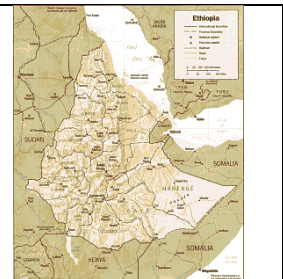


Seek the Lord and Live (Amos 5:6)

Newsletter 63– March 2020



‘Not that I have already obtained all this, or have already been made perfect, but I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me. (...) But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining towards what is ahead, press on towards the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenwards in Christ Jesus.’ (Phil. 3: 12-14). ‘Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near.’ (Phil. 4:4-5).

In all the difficulties, the Lord God has made it possible in the past six months that New Creation could continue with the programmes, our children, Surafel and the staff. A true gift from our Lord! I am privileged that I can continue, as a widow with her children and with many other widows and their children in New Creation. Thank you for the many prayers, also in the future, because your prayers are the engine of New Creation.

General Manager New Creation

Last time we wrote: “The work will continue”. But we needed to create the position of General Manager. The function used to be Co’s, and I had to take over. Many things had to happen to realise this. We have travelled to Addis Abeba for many weeks. We will spare you the details. Next to that, much negative information had to be invalidated. For people, this is impossible. But to God is the glory: He stands above everything and uses everything for his purpose, because it is His work. Right before I arrived in The Netherlands at the beginning of March, I received a work and residence permit and I could officially be installed as GM: the first white female GM of an NGO in Ethiopia.

From street child to project leader



After that, and after six months, I could appoint our eldest foster son as member of staff of New Creation, as my right hand, authorised to sign, and responsible for daily affairs. Surafel came to us on 19 September 2008 with an official letter from the local government requesting our help to pick up his studies after having lived on the streets for 10 years. It succeeded: in the meantime he has had 10 years of work experience in YMCA and he is project leader of one of the seven refugee camps in the South of Ethiopia. When Co died and I talked with Surafel about the possibility to work for New Creation, his

answer was: “I think it is time to come back”. I am immensely grateful for this. He knows the culture, the language, he has his network and he knows a lot about international organisations.

Wukro

Although Wukro is far away, we decided to continue because it is a second language area in Ethiopia and we started New Creation there. We intend to start a branch over there. It will mean that someone there will take care of monthly reports and buying, and that we don’t have to travel so often. Next to that, the government requires it this way. Eventually it will save costs. We are

thinking of extending by 20 children first, and max. by 30 children. Concretely, these children will receive school materials, a uniform and an additional course so that they can find employment more easily.



Langano

We will also start a branche in Langano. This means office space in the local government building for someone who didn't have a job before. This person will take care of the reports, just like in Wukro. So far we have supported 12 families and 150 school children. The families have received seed because of the failed harvests of the past six years. Last year, for the first time, mature corn could be harvested. Slowly we started to discover that these families were all related to each other. This is not allowed by law. That is why we have decided to select families that need

help in a different way from now on. The help to children will remain the same. This means school materials (here no uniform is required) and an extra meal like breakfast or a small lunch for when they go home. This will be taken care of and bought by our future local member of staff. In this way the local region benefits from the help that we can offer.

Drie

In Drie we have supplied school materials and hygiene products to 75 children until now. However, the local government of this village, that belongs to Debre Zeit, does not report back to us. After we had urged them several times and still no reports followed, we unfortunately had to stop this project. Not because we want to, but we have an obligation to our sponsors to account for expenses in a correct manner. And there are many other widows and orphans in need of help.

Daycare and chicken barns

We have made a proposal to the government to generate income from chicken barns, for daycare.



Experts have indicated in several talks that we could save for building day care classrooms from the profit we would make. We hope and pray that sufficient money will be generated to realise the daycare buildings. As you know, the sceptic tank and the playground equipment have already been moved. The building plans have already been made, but they have to be reviewed, mainly because of the 7.5% inflation of 2018 and 2019, and also expected for 2020. We are very grateful for the sponsor of the construction of the chicken barns and the sponsor of the interior. We hope to

start with the construction soon.

Widows

At this moment 2 widows are still paying off their interest free loan so that their business will become their own. One of them has a small shop with various goods. The other bakes enjerra for



regular customers and cares for 7 children. One of the children was adopted in the New Creation school programme.

Cuttings

There is a small greenhouse on our compound. It will be extended and renovated so that we can use it for potting up cuttings that we take from plants. Once the cuttings have grown into big enough plants, they will be sold. The plan is to teach this to widows who are not in our work area, so that they

can sell small plants for their own income. These can be all sorts of plants, from succulents to geraniums. Here they are not indoor window sill plants. Here they are plants for the outdoors. We have already found a sponsor for the cuttings, many thanks. We hope to start with this soon.

Do we let poor students study?

How can the less well off students find a job in Ethiopia in an easier way? We would like to guide these students by offering them the opportunity to browse vacancies in the whole country on a computer. We are discussing this with the residential government to find a place that is most central, a corner for job searching and job creation. In this way we hope to be of help for the many jobless graduates, together with the government.

We can often still give away water that we have pumped up ourselves.

Thank you for the many donations.



New website

Hoop4ethiopia.com is the name of the new website of HSWE. This website will replace Hoop Ethiopië.nl and is focused more on the real situation of the fund raising foundation. Please take a look! In the past year the foundation had to make many expenses that weren't budgeted. Can you help support all the programme parts? We need you very much.

I hope to see you, or hear from you, soon!

Marja Tollenaar

Please let us know by return of email if you no longer want to receive our newsletter. If we don't hear from you, we assume that you agree we keep sending you our newsletter.

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Financial support:

‘Stg. Hoop Straatkinderen en Weduwen
Ethiopië’

Rabobank no.: **NL14RABO0129276553**

Stating the cause (e.g. sponsoring a child, general
means, a special project) in Ethiopia.

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Please give thanks for:

The past 13 years of New Creation in which God has
changed lives.

- My safety so far, despite the tension in Ethiopia
- The daycare programme
- Protection and safety when travelling
- Good health of myself and my family
- All encouragements that are sent to me
- The many blessings we continue receiving, also in
this difficult time.

Please pray for:

- Good contacts with the (local) government,
churches, and other foundations.
- The upcoming elections in August, that they may
be without problems.
- Further development of the day care programme
for underfed children.
- Wisdom for the progress and starting up of all
(new) programme parts, and dependence of the Lord.
- Sufficient money to continue all projects.
- A blessing for all the work, because we cannot do
without His blessing.
- Health and safety for all New Creation members
of staff on the many road trips that are needed.
- That I do not lose sight of my children in
everything that needs to be done.

Because:

- “Unless the Lord builds the house, its builders
labour in vain. Unless the Lord watches over the
city, the watchmen stand guard in vain.”
(Psalm 127 verse 1)

