to mind as you read the news in this letter.

Praise God for...

- Another semester with all our teaching needs met, with some exciting guest lecturers as well as a

strong ESSA staff team.

- The attitude of peace and community among staff and students that prevails on campus.

Please lift up to God...

- The financial stability of ESSA.
- Students in need of scholarship or donations to cover their tuition, housing, electricity, and food bills.
- That the guest speakers and public lectures this term would attract the people God wants to be there.
- That the new ESSA commu-

nication team of students would represent ESSA well to prospective students and donors in the Pietermaritzburg area.

- Reassessment of the course requirements for ESSA students.
- Movement toward long-term goals for ESSA: attracting quality staff, building partnerships with other institutions and funders, establishment of programs that provide for the spiritual needs of our community, nation, and continent.

In the peace of Christ,

Dr. Joseph Ilori, ESSA principal

JOIN IN PRAYER FOR ESSA'S STUDENTS

We have begun a new page on the ESSA website (www.essa.ac.za) that introduces some of ESSA's students. We welcome individuals, churches, or other groups to sponsor students directly with full or partial scholarships. Whenever possible, we encourage sponsors to communicate with their sponsored student, sharing prayers, news or visits to build relationships.

If you wish to sponsor a student, contact: adam@essa.ac.za.

We also welcome donations to a general bursary fund distributed by a committee to students in need of financial help to continue their studies and prepare for their future church ministry.

We have included one student's profile here as an example, but check out the web page to read more amazing

stories.

Name: Carol Mncube

Year: Third

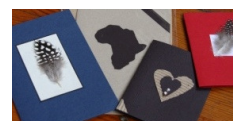
Country of origin: Swaziland



Carol came to ESSA accompanying her husband, Muzi, who finished an ESSA degree in 2008. She praises God that she has also had the opportunity to study so that she can support her husband's ministry, but she also feels a strong calling to work with women.

"I was born through manipulation, deceit, lies, and a bottle of beer," she says about her own difficult upbringing. She says her own triumph over difficult circumstances was only possible because she became a child of God.

Today she hopes to train, equip, and empower women, regardless of literacy or background, to find roles in building the kingdom of God in their communities. She studies and lives at ESSA with her husband and two children, Isa age three and Ebenezer age seven months.



Carol also creates and sells greeting cards. To order, email adam@essa.ac.za.

ESSA proudly announces we are again offering Bth Honours in conjunction with the University of KwaZulu-Natal. Deadline to apply for 2010 is 30 Sept, 2009. See website for details.

STUDENT COMMUNICATIONS OUTREACH TEAM

ESSA has organized a select team of students who are trained and available to visit and serve area churches. These students will serve churches in a variety of ways such as drama, music, counseling, or preaching, explain the resources available at ESSA, and give a multimedia presentation to educate churches about the importance of theological education.

This is part of an overall strategy of strengthening the connection between ESSA and local churches. Not only does this allow more individuals and churches to benefit from ESSA's services, it builds a network of local prayer and financial partners with ESSA's ministry. Please contact the ESSA office if your church is interested in hosting a team.



A student visiting a rural home during second-year students' outreach trip to Bergville.

DO YOU HAVE "GENTLY USED" POTS, PANS, CROCKERY, CULTRY OR CURTAINS?

As ESSA students are often unable to bring essential household items when they come to ESSA, we try to furnish our apartments with the basics they will need. If you have any of these items to donate, please email or call Lynn: Lynn@essa.ac.za, 033 394 1679.

COURSES OFFERED MODULE C

AUGUST

1st year students

Principles of Development
.....Rev. Cyprian Alokwu
Intro to Youth Ministry
.....Mr Johannes Klapprodt
Anthropology and Intercultural Communication
.....Mrs Chrissy Jeske
Romans
.....Mrs Rose Nyirimana

2nd year students

Church in Africa
.....Dr Dominic Mukuka
Christianity in Contemporary Society
.....Rev. Sibusiso Dladla
Personal Renewal and Stress Management
.....Rev. Sibusiso Dladla
Systematic Theology B
.....Dr Williams Mbamalu

3rd year students

World Religions
.....Mr Johannes Klapprodt
Apocalyptic Literature
.....Dr Lubunga W'Ehusha
Pastoral Epistles
.....Dr Lubunga W'Ehusha
Ethics
.....Dr. Williams Mbamalu

SATURDAY COURSES SERVE THE PMB AREA

Among ESSA's core objectives are:

- to provide excellent practical Christian theological education at a tertiary level for both lay people and clergy, and
- to work in partnership with the local church and parachurch organisations.

In fitting with this mission, this term ESSA is offering a low cost (R30 per day) course open to pastors, leaders, and interested Christians in the Pietermaritzburg area.

Each Saturday for four weeks one of ESSA's staff present a two-hour class on a different topic. The four-week course as a whole is called, "Equipping the Church for a Broken World," and individual sessions cover topics including church growth, intercultural communication, counseling, and interfaith dialogue.

For more details see the ESSA webpage, www.essa.ac.za under "Projects." Please pray for attendees and lecturers of this and future courses of this sort that we hope to provide.

CONTACT

Physical address: 189 Pine Street,
Pietermaritzburg

Postal address: PO Box 2400,
Pietermaritzburg 3200, South Africa

Telephone: 033 394 1679

Fax: 033 394 0034

Email: info@essa.ac.za

Website: www.essa.ac.za

Banking Details:

First National Bank
Boom Street (PMB) Branch (code 221325)
Cheque Account Number 50931189217

WAYS TO HELP:

- Host a fund-raising event on behalf of ESSA.
- Inform us of major donors or institutions that may be interested in hearing about ESSA.
- Sponsor a student with a partial or complete scholarship.
- Spread the word about ESSA to prospective students for 2010.
- Invite the ESSA communication team to visit your church.
- And keep praying in faith!

*Thank you for your prayers
and support!*

"Mission is:

The whole church,

Taking the whole gospel

To the whole world."

*Southern African
missiologist David Bosch*