

A cross. The world.

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Dear Friends,

I am delighted to announce to you that the Clifford family has moved to Cape Town. In hopes of getting closer to starting a work in Windhoek, Namibia, we have moved to a more Afrikaans speaking area. Our first term goals are to learn Afrikaans, adapt to culture in Southern Africa and get our feet into ministry. In the last two years, while ministering in Durban, we have been able to adapt to Southern Africa, gain some training from a veteran missionary, work in a small church plant, help start a Reformer's Unanimous ministry, work in a Zulu church, and start a Bible study in our home, amongst other ministries.

The move to Cape Town was not an easy decision. We knew we had to move to a place where we could find Afrikaans speaking people, and at first Cape Town did not seem like the best fit. We were looking to move to another region, but the doors would not open. When we were asked to consider Cape Town, I originally said, "No." After consulting with my pastor and director, when I was asked again to survey Cape Town, I agreed. Two days later, I flew out to spend a week visiting for Sunday services, midweek service and Thursday night Bible study.

That survey trip was the last week of June. I came to love Lighthouse Baptist Church during my brief visit and the church asked that I come and spend a year as the interim missionary. With one year left on my South African visa, and the church being in a location that could help us learn Afrikaans, it became clear that God was leading us to move to Cape Town. On the trip, God also provided housing we could afford, which is a huge blessing because of the high cost of living.

I believe the year as missionary-evangelist at Lighthouse Baptist will be a big step toward the goal of moving to Namibia. I will be acting as the senior pastor of the church, fulfilling that role for the first time. We will be working with some Namibian people in our church and we will be able to learn a little Afrikaans. The church is small, but they are close knit young families who are eager to grow and learn.

Leaving Durban was difficult. We made a home and we will miss our friends and church family. Our time there helped put my philosophy of missions into concrete learning. Missions does work, and I have seen God work in lives during my first two years of ministry. I am humbled that God would put me into ministry, but I am thankful for the opportunity that He has provided. We could not minister in Southern Africa without your faithful support, and may God bless your investment in this next year as well.

Your missionaries,
Jeff and Alyssa Clifford

So being affectionately desirous of you, we were willing to have imparted unto you, not the gospel of God only, but also our own souls, because ye were dear unto us.

I Thessalonians 2:8

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