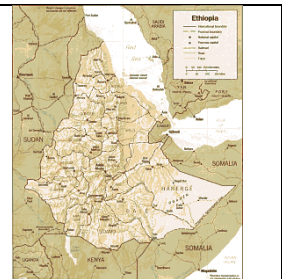


Seek the Lord and Live (Amos 5:6)

Newsletter 65– June 2020



<sup>19</sup>Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,<sup>20</sup> and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.” **(Matthew 28:19-20).**

This text has become a confirmation for me several times in these past weeks, and therefore I have booked a return flight on 2 July. On that day it was possible to make a direct flight back to Ethiopia. I have stayed in The Netherlands for a longer time than usual because of the Covid situation. I have experienced this longer stay as a time to start processing the loss of Co. It was confusing, but very valuable.

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### Langano

In the meantime the Langano project has officially become a branch of New Creation. This means that one staff member from the community has been appointed as our staff member. He buys the materials for school, for hygiene, extra food for the school children, and next to that seed – in consultation with the whole community, not only with the 12 families. He is responsible for making the reports frequently. The local administration has provided office space. For the necessary financing we have opened a bank account in the region. The final check remains the responsibility of the head office of New Creation in Debre Zeit of course. We are grateful for the developments in New Creation and the positive atmosphere that they are happening in.



### Care for the elderly

Because the chicken barn had been empty for a while, it was decided to transform it into a shelter for widows and homeless people. Together with volunteers, our children started painting and refurbishing eagerly. At that time there was no sign that a Covid 19 pandemic would break out and that it would also reach Ethiopia. On the day that Covid 19 arrived in Ethiopia, it was feared that it would cause a catastrophe, especially for people that live in the streets. Among the homeless are many elderly who aren't looked after by relatives. They are extra vulnerable for infection. For that reason 280 homeless elderly were placed in quarantine for 2 months when Covid 19 came. The government was looking for options for better care. New Creation could jump in by offering the newly refurbished previous chicken barn as a shelter for 25 homeless elderly. A brainstorm was held, talks with the government, and plans were made. In this it became visible that God had provided before we knew what was coming, and made things right. Everything they did worked out well, and also the cooperation with the local government went smoothly and effectively. What a blessing! The staff and the volunteers were prepared for the arrival of the homeless elderly. Upon arrival the elderly men and 1 woman were received lovingly, they were washed, shaved, dressed, and they were given a haircut. God had provided a hair dresser on the compound. During

this time of crisis, 100 volunteers were trained to help the elderly and to work on the land. And the elderly were encouraged to do some light work on the compound. It was very special to see how everyone was set free in their self-worth and contributed with their gifts and talents.



When the chicken barn was turned into a shelter, we wouldn't have thought that it would be used as an elderly shelter during the Covid 19 pandemic! It was Co's heart's desire to create a shelter for the elderly, from the very start of New Creation! Now we see God's plan and provision in this spontaneous project and the development of the Elderly Projects on our New Creation compound. We also realise that we do not want to send these elderly away after the crisis, so ongoing support is needed to give these elderly a loving and respectful time in the final stage of their life. Can you help? What a miracle of God's gracious love! What an honour to provide a shelter to these valuable people.

### **“Our New Creation Mama”**



This is an 98-year old woman without children, family or other relatives. She was all alone in the world. Now she lives in the New Creation community where she is lovingly cared for. She was disoriented because she'd moved so often. Now she has regained interest in her surroundings and she has a normal day and night rhythm.

### **Family life**

In the New Creation community we live as one big family. The birthday of our eldest daughter and sister Meherate Desta was celebrated together with our new elderly. It was a wonderful day in which they shared love, joy and food with each other.



I hope to see you or hear from you soon!  
Marja Tollenaar

*If you no longer want to receive our newsletters etc., please let us know by return of email. If we don't hear from you, we assume you agree with receiving our mail.*



**Ethiopia:** Marja Tollenaar; P.O. Box 1781,  
Debre Zeit, Ethiopia  
E-mail: [marjatollenaar@outlook.com](mailto:marjatollenaar@outlook.com)  
Mobile phone: 00251 (0)9 1283 1954  
(Marja)  
Kantoor 00251 (0)11 4337368

**The Netherlands:** Marja Tollenaar; Stal 265,  
9205 AM Drachten // Tel.: 06 4715 2370

**Correspondence address HSWE in The Netherlands:**

Via the Homefront team:

[n.smits@chello.nl](mailto:n.smits@chello.nl)

Antje and Nico Smits, Stal 221  
9205 AL Drachten. Tel.: 0512 - 840258

**For financial support:**

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**Give thanks for:**

- The past 13 years of New Creation in which God has changed lives.
- My safety until now despite the tensions in Ethiopia.
- Protection and safety when I was travelling.
- The good health of my family and myself.
- All the encouragements that are sent to me
- The many blessings that we received, also in these difficult times.
- The many positive developments in New Creation, among which the good relationships with the local government.

**Prayer requests:**

- For good relationships with the (local) government, churches and other foundations.
- For wisdom in the continuation of all the (new) programmes and when deciding to start up or not start up projects, in dependence of the Lord.
- For sufficient money to be able to continue all projects.
- For a blessing on all the work, because we cannot do without His blessing.
- Health and protection for all of us on the many journeys we need to make
- Our children, that we do not lose sight of them in all the work that needs to be done.

Because: 'Unless the Lord builds the house, its labourers labour in vain; unless the Lord keeps the city, the watchmen stand guard in vain' (Psalm 127 verse 1)

