

# Zambia Newsletter

## Zambia Missions

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Greetings from Zambia. We have just begun the new school year and we are very happy with the way things have begun. We have a great new crop of Bible students, and we are seeing great progress in several of our other efforts which I will share with you in this newsletter.

### **Daybreak Bible College.**

We have now begun the new school year at DBC. We have what appears to be a good group of incoming Freshmen (cf. picture). We are expecting 3 more to arrive this week.



Marty and Susan Brownfield are here with us in Zambia this month. Marty is an elder at the Goodman Oaks congregation in Southaven, MS (Memphis). He is also a graduate of Harding (M.Th) and is here to teach. Susan has also been working with Lorie in the Primary School (cf. below).



Marty spent the first week training our Bible College teachers in how to use Logos (Bible computer program with over 11,000 books that can be read or used in research). I have bought four of these programs and installed them on four

different computers so that our Bible teachers can continue to learn and prepare for the various classes that the teachers are teaching here at Daybreak.

For the past two weeks Marty has been teaching two classes to the DBC students (combined class for the first, second and third-year students plus the DBC teachers). See picture below. In the mornings he has been teaching the Gospel of Mark and in the afternoons, he has been teaching a class on the Wisdom Literature (Proverbs and Psalms).



### **Primary School.**

Lorie has been working hard this month with the Primary School. Because of the cholera outbreak in Zambia, the government decided to postpone the beginning of the new school year until Jan 29. This has given Lorie 3 weeks to spend training our Primary School teachers (see picture below of ACA teachers engaged in a workshop activity). The Zambian government has



just announced a new educational initiative designed to improve the educational system that will teach children critical thinking (a shift away from rote memorization). Thus, Lorie has been working with the teachers to help them prepare for these changes.

**Vocational Training.** Most of the students coming to our school come from very poor families who cannot afford to send their kids to school. By adding grades 8 and 9, we will significantly increase the ability of these children to get better jobs in the future and equip them to better support their families.

However, only a few of our students are going to be able to go beyond grade 9 and attend secondary school. It is for this reason that we are seriously considering the possibility of adding a vocational training program. This would give our students two educational tracks: academic or vocational.

We have been researching various options and have already interviewed a few teachers who are qualified to teach vocational education. This will require that we construct a vocational training workshop, which we will try to do in the next few months.

We are also looking at how our vocational teacher might be able to provide some vocational training to some of our Bible college students and/or their wives. If we can do this, then our vocational training program will further enable our Bible students to become self-supporting in ministry.

As I have mentioned in previous newsletters, we are in the process of registering our school as a private Christian school and expanding to include Grades 8 and 9. This is a very long and difficult process, but one we hope to complete this year. We have now completed building the classrooms for Grades 8 and 9 and a Science Lab (requirement for Grades 8 and 9). We have been informed that a government official will be coming within the next week to approve our school for Pre-K through Grade 9.

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## Scholarship Program.

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We are now launching a new scholarship program for 2024, and we are asking for people to consider sponsoring a child (scholarship) so they might attend our Christian School. We have many children who would love to come to our school, but their parents are too poor and cannot afford to pay the modest tuition that we have to charge (which is only \$3.00 per month).

Thus, we are asking you if you might consider sponsoring one or two children. It costs just **\$16.50 per child** (per month) and this includes breakfast and lunch! If you REALLY want to make a difference in a child's life, this is one of the best ways you could ever do so!

If you would like to sponsor a scholarship, you can do so by going online ([www.zambiamissions.org](http://www.zambiamissions.org)) and clicking on the orange donate button or by mailing a check to Zambia Missions, 1910 Sycamore View Rd, Bartlett, TN 37134 (and just write "ACA scholarship" on the memo line).

## **Kerin's Kids (Children's Ministry).**

Thirth is 15 months old. Kerin has been providing assistance to her since she was three months old. Her mother is a teenage girl and is still attending school. The father refused to take any responsibility for the child and left her and the mother in the hands of Thirth's grandmother who is unable to provide any assistance. She and her mother live in Chipapa, a village about 25 miles from our campus.



Kerin heard about Thirth from another grandmother who is caring for a baby that Kerin has also been assisting in the village of Chipapa. This is a village in which our students started a church more than 15 years ago. It was the first church that our Bible College students started. It is because of our long-term relationship with this village that Kerin has helped a lot of children from this area.

## **Agricultural Ministry.**

Our new incoming students are already busy digging their raised beds and planting their vegetables just as our second and third-year students continue to grow and sell their vegetables from their gardens. It is the rainy season now so they will not be setting up their drip-irrigation equipment until about April/May.

**Piggery.** For several years we have been trying to find some way that we could generate some kind of income here in Zambia to help the schools become more self-sufficient and sustainable. Unfortunately, this effort has been frustrated at every turn. We have tried growing several crops but could not earn any profit from them. We tried raising chickens but after several years the competition increased dramatically, and we only ended up losing money.

It is also our desire to train our students in various skills that will equip them to become self-supporting in ministry. We continue to teach them basic agriculture (e.g., gardening using drip-irrigation) along with raising chickens and rabbits.

We have decided now to try one more way that we might be able to generate some type of income for the school and also train our students in another skill. We are wanting to see if we might succeed in raising pigs. Since raising pigs requires a greater amount of capital, we do not believe the competition (supply over demand) will be as great a problem. Thus, in the next few months we are going to construct a piggery and begin raising pigs.