## HAPPY NEW YEAR 2025



Greetings from our team in Welkom, South Africa,

As the New Year begins in our hemisphere we are enjoying the beautiful Summer weather South Africa has to offer. Though this does not happen often, our group of Young adults and Transitional members of The Pines have the opportunity to enjoy a trip to the Ocean. Just 6 hours from Welkom the Indian Ocean and its warm waters will be an enjoyable outing and opportunity to relax and enjoy the company of each other. Some have jobs while others are pursuing their education at Universities or Skills training facilities. We are thankful for each one of them and the opportunities God has provided for them as they venture into an independent life on their own. As they all begin to move away and experience their independence, this outing will encourage a time of sharing experiences of God's provision and enabling.

Most, if not all have grown up at The Pines and in the protected environment it offers them. Generally speaking, South Africa is not a safe country nor does it provide for many opportunities for young adults, certainly those without an education. As they begin to venture out into a very different environment, the reality of independence comes with a revived sense of trust in God and His protection. Please remember to pray for them as they pursue life on their own.





Christmas, though an extremely busy time at The Pines is such a joyous occasion for the children. For the children who have been with us for a while.....well, with anticipation, they know. But, for those who will be experiencing for the first time....WOW!! The looks on their faces and smiles will not soon be forgotten. This special time to share the birth of Jesus and giving of gifts is captivating and a joy to be a part of. By the way, this special occasion takes place because of the generosity of so many of you and your willingness to sponsor and give sacrificially through out the year AND send in extra for Christmas gifts. Thank you, Thank you, Thank you





I've written this update as though we are in South Africa. Truth is, we were blessed to spend Christmas here in Florida with Kimberly and Jake, Johnny and Tiffany and our two little grandsons. What a blessing.

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