

# ZEBRA STRIPES

## Winter 2019

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Thou preparest a table before me  
in the presence of mine enemies:  
thou anointest my head with oil;  
my cup runneth over. *Psalms 23:5*

### Pastor Angelo Merli



The testimony shared in this newsletter is truly AMAZING; may God be glorified by its humble retelling here. My wife and I have known Pastor Angelo Merli for a number of years; we first met him at the Carletonville Bible College in South Africa. Italian by birth, but raised in South Africa – he worked for several years in the mines, but now owns his own metal shop where he does lathe and millwright type work for

a variety of clients, but mostly for area mining related concerns. Brother Angelo is currently the pastor of a new multi-cultural congregation in Fochville (Northwest Province) named Salvation & Gates of Praise PCG. He is fluent in at least 6 languages (Italian, English, Portuguese, Fanagolo, and a couple other African languages), but best of all he loves Jesus with all of his heart.

Earlier this year he hurt his shoulder, but shrugged it off as nothing serious. Then on a rainy March 9<sup>th</sup> he was attempting to cover the hole on a leaky house roof with an old scrap of conveyor belt. However, his shoulder couldn't take the strain, he lost his balance and fell backwards off the roof, landing on his back. For nearly 2 hours he lay paralyzed on the ground before he could be taken to the hospital. Upon examination the doctors discovered Angelo had 5 broken places in his pelvic bone, plus two lower lumbar vertebrae were broken.

The attending physician told Angelo he would likely be in a wheel chair for the rest of his life. This news did not discourage him, rather he was more determined than ever that he would walk again. As a matter of fact, during his 13 day stay in the hospital, he managed to hobble to the bathroom. When his doctor "caught" him coming out of the water closet one day he asked, "How long have you been doing this?" Angelo replied, "Ever since you told me I would likely never walk right again."

His doctor sent Angelo home insisting that he use the wheel chair. Unfortunately, both of Angelo's sons worked and his 13 year old daughter was in school. Tending to his own personal hygiene was "difficult", somehow he managed to help himself. Anyway, since he was home alone he attempted to walk. After being in a wheelchair for five days, he bravely got up and took a few painful steps. Eventually, he went outside and starting walking; his legs began to strengthen so

he kept adding steps. Before long he was walking on the Fochville-Potchefstroom highway! Motorists would stop to ask him if he needed a ride, to which Angelo replied, "No, I feel fine just walking." Indeed, it felt so good to walk...he just kept walking. However, after walking nearly 21 miles from his home he felt extremely tired and phoned his oldest son Mornay, "Son, can you please come and get me?"

His son asked, "Where are you Dad?" Angelo responded, "Son, I'm about 35 kilometers from you on the Potch road. Can you come and get me?"

Today Angelo is completely healed; truly a testimony to the wonder-working power of God in his life and ministry.

**\* On page 2 please see Angelo's son Mornay's amazing testimony.**

**Praise the Lord! \$600 was given and purchased a new photocopier for the PCG Mozambique Bible College. Please contact us regarding other urgent special projects.**

**A BIG THANK YOU to everyone who sent a Christmas Love Offering for us. Furthermore, many thanks to everyone who assisted our travel fund by sending your contribution to our World Missions account for the MALAWI-SOUTH AFRICA MINISTRY TOUR in September 2018.**

**Please Send Your Contributions To:**

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