

**Successful Completion Of Our 2008 Medical Mission**

We have returned to Mapepe and have just put the American medical team on the plane back to the USA. We had a VERY successful medical mission this year. We visited six villages, treated more than 6000 patients (up from 4400 last year), and had more than seventeen people baptized into Christ. In two of the most rural villages, we saw more than 1440 people just on each of these



two days alone! As you can see from the first two pictures below, long lines of people waited for hours (many after having walked 15-25 miles) for medical treatment from our three clinics (medical, dental, and optical).

As many of you know, we had a great deal of difficulty this year with transportation. One of our drivers wrecked the bus that we had borrowed for the medical mission (pictures in the previous e-bulletin).

Because our new bus did not arrive in time, we were forced to double up on the use of the borrowed bus in order to transport all the students in advance of the medical mission. This forced our driver to drive late into the night and at 4:00 am in the morning he was forced off the road





in an effort to avoid hitting a truck that was driving in the middle of the road. In the photo below is a picture of our new bus (which on this day was being used as a pharmacy). This bus is a 1997 Toyota Coaster that can carry 26 passengers. Although the bus had been delayed in transit from Japan so that it was not ready on Tuesday (June 3) when we departed for the medical mission, the seller promised me that it would be “definitely” ready by Friday. Then, he promised me it would



be ready by Saturday morning at 10:00 am. He promised me up one way and down the other; but, as you guessed it, the bus was not ready on Saturday morning. Our driver (Moonga) spent the whole day Saturday sitting there (in their face) waiting for the bus to be finished; finally, just before 10:00 pm Saturday night, it was serviced and released (but with no tags or registration). On Sunday Moonga drove it up to base camp so we had use of it for the last two days of the medical mission. Of course, there is a major hassle every time we go through a police checkpoint as we don't have the proper papers; but, Moonga is extremely good at talking his way through such things (but it is still a major hassle).



Also pictured in the photo above is an added component to the spiritual dimension of the medical mission this year. Since we already have a small generator for eye clinic, we decided to take our P.A. system so that we could preach to the people standing in line. Three of our Mission Coordinators took turns all day at each village preaching. And, as in past years, we invited everyone to study the Bible with one of our teachers. Pictured here



### Eye Clinic



(right) is one of the women's Bible studies that was conducted each day (along with the male counterpart). These Bible studies led to 21 baptisms.

Last year, as a result of the medical mission, we were able to plant four new churches in the Central Province where we conducted the clinics. This is an area right in the middle of Zambia in which we have had only a handful of churches up until last year. This year we took the medical clinic to several remote villages far off the

paved roads where there are

### Eye Glasses Dispensary





## Pharmacy

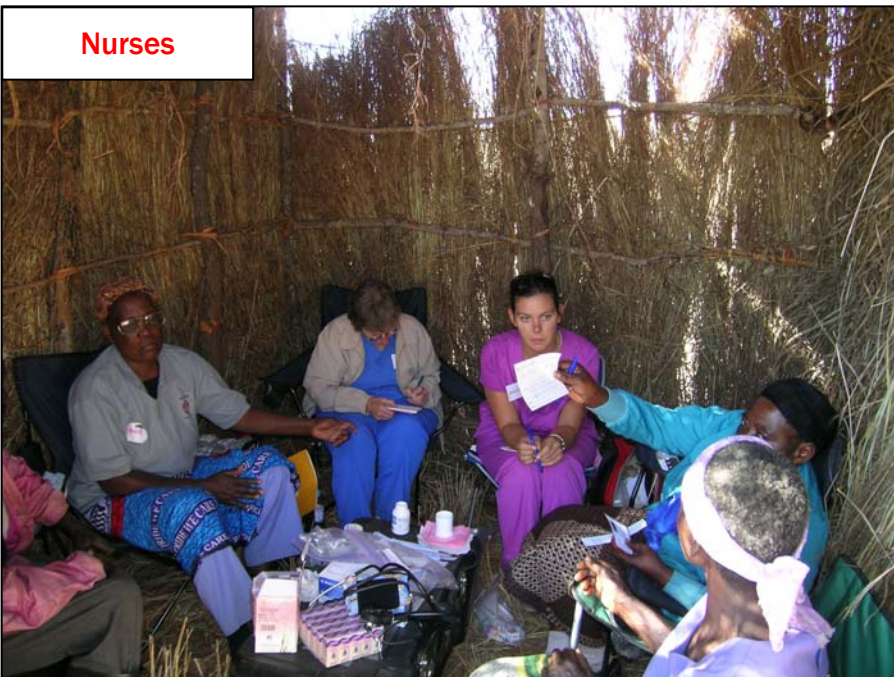


almost no churches of any kind. We found the people very hungry to study the Bible with us and urging us to plant a new church in their villages so that they might learn the Bible. In one village we had more than seven people baptized just during the one day that we were there and the chief (who came for treatment) offered us land on which to build a church!

Over the next three months we will endeavor to send our bus up filled with students to work with these new church plantings. Once school is

finished in September, we will send four interns up to work with these new churches in an effort to stabilize them and develop new leaders from within them. Already we have made tentative plans to return next year with the medical mission to the same region as we endeavor to establish ourselves within this area. Before we began working in this area two years ago, there were only about 5 churches between Kapiri Mposhi and Serenje (a distance of more than 150 miles). Now, not only are there eight new churches that have been planted as a direct result of the medical missions, but there are about 9 other churches that have been planted by our students (both during our Mapepe mission trips and after they graduated/returned to their homes in this area). We fully believe that within the next five years there will be more than 25-30 new churches within this area. After that we hope to move further down the road to work the area around and beyond Serenje (150 mile area between Serenje and Mpika).

## Nurses



The medical mission has also help us in building good relationships with the chiefs who rule this area. We are now making plans to petition the chief who governs the Serenje chiefdom to give us (free of charge) 20 acres for a satellite campus. Our desire is to build a small one-room classroom (which can also double as a dorm at night) so that we can conduct one-week, leadership training seminars for local leaders in



Bemba (tribal language of the area). We have several teachers who are from the Bemba tribe and/or can speak Bemba. Our plan is to begin periodically sending these teachers up to this satellite campus to conduct leadership training for the older church leaders who cannot speak English well enough to attend our school here at Mapepe. The reason for choose Serenje as the locate for this extension campus is because it is located at a major junction where the road divides (one road going north to the Luapula Province and the other road going northeast to the Northern Province). We also want to set up a small garden for agriculture workshops to teach drip-irrigation and we want to build a small garage in which to keep a couple of old 4x4 vehicles that we can use to drive out into the bush. By keeping the 4x4 vehicles at this campus, we will be able to cut our fuel costs by driving cheaper vehicles up to Serenje (e.g. bus full of students) and then transfer over into the more expensive 4x4 vehicles to travel out into the bush where the churches are.

All in all, we had a great medical mission this year. And, I know that many of you have been praying for us because (since the last email in which I described all our vehicle and financial problems leading up to the mission and asked you to be praying for us) things have gone a whole lot better for us! Hence, I would like especially to thank you all for your prayers over the past 9 days. We still have half our students (out in the villages doing evangelism) to transport back to Mapepe in the next couple of days, so don't stop praying just yet.

Just this morning we have transported all our visitors to the airport and they have departed for their return back to the USA. And, at the same time, we just welcomed the arrival of Keith and Kim Fussell (and two of their children) – arrived on the same plane that took all the others to South Africa. Classes begin again on Monday as Keith will begin teaching his class on Marriage and the Family. Thanks again for all your prayers and support! – David and Lorie

