

Zambia Newsletter

Zambia Missions

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I believe we have now “hit our stride” and are doing a very good job fulfilling our mission to train/develop spiritual leaders. Although there are always challenges (e.g., see below about agricultural training, water system), we are making great progress on many different levels.

Report: Bible College.

We were blessed this summer to have several visiting teachers. Fielden & Janet Allison each taught a class (Marriage and Pastoral Counseling). Paul Chimhungwe (from Swaziland) taught a class on Spiritual Leadership (cf. picture below). Ananias Moses (Botswana) taught an excellent class



on African Traditional Religion. Dixon Settle taught three classes over a two-week period: Project Planning, Hebrews, and Critical Thinking Skills (cf. picture below of students receiving their certificates of completion in Project Planning). And, last of all, I taught a class on Philipians.



Endowment Fund.

We are thankful for those who responded (contributed) to our new efforts to start an endowment fund for the work in Zambia (which we announced in our last newsletter).

Incidentally, since writing the last newsletter, I came across a recent study conducted by Kairos about the number of church closings among the Churches of Christ in the USA. Apparently, my information was quite old. **Currently, there is one church closing every six days (4.3 every month)!**

Bible College: Agricultural Training.

Unfortunately, after losing a great deal of money, we have determined that we can no longer make any money from raising chickens or farming (as we have just 20 acres for farming). As I reported in the last newsletter, the Chinese have taken over the market and pushed most farmers (include us) out of the market.

Thus, we have no option but to reduce our operations and focus only on **raising enough chickens to train our students** (about 100 chickens for second and third-year students). Since the Chinese domination is limited only to the cities, our students will still be able to earn money raising chickens in the rural areas of the country where most of them live.

Kerin's Kids (Orphans).

Kerin returned to Zambia on July 1 after spending the past two months visiting supporters of the Children's Ministry (Kerin's Kids). We traveled to 7 states and drove more than 8,400 miles in just two months. I think Kerin was quite happy to return home and back to where life is not as hectic (i.e., non-stop going here and there).

Kerin is continuing to work on her efforts to get the new Care Facility (Baby House) registered with the government so that we can begin using this facility and increase the number of children Kerin is able to help. We still need to raise some additional funds in order to provide the necessary funding that will be required to hire staff (3 full-time shifts of workers). Although one wouldn't think it would take much time/effort to get registration (considering all the children who are in need of such assistance), the process is quite extensive. This is due to the fact that there are many bogus organizations in Africa that claim to provide care for children but are actually just a fraudulent scams to solicit money from Europe and the USA.

If you would like to support this ministry (provide the additional support needed to fund the Baby House), then please send your donations to the above address in Bartlett, TN and write “Baby

House” on the memo line. We **need to raise about \$1200** per month. We are not yet exactly sure how much support we are still needing as we are still in the process of determining how much funding people have committed to giving from the last 2 months.

Water System.

Since our students can no longer earn any profit from raising chickens (while attending our college), we now must rely only on what the students can earn raising vegetables using drip-irrigation. It is for this reason that we are increasing the number of raised beds (vegetables) that the students are growing. This means, however, that our supply of water needs to increase. This presents us with a problem since our supply of water from our four bore holes (wells) has been insufficient during the dry season.

Zambia has been receiving less rain for the past few years and is currently suffering through a drought. Part of our problem at Daybreak comes from the fact that our water system requires our bore hole pumps to pump water up 300 feet from below ground and then across campus and up 35 feet into our water tanks. This demand was straining our pumps (which periodical burned out). We also had failed to bury our water lines deep enough. Many of our water lines frequently get damaged and drained our tanks.

Thus, I found it necessary to redo our entire water system on campus. This involved hiring a machine to dig more than 3000 feet of 2- foot trenches to our four bore holes and 8 water tanks. I then had to buy water pipes from the bore holes to a central tank stand (where I placed six 2700-gallon reserve tanks) and from the reserve tanks to the 8 water tanks (on 35-foot towers). I, then, had to buy a strong ground pump. The plan now is for the bore holes to pump water up into the six reserve tanks and then use the ground pump to pump water across campus and up into the eight water tanks on 35-foot high tank stands. Hopefully, this will reduce the strain on our small bore-hole pumps and allow us to pump more water up from our four bore holes (wells).

Grocery Store, Hammer Mill and Drought.

The maize (corn) crops in Zambia have failed this year due to the drought. This has resulted in a crisis since maize is the staple food of Zambia! Many will go hungry, and some will starve this year.

Upon hearing news about the crop failures, I sent one of our staff members to go buy enough maize to feed our students and staff this next year. He ended up having to go all the way to Mozambique (neighboring country). We bought five-hundred, 100-pound bags of maize which we can now grind up in our Hammer Mill and sell to our staff and students at cost (which is now about 40% of the price maize is being sold in the stores).

We are just now completing construction on our Grocery Store and Hammer Mill which will allow us to grind maize and sell goods to the public. We hope this will help generate some income (as we continue to look for ways that we can generate some income in Zambia and become less dependent on American support). Our Grocery Store will also be able to sell some of the chickens and vegetables that our students are producing (which will help feed their families).

Meet Our Students: Oberty Kalenga.



Oberty is one of our third-year students who will be graduating at the end of this year. He is 26 years old and comes from a small village in the Southern Province. He is married to Tryness, and he has an 18-month old baby.

His father is a poor, small-scale farmer. Both his parents are Christians and are quite active in their church. During his life his village has been hit hard by drought and famine which has undermined his education since his family of eight was unable to pay his school fees.

Nevertheless, both he and his wife have proven to be two of our best students (both academically and spiritually). Both he and his wife were quite active in their home church before coming to Daybreak. He served as a youth leader, song leader, and as a leader in his church.

Oberty says that Daybreak has taught him “to work hard as a man and as a spiritual leader and to live with people of different personalities (learning to control his jealousy).” [Jealousy is a serious problem in Zambia as poverty and the struggle to survive cause many to become jealous of any success they see in others.] He goes on to say that he has learned to be more content with “the provision of God through his hard work and that his spiritual life has changed as he has learned how to accommodate others and their needs.” He also says that Daybreak has taught him that people who think they are of no good to themselves, their families or their communities can be taught and equipped with the skills that will make them of good use.

Because both Oberty and his wife (Tryness) have excelled in their studies at Daybreak and have proven themselves to be of such spiritual character (and leadership ability), we have made arrangements for them to attend African Christian College (ACC) in Swaziland where they will further their training and obtain a B.S. in Bible and Ministry. **It is our hope (once they complete the program at ACC) that we will be able to hire both of them as future Bible teachers at Daybreak.** Tryness will be able to join Jean (who is our only teacher in the women’s program) and help strengthen our women’s program at Daybreak.