



## Happenings at the Deaf Unit and Church

### News from Rev Farag and his family:

What does it mean when we say "God's will be done"? We have desires and make plans, but ultimately the answer of whether our plans can be accomplished lies with God. Since we are so limited in understanding what is going on around us and what the long-range impact of our plans might be, we understand that God might overrule because He has something else that needs to be accomplished. "*A man's heart plans his way, but the LORD directs his steps*", Proverbs 16:9. We need to realize that our wants and desires cannot change what God has planned. **For many years my desire and prayer was to complete my PhD in Deaf Education to be able to help deaf people not only in Egypt but the whole of the Middle East. Finally, God has answered and I believe it His will to do this in Melbourne, Australia. So I am leaving on 4<sup>th</sup> February for six months with my family and I would appreciate your prayers and support for this venture. Thanks be to God that there is very good team at the Deaf Unit and Deaf Church who are well able to carry on. Please prayer for them as well.**



The deaf girls are so happy to finish the second quilt. They are very encouraged as they can make things by themselves. Please pray for a new sewing machine as this will really help them in their projects.

On 20<sup>th</sup> January the Deaf Unit was invited to visit the British International School in Cairo. Both (BISc) sets of students, hearing and deaf, were very happy to join together to play basketball and other activities. The hearing students were very excited to learn sign language. We agreed that this visit will continue once per week. So a big thank you to the BISc for all they facilities that they offered us and their warm welcome to the deaf children.



Thanks be to God we have the new microwave, which has made a big difference to the kitchen staff and the house mothers. Now they have somewhere to heat food and bread, especially for breakfast every morning or when we have visitors who need special food. A big thank you should go to MWG for this wonderful gift.



We celebrated the Coptic Christmas at the Deaf Church on 7<sup>th</sup> January 2014. More than 200 families and their hearing children joined the service. You can see from the photo that there was standing room only! It was a big joy for everyone.



A visit from the Deaf Church to Rev. Farag's flat for a meal.



The hearing children of the deaf parents always join and participate in the service on Sundays. It is a big blessing to have them together.



On Fridays the deaf adults come as usual to the deaf club to eat, play and pray together.

The deaf house mothers, the congregation of the deaf church and the deaf lay ministers really appreciate all that is done for them. They express their love, respect and gratitude to their priest by surprising him with a gift.

We thank God for

1. The safe return of the children to the Deaf Unit for the second semester
2. MCC, Embrace the Middle East, CBM and MWG for helping the Deaf Unit
3. The Seed Company, SIL and Bible Society Egypt for helping the BT project.
4. For our brothers and sisters all over the world who pray for us.

We need you to pray for

1. The Deaf Unit while Rev. Farag is away for six months.
2. The team left in charge to carry on the good work at the Deaf Unit and church.
3. The continuation of the BT project
4. The VTC in 6<sup>th</sup> October City
5. Peace, security, and economy for our country
6. Job opportunities for the deaf families.