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Outreach Newsletter

*African Outreach Ministries
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Dear Friends,

As this year looms in front of us filled with its frightening possibilities, it is only when we stand in front of the throne of God that we are able to still the fears that arise within us. Only in front of the Father can we keep our balance and refocus on the eternal home our Savior has prepared us, our true home.

Our brothers and sisters in Zimbabwe and Zambia care little for the possible war with Iraq or bombs in North Korea. They are in a battle to find food to feed their families each day. God is their only refuge and source of help and comfort. In Zimbabwe, the World Food Relief Agency only has the capacity to help 2 million, but 6 to 8 million need assistance. Logistically it is almost impossible to get the needed food into that country. Let us pray to the Father, who knows every hungry child and parent, that crops will mature to harvest, and that food will be imported and fairly distributed so that a humanitarian disaster will not occur.

Your African Family,

Allen and Janelle

The Lord Gives the Increase

The church grows in numbers, maturity and in structure. All of this is from God. In Corinthians 3:6, Paul says that he and Apollos planted and watered, but it is God who caused the growth. Only God should receive the glory when Christians grow and church develop. He gives the gifts, the work and strength; so all our boasting should be about the Lord and his goodness.



Ordination

Before leaving to return to the states, I had the privilege to help with the ordination of elders, deacons and evangelists in both Zambia and Zimbabwe. What joy it was to see the gifts of God recognized and the ministries of people affirmed.

Zimbabwe — Elders And Evangelists Ordained

Before we left Zimbabwe, we participated in the ordination of our first rural elders and for three evangelists. The elders were Robby and Swarnet Ncube, who had been functioning as shepherds for several years. The evangelists, Njombolo, Mischeck, and Patrick, were ordained because of their fruit in the ministry of evangelism. And then at the National Conference, a new national leadership team was selected. These are the men and women who will help organize national and inter-district activities for ZCF, as well as looking after the spiritual needs of the fellowship.

In Zambia, Martin Mulyata and I ordained seven men and one woman as an elder, a deaconess, and as evangelists and assistant evangelists. It was a great joy to see how God is raising up his people to serve his new church in Zambia.

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[Orphan Update — Camps on Abuse Prevention](#)

Recently, Cornelius organized a camp for girls in our program. The theme was on abuse prevention. Sexual abuse of young girls is a constant theme in Zimbabwe newspapers. Almost daily, new horror stories are revealed in the Zimbabwe press. Any young girl is at risk, but orphaned girls represent an even easier target. The camp counselors taught the girls how to protect themselves and what action to take if they have or are being abused.

Pray for our girls' protection and that God will give them wisdom in how they live their lives.



Orphan Girls

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Behind the Scenes Servants — The AOM Board

The spiritual and financial oversight of the ministry lies in the hands of the board of directors, all volunteers. These men and women are committed to seeing Africa covered with vibrant churches. As Janelle and I have been on the field, the board has kept the "home fires burning", that is, doing the administration, keeping the finances, mailing out newsletters, and helping to keep the ministry supported.

The long serving chairman for AOM is Randy Parker. The ever-active treasurer is Clint Summers. Darrel Mantooth is the administrator, making sure all the newsletters are sent out and the various admin things are done for AOM. Jamey Webster does the newsletter layout. The rest of the board members contribute in many ways to make the ministry a success. Without their prayers, encouragement, personal financial support and fundraising, AOM would not exist. The accompanying picture was taken of part of the board at a board retreat in November. We gladly submit to such a godly group of men and women who both love us and the African people. We would ask you to pray for these men and women who serve AOM for God's glory.



AOM Board

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