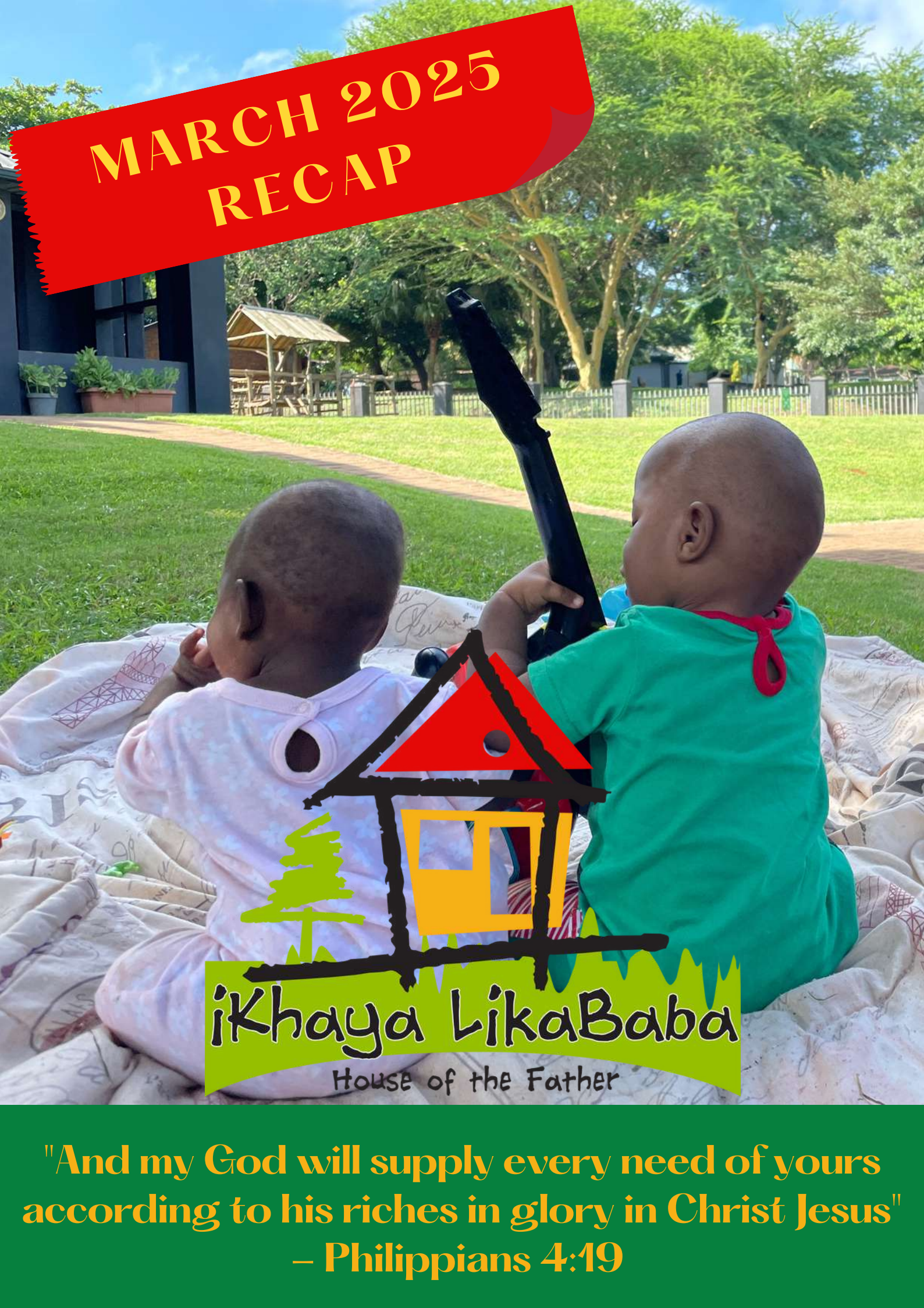


**MARCH 2025
RECAP**



iKhaya LiKaBaba

House of the Father

**"And my God will supply every need of yours
according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus"
– Philippians 4:19**

FROM WAITING TO BELONGING

An adoption story



It was during the COVID 19 pandemic in 2020, that we received a call from our social worker. At iKhaya LikaBaba 'House of the Father', Loressa and her amazing team made it possible for us to finally meet our baby... Our precious baby boy! With their warm welcome, support and care, being first time parents, allowing us day and night visits, weekend visits and finally baby spent a day out with us, and then a weekend with us. Within two weeks, Dad, mum and baby boy couldn't stay away from each other! It was instant connection and bonding. We could smell baby even though he wasn't with us. We couldn't help but tear

as we left iKhaya LikaBaba to go home after every visit. The day we brought our little baby boy home, the house felt like it had been waiting for him all along. It wasn't just the perfectly decorated nursery or the stack of new baby books & toys, but an unspoken warmth that radiated from every corner, a feeling that our family was finally complete.

We had been on the foster list since 2010, miscarriage after miscarriage, 14 failed iui's and fertility treatments, then suddenly God intervened and our foster-adoption journey began, filled with moments of hope, love and joy. The moment we held his tiny hand; it was as if we were meant to be together. We remembered looking into his brown eyes, talking to him, 'Baby you're coming home with us'.

Today, J is a vibrant, cheerful, brilliant little boy who lights up our lives with his laughter, kindness & love. He's a genius for his age. His adoption is not just a chapter in our story, it's the very foundation of our family, a testament to the incredible bond that can form through faith, love, and the beautiful gift of adoption. J is now a 4 ½ year old, and it is so clear to us, that God picked him for us. It is amazing how he fits our personalities so well. More and more every day we are so thankful to his birthmother for her selfless decision.

It is so hard to express in words what a unique experience adoption has been for us. It has been quite a journey facing infertility, as well as so many unknowns and acts of kindness and sacrifice—all with so many emotions—which led to the growth of our family. There were times when our faith was shaken, and we weren't sure if we could handle our cross. But adopting J has made us more aware of God's power and of his love for us. We realize that he always has a perfect plan for our lives. God has an incredible plan for Baby J.

Our love is real. Our family is real. God is real. We prayed for Baby J and we were gifted with our greatest blessing. Our family is defined by love, not by blood. We didn't give J the gift of life, life has given us the gift of him.



SCHOOL'S OUT

The school break started off with a fun-filled afternoon with the youth from the Anglican Church coming together to give back to the community. They brought donations and goodie bags for the children, played games, and prayed for both the kids and iKhaya. It was an amazing time spent together. We were treated to Briyani for lunch on another occasion and kicked off our holiday program with the assistance of learners from local schools. Don't miss out on the feedback of the rest of the week in our next newsletter!



Birthday celebrations

For many a birthday can be just another day, but by taking the time to acknowledge a child's special day, we can create lasting memories and show our children they are cherished. Simple gestures like a small party, a cake, and a thoughtful gift can make all the difference, boosting their self-esteem and helping them feel valued. By making their birthdays special, we show them they are seen, heard, and loved. Thank you to everyone who participated in making these celebrations so memorable. Your efforts and generosity have helped create moments of joy and belonging that they will treasure and we are deeply grateful for your support!



SHAPING TOMORROW



Jabu

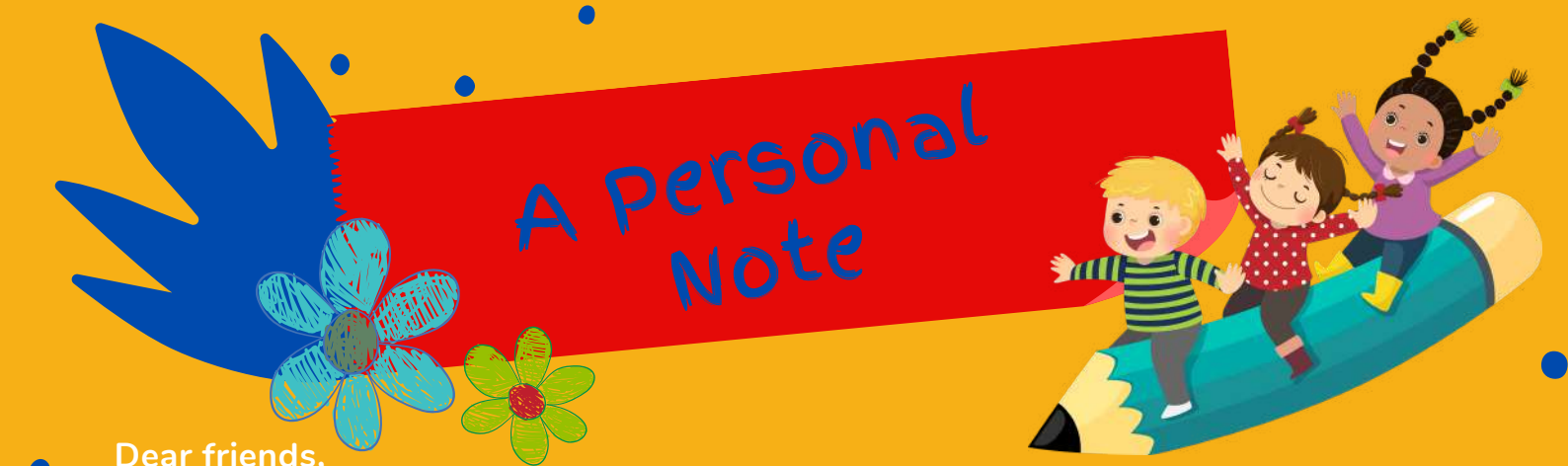
University has been quite tough for Jabu, with many modules and late nights spent studying in the library. At times, she feels overwhelmed. However, she has managed to make some great friends, and they all go to Shofar Church together on Sunday evenings, which provides a nice break from the chaos of the week. She is making an effort to stay active by going to the gym regularly, as she says it helps relieve some of the stress and to stay focused. She has been working hard to achieve good marks and is hoping to make the Dean's List this semester! With test week approaching, things are getting pretty intense in the home. She makes a point to cook in the afternoon or morning to free up time for other things. Overall, Jabu said Varisty has been a good experience so far. Well done Jabu!



Lulu

The Thuthukani Special School's Skills Program empowers their school leavers with valuable life skills and the foundations of a trade. Over the course of the sewing program, participants have learned essential sewing techniques, creating practical and useful items such as tote bags, aprons, and clothing. They are also mastering hand sewing and embroidery, honing their creativity and craftsmanship. This initiative provides young adults with the opportunity to develop both artistic and practical skills, setting them up for future career prospects or personal growth. By teaching these essential trade skills, Thuthukani Special School is helping these young individuals gain confidence and independence, paving the way for a brighter future. Here is a sneak peek into Lulu's creative space! We are so thrilled at her talent and achievements!





A Personal Note

Dear friends,

With the first term of school behind us, we're enjoying a much-needed break. The children are finally able to rest, play, and release all that pent-up energy! Our holiday program is in full swing, packed with fun activities that are keeping the kids entertained and out of trouble.

We are incredibly proud of Jabu and Lulu as they continue to excel in their tertiary studies. In addition to the sewing program, Lulu is also sharpening her nail skills and receiving valuable business guidance to help get her entrepreneurial journey off the ground.

We're grateful to have recently received some incredibly generous financial donations, which are a huge help in easing our financial load. Plus, we received a great deal of groceries and much need toiletries. Without the support of our wonderful community, we simply wouldn't be able to care for the children or provide them with the hope and opportunities they need to thrive. If you'd like to help us cover transport, education, housing, and nutritional costs, please reach out. We'd be deeply grateful for your support, and your generosity will have a lasting impact on many young lives. Additionally, sharing our story with your extended family, friends, colleagues, and business contacts helps raise awareness of our home and its needs. Together, we can change the world—one life at a time!

This month, we bid farewell to Thabile, a Child and Youth Care Worker, as she returns to her family on the South Coast. We're excited to welcome Sifiso as our new Handyman/Driver, and Thandeka will step into Thabile's role.

With love and blessings,
Loressa, staff and children



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