

Zambia Newsletter

Zambia Missions

1910 Sycamore View Rd
Memphis, TN 38134
(901) 372-1874

David & Lorie French

P.O. Box 350070
Lusaka, Zambia (Africa)
zambiamissions@gmail.com



Web: www.zambiamissions.org

March 2015

So much has happened since I last wrote a newsletter (prior to our trip to Zambia)! I am quite excited, therefore, to share with you about all the progress that has been made. Of course, for those of you who are following us on Facebook, then you should already be pretty much up to date (www.facebook.com/zambiamissions).

Report: Bible College.

The students have already started moving into campus housing and classes will official begin on April 1st. Pictured below is the arrival of our first student ever to our new campus at Daybreak (on the left is Mike, our Director, welcoming Kaunda (student) into the new dorm (cf. Facebook for pictures of dorm and other activities).



In preparation for school to begin, the students have been busy digging the raised beds for their gardens and planting their vegetables (see pictures below). Of course, with the relocation of our college to a new campus comes a change in name. Our college now operates under the new name, "Daybreak Bible College."



Kerin's Kids (Orphans).

We have received \$23,645 in matching donations for construction of the Baby House for Kerin's Kids. This leaves just \$1355 remaining in unclaimed matching funds. We have until April 15 to raise the remaining \$1345 before the campaign comes to an end. Thus, there is still time, if you would like to help, for you to send in a contribution before the deadline.

With most of the funds now raised, we have just begun construction on the new Baby House. Work crews have already started making the blocks (for the walls) and have just about finished digging the foundation. Below is a picture of the site where the Baby House will be built (showing the initial digging of the foundation).



For those of you with computers, you can follow Kerin on her Facebook page (www.facebook.com/kerinskids). Here you will find lots of pictures, news and updates relating to Kerin and the orphan ministry.

Education Ministry.

In January we moved our Primary School into the Sonadi compound. For about \$85 per month, we managed to rent a building (formerly used as a bar). We basically have two



classrooms and a covered outside courtyard which can also be used as a classroom (although somewhat outside). Classes began on January 12th with about four grades with about 42 students. We did have to reduce the number of children this year (down from 120) since our new building is about half the size of what we had before. Although not yet fully self-supporting, the entire cost of the school is under \$450 /month.

Eventually we do plan to build a Primary School at our new Daybreak campus as there are no schools in our area and the kids have to walk about 5-10 miles to the nearest school. Both these schools will become self-supporting and will offer a far better education than what the government provides (which are poorly managed). And, since we are able to build using our Hydraform block-making machine (makes blocks out of dirt), the cost of building a few classrooms for a school will be quite inexpensive and will meet a great need in our area.

Resident Permit.

I am especially happy to report that I finally managed to get my Resident Permit for Zambia. You may not realize how big a deal this is, but it is a monumental development since it means I no longer have to apply for a work permit or visa every two years in order to live and work in Zambia. It means I have permanent status in Zambia and do not have to worry any more about my visa not being renewed.

It also gives me rights in Zambia that foreigners on visas do not have. Resident Permits are granted only to those people who have lived in the country for ten years and have demonstrated that they are making a positive contribution to Zambia. Not just anyone is granted these permits; thus, having this permit gives me and our ministry a certain degree of recognition and respect.



Agriculture

One of the things I did last year was to clear about 22 acres of land on the campus in preparation for farming. It is through our farming efforts that we will eventually be able to make this ministry self-supporting by 2025 (10-year plan). Thus, I did a lot of bush-hogging last year and hired some temporary workers to dig up the stumps and rocks. Our plan is to grow soybeans that can be ground up into feed for our chickens and pigs and then to set up a year-round vegetable farm using drip-irrigation. Pictured above is the 22-acre field that we cleared last year just after we planted the maize (corn) crop. We didn't quite feel we were ready to plant soybeans this year, so we decided to plant maize this year (since it is a crop every Zambian knows well).

Construction and Development.

Because of our transition to our new campus this year, a great deal of our activity is currently being centered around efforts in construction and development. Here is a list of projects that have already been completed or are in progress:

- Classroom – completed one year ago (Jan 2014).
- Student Dorm – completed in Oct 2014 (holds 12 students).
- Married Student housing – we will finish the first two houses (duplex) this month (with 23 more houses to build). See picture below of roof being put on the Duplex.
- Water and Electric infrastructure – we are just completing the fifth phase of this work which began in 2012 (infrastructure takes a lot of work and time to complete).
- Junior Staff houses – we completed the fifth house in December; we estimate we need to build 5 more.
- Kerin's House -- completed in November of 2014.
- Kerin's Kids Baby House – As reported above, we have just started construction on this project.
- House for College Director/Teacher – We have finished making the 11,000 blocks that will be needed and we just started digging the foundation. Unfortunately, we don't yet have the money to continue this project much further.
- Business Office (Operations Center) – completed in Jan.
- French house (David & Lorie) – just finished in January.
- Security Fence (around entire campus) – will finish this month (Mar); necessary to protect assets and our crops from thieves and animals.



Pictured below is the first worship services held at the new campus (Jan 4). Be sure to follow us on our [Facebook page](#) as I will be posting regular updates on the progress being made in construction and other facets of our ministry.

