

# Zambia Newsletter

## Zambia Missions

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Since mailing out the last newsletter in June, I was finally able to make a trip to Zambia. I found everything in good order and was able to meet with the teachers and attend to several administrative matters. I was not, however, able to teach any classes as the government had ordered schools closed just a week before my arrival.

It was a very difficult trip. International travel is quite chaotic and complicated due to the pandemic. Wearing a mask for 40 hours was quite uncomfortable. Many of the airlines are not flying many of their usual routes and I had to take an alternative route that took me through Europe and required me sitting in the Kenyan airport 9 hours overnight (both ways).

As I reported in my last newsletter, Lorie was not able to travel with me as she has had continuing side-effects from when she had COVID at Christmas (breaking out in hives most every night) and has not been able to get the second vaccination due to an allergic reaction to the first vaccination. She has been referred to the Infectious Disease people at Vanderbilt and is undergoing several tests to figure out what is causing her problems. Obviously, with the pandemic spreading in Africa, her doctor strongly advised that she not travel to Zambia at this time.

### **Daybreak Bible College.**

The Bible College resumed classes on August 16 after the government had ordered all schools, colleges, bars, and churches closed for 4-5 weeks. This is the second time such closures have been ordered -- the first one was about a year ago (for 4 weeks). Despite these disruptions, we have managed to continue without much trouble. We have increased some class time and shorted the second and third terms by only two weeks.

I also have begun a new program of training for our Bible College teachers (which is basically a form of continuing education). I have purchased some college classes on video which the teachers are watching on a computer in Zambia. Then, once a week, I am meeting with the teachers in a Zoom Meeting to discuss the video lessons.

### **Kerin's Kids (Children's Ministry).**

Message from Kerin in Zambia: "I just got an update on the twins (see picture below) yesterday they each gained another

2 lbs. this past month. The twins traveled over 6 hours on a bus with their aunt and uncle when they were only 6 weeks old.

Their mother died after having them and their father died before they were born. They weighed less at 6 weeks than when they were born. And now they are on formula. They live hours away and we send them formula for 2 months at a time via a bus. I get updates from their uncle and aunt as to how they are doing."



Cholwe (pictured below). His mother died. That's him with his grandmother. He 5 months old. He lives with his grandmother in Chipapa (about 20 miles west of Daybreak campus). We have a lot of babies on formula in the area around this village. It is a very poor, remote village and it is a place where our students planted a church 10 years ago (which is why we have more relationships and knowledge of vulnerable children).



## **Primary School.**

Although schools, colleges, bars/restaurants, and churches were ordered closed by the government for 4-5 weeks, we were able to complete construction on the Auditorium which will be used for daily chapel and special events to which we can invite the community (part of our outreach effort). The new auditorium is the building pictured in the front between the two classroom buildings. Even though the pandemic is only getting worse in Zambia, we were able to resume classes on August 16.

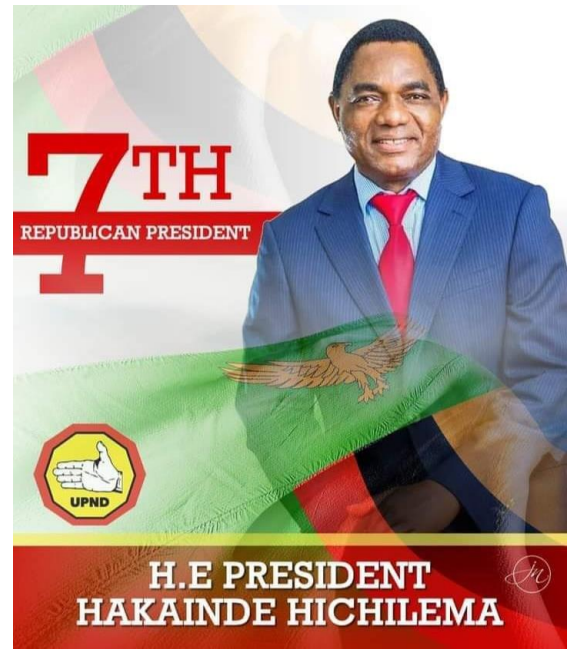


Below is a picture of the student's gardens at the Primary School. We are teaching the school students how to grow vegetables using drip-irrigation and we are selling the vegetables to help fund the school. Chris Chaz (one of our graduates from the Bible College who is serving as the Campus Minister for the school) is in charge of this program.



## **Elections in Zambia.**

Zambia elected a new President in August, Hakainde Hichilema (pictured top- right), and it appears that there will be a peaceful transition of power as the new President is scheduled to take office on Tuesday (Aug 24). We sincerely wish him well and pray that he will be a good leader for the good of the people of Zambia. It appears that he won by a 2 to 1 margin over the current President which suggests he has significant support within the country. Zambia is currently struggling economically (due to a significant debt owed to the Chinese) and is experiencing a significant surge in COVID. Let's pray that the new President can help the country navigate through this difficult time.



## **Finances.**

For some reason, we are experiencing a bit of a shortfall in our finances this summer. If you or your church is able to help out a little extra right now, it would be most helpful!

## **Meet Our Students.**



Felix Kaoma is 28 years old. He comes from the Bemba tribe in Mansa (far northern province). He is married and has one child (2 years old). He has a 12<sup>th</sup> grade education and is a leader in the Chibalashi congregation in Mana. He has been farming his own land and plans to return to farming

once he has graduated from Daybreak (DBC). Upon graduating, he says that he plans *"to be a disciple of Jesus so that I can make other disciples of Jesus."*



Brighton Ilukena is 24 years old from the Lozi tribe in Western Province (which is the poorest province in Zambia). He is not yet married. Upon graduating, he hopes to return home to start a ministry. He owns his own land and plans to support himself in ministry by farming and raising broiler chickens.