

# Zambia Newsletter

## Zambia Missions

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We celebrated two graduation ceremonies this past month: Bible College and Primary School. We also passed out numerous 100-lb bags of mealie-meal (ground up corn) to families in our community struggling from the famine. And, we sadly buried another staff member.

### Report: Bible College: Graduation

Below are some pictures of our graduating students on Nov 23. This is the second group of students to complete our new three-year training program (which now includes the students' wives).



Below: The Director of the Bible College (Bright Himakampa) gives the opening statement at the beginning of the graduation ceremony.

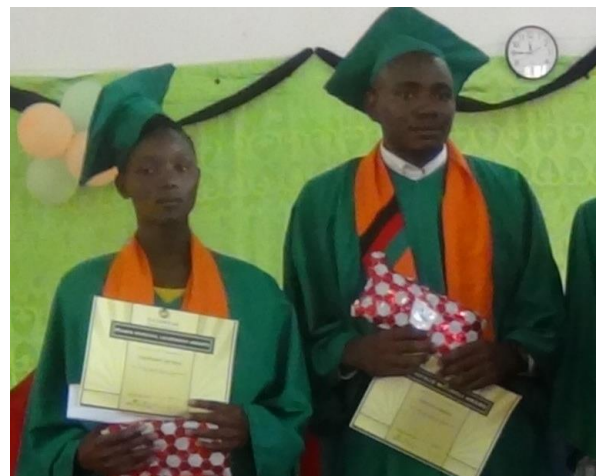


Awards: Several awards were given to the students. The first award was the Barnabas Award which was given to Lazarus Hara (pictured top right). This award is given each year to the student who best demonstrates the character and disposition

of a servant. We give out this award in order to emphasize what is one of the most important traits of a leader: servanthood.



In honor of our teacher who died two months ago, we created a new award called the "Boniface Mambali Award" which is given to the student who exhibits the Christ-like character and is zealous in evangelism, integrity, enthusiasm, and is energetic. This year the award went to Oberty Kalenga (pictured below with his wife Tryness who received the Award for Female Leadership). You may remember that we are sending Oberty and his wife to African Christian College to get a B.S. in Bible degree.



The "Enoch Award" was given to Lazarus Hara (pictured on the next page with his wife). This award is given each year to the student who (like Enoch) walks with God. We give this award as a way of emphasizing the importance of maintaining a vibrant relationship with God (spiritual formation is major focus of DBC).



Our fifth award, Excellence in Agriculture, was given to Richard Musonda (pictured below with his wife). The purpose of these five awards is give emphasis to key areas of our training program. We believe it is very important that our students learn to support themselves in ministry and, hence, the reason for this award.



Although it has only been 3 weeks since our students graduated, one of our students (Martin Kazembe) has already written to us to tell us that he has started a church in his home village. He sent us a picture (top-right) of their first Sunday meeting.

**Drought, Famine, Theft, Wind and Murder.**

I would like to thank those of you who contributed to our famine relief effort. It barely rained last year (Dec-April) and, thus, the corn crop (main staple food) pretty much failed all across the country. Zambia is suffering yet another famine and many people are going hungry. With the funds that were contributed, we bought and distributed mealie-meal (ground-up corn) to several families in our area who we knew were going hungry (most of them were children from our Primary School). Picture below.



Sadly, we suffered the loss of another staff member who was murdered. We think he was killed in a robbery as he had just gotten paid. Murder is rare in Zambia (as Zambia is one of the safest countries in Africa), but people are seriously struggling this year because of the drought and famine.

Some thieves also broke into one of shipping containers and stole about \$2,000 worth of electrical supplies for the construction of our new men’s dorm. This is yet another sign of how desperate people have become this year.

Finally, another windstorm (without any rain) blew off the roof to our large chicken house. I thought we had reinforced our roofs after the last windstorm did this; but apparently not. Our chicken houses are vulnerable because of the large openings on the side (chicken wire without side walls).



New Church Planting

**Primary School: Graduation.**

We also celebrated the graduation of our students from the Primary School (Kindergarten and 7<sup>th</sup>-grade). Pictured below is a picture from the graduation: Kindergarten (bottom), 7<sup>th</sup> grade (green robes), and four of the teachers (black robes).



**Prayers:** Please pray for the beginning of our new school year which starts in January. We have invited our largest number of new students for this year. Pray also that the Lord will bless our search for two new teachers (one of which is to replace Boniface who died in Oct).