

HANDS TO SERVE

SERVING MISSIONS WORLDWIDE

— since 1966 —

“Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock.”

Matthew 7:24

Dear prayer partners

Winter 2018

On the Internet you can find many movies about storms, which destroy homes or they are demolished by large mudflows. You sympathize with the owners as you watch their houses disappear within seconds. Jesus himself uses this type of illustration about people who know His teachings but do not act on them. A few verses earlier He says, "Only whoever acts according to the will of my Heavenly Father" (Matt 7:21). That seems to be at the heart of what Jesus means. How does this work: "Act according to His will"?



It makes me think back to what Steve told me more than 10 years ago. The Mission had been saving for years for another forklift truck that would be essential for the work we do here. We had already been given a forklift truck from a helpful company, but it was big and heavy; it shook the whole building when we used it. When out for another errand, Steve came across a large building of Still Forklift trucks on an industrial site. He felt God telling him to go in. Steve had learned through his long experience with God, what it was like to "act" when God prompted. Being obedient but without understanding why, he went inside and asked at the desk whether they sold second-hand machines, because he knew there was no budget for a new one. The receptionist called someone who quickly came downstairs. Steve began: "Hello, I am Steve, from "Hands to Serve". The answer that came back was ever so amazing and only possible because God had arranged this: "Hello Steve, yes, I know, because I just read an article about Hands to Serve in the Opwekking (Revival) magazine yesterday.



How can I help you? "The outcome of this conversation was a good fork truck which we still use today and serves as a testimony of God's goodness.

God is at work at Hands to Serve and He is and will be the foundation of all our work. It is up to us to be focused on His will and to listen and see what He has prepared for us

As we have written earlier, Steve will be handing the leadership of Hands to Serve (in the Netherlands) over to Paul and Ruth

(son-in-law and daughter) on January first 2019. This will be a big change. Thankfully God is big enough to have the final say in the plans of Hands to Serve and at the same time go with Steve to England. As long as we know that God is and remains our foundation, the house can stand firm in the challenging storms the mission is facing at the moment.



As an example of God's faithfulness four new people have come forward, in the short time since the last newsletter, willing to help with the work.

In the computer department two men will come one day each week. They will help preparing computers, so that we can distribute them to mission projects around the world. They will also help to maintain and improve our own internal computer system. Two things that I (Paul) am very grateful for, because these are things that I spent a lot of time on myself and now we can share this work. We are still actively looking for someone to help us plan the work in our computer department. Since Hans left earlier this year, that job has been added to my current responsibilities but I would like to hand this task on to someone else. Can you pray with us for God to provide such a person?

In the garage we now have an extra pair of hands who is very skilled with commercial vehicles and doesn't have a problem getting dirty hands from working on cars. He has promised to come and help two days each month. This really is an answer to prayer, since Doug left at the beginning of 2018, there is actually more garage work than there are people to do it.

Please keep praying for even more people in the garage, even with this valuable extra worker there is still too much work.

As to the housekeeping, a lady has committed herself to come two days each month to help. She will travel all the way from Ede (2 hours travel) and she is praying to see if this is the Lords plan for her to serve here. It is encouraging for us to see that someone who lives farther away does not see this distance as a problem but solves it by staying overnight here in Strijen.



The registration for 'our' yearly conference on Computers in Mission has already begun. It is planned for 6-9 February 2019. Everyone who registers before Christmas will get a discount.

If you know of people working with computers that also have a heart for Mission, please let them know about this event! We hope to have a group of about 75 people from all over the world, expanding God's Kingdom by sharing their knowledge as brothers and sisters in Christ. If someone has found a solution to a computer problem and shares it with others that are still looking the answer, this proves to be very valuable and saves a lot of time. The theme for this year is 'Theology of Risk'. As a child of God, how do you deal with risks? As keynote speaker, we have invited a security expert who also has a Master's degree in theology.

We are extremely grateful to everyone who supports our mission work with prayer or finance. Please help us to tell other people about the work of Hands to Serve. You can find this prayer letter digitally on our website www.HandsToServe.org, so you can send it on to others.

We wish you a blessed Christmas and a healthy 2019.

For the team

Steve, Oma, Randy, Ruth & Paul, Wilma, Aart, Albert, Arjan, Arthur, Gerben, Karen & Gerrit, An & Bram, Bibi, Rhea, Petra & Maurice, Diana, Frans, Wim, Piet, Jacob, Eddie, John, Ella, Menco and Ronie.

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Gifts can be sent to:

Stewardship, 1 Lamb's Passage, London EC1Y 8AB

Checks should be made payable to Stewardship. Mentioning Ref 20041294



FOR
UNTO US A

Child IS BORN

UNTO US A *Son* IS GIVEN;

AND THE GOVERNMENT WILL BE UPON HIS SHOULDERS;

AND HIS NAME WILL BE CALLED:

*Wonderful Counselor,
Mighty God, Everlasting Father,
Prince of Peace*

ISAIAH

9:6