



# African Outreach Ministries

Allen & Janelle Avery  
South Africa

Scott and Lisa Harris

South Africa

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## *Stress and Lessons from Moving*

Dear Friends,

Flo Cook, an AOM Board member, told us that there should be a law against having to move after you are 50 years old! We could not agree with her more. Moving is touted as one of the top four most stressful things that happen to people. Hearing the news from hurricane Katrina makes our transition a “piece of cake”, but we humans tend to be self-absorbed with our own difficulties.

The problem of uprooting yourself, leaving friends and a church you have come to love, is difficult. Since Janelle and I have only made three major moves in the last 35 years, the idea of moving was not exciting to us.

What was exciting was the thought of moving to a safer, prettier, cheaper and more ministry friendly environment. Also, the idea of only having to travel 6-7 hours instead of 11 or 12 hours to Bulawayo was a real boon. The trip to Mongu, Zambia, is still 3 days, but these are shorter days. Settling in has been more trouble than we thought for both families but we have already met some wonderful Christian people. Opportunities to inter-face with African church leaders, both locally and regionally, are multiplying weekly and new friendships, both black and white, are flowering.

God continues to “grind” on us as we face each new challenge of settling in and getting our houses in the shape we want them to be. New lessons are being taught to us each week about patience, faith and relaxing in God’s providential care. Pray for us that we will learn these lessons and be able to apply them to future “character building” events.  
Yours in His Service,

Allen

## **WALKING THREE DAYS TO NATIONAL CONFERENCE**

How many days would you be willing to walk to a conference? To reach the national conference in Mongu, over 120 Christians walked 3 days, sleeping in the Zambezi flood plain. Another 50 people walked a full day to get to the same meeting. It humbled us to think of their commitment and made us doubly reliant on God to empower the teaching of His Word through us.

The three day conference in August for the Followers of Christ Fellowship had some of the most anointed preaching we have ever heard. Thomas Maphophe, a pastor near Tzaneen and planter of over 45 churches, taught on leadership, our view of ourselves and dreaming for Jesus. Pastor Timothy Katoka from Chipata, Zambia spoke on the “poverty mentality” which grips Africa and how God wants to change the worldview of who they are and what they can do to better their lives.

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## The Move to Tzaneen

June 16<sup>th</sup> found the Averys rushing 4 and a half hours north of Joburg to meet the moving van at their new home in Tzaneen. Boxes and boxes were unloaded, including unopened boxes from Bulawayo. Tzaneen is the second largest town (40,000) in the Northern Province and has over 2 million people living within a 100-mile radius. It is surrounded by mountains full of pine and eucalyptus tree plantations. In the valleys around the town, we see orange, mango, banana, pecan and avocado farms. Our dining room window looks out on banana fields across a small valley.

June 28<sup>th</sup> saw the Harrises following their moving van up to a nearby small community called Duiewelskloof or Modjadjiskloof. The Harris' home sets on the side of one of the mountains surrounding this small town, just two minutes from the Christian school the children now attend.



*The Harris' new home in Modjadjiskloof*



*The Avery's new home in Tzaneen*

The move puts us 4 hours closer to all our various ministries, living in a safer area, getting out of the crush of Joburg and in a less expensive place to live. It is a blessing to be living in a small town environment. The friendliness of people is markedly better.

We praise God for allowing us to have this option of moving and living a quieter lifestyle.

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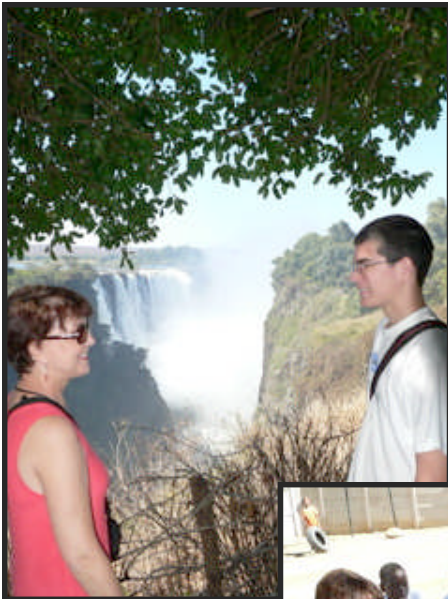
Scott and I continued to focus on growing healthy churches, planting daughter churches and having a vision for God's kingdom and for ourselves. All of the teaching sessions were very well received.

*First Picture: Men coming forward for prayer as they lead their churches.*

*Second Picture: The praise team in Mongu leading the conference in worship.*



## Flo Cook, AOM Board Member Visits Africa



Flo Cook and her grandson, Dillion, visited the ministry in July. In reflecting on her trip, Flo said, "I tell everyone that I appreciated your work before I saw it. But now my appreciation has turned to passion. To have seen the faces of the children, the churches and pastors, and the work that you are doing has exploded in my heart. When I show the 40 pictures that I enlarged, there is never a dry eye on the part of the observer. Your work is incredible and God is not through with you yet."

Flo represents the wonderful AOM board members and Harvest Partners who make the ministry a reality. We thank God for each and every one of you who support and prays for us.



*Flo visited some of the orphans in Bulawayo, Zimbabwe that AOM supports*

## **ANNOUNCING FALL FESTIVAL NOV. 6<sup>TH</sup> AND 7<sup>TH</sup>**

Grab your calendar and mark 6:00 pm on Sunday evening, the 6th of November, to attend our biggest AOM Banquet ever. Then men, mark Monday the 7th for the AOM Golf Tournament which tees off at noon. Special on Monday for the ladies, a fabulous Tea & Style Show hosted by Elizabeth's Boutique beginning at 1:30 pm, followed by an auction and accessory workshop. Three designers will be present at the style show giving away many prizes.

All three events will be held at the Sweetwater Country Club in Sugar Land, TX. The silent auction features a week's lodging at a spectacular ski lodge above Vail, dinner for two at Perrys, plus various services and lots of quality items direct from Africa. Tables of holiday items and garden accessories, plus much more will be there. A catalogue featuring many of the auction items will be sent to each family with reservations two weeks prior to the event.

It promises to be a wonderful time for the AOM family to be together and support the ministry, plus a chance to do much of your Christmas shopping early.

**Call Traci, Jim Bridges' secretary, for information and reservations at 281-243-4300**



Allen and Janelle Avery  
 Scott and Lisa Harris  
 Johannesburg, South Africa



**USA Address:**

4911 Westonridge  
 Fresno, Texas 77545-9242

**Africa Address:**

P.O. Box 506  
 Duiwelskloof, 0835  
 South Africa

**Email:** [ajavery@xc.org](mailto:ajavery@xc.org)

[www.africanoutreachministries.org](http://www.africanoutreachministries.org)

**NEW MAILING ADDRESSES**

**Allen & Janelle Avery**

P.O. Box 4385  
 Tzaneen 0850  
 South Africa

**Scott & Lisa Harris**

P.O. Box 506  
 Duiwelskloof 0835  
 South Africa

**RESPONSE SHEET:**

Enclosed is my pledge of  
 \$ \_\_\_\_\_ for African Outreach  
 Ministries.

**AFRICAN OUTREACH MINISTRIES**

4911 Westonridge  
 Fresno, Texas 77545-9242  
 Phone: 281-431-0080  
 Email: [AJAvery@XC.Org](mailto:AJAvery@XC.Org)

PLEASE DETACH AND MAIL TO THE ABOVE AD-  
 DRESS.

Thank you for your prayers and your support!

**Prayer Requests**

**FALL FESTIVAL:** Pray that God will strengthen and inspire everyone who is working to make this a wonderful event that will glorify God.

**ZIMBABWE TROUBLES:** The churches are standing and planning for expansion, but they face 1000% inflation, no gasoline and a crippling food shortage. Since the dams are virtually dry, many Bulawayo residents are walking up to 2 miles to draw water. Pray that these problems will draw peoples to a deeper walk of faith in Him.

**ZAMBIA:** The Followers of Christ Fellowship has planted 4 new churches this year and the Mongu Church is finishing constructing their church building. Pray for more faith and courage as they face the challenges of growing their churches.

**ANNOUNCEMENT:** Allen & Janelle proudly announce the arrival of Jackson Wade Avery (7 lbs 9 ozs), the first child of Allen Wade and Emma. Jackson was born on August 31<sup>st</sup>.

**HOMEWARD BOUND:** Both the Harris and Avery families will be heading for the States shortly for two-month visits. Pray for safe travels and successful networking with supporters and churches.