

Zambia Newsletter

Zambia Missions

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October 2012

Facebook – Zambia Missions

We now have a Facebook page just for Zambia Missions. We have found that this is a much more effective place for us to share news, pictures, and prayer concerns on a daily basis. It is much easier to use than a web page and it allows all our senior staff and co-workers in Zambia to post pictures and information whenever they have time to do so. And, since so many people now have Facebook, we believe this is a perfect venue for us to communicate current news with everyone about our work in Zambia. It is here that you can find lots of pictures and news almost as soon as they happen.

I know that not everyone uses the internet or Facebook and it is for this reason that we will continue to send our Newsletter every two months (in both electronic and printed form). But, for any of you who use the internet, learning how to use Facebook is VERY easy (and there are plenty of people who can help you set it up).

Report: Mission Outreach Program.

Missionary Training Students makes a difference in Chanyanya. In the month of September, four of our missionary training students went to camp and work in the Chanyanya Village. Their aim was to work with and transform the lives of troubled youths, and mostly neglected children.

For four weeks, the young missionary team worked at our demonstration garden in the morning, teaching and modeling effective ways of making compost and using the drip lines (irrigation system). The youth in the village



learned how to grow vegetables, manage the gardens and basic marketing.

In the afternoon, the team worked with a community center where they taught twelve local youths to be the peer teachers to other youths. The main emphasis was on Christian leadership, building self-esteem, sense of community and dangers of drugs. At the end of four weeks, the twelve local youths graduated and were sent to not only teach but also mentor other young people in Christian living.

Over the weekend, the missionary students worked with children in the village, teaching them Biblical values through Bible stories. Joe Hamweene, a community leader had this to say at the end of the one month outreach program: "The Mapepe Bible College students were eager to share the wonderful news of Jesus Christ, and labored to Change the mind sets of the youths in the community. As a community, we will always call upon these young men, to come and impact our community." -- Thomas Simubali.

Kerin's Kids.

Great news! Ryan FINALLY got his eye surgery! And, it was great success. He can now see! In a few days Ryan has an appointment with a teacher who works with children who have growth development problems like Ryan. I have e-mailed her and she is also going to put us in contact with a very good ear clinic in town (that we can take Ryan in order to see what, if anything, can be done about his deafness).

This month has been fun (i.e., interesting and challenging). This month was measles month! -- Not that all the kids had measles, but that I had to take 5 of the 6 kids to get their measles shots all at the same time. The worst one to get his shot was Zainne. He screamed and kicked and didn't want it at all. Susann went by herself in the line and get her shot. Emily did okay until it was her turn and then she was not happy. Luke didn't know what was coming. And Ryan? He didn't even cry.

There is a new baby on formula (see picture next page). His name is Chipecto (Chipo for short). Chipo's mom passed away when he was 3 weeks old and his family can't afford the formula; so Kerin's Kids has stepped in to provide the formula for little Chipo. He is a beautiful baby boy with long, long, long hair. I went to see him a few days after his mother was buried. Chipo lives with his



grandmother and he has 3 aunties who live right next door so there is always someone to hold him.

Please be praying in a week or two I will be taking baby Chipso and Mary Alice for HIV testing. We pray that they test negative.

Thank you everyone for all you do for the children in Zambia. -- Kerin

students became very aware in the class of how important it is to plan ahead while doing Kingdom work. See pictures below:



Students painting the Classroom Building

Note: Kerin has a [Facebook page](#) on which she posts lots of news and pictures about the children she is helping. If you would like to follow these, then do a Facebook search for "Kerin French" and click on the "likes" buttons.

Mapepe Bible College: Project Planning.
(Report by Dixon Settle)

I am sitting on our front porch in the cool of the evening in total darkness (except for my flashlight) thanks to one of many Zambian power failures. I can't help thinking that we would not have as many power failures as we do if more Zambian workers had a course in Project Planning such as the one we have had with the students this year.

The students have been studying Project Management. I have taught this course for several years in a college in the states. The students here have done as well or better than most of the stateside students. One advantage that the students here had was the ability to apply what they learned in the classroom. This is a skill that will be very important once the students return home to begin doing ministry in the real world back home.

The students were divided into five groups. Each group was allowed to develop an idea of their choosing as a project and implement it. This means they had to:

- Initiate their idea in writing and get approvals to proceed
- Plan the scope, schedule and budget along with quality and communications
- Implement the project
- Monitor their budget and schedule and stay on task (handle risks as they occurred)
- Close the project

Following are some of the project ideas:

- Paint the large classroom (never been painted before)
- Build a regulation Volleyball court for the college
- Create a DVD of several campus groups singing
- Build a Playground for the community children
- Build an amphitheater for outdoor worship and assemblies

Our theme for our work came from Luke 14:28-30 where Jesus was discussing the man who began building without considering the cost and how he could be ridiculed for it if he failed. The

Student chorus practicing in preparation for their trip to a recording studio on Oct 6th to record a CD of Zambian spiritual songs.



Below: Construction of Hillside Chapel (amphitheater) in front of the outside baptistry where 13 people were baptized in September.



Mapepe Bible College: Student Peer Groups.

Now just how does one build a weight bearing structure out of drinking straws and paper clips? This is just one of the many problem-solving activities that the students have been involved in during Peer Group sessions this year. For the first two sessions the students were involved in learning teambuilding. These team building



Activities have involved problem solving, critical thinking, faith based activities of service and teaching and leadership. Some of the activities included:

- Crossing the "Acid River"
- Elephant Walk
- Service projects within the community
- Leading in Discovery Bible Study Sessions
- Talent Shows
- Optical Illusions

Now in the third session the students are actually leading the Peer Group session. Leading the Peer Group session involves coming up with the idea for the Peer Group activity, planning the event, gathering all the necessary materials for the Peer Group session, leading and controlling the event and conducting follow-up evaluation.

So far this session the students have been doing an outstanding job of leading Peer Group activities. They have learned teambuilding skills, conflict resolution, leadership skills and problem solving techniques. They will need these skills as they return to their villages and lead in programs which will help build the Kingdom where ever they are. – Dixon Settle

Education: Primary School.

(Report by Mary Alice "Flash" Dixon)

All is well here. We are well and continue to enjoy our work with Mapepe Bible College and Daybreak Mission of Hope. My work is largely with the primary school. Our teachers are doing a great job, writing lesson plans, completing a child study on each of the 25 enrolled children, and teaching classes daily. We have three classes now; pre-grade, 1st grade, and 2nd/3rd grade classroom.



Lunch is now being prepared by Daybreak staff and the teachers are not having to stop teaching to prepare lunch for the children. Our children are really making progress and the teachers are using age appropriate methods in their instruction. It is really exciting to see the learning that is taking place among the children. We have 12 in pre-grade, 7 in the 1st grade, and 4 children in the 2nd/3rd grade classroom. We do have two nursery school children, one whom I teach individually on a daily basis. The other little one does not come every day.

The lending library is also going well. Children are checking out books daily and bringing them back in a very responsible manner. They seem to love the books. We now have them on shelves and easily accessible to the children. They particularly like Chick-a-Chick-a Boom Boom. If anyone has an extra copy of this book their children have finished using, we would certainly like another copy to bring back when we return in January.



Notice (picture) that one child has the highly coveted book, "Chick-a-Boom-Boom" and holding tightly away from the other child who is not looking so happy about not having his turn!

(The unhappy child just happens to be my grandson, Zainne)

The Need To Focus on Raising Support.

Lorie and I have now been engaged in this Zambia work for nine years (eight years in Zambia). We have done all we could possible do during these nine years to raise enough support for this ministry – an effort that has been too much for us. I been trying to handle two full-time jobs and I have just reached to point where I cannot continue to do so, especially since my responsibilities in Zambia have increased and the need to raise greater levels of support has also increased. I can't do more than I am already doing. We tried to hire someone about two years ago to raise money, but he was not successful.

Thus, after talking with several consultants in fund-raising and with our sponsoring eldership here in the USA, we have decided that the only solution is for Lorie and I to focus primarily on fund-raising for the next 2-3 years.

Our support has decreased over the past few years due to the U.S. economy and the declining dollar (which has not kept up with Zambian inflation of 15% per year). We have done everything we can do in Zambia to reduce costs, but we are now to the point that we have nothing left to cut (except to close the Bible college completely). We have reduced the number of students from 90 per year to about 50 (and next year we will reduce this number to about 42-45).

We do not think that our increased absence from Zambia will have any significant impact on the work. We have worked hard to develop our staff in Zambia so that they can operate independently of us and we also have several American co-workers in Zambia to help keep things stable (Settles, Swindles and Kerin). Lorie and I will also make several trips back to Zambia each year to check on things and address any needs that may arise. I also have the goal of hiring someone I can train over the next couple of year to assume the fund-raising responsibilities when Lorie and I return full-time to Zambia again.

News From Greg and Mary Swindle.



WE ARE FINALLY IN OUR HOUSE! Waiting was frustrating. I often calmed myself by remembering why we are here. It is the mission! The mission brought us around the world to a strange and challenging new life. However, the mission is not to build anything but simply to serve where God gives us ability and opportunity to serve. As long

as we serve, He will provide what we will need to accomplish the mission. And He has. The house, the car, the support you send, our time and health are all confirmation from God that He has sent us here and He is ever with us. Pray that we stay focused on the mission and confident God will bless us as we do. (Greg and Mary's house below).



Each day my family spends in Zambia, the stronger we grow in knowing why God has brought us here. Each week we build stronger bonds with the people of Zambia and they with us. Mary has grown in her personal ministry of weekly visitation and encouragement of the people of the sprawling impoverished Sonadi community. On and off the campus she is blessing lives and is receiving a blessing in return. Mindy is assisting in teaching teachers and students how to use the computer and is building friendships in her new home.

Each week I have the honor of sharing the classroom with wonderful students and gifted fellow faculty and staff as I

teach 4 classes 4 days a week and mentor over 20 students in various areas of ministry. May God continue to show us just where He would have us to serve and may we always be ready like Abraham to follow where ever He may lead.

Teaching Children To Care About Others.

One of the families in our sponsoring congregation did something recently that I thought was inspiring and I thought I would share it with all of you. Instead of having a birthday party in which everyone brings gifts for the birthday girl or boy, this family decided to have a birthday party in which everyone invited was instructed to bring gifts of money to be given to help orphans in Zambia. Even though the child is just five years old, they thought it good to start teaching their daughter even now to start sharing and caring for others.

When they explained the idea to their daughter (showed her pictures of Zambian orphans), she taught it sounded like a good idea, but she just wanted to know if she would still get cake and ice-cream! This also had the value of teaching her friends also to think about others who are in need in the world. So, for her fourth birthday, this little girl and her friends raised \$1310 to help kids elsewhere in the world. I thought this was a great example. If we to raise children who care about others (rather than narcissistic children who think the world revolves around them and their needs), then we parents need to start coming up with ways to train our children to think (care) about the needs of others.

Biological Growth at Mapepe.

One of our Zambian teachers (Michelo) had his first child this past month. See pictures below.

