



The Depew Family

CHURCH PLANTING MISSIONARIES TO SOUTH AFRICA



July 2026 Prayer Letter

Dear praying friends,

Our family is doing well, and we're continually reminded of God's kindness in this season. Living in this beautiful country is a blessing, and we thank the Lord for the opportunity to invest in His kingdom here. It's been a few months since our last update, and I'd love to share what the Lord has been doing here in South Africa. First, I'd like to begin with some wonderful news. We recently had our visas renewed for the maximum duration of **three years!** This was a tremendous answer to prayer, especially for those of you who know the difficulties we've faced with obtaining visas in the past. Although the process felt like it lasted forever, it actually took only five months—a surprisingly quick turnaround for the Department of Home Affairs here in South Africa. They are well known for processing visa applications much more slowly, so we were grateful to see the Lord's gracious hand at work throughout the process. We hope this is an encouraging sign that future renewals will continue to go just as smoothly.

We are grateful that the ministry continues to go well and that the Lord has given us many opportunities to serve. It has been a joy to witness His work in the lives of His people as He continues to build His church. Unfortunately, I don't have the space here to share everything, but one ministry that has been a particular highlight is our midweek Bible study, which our teammates graciously host in their home. Over the past several months, our discussions have centered on foundational Christian beliefs. Together, we've explored topics such as the character of God, the authority of Scripture, the person and work of Christ, the ministry of the Holy Spirit, and the mission of the church. These conversations have led us to search the Scriptures together, deepen our understanding of biblical doctrine, and allow God's Word to shape the way we think and live. It has been a joy to watch believers grow in their knowledge of God and their love for His truth, and we are thankful for the opportunity to be part of what the Lord is doing.

I also want to thank all of you who have generously given toward our church plant fund, which I shared about earlier this year. Your support has been a tremendous encouragement to us. While we are still in need of additional funds, we are grateful for how the Lord has already provided. To date, our team has raised approximately **\$50,000 USD**. Recently, we identified a promising piece of property in a strategic location along a main road.

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It would provide excellent access to several surrounding communities where there are few healthy, gospel-preaching churches. The asking price for this property is **\$180,000 USD**. Even if this particular opportunity does not work out, it has given us a realistic picture of the cost of suitable property in this area. Although purchasing land is not an immediate need, we want to be faithful stewards by planning ahead. Cape Town is the most expensive city in South Africa, and property prices continue to rise. Preparing now will, Lord willing, position us well when the time comes to establish a permanent location for the future church plant.

In the meantime, Mountain View Baptist Church has continued praying, saving faithfully, and growing stronger. The Lord is raising up additional leaders to serve, and by His grace the church is becoming increasingly healthy as believers grow in spiritual maturity and faithfulness. Seeing the Lord provide both the people and the resources needed for this future church plant has been a great encouragement to our family. To help prepare for that day, our teammates—who will be planting the church alongside us—have opened an ABWE project account designated specifically for the purchase of property and, Lord willing, the future construction of a church building and biblical counseling center. If the Lord leads you to partner with us in this opportunity, gifts may be mailed by check payable to:

ABWE
P.O. Box 8585
Harrisburg, PA 17105-8585

*Please include **Account #0762191** in the memo line.

Prayer Requests:

-Pray for continued spiritual growth as believers mature in God's Word and are equipped to faithfully follow Christ.

-Pray for wisdom and provision as we prepare for the future church plant and trust the Lord to provide the resources needed.

-Pray that God would raise up faithful leaders to serve and strengthen the church as we move closer to planting a new gospel-preaching church.

In Christ,
Tom, Tiffany, Lydia, Lucy, Lola & Luka Depew