

# 2016 ANNUAL REPORT



[orchardafrica.org](http://orchardafrica.org)

**“Commit your work to the Lord,  
and your plans will be established.”**

**- Proverbs 16:3**



**We develop and equip the local church to be the  
response to poverty and injustice.**

**The church is our platform, programs are our tools, and  
hope in Christ is our message.**

## **A MESSAGE FROM THE FOUNDER & EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**



When it comes to the development of vulnerable communities, you and I know that there are no quick fixes. True development takes time. For this reason, the overarching five-year goal of Orchard: Africa, ending in 2020, is to “go deep”.

What does this mean?

It means asking the right questions and to keep asking until we understand. Not only must the issues be understood, but also the root cause that created the issues in the first place.

Strategies are then developed that bring long-term solutions, not just temporary relief. No one wants to merely do superficial work. Rather, we are all behind this cause in order to see deep and lasting work done.

Orchard: Africa exists to equip the Church to be the response to poverty and injustice. A part of Orchard’s mission statement reads, “programs are our tools, the church is our platform and hope in Christ is our message.” This is not just a clever phrase – it is a very intentional strategy:

- Build programs to dig deep into the issues and provide more than temporal relief. The programs provide appropriate and meaningful development opportunities without undermining the dignity of those served.
- The Church is the platform for a very strategic reason. The Church reaches where government and business and other organizations don’t. It is the most dynamic and most penetrating community-based organization in Africa.
- The message of Jesus brings hope. Infusing all that is done with hope and life is an integral part of development strategy.

For 2017, we have launched a theme called “Disturb the Silence”. Through every communication medium used, we will go deep and talk about the issues. We want to have meaningful conversations with you, our partners, enabling you to in turn have similar conversations with others. Together we will disturb the silence because ultimately silence destroys hope, and we all need hope. Speaking up on behalf of others produces hope and life. It paves the way for positive change. Our words are powerful. Let us use this power intentionally!

**“Speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves, for the rights of all who are destitute.”** - Proverbs 31:8

Thank you for your partnership. It is you who empowers the Church to be the response to poverty and injustice. It’s an amazing privilege to serve alongside you in this calling.

With warm regards,

*Michelle*

**MICHELLE TESSENDORF**  
FOUNDER & EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR





# MINISTRY

# OBAKENG AND HAPPYBOY: A NEW GENERATION OF LEADERS

**“And the things that you have heard from me among many witnesses, commit these to faithful men who will be able to teach others also.”  
- 2 Timothy 2:2**

## THE PROGRAM...

Christ did not just teach sermons on Sundays or leave His witnesses' physical needs unattended to. So neither should the faithful teachers He has called to carry His message of hope. Equipping these teachers to respond to poverty and injustice in their communities is essential. To accomplish this, Fountain of Hope Churches are planted to be training centers and models, and the Orchard: Network connects over 500 church leaders with training so that these faithful teachers are transformed from Sunday preachers to community leaders.

## ...2016 FOCUS...

In 2016, the Fountain of Hope Churches had a special focus on preparing their young intern pastors for ministries of their own. Because of the mentorship provided by the established Fountain of Hope pastors you support, the interns emerged as leaders with flourishing new ministries in their villages. Along with this church growth, there was also a significant increase in the number of life changing Agriculture and Life Skills training courses taught at the churches.

## ...WHAT'S NEXT?

In 2017, the plan is to strengthen this empowerment cycle through an easy to access online ministry toolbox for church leaders - a tall task given the technological limitations found in most rural African villages.

Your support ensures even the most remote Bible teacher has the high quality ministry tools needed to bring lasting spiritual growth to their churches.



**Network**  
Over 500 church leaders connected together for spiritual growth and training.

**Training**  
Qualified leaders get program specific training based on their community's needs.

**Funding**  
Grants & stipends are made available to fund implementation of approved projects.



**Intern Pastors Obakeng (left) and Happyboy (right)**

identified as young men who were ready, willing and able to step into the next level of ministry for their lives – to become Intern Pastors at the Fountain of Hope churches. But when the senior pastor for the region was called to plant a new work in the Western Cape province, Obakeng, Happyboy, and their churches faced a significant obstacle.

Both men needed ministerial and theological training, but formal Biblical training is costly. The churches are both situated within economically disadvantaged villages, and these young men could not afford the Bible school tuition.

**Sustainable ministry** requires that there is always a new generation of leaders being developed to follow in the footsteps of their mentors and pastors. When there are churches that have become pillars of hope in their communities due to their effective response to poverty and injustice, strong generational leadership is imperative.

Thankfully, neither the churches nor the young pastors were alone. Quite the opposite. They were connected to a host of supporters and fellow churches on the other side of the Atlantic. They had partners, who, through Orchard: Africa, provided the funds Obakeng and Happyboy needed to cover their tuition. They both attended Bible School and both graduated at the end of 2016.

The rural villages of Madutle and Khunotswane both have such pillars. Their respective churches, both of which are Fountain of Hope Churches, have a sharp focus on finding and developing new pastors. Obakeng and Happyboy (which is both his first name and definition) are two young men that are a great example of this.

The flourishing ministries in their home churches continue under the new leadership. The villages have sustained pillars of hope. The partnership that spanned an ocean bore lasting fruit!

Obakeng, who is from Madutle, and Happyboy, from Khunotswane, were



Want to fund the Ministry Toolbox for church leaders in South Africa? Email us at [hello@orchardafrica.org](mailto:hello@orchardafrica.org)



# EDUCATION

## GOGONTLE AND BAKHENA: EDUCATION MATTERS

“...and when Jesus became twelve...they found Him in the midst of teachers, both listening to them and asking them questions.”  
- Luke 2:42, 46

### THE PROGRAM...

Learning at a young age is important. It was, even for Jesus. Education shapes the mind of the young who grow up to shape the culture. For this reason, local churches are equipped to start Preschools and After School Learning Centers, providing the young with a safe environment to learn and to grow, both in their education and Biblical worldview.

### ...2016 FOCUS...

In 2016, four education interns from the US worked diligently with preschool teachers to bring about better classroom structure. Development was also started on a new Preschool Curriculum that will be easily implemented by village teachers, resulting in a higher quality of education for the children.

### ...WHAT'S NEXT?

In 2017 teachers will be provided with further training in lesson preparation and classroom behavior. A team from Biola University will spend three weeks in classrooms with teachers, training and equipping them in these techniques. The new preschool curriculum will be implemented in at least three schools.

Your partnership puts well-trained teachers in village preschools so that kids can receive one of the greatest gifts – a quality education.



#### Preschools

Local churches are equipped to start preschools, train teachers, and provide warm meals.

#### After-School

Children receive a lunchtime cooked meal, get help with homework and have a safe place to study, read and learn.

#### Life Skills

Young adults attend life and vocational skills classes, equipping them to find good jobs.



Bakhena

**Gogontle Mogapi** is five years old and lives in Top Village with her seven-year old brother, Bakhena. Their mother is unemployed and the only income she has is the tiny government subsidy she receives for her children, which is only enough to pay for the basics of living and food. There are no books, crayons or toys in their household, and sending her children to preschool for early learning was not something she could even consider. When it came time for her children to start first grade, she had no idea how she would be able to pay for their school uniforms and other supplies.

A Fountain of Hope Church, which exists because of your support, saw this mother's dilemma and stepped in. Gogontle and her brother were invited to attend the church preschool. When

Bakhena left to start first grade, he was provided with a school uniform and supplies. In December 2016, Gogontle graduated from preschool and the same has been provided for her. In January, 2017, when schools start up for the year, she will begin school with a shiny new uniform, but even better, with the skills and confidence to succeed in her on-going education.

Gogontle, her brother Bakhena, and hundreds of other children that are just like them know that their education is secure because of your generosity and kindness.



Gogontle

Want to sponsor supplies for a preschool? Email us at [hello@orchardafrika.org](mailto:hello@orchardafrika.org)





# FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

# KEALEBOGA: HEALING A BROKEN HEART

“...Jesus, lifting up His eyes and seeing that a large crowd was coming to Him, said to Philip, ‘Where are we to get food, so that these may eat?’”  
- John 6:5

## THE PROGRAM...

The good news of the Gospel is hard to hear over the grumbling of a hungry stomach. This is why churches must be equipped to end hunger in their communities by implementing meal programs and teaching agriculture skills. These provide not only immediate food assistance, but also empowerment to community members so that they may also grow their own food for generations to come.

## ...2016 FOCUS...

Orchard Network Churches established new workshops where dozens of community members were trained on innovative and proven vertical gardening techniques, giving them the skills and supplies needed to feed their own families through a home garden. They were aided by three EARTH University interns who were instrumental in creating and expanding community gardens.

## ...WHAT'S NEXT?

In 2017, the plan is to increase the reach of the vertical gardening workshops by equipping 6 local churches to build multi-purpose greenhouses. These will not only function as model gardens to inspire the community, but also function as the classroom in which 200 community members will receive training.

You can help these churches by donating a vertical gardening kit for them to give to workshop graduates. The kit has all the supplies needed to start and maintain an in-home vegetable garden. Email us at [hello@orchardafrika.org](mailto:hello@orchardafrika.org) to find out how.



### Hunger

Food security is a primary need, without which people can't think beyond their own survival.

### Food

Local churches are equipped to start daily lunchtime feeding programs for children in need.

### Farming

Families attend farming & agriculture classes, and are given supplies to start in-home vegetable gardens.

**At night,** Kealeboga Natshane was living a nightmare. Her mother had passed away. Her days were long and filled with anxiety. She simply wanted to wake up from the bad dream that her life had become.

Kealeboga lived in a village that had been forgotten by economic development. A place where living was surviving, and where hope seemed like a distant star. But the village now had a church. A Fountain of Hope Church that had built a reputation of meeting both spiritual and physical needs in her community. Seeking answers and relief, she sought out the pastor and began asking questions. What she found was hope. What was once a galaxy away, she now found in Christ.

Empowered by this new hope, Kealeboga quickly sought to be involved in the church. The church was in the process of implementing the Agriculture Program and needed volunteers willing to take on the challenge of growing food where food had not grown before. She volunteered, though she knew nothing about farming or agriculture.

church is a beautiful garden blossoming under her care. She now works fulltime as Orchard: Africa's regional Food & Agriculture Manager, where she oversees the agriculture projects in numerous churches and manages a team of interns from EARTH University.

Agriculture has changed Kealeboga's life and taught her valuable lessons about personal and spiritual growth. Through it God has taught her responsibility, work ethic, and focus. She refuses to let setbacks in life distract her from what she intends to do. Whether it be the loss of a loved one or the loss of crops, Kealeboga knows that God is her strength and she takes comfort in Him every day and night.



That was five years ago. Today, the once barren patch of land next to her



Want to sponsor a community garden? Email us at [hello@orchardafrika.org](mailto:hello@orchardafrika.org)



# CARE



# ZELDA MATEMBU: A FAMILY RESTORED

**“Jesus was going through all the cities and villages, teaching... and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every kind of disease and every kind of sickness.”  
- Matthew 9:35**

## THE PROGRAM...

Jesus is the great physician. He is the healer of our bodies and our souls. He healed a crippled man who was lowered into a home from the roof. Jesus went into Zaccheus' home and healed his spiritual sickness. Jesus traveled to meet people where they were in their suffering. In this same way, churches should be equipped to care for the sick, widows and orphans through home based care and counseling.

## ...2016 FOCUS...

In 2016, one Orchard Network pastor shared that his village lost 53 souls to health related deaths. While always tragic, the pastor was overjoyed because his church's care workers had been in almost every one of those 53 homes providing treatment and hope in Christ. This suffering was previously left untreated or was treated by a witch doctor. This is but one of many churches that reported similar stories last year.

## ...WHAT'S NEXT?

In 2017, apart from the ongoing care from our churches, we will bring trained Mission Teams from the US to lead Orphan Intervention programs for young people in South Africa who have lost their parents. We also plan to distribute 500 health and hygiene packets through home based care visits from Mission Teams.

Do you have a passion for caring for people? Join a Mission Team and visit the homes of those with few healthcare resources and allow your hands to bring a healing touch.



**Orphans**  
Church leaders identify orphaned & vulnerable children and guide them through intervention programs.

**HIV Prevention**  
Church leaders run AIDS prevention programs in local high schools to fight the national pandemic.

**Home Care**  
Men & women are trained to be in-home caregivers for their local communities.

**Bubble gum** and tape were all that stood between 38-year-old Zelda Matembu and the cold rain which was determined to penetrate through the holes in the tin roof of her tiny shack. Khayelitsha, the severely impoverished township in which she lives, is located on the coastline where the Indian and Atlantic Oceans converge. In winter months, storms are regular occurrences.

When Patrick, the pastor of the nearby Fountain of Hope Church, first met Zelda, she was living alone. Alone because her five children were taken by government social workers who had determined she was not capable of taking care of them. This determination was not based on her love for her family or her parenting ability, both of which were exceptional.

This hard decision was made because Zelda was terminally ill and living in an unventilated, leaking shack. Her illness had left her feet too swollen to make any repairs herself, and she had no income to pay for a repairman.

But God and His church are greater than any storm or illness. Patrick had implemented the Care Program in the Fountain of Hope Church. Church members were equipped to intervene, and that's precisely what they did.

Through in-home care and warm meals Zelda was nourished back to health. Donors in the US supplied the funding used by the Fountain of Hope congregation to build her a beautiful new home.

Today, Zelda and her children once again live under the same roof. The family is restored. Their hope is restored. A restoration that only happened because a church was equipped by donors on the other side of the world to provide holistic care. This is the power of your partnership.



**Zelda and one of her daughters at their home**



Interested in going on a mission trip to care for those in need? Email us at [go@orchardafrica.org](mailto:go@orchardafrica.org)



# THE IMPACT

ALL NUMBERS ARE CUMULATIVE



**573**  
Pastors Trained  
in Ministry and  
Leadership

**60**  
Churches Running  
Sustainable  
Programs

**1,000+**  
Children Who  
Completed VBS

**45**  
Church-Run  
Programs Funded



**225**  
Adults Trained in  
Small Business &  
Life Skills

**5,781**  
Church Preschool  
Students

**960,335**  
Learning Center  
Visits

**259,740**  
Educated on  
HIV/AIDS  
Prevention



**6**  
Community  
Gardens  
Started

**9,082,341**  
Meals Served to  
Children

**7**  
Agriculture  
Workshops  
Taught

**90**  
Vertical Farming  
Bags Purchased  
for Communities



**7,815**  
Families Provided  
with Social  
Services

**203,700**  
Home Care  
Visits to the Sick

**70,649**  
Children Completed  
Orphan Intervention  
Program

**6,500**  
Patients  
Transported to  
Health Clinic  
for Care



# MISSION SEASON

## STEVEN DEVRIES: A CHANGED LIFE

**“What is good and what does the Lord require of you? Do justice, love kindness, walk humbly with your God.”  
- Micah 6:8**

### WHAT IS MISSION SEASON?

Christ calls His followers to do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with Him. This is put on display each year from May to August, which is our Mission Season. Mission Teams travel 10,000 miles to support the four programs through leading Agriculture and Life Skills workshops, teaching Vacation Bible School, and going into the homes of those in need to care for them. Through this, life changing relationships are formed between community and church members and Mission Teams.

### ...2016 TRIPS...

During the 2016 Mission Season, **10** teams presented VBS programs, **4** teams conducted Life Skills training courses, **7** teams helped the Food and Agriculture Director orchestrate Agriculture training courses, and **1** team of high school boys carried out a week-long kids' soccer camp. Along the way, they made a lasting impact and formed special relationships with community members.

### ...WHAT'S NEXT?

In 2017, more Mission Teams will be serving in South Africa than ever before. There are 18 mission trips planned and we are anticipating over 300 mission team members total. This is going to be the first year where there will be a full time Operations Director in both Cape Town and Mafikeng, making 2017 the most exciting mission season yet.

It takes an incredible sacrifice of time and money to travel to South Africa and encourage the churches and communities there. But this is how life change happens. Thank you to those who have made this sacrifice.

### 2016 By the Numbers



Steven DeVries joined a team from Western Michigan to go on his first Mission Trip during the Summer of 2016. The following is his story about the impact that South Africa had on his life.

**Throughout life** we experience places, meet people, and build memories that can change the way that we look at things. Sometimes the effect that they have on us can fade away as we get back into a routine and return to “normal”. For me, the time that our team spent in South Africa was not a trip that you could easily recover from, nor do I want to.

I have to confess, when I used to think of Africa my mind would jump to infomercials. Those colorless images of sad, malnourished, and poor people flashing across the screen with sad music playing in the background. I started to plan for the trip with a hero mentality. I thought I was going to swoop in and save these sad and poor people. However, that wasn't who I met in the villages. They were certainly impoverished, but not sad. The people of Molelwane were happier than, if I had to guess, three-fourths of Americans.

Jesus used my new friends to confront both arrogance and prejudice that I did not know were inside my heart. I was not the only one that could offer something that would benefit another. The people that we met taught us that it

was indeed possible to dance and shout for joy before the Lord even with many desperate situations surrounding you. They know first-hand what it means to depend upon God on a daily basis.

I intend to go back as many times as I can because I am no longer a hero, but a brother. A brother helps in times of need. What they need is not what Americans are in the habit of doing. They do not need us to throw our stuff at their poverty while we cross our fingers and wish for the best. They need people to come and walk with them, teaching them how to live sustainably. Just as the old adage goes: “Give a man a fish and you will feed him for a year. Teach a man to fish and you will feed him for a lifetime.”



Steven DeVries with Abel Suping at Fountain of Hope Church in Molelwane Village

Interested in going on a mission trip? Visit [www.orchardafrica.org](http://www.orchardafrica.org) for more information



# 2016 FUNDRAISERS

## THE ORANGE BALL

The 2016 Orange Ball took place at the Phoenix Zoo on November 11th. Over 200 people came out to support us as we announced our theme for 2017 - Disturb the Silence. A huge "Thank You" goes out to each and every attendee that spent this evening with us.



**Mike and Michelle Tessendorf**

Because of the generosity from each individual in attendance, we were able to raise \$260,000 during the Orange Ball. We are so blessed to have such kind partners who believe in our mission and vision and have come alongside us in order to bring that to life. We are excited for how God will use this generosity as we move into 2017.



**Orange Ball attendees enjoy a conversation during the program**

We would like to say a special "Thank You" to the 31 volunteers who made the 2016 Orange Ball possible. Through the planning, preparation, and hard work, your sacrifice of time and resources is something we greatly appreciate.



**Orchard: Africa board member Ric Leutwyler hosted this year's Orange Ball**

Want to host an event in your city? Email us today at [hello@orchardafrika.org](mailto:hello@orchardafrika.org)

## IMPACT AFRICA



**Impact Africa event attendees work hard to put together pencil pouches**

This year, Impact Africa events were hosted by friends and partners in both Michigan and Arizona. In Michigan, there were events to support Food and Agriculture, as well as Education. Over 100 volunteers attended these events, raising money to fund the programs and filling more than 100 pencil pouches with school supplies for children in South Africa.



**Impact Africa event attendees wrote important messages to include in the pencil pouches**

In Arizona, 8 Care events were hosted over a 4 month period. More than 200 volunteers took part in these events and put together 1,378 bracelets for our HIV/AIDS Prevention course that is taught in schools throughout South Africa. Individuals from ASU Residential Life, Tempe High School, Levi Strauss, Sigma Chi Fraternity, and Desert Ridge Junior High School volunteered to make these events possible.



**Volunteers in Michigan having fun and working hard**

In 2017, we will be introducing brand new events. **Follow us** on social media for the latest updates



# 2016 FUNDRAISERS

## SCHOOL COIN DRIVE



Students from Blythe-Bower Elementary School held a coin drive to help support Orchard: Africa. School Counselor, Laura Murray, shared the vision of Orchard: Africa with members of the Student Advisory Council and Girls on the Run. It was decided that their service project would be to raise money for the preschool and afterschool programs. As Mariah of Girls on the Run stated, "we can help children reach their dreams" by supporting the education component of Orchard: Africa. Students asked classmates, staff, family and friends to help with the drive and were able to raise \$150.

## GCU AIDS AWARENESS NIGHT

Grand Canyon University's Global Outreach "GO Nights" team is a ministry that provides engaging events to raise awareness about global issues on campus. For the month of October, the GO Nights team had a theme of HIV/AIDS and invited Mike Tessendorf, Senior Pastor of Orchard: Africa, to come and speak regarding the AIDS epidemic around the world. GCU students who attended this event had the opportunity to not only hear from Orchard: Africa regarding the issue of HIV/AIDS, but also to make bracelets to wear in order to have intentional conversations and raise awareness on the issue. Students were greatly impacted by the information shared and through the opportunity to be a voice for those living with HIV/AIDS.



Want an Orchard: Africa staff member to speak at your event? We can make that happen. Contact us at [hello@orchardafrika.org](mailto:hello@orchardafrika.org)



## THE RAPTOR RUN

Each Fall, over 100 Ford Raptor pickup trucks descend upon the beautiful Fluharty Farms in Texas to run the 20-mile off-road track, show off their trucks, and trade stories. Texas Raptor Runs Rapterfest is the brainchild of Adam Bosch and Trey Palreiro. In exchange for use of the venue, TRR agreed to raise money for Orchard:

Africa and other charities selected by Adam and the Fluharty's. Each year, off-road parts vendors graciously donate over \$30,000 in product for a raffle. In 2016 the event raised close to \$30,000 for charity, \$14,150 of which went to Orchard: Africa. This event would not be possible without Adam Bosch, Jim Sparks, Rob Martins and his family, and the rest of the MGI crew.



## SVCC SUMMER SPECTACULAR

The Sun Valley Community Church Summer Spectacular is a week-long summer event held the first week of June for Kindergarten - 3rd grade kids to play, sing, dance and learn how to follow Jesus while making friends. Each small group learns about Jesus for themselves, in their daily lives, while also learning how to be the hands and feet of Jesus by donating money to a mission that helps other kids around the world. It is amazing to see their personal growth during this time, their enjoyment through the activities, what the kids donate, and how excited they are to help others! This year, 842 kids raised \$10,631.71 for Orchard: Africa!



Start your own fundraiser at [OrchardAfrica.org](http://OrchardAfrica.org)  
You can donate your birthday, host an event, or do any other fun idea!

# THE TEAM

**"As iron sharpens iron, so a friend sharpens a friend."  
- Proverbs 27:17**

## LEADERSHIP MEETING

### TEAM UPDATE

2016 has been a year of transition for the team in both the United States and South Africa.

In South Africa, 2017 will start with two Operations Directors - Theuno Swart who started with us at the beginning of 2016 and who will continue to run our South Africa operations and Nelson Koon, who has moved to Mafikeng with his wife, Leslie, to direct operations in the North West Province. These strategic positions will greatly enhance productivity and outputs.

At the beginning of 2016, two longstanding US staff members moved on to new, incredible opportunities. The new team that developed and came together in 2016 has been exciting to see. In January of 2016, Scott McGee became our Senior Church Development Director. Later in the year, Savannah Kralovec transitioned to full-time Project Manager, Nate Rogers joined the team as Digital Development Director, and Anthony DiMaria joined as Creative Coordinator. Each person feels called by God to this work and each one is excited to be a part of the greater Orchard family.

Orchard: Africa has moved into new office spaces in both the United States and South Africa. Thank you to those donors who gave specifically to this initiative.

You, our partners, make it clear that you care for the staff and this is truly appreciated! Your kindness is shown in many ways and it is never taken for granted. Thank you so much. We have the best supporters in the whole world!

The generosity of donors from an August 2016 Vision Trip made it possible for the first ever Orchard: Africa international staff leadership meeting and retreat which took place in Cape Town, South Africa.



Key staff from both the United States and South Africa were able to come together in the same place and discuss ideas and solutions that would positively impact the communities in which we work for years to come. It is times like these that donor partnership makes an incredible difference in day-to-day activities, resulting in life change for beneficiaries.



Interested in volunteering? Get in touch with us!  
Call us at **(480) 966-9037**  
or send us an email at **hello@orchardafrika.org**

Want to go on a Vision Trip? Send us an email at **hello@orchardafrika.org**

# 25 YEARS OF MINISTRY

## SMALL BEGINNINGS...

## ...CONTINUED PROVISION

2016 marked the 25th anniversary of when the work of Orchard: Africa (originally known as Helping Hands in Africa) began in rural South Africa. We were small and the needs overwhelming. But then folks like yourself responded and united a force greater than all obstacles: God's People.

25 years later, more people have joined together in the mission to equip the local church to be the response to poverty and injustice than we ever imagined. It is humbling to work alongside so many incredible people who desire to serve God. Together, let's make the next 25 years even greater!

First Fountain of Hope church service in Top Village, South Africa



January, 1995

HIV/AIDS Prevention Training developed and presented to first high school



June, 1997

First US Mission trip to Mafikeng, South Africa



June, 2004

First month as a US incorporated organization and registered 501(c)3 in the United States



February, 2005

Changed name from Helping Hands in Africa to Orchard: Africa



September, 2011

Launch of Western Cape Office in South Africa and current five year plan: "Going Deep"



January, 2015

October, 1991



First pot of food delivered to children rummaging for scraps on city garbage dump

January, 1997



First community Home Based Care Givers trained to care for sick in their homes

January, 2001



Feeding Project started in Molelwane Village, South Africa

March, 2010



First Orchard Network Meeting held in Cape Town, South Africa and Lusaka, Zambia

December, 2014



First joint five year plan, "African Orchard Project" completed, exceeding all goals

October, 2016



First international staff meeting and retreat held in Cape Town

# THY KINGDOM COME: A PRAYER FOR THE NEW YEAR

“So He came to Nazareth, where He had been brought up. And as His custom was, He went into the synagogue on the Sabbath day, and stood up to read. And He was handed the book of the prophet Isaiah. And when He had opened the book, He found the place where it was written: **“The Spirit of the LORD is upon Me, because He has anointed Me to preach the gospel to the poor; He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and recovery of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed.”**”  
(Luke 4:16-18, emphasis added)

The words Jesus used have been emphasized above to point out that Jesus came to ordinary, every day people.

It is ordinary people for whom Jesus was anointed and to ordinary people whom Jesus was sent... **“...to proclaim the acceptable year of the LORD.”** (Luke 4:19)

The “acceptable year of the Lord” is a reference to the year of Jubilee – a year of release, restoration and restitution.

Jesus ends by saying to them, **“today this scripture is fulfilled in your hearing.”** (Luke 4:21):

- For the poor – there is good news – today.
- For the broken – there is healing – today.
- For the captives and the oppressed – there is freedom – today.
- For the hopeless – there is a light at the end of the tunnel – today.

When Jesus preached the gospel of the Kingdom, His message was not about how to escape the troubles of this world for the bliss of heaven, or how to live right so as to be certain of an eternity in heaven. Rather, Jesus’ message was about people receiving God’s will on earth, today, as it is in heaven.

God intends for His will to be done **on earth** in our lives:

- To see His dream come true for us while we are on this earth.
- To see His justice and peace replace injustice and turmoil.
- To show practical ways of experiencing His kingdom to the hopeless and the vulnerable – this includes each one of us.

During the past year, many of you have visited with, talked to and touched ordinary, every day people in real situations in villages of Southern Africa. Fathers and mothers, young adults and children who wake up day after day in poverty, brokenness, enslavement, hopelessness and oppression. They live through injustice, in all its forms, on a daily basis. Jesus has cared for them, amongst other ways, through you, through the village pastors, and through Orchard: Africa staff. Together, we have been the hands and feet of Christ proclaiming the “acceptable year of the Lord.”

As we head into 2017 and beyond, let us pray together... Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.



[orchardafrica.org](http://orchardafrica.org)





**ORCHARD: AFRICA**