

Zambia E-Bulletin (11 April 2008)

I thought that I would start trying to send out e-bulletins again. We got so busy last year that I just didn't have time to send out any e-bulletins and I just got out of the habit of doing so. Hence, I am going to try and get back in the habit of periodically sending out some news whenever something of interest happens. I will try to include some pictures that will make it more interested.

I have included **two pictures** in this email that capture events of the last few days. The **first one** is a picture of a wedding that occurred this past weekend between one of our Mission Coordinators, Masauso Moonga, and one of our first female graduates who graduated last year, Carol. Lorie and I served as the Guest of Honor at the wedding which was held at the Central congregation in downtown Lusaka. This is our first Mapepe wedding (of staff and/or students).



Masauso Moonga and his new wife Carol

(second picture next page)

The **second picture** was taken just yesterday as we finished installing the second tank and tank stand for our agricultural development. This 10,000 liter tank will provide water for our drip-irrigation on the north side of the campus (tank for the north side is already up and operating). We have now almost finished building the raised beds and installing all the drip lines for irrigating on the north side of campus and we will soon begin work on the north side within the next month or two. By the way, it took these men more than 45 minutes to lift this tank up and into place.



Our **April Newsletter** has now been printed and should be put in the mail in the next few days (you can also access it on our web page:

http://zambiamissions.org/index.php?option=com_docman&task=cat_view&gid=43&Itemid=68

We just started our **Seminar in April** this past Monday. This is a one-month period when we invite Christian school teachers living in the mission areas of Zambia to come to our campus for Bible and ministry training so as to help them in their efforts to plant and mature churches in areas where there are few or no churches. Sam Shewmaker (missionary in Rwanda) and Tom Torpy (minister from Jericho congregation in North Carolina) are here this month to teach in this seminar.

Power outages continue to be one of our biggest frustrations right now. Zambia can no longer produce enough electricity to supply everyone in the country at the same time; and, hence, they have now implemented what they call "power sharing" (cut power to some customers at different times of the day to

provide sufficient power to others). Unfortunately, the power grid here for the school was assigned to the group getting cut between the hours of 4 and 9 pm (about 5 hours per day). This is the worst possible time for us as it is during this time that we need to cook for 100 students (plus staff and families cooking) and conduct our evening programs. We have two backup generators, but with fuel costing us \$12 per hour per generator, we can't afford to do this much. Hence, we are learning now about how boring life can be sitting around in the dark with nothing to do for 3-4 hours every night before going to bed.

We are **making plans** now for the beginning of our second batch of agriculture workshops (use of drip-irrigation), the beginning of our next semester (which will begin the middle of May), and our second Medical Mission (June 1-11). Please keep us in your prayers as we endeavor to have a productive year at Mapepe.

David & Lorie