

Owens Family Newsletter



Christmas 2006
together in snowy
Steveston , BC

Happy New Year from our family!

Dear friends and family,

Greetings from David, Judi, (Celeste),
Justine and Zac.

This is the first up-date of the Owens
family since stepping down as lead
pastors at Vancouver South Vineyard.

We served at VSV for just under six
years and had a beautiful farewell
celebration and final service. We may
have stepped down from a job, but

What's next...

Firstly, we are in the process of putting
our house on the market, after which
we'll be looking to buy something
smaller for our retirement.

In March, David is planning to travel to
South Africa for three weeks or so,
where he will be catching up with
some dear friends in the Vineyard there
and spending time with some of the
leaders of African Enterprise in
Pietermaritzburg. This will enable us to
get a better view from the ground and
discern the specifics of our call to that

we've made lifelong friendships. Thank
you Vancouver South Vineyard!

We also had the gift of spending
Christmas together as a family –
Celeste included! ...with snow!!



beautiful continent. There are
many opportunities for service
and David will be looking into a
few specific leads in partnership
with African Enterprise
[http://www.africanenterprise.co
m/](http://www.africanenterprise.com/) and the Vineyard Africa
<http://www.avc.org.za/>.

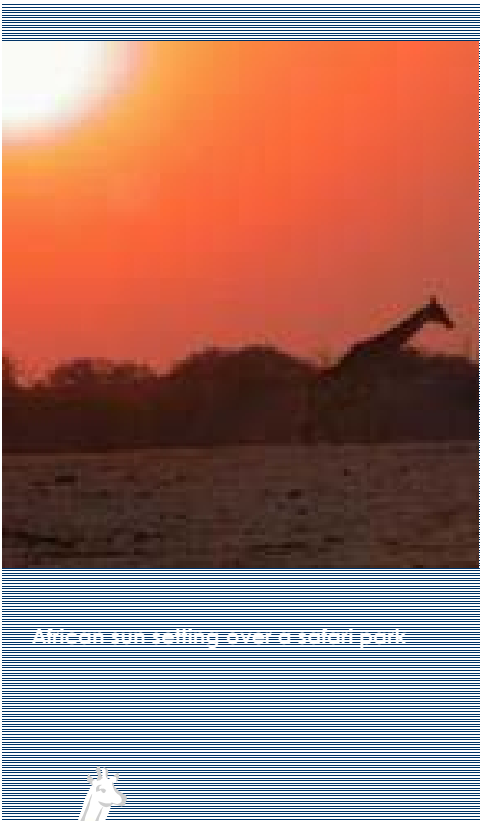
Equipping pastors and
empowering the poor are two
areas we would love to work in.

- *Celeste visits from England!*
- *Farewell to Vancouver South Vineyard*
- *Feb 1st – House for sale*
- *Mid March – David flies to Africa!*

*"This will enable us
to get a better view
from the ground and
discern the specifics
of our call to that
beautiful continent."*



Family News from Celeste, Justine, Zac and Jigger



African sun setting over a savanna park

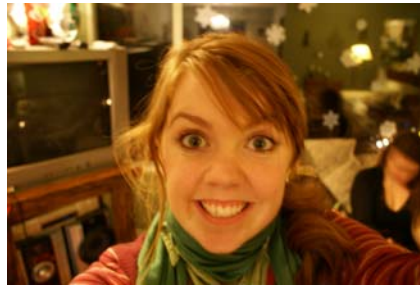


Celeste: My visa was approved therefore I was able to spend Christmas with my family! I love my job as youth pastor at St. Alban's Vineyard U.K. especially the youth!

<http://www.myspace.com/celesteo>



Zac: Pray for me! I don't like change. I love Canada. I would love to go to Africa if Jigger came. I don't want to live in a mud hut but mum says I won't have to.



Justine: I'm really excited about our family going to Africa. I am personally planning on going to Uganda myself, exploring different avenues, and raising money. Please pray for wisdom on what, why and where God wants me to go. I'm really excited for this new season of change for my family.

<http://www.myspace.com/justineowens>

Jigger: Should I go to Africa or stay here in Canada? I want to be with my family but I hate the heat. I travel well but 20 hours.....? Zac would be sad if I stayed here but he would be even sadder if I were eaten by a lion! Can you think of a compromise? Are you my new foster family?



Whatever we are doing We would like you to be a part of it!!

Many of you have indicated that you would like to be part of what we are doing in some way, whether it is visiting us in Africa, praying for us specifically, or giving financially to us.

We will keep you updated of our exploits so that you can stay informed and support us intelligently!

Prayer Needs:

- Direction: God's divine appointments in Africa
- Wisdom regarding housing in Canada
- Zac and Jigger – wisdom for us. Grace for them
- Faith for the journey and for the waiting



Building Partnerships for Urban Outreach in Africa and in Canada
City Reaching, Reconciliation & Justice, Aid & Development and Leadership ministry.

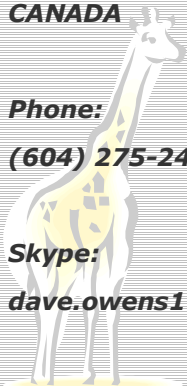
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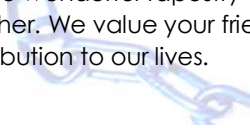
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A special message from our family

We are very grateful for the many of our friends who have impacted our lives and helped form us. Many of you have been vital ingredients to working out the plan for our lives. For this reason we believe we are to stay connected with many of you for the purpose of continuing to play out the wonderful tapestry of our lives together. We value your friendship and contribution to our lives.



African Proverbs:

When an elephant steps on a trap, no more trap!

An empty stomach has no ears!

He who cannot dance will say the drum is bad!

We are packing up... want to come with us?



During this season we are culling and packing. We are deciding what to take with us and what to keep for the future and what to give away.

Friendships and people are going with us, at least in spirit and for some of you it will be in person.

The quote on the left is from a book "Success Built to Last" and for us it echoes the message of the New Testament call to do church in a way that matters, in a community that believes that we have only one life to live and that we should spend it generously for God and for others.

"There is no greater feeling in life - no greater freedom - than to know that you can be yourself and part of a group that is engaged in a cause that is greater than you are."



Financial Support:

For those who would like to give financially, African Enterprise Canada & USA will issue tax receipts for any donations.

In Canada or USA, please make donations payable through African Enterprise in your respective country (africanenterprise.com) designating funds to Owens support.

In Australia (internet banking):
Account name – David Owens
BSB# 704 865
Acc# 00062141

