

Zambia Newsletter

Zambia Missions

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We are almost through the first of three semesters at Daybreak (Bible College and the Primary School). Our freshmen are reaching the point of becoming self-supporting from their gardens and will soon bring their wives. We are nearing the end of our construction projects at Daybreak. There is some great news to report from our Primary School. And we are steadily increasing the number of children that are being assisted through Kerin's Kids Children's Ministry.

Daybreak Bible College.

We are about to enter our fourth month in the new school year. Our freshmen students have all planted their gardens which are starting to produce fresh vegetables. These freshmen students will be self-supporting within a month and will soon bring their wives and children to join them at Daybreak. The wives will, then, enter the women's program.

We were able to complete the new women's classroom before the beginning of the new school year (pictured below). This will be of great help to our women's program as it will give us one place in which to set up our sewing machines and other such equipment that we use in the women's program. We teach the women a lot of different skills that equip them for greater ministry and self-sustainability for when they return home to their villages. Prior to this classroom being built, the women have often had to meet outside or in the small unfinished Auditorium kitchen.



Construction.

We are also finally finishing the construction on the Auditorium Building. Because we had urgent needs for other buildings on campus 3 years ago, we diverted to the other

projects once we got finished with the walls and roof. Now that we are nearing the end of our construction needs, we have returned to complete the Auditorium. This work should be done by the end of April.

Once this is done, we will have just two more construction projects left to do: building an abolition building (toilets) for the Primary School (see comments below) and a small Library for the Bible College. I hope to finish all construction by December.

Primary School.

We are now in the process of trying to register our Christian Primary School with the government. We have been operating as a community school, but the Zambian government is in the process of issuing new rules to govern and improve education in Zambia. This is a good thing, but it now requires that we get duly registered as a private Christian school.

There are, however, certain new requirements that we must meet. One of these is that we must have a certain number of toilets based on the number of students we have enrolled, and these toilets must be what we call "flushing toilets" (not latrines) although most of our students do not know how to use a flushing toilet. So, we now need to build an abolition building with 6-7 flushing toilets, which we will do in May-June.

School Meal Program. A few years ago, we decided to start a school lunch program. According to the U.N., Zambia is the most malnourished country in Africa (since 85% of what they eat is corn and they get very little protein). We noticed that many of the children in our school were very malnourished. They didn't laugh or play soccer at recess, and they missed a lot of school days due to being sick. Few had anything to eat at lunch.

So, we started a lunch program and began to feed our students a nutritious meal that is high in protein. We were amazed at the difference it made. The students started playing soccer at recess and eventually began to miss fewer days due to sickness. We were especially surprised to see the difference it made in their academic performance!

Over the past year we started thinking about adding breakfast to our meal program. Many of our students either come late (because they wait to eat breakfast) or come without eating breakfast (as their families are too poor to fix breakfast). Every

meal in Zambia must be made from scratch and most people cook over an open fire. No microwaves or cold cereal. So, our students either come late or they sit through the morning hungry!

We finally decided in January to add breakfast to our school meal program. As we expected, it has proven to be a huge success. Our students are arriving on time for school and are more focused on their schoolwork (instead of being hungry).

Although this has added an extra cost to our school expenses, we believe it is worth the cost. These meals are making a significant difference in the lives of these children. It eliminates malnutrition and improves their overall health and academic performance.

If you would like to contribute to our meal program or sponsor a child in our school (\$20 per month), you can do so by mailing a check to Zambia Missions (Bartlett address at the top of the first page) and write what it is for on the memo line of the check, or you can donate online by going to our web page and clicking on the button, "Donate" (www.zambiamissions.org).

Note: The \$20 per month covers tuition and two meals for one student. Such donations go into a scholarship fund which is given to those students whose parents are too poor to pay all or part of the tuition fees.

Kerin's Kids (Orphans).

Kerin has added another baby. His name is Wesley, and he lives about 35 miles east of our campus at Daybreak. Wesley is being cared for by his maternal grandmother (who is in the picture with Wesley below) as his mother has health issues and is unable to nurse or care for him. He is receiving baby formula and some supplemental food each month.



As more people are contributing to this ministry, we are slowly working to increase the number of children for whom we are providing assistance (e.g., baby formula, medicine, etc). Most of the children we are helping are children whose mothers have died or are too sick to care for them (like Wesley above), and most of these children are being cared for by widowed grandmothers.

If you have Facebook and/or have an email account, then I would encourage you to follow Kerin's Kids on Facebook (www.facebook.com/kerinskids) and/or sign up for our digital newsletter that we send out by email. The digital newsletter does not replace this printed newsletter that we mail out, but it does allow us to share more news, pictures, and videos that we cannot

include in this printed version. You can sign up for our digital newsletter by going online to our webpage (www.zambiamissions.org). A sign-up form will pop up automatically when you go to our webpage.

Meet Our Students.



Golden Mwanamatanga is a first-year student, coming from Kabanani in Lusaka Province. He is 29 years old, married (Angela Saili) and he has two children. Although he doesn't currently own any land, he hopes to save up enough money to buy land as he wants to become self-supporting and support himself and his family in ministry.



Kelvin Muyandekwa is a second-year student from the Western Province in Zambia (which is one of the poorest regions of Zambia). Kelvin is 36 years old. He is single and does not have any children.

He has access to land that his family owns in the Central Province to where he hopes to relocate upon graduation. His plan is to raise vegetables and start a chicken business that will enable him to be self-supporting in ministry.



Misheck Simunkondia is also a second-year student, coming from Isoka in the Muchinga Province (northern Zambia). He is 31 years old and married with two children.

He owns his own land in the Kampumbu region (which is far away in the Northwest part of Zambia near Malawi). He hopes to relocate to this land upon graduation and to engage in ministry and become self-supporting through farming and raising chickens.