



# African Outreach Ministries Newsletter

*Allen & Janelle Avery  
Scott & Lisa Harris  
Gustavo & Beatriz Fuentes*

*Serving Throughout Southern Africa*

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Dear Friends,

Coaches say that a great sports team must do the basics correctly and execute them well. As a missionary team, we want to be great for God's glory, so we have been working on our "basics" and learning how to better "execute" those ideas.

The Harris and Fuentes families have been preparing themselves in Brazil and the USA to be able to prayerfully seek out the "men and women of peace" God has prepared for them to disciple in Mozambique. The vision is to eventually start hundreds of "discipleship chains." The month of May is the month these two families will begin living in Inhambane, Mozambique in order to execute that plan.

Allen has been busy training the key Zambian and Zimbabwean leaders in the basics of discipleship multiplication and how to execute those basics effectively. Also, Janelle and Allen are praying about how to launch discipleship chains in South Africa.

The vision of starting hundreds of house churches all over southern Africa through developing discipleship chains has now firmly taken root in all our hearts.

Pray that God will enable each team member and church leader to find the foundational individuals God has chosen to begin these discipleship chains. Pray that healthy discipleship multiplication will become the norm for every mature Christian with whom AOM ministers.

In His Service,  
Allen

## *Beyond Our Dreams . . .*

It is hard to believe that we are sitting back here in Tzaneen, South Africa, just one week from making our move to Mozambique, and realizing that just over a week ago our family was still in Brazil! So many emotions and thoughts are flowing through us. Anticipation about all the details that still need to be worked out, yet at peace knowing that we are exactly where God wants us; fear of the unknown, but excitement over the wonderful adventure ahead of us; sadness of leaving friends and the Averys, but joy knowing we will make new friends and that God is building a new team with the Fuentes (and others).

In Ephesians, Paul reminds us that God does immeasurably more than all we can ask or imagine, and if I had to sum up our time in Brazil, it would be just that. God did so much more than we ever dreamed or imagined. We thought we were going to Brazil to just learn Portuguese, but God had so much more in mind.

During our time in Brazil, God gave us an opportunity to begin growing the team for Mozambique. What better place to recruit missionaries for Mozambique than in Brazil where the people speak Portuguese as a first language! God led us to two couples and two single women who are prayerfully considering joining AOM.

Luiz and Fernanda Guimaraes are the first couple. Luiz is a physiotherapist and Fernando works for a cargo shipping company near the airport. Luiz and Fernanda

started the small house church in Indaiatuba that we attended. Luiz particularly has the gifts of evangelism, teaching and leadership, while Fernanda has the gifts of leadership and compassion. They are due to be married in August and plan to make a survey trip over to Africa in September.



Then there is Ricardo and Melissa Borin and their daughter Julia. Ricardo was a professional soccer player who left the game to go into full time ministry. After serving a church for 3 years, he went back to school and now owns a foreign language school where he teaches English. Ricardo has an outgoing personality that naturally draws people to him. He has the gifts of teaching and of leading in worship. Melissa also helps Ricardo in worship, but is a quiet servant who loves children and prays a lot. Ricardo and Melissa will be coming over to visit Mozambique in December.

The two single women are Gecy Mary and Luciana Santos. Gecy currently is working full-time for a church in the Campinas area as director of the children's education program. Gecy has made 3 short-term mission trips to Mozambique and has always had a heart for the people there. We met Luciana in the house church we attended, and almost from day one, she began asking how she could become a missionary. She has a real heart of compassion for people.

Be praying for each of these people as they continue to seek God's will for their lives. It is our desire that God build a team that is just right for what He has planned for Mozambique. We are excited about being a part of what God is doing and about the different gifts and talents these people could bring to the team.



*Ricardo and Scott*



*Melissa leading worship*



*Luciana and Gecy*



*Harris family with Ricardo*



*House Church in our home*



May 8<sup>th</sup> -11<sup>th</sup>- Averys, Harrises and Fuentes meet as a team in Johannesburg

May 12<sup>th</sup>- Harrises and Fuentes travel to Maputo, Mozambique to purchase vehicles, work on their permanent visas and then move to Inhambane.

May 22<sup>nd</sup>-25<sup>th</sup>- Allen, Scott, Gustavo and Bia will meet with Richard Green and his discipleship movement teammates in Johannesburg.

June 15<sup>th</sup>-July 22<sup>nd</sup>- Averys in States for family matters, recruiting and board meeting.

July 14<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup>- Church Planting Movement conference- Scott and 4 Zambian leaders

August 23<sup>rd</sup>-28<sup>th</sup>- Zimbabwe, Zambia and Malawi Leaders' meeting in Kabwe, Zambia.

## *Zimbabwe Orphan Update*



*4 of the orphans in Bulawayo*



*Themba Staff with Janelle*

The last three months have been tumultuous in Zimbabwe, with the elections taking place, the counting of votes and then recounting them again, and finally waiting over a month for the results. And the “results” as they have been reported have left everyone still hanging in limbo! It has been traumatic, but we think we can see the end of God’s tunnel!

All this has affected the children in various and serious ways. The families have gone without food, the schools have been closed and the children have been sitting at home many days. But in all this, God has shown us that He is good, and that He is good **all the time!** When the families were running out of food, we prayed for God to open a way, and He did. We were able to get corn meal transported, even in the midst of unsettling events. The schools that have been closed for many months of this year are now open, returning the children to a daily routine, even though more teachers have fled the violence, some of it directed particularly at them as teachers.

We ask you to pray for the orphan children, their caregivers and the staff of Themba Le’Ntande. The most important thing the staff asked us to pray about was that “good governance” be returned to Zimbabwe. Pray and ask God to grant a peaceful and just resolution to the political turbulence that engulfs the country right now. Pray for the children’s schools, for the caregivers’ health, and for the staff who continually work under such trying and disturbing circumstances.

## *Thank You Clint and Rose Ann Summers!*

AOM wants to thank Clint and Rose Ann Summers for taking 3 weeks out their busy schedules to visit and teach here in Africa.

They both attended the leadership training conference in Zimbabwe where they taught lessons on the family. The Zambian leaders have already requested that the Summers return to Zambia to teach on this important subject.

The Summers both serve on the AOM Board of Directors and Clint additionally volunteers his time as the financial director for the mission.

For your many years of continued service and love for AOM, we say “THANK YOU!”



*Clint and Rose Ann near Victoria Falls*

## *Catching The Vision*



During April 5<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup>, Allen and Janelle and Clint and Rose Ann Summers taught the bi-annual meeting of the key leaders from Zambia, Zimbabwe and Malawi. The conference theme was “Catching the Vision of Discipleship Chains.” The Summers ministered on family and marriage each morning and Clint taught each evening on, “If You Had 30 Days to Live.”

**Marriage:** Even though their cultures were very different, Clint and Rose Ann were able to teach the simple truths that years of experience and Bible study had taught them. The Summers’ ministry was so much appreciated that the leaders asked them to come back again to conduct a Family and Marriage conference for them and their wives. A key concept the Summers left with all of us is that marriage is one of God’s main discipleship tools. He uses different personalities, plus our male and female differences, to teach us how to become godly people.

### *Clint Summers teaching in Zimbabwe*

**Discipleship chains:** The leaders caught the concept of planting churches through concentrating on starting discipling chains. It actually makes the task of church planting easier, i.e., working through a man or woman of peace to build up a group of committed disciples who are excited about discipling others. The leaders were ready for new ideas because they all readily acknowledged the crippling problems they faced using the standard “institutional” church paradigm, i.e., members’ lack of commitment and the syndrome of 10% of the members doing the entire ministry.



### *Group who attended the training*

**Prayer:** Pray for these leaders as they return to their churches in Zimbabwe, Zambia and Malawi. Pray that they will keep their eyes focused on their new goal of building up discipling chains. Pray that the pressures of ministry, finances and life will not divert their new commitments to focus on making disciples. Pray that God will show them His chosen foundational disciples on which they will build their chains.



*Allen and Clint wash the feet of the leaders and pray over them at the end of the meeting*