

Zambia Newsletter

Zambia Missions

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First Graduation!

It is with great delight that I am finally able to report of our first graduation at Mapepe Bible College (see pictures below). On Sept 8th, sixteen students were awarded certificates of completion in "Missions and Church Leadership" from Mapepe Bible College. More than 250 people were in attendance as this is something that has not happened at Mapepe in more than 40 years. Among these sixteen graduates were three church leaders from Angola (a country with less than five churches).

We have now hired two of our graduates to serve as Mission Coordinators who will work with the students in future years to plant and mature churches (the practical application component of our training program). The two students are Masauso Moonga and Samuel Nkando who also just happen to have been our valedictorian and salutatorian (two top students).

Church-Planting Works

Our students continue their church-planting efforts at Chipongwe, Chipapa, Mt Makuru, and Kapiri Mposhi (the four churches that our students planted during our July campaigns). The week after classes ended, all the students went out on a one-week campaign to work with these four new churches and the church at Lilyia. Of course, many new members were added (baptisms) and the churches continue to grow and mature. In fact, Thomas Simubali reports (in an email that I just received this morning) that two more were baptized at Chipapa and three more at Kapiri Mposhi just this past weekend (in addition to the five that were baptized during the Campaign week). In addition, Thomas reports that the members at Chipape (led by some of our students) are rebuilding a house for a widow who has AIDS. I am most happy to hear things like as we are training our students to plant churches that do good works in their community for the glory of God and make a difference in their communities!

Medical Mission 2007

Our first medical mission is scheduled for June 3-16 of 2007. We have chosen an area in northern Zambia where the church is very weak and where our school is now focusing our church-planting efforts for the next five years. Not only is this area central to all Zambia but it is also just south of the Congo border. We believe that this is most strategic area in Central Africa for future church-planting works and we believe that future medical mission trips to this area will help introduce and promote the church in this area.

If you have a healthcare worker of any sort and have ANY interest in going on this mission, please email me at zambiamissions@gmail.com immediately. Not only will you make a meaningful contribution to helping people, but your efforts will also make a great contribution to our efforts to plant churches in Africa!



Sixteen graduating students are seated during the ceremony that was held in the auditorium-classroom of our unfinished classroom building. More than 250 guests were present for this great occasion on Sept 8, 2006.

Back In The USA

We have just have just arrived back in the USA for a few weeks (during the school break) in order to continue our fund-raising efforts for the school and to assist our daughter, Kerin, in getting settled in Fayetteville, TN where she hopes to enroll in the nursing program at Motlow College. (She will be staying at Lorie's parents farm in Fayetteville). Her hopes are to complete her nursing degree so that she can return to Zambia to work with orphans. Lorie, Natasha and I will return to Zambia on Jan 4th.



Graduating Class of 2006



David handing out the diplomas to the students.

Construction Works

Construction work continues in earnest at Mapepe even during my absence. I was able to purchase most all the building materials before I left Zambia and we have three construction crews working on seven major building projects. Lord willing, the house for Simubali (school director) will be completed by mid-Oct and the remaining buildings should be finished by the time I return in January. Most importantly, this will include the completion of our class-room building (along with six staff houses and a guest house).

Shipping Container

We will be shipping another container again this year. This one is primarily dedicated to shipping the supplies and equipment for the medical missions we hope to do next year and in the future. However, there is also enough space for all kinds of other supplies we need: tools (badly needed and of any kind), kitchen equipment, bibles, Sunday school materials, children's books and educational materials, clothes, folding chairs (badly needed), library books, etc. See our web page (zambianmissions.org) for a more complete list of needed items (or email me at dfrench24@hotmail.com).

Lorie's Reflections

We celebrated graduation amid a flurry of gowns colored to resemble the Zambian flag. Though the fabric of those gowns was only cotton, they were worn as proudly as if they were solid gold. It was truly inspirational to see them and to realize that these men were God's warriors about to be sent out into His Kingdom.

Some of the wives were able to come and share this special day with their husbands. These women kept the "home fires burning" for 9 months out of the last 2 years so that their husbands could be at school. Some of these women experienced sickness of family members or the death of loved ones during the time that their husbands were in classes. But they persevered. One wife came with her baby on her back from 9 hours away just to share this moment with her husband.

This newsletter is a special appeal for prayer for these wonderful women, their husbands and their families. Satan roams around. Please pray for these women and their families on a daily basis.

