

Zambia Newsletter

Zambia Missions

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Graduation (Class of 2010).

Today was graduation day at Mapepe (Nov 15th). I haven't heard the exact (final) number who graduated with a one-year degree (three semesters), but the number was approximately 40. This is now our fifth graduation which means we now have about 300-325 graduates in Zambia that we have trained for ministry.

I did, however, get a message a few minutes ago informing me that Zesco (Electric company) came and disconnected the electricity right in the middle of the ceremony because someone failed to pay our electric bill on time! But, while this may sound disruptive to us, I doubt anyone there paid much attention as power interruptions are quite common regardless of whether or not the electricity bill is paid or not.

I am going to let Lorie write most of this newsletter as I have "bumped" her section from the past two news-letters. I know from the comments many of you have made (when I have visited your congregation) that this is not very popular with many of you as you love to hear Lorie's stories. So, I leave the rest of this newsletter to Lorie. Before doing so, however, I will just note that our next school year begins just after January 1.

Reflections from Lorie

Greetings are sent to all of you and blessings during the holiday season. The whole country seems to be focused on being thankful. I am amazed at the number of daily blessings that are afforded to us as we serve in Zambia.

Some of them come in the smiles of an orphan who just completed a school assignment successfully or the laugh and dance of an elderly village woman who has been taught how to produce food and sustain life for herself and her

orphaned grandchildren. Other everyday blessings come in the sounds of baby joy and the weathered faces of the older

women as they sit with legs extended outward on a grass mat just waiting for the younger ones to come hear the stories of when she was younger.

We have also been blessed this year in our ministry to have some wonderful interns walking this road called missions with us. This month I would like to spotlight two of these girls, Cally Ward and Samantha Wiegmann, and their areas of service to the ministry.

Cally has been working closely with Mr. Thomas Simubali on several agriculture projects. She has helped Michael with the milking of our two cows and the distribution of the milk to our staff families' children. She has also been instrumental in helping to develop a way of helping the people in the urban slum areas to find ways of growing vegetables and composting in burlap bags, window boxes, and tin cans. We are eagerly anticipating the use of these methods helping to empower the city dwellers to care for their families better.



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Sam has been devoting an enormous amount of time caring for the babies in our “Kerin’s Kid’s” ministry. Not only was she present for the labor and delivery of our little Jodene (who was lovingly named after me) but she became a surrogate “auntie” to Daniel until he returned to his family of origin recently.



Some of you may remember when Daniel came to live with Kerin after his mother tried to suffocate him. Kerin has spent a lot of time “walking the path” with Danny’s mother. She has grown in her knowledge of how to care for a child and is working to provide for her children’s needs. This is the first of the babies placed in Kerin’s Kids who has been successfully reintroduced to his birth family. God is good.



Sam and Cally along with some others have also been teaching the double orphans twice a week. This program was initiated by my father, Richard Waggoner, when he visited earlier this year. The girls have been very instrumental in bringing education to these children who have missed this because of life circumstances.



I thank God upon every remembrance of the ways that these girls and Kerin are blessing the lives of others. Any of you that would like to send notes of encouragement to Kerin, Cally, or Sam please use our P.O. Box 350070, Chilanga, Zambia, Africa. I know that all of these young women would welcome hearing from any of you.



I just want to end this year by thanking you all again for all of the prayers, encouragement, and support that you have all given to God’s ministry in Zambia. Your gifts have already blessed many and will continue to bring the light of Christ to these and other precious souls. I am so thankful to be working in this ministry with all of you.

Blessings and prayers for the New Year!

Lorie