



Ndola, Zambia

Haven of Hope

By Vince Smith

Those who oppress the poor insult their Maker, but those who help the poor honor Him. Proverbs 14:31(NLT). I am grateful to all of you who choose to honor God by assisting the poor in Ndola, Zambia. Your generosity is indeed offering HOPE to many.

It is with great excitement and anticipation that we look forward to launching Haven of Hope #2 on May 1. The opening of this school has the potential to provide HOPE for 60 more orphans in vulnerable children in 2009. Please be sure to read details in this newsletter on how you can make this happen. Lives will be saved physically and spiritually because of your sacrifice.

Haven of Hope #1 is in the process of moving to a larger school building and a new volunteer teacher has been added to the staff. All three of the teachers and the potential teachers for Haven of Hope #2 have been taking a college training class made possible by Penn State Professor, David Lee. David will be traveling with us to Zambia March 12-21 to continue the teacher training and observation of the teachers in the classroom.

There will be four of us traveling to Zambia March 12-22. Ben Bidelspach will be building desks with the boys from Haven of Hope #1 during this trip. The desks will be used to launch Haven of Hope #2.

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Our team will also deliver Christmas gifts (a little late) to the children, meet with Zambian pastors that we hope to partner with in the future, make jewelry with the girls that can be sold in the U.S. to help pay for textbooks, connect with Northrise University to explore partnerships, and most importantly, just love the children. I wish each of you could join us and hope you will in the future. Plans are starting now for a late June 2010 trip. Will you mark your calendar and prayerfully consider joining us? Better yet, just join us and then pray about how God wants to use you as you see the needs around you. God has already given you the command to go... Call me, I'd love to talk more about it. You should know it would mean the world to your sponsored child.

Please be sure to read the letters from John Banda to get a window into life at Haven of Hope. Please be sure to pray for John, Charity, and Daniel as they continue to love God and others on the front lines.

Because it matters,

Vince Smith
Pastor
State College Christian Church

Christmas 2008

Haven of Hope continues its partnership with St. John's Reformed Church in Holidaysburg, PA. Pastor David Haydu and the members of St. John's Reformed gave \$700 to the students of Haven of Hope this past Christmas with a unique purpose in mind. The Haven of Hope students used that money to purchase gifts and provide a meal at a local orphanage. They were able to present gifts to children who otherwise would have nothing for Christmas. They gave back to their community through service, giving gifts and time spent with the children. Please read on for John Banda's account of their exciting day.

The Year 2008 has finally come to an end. I have been trying to make sure that there is a balance between my work and my family. The Lord has been gracious throughout this year. We have seen growth in our ministry. Growth in terms of numbers of orphaned children attending our school. We started with 20 children and now we have 59 children.

Christmas is a very important moment in the life of a Christian. The year 2008, we at Haven of Hope School celebrated this Christmas in style. We realised that Christmas is a time of sharing because God gave us His son to save the world and the wise men presented gifts to the baby Jesus. We learnt that God gave and the wise men responded by giving and worshipping.

During the 2008 Christmas celebrations at Haven of Hope School, we invited the Rev. Nkandu to come and grace the occasion. She challenged us



Gifts to the Adoption Society of Zambia from Haven of Hope students

both parents/guardians and children to give. We learnt that giving is a command from God and it is a way of breaking poverty in our lives. The Reverend encouraged the guardians/parents to teach their children to give. I also challenged the children on the importance of giving. I likened giving to rivers that give their waters to the oceans and yet when the rains come only the rivers get flooded. After the word on giving we then jumped onto a bus and headed for the Adoption Society of Zambia. The adoption society of Zambia is a transit home to abandoned children and children whose mother died during child birth. The society has children aged 0 year to 3 years. The children from Haven of Hope sang songs to the babies and children in this home. The event was attended by parents/guardians, orphans, staff and friends. We had about 80 people attend this function. We had various activities among them listening to the word of God. During our gift presentation to the adoption society of Zambia, we found a baby that was abandoned in the cemetery by its birth mother. (cont. pg 3)



*John, baby Gift and the coordinator
for Adoption Society of Zambia*



Adoption Society of Zambia Children



Gifts to the Adoption Society of Zambia from Haven of Hope students

“Christmas 2008” continued

The child was rescued by mourners who were burying their dead. Some of the children in this facility were orphaned during child birth. It was amazing to see our children present the gifts to the children in this transit home. We presented to the children pairs of bed sheets and pillow cases, milk, sweets and corn puffs. We also spend time singing and praying together with the children. There were 26 babies and children who benefited from this project.

We want to take this opportunity to thank God and you for your generosity during this festive season. This is a great partnership that is making a huge difference in the lives of the young ones.

The joy of Christmas was evident on the faces of the children, their guardian/parents as we eat, joked and laughed together as the Lord’s Children. After all was done, we gave the Haven of Hope students a pair of shoes each and you should have been here to see the smiles on their faces.

New shoes!*Haven of Hope Students*

“Then the King will say to those on his right, ‘Come, you who are blessed by my Father; take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since creation of the world. For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me... The King will reply, ‘I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me.’”
Matthew 25:34–40.

Update from John Banda

The 2008 came to an end with a world financial crisis hitting hard on the mines in our province. We saw a mine in Ndola lay off all its employees because of the low copper prices on the international market. This was followed by another mine in Luanshya closing its operation and laying off hundreds of employees. Since then we have experienced loss of employment in many sectors in our province. The Copperbelt province is the backbone of the Zambian economy and any shocks in this province have a spillover effect in our nation. Because of this, prices of essential commodities including rentals has gone up by 50% – 100% in the last month, making living really tough for 70% of our population.

In December 2008, I received a phone call from the landlord of our school building informing me that he has increased the house rentals from \$150 to \$225 effective March 2009. I protested to this increase because the house is not worth it, so we embarked on looking for another property.

On the 13th of January 2009, we lost a dear student named Douglas Muwaya from Cerebral Malaria. The boy complained to his uncle that he had a headache and his uncle gave the child pain killers. The headache continued for two days and then the child was rushed to the hospital where he was pronounced dead upon arrival. It was really sad to lose Douglas at a tender age and just the fact that we lost him because of Malaria which is preventable and curable.

Continued page 4

Update from John from page 3

The medical team comes to the school every 3 months to check the children and give treatment if sick or give them preventative treatment. The medical team last visited the school in January 2009 and conducted a medical check up to all students at the school. Preventative medicines were administered to the children. They were prevented from such sicknesses as Malaria and were treated against worms and other illnesses.

We have a new volunteer teacher named Dorcas Bwayla who will handle the grade fours. She has been attending our staff teachers' training and she is committed and a good learner. We also sent her for the five days child evangelism training. She is also working with the children training them to evangelize other children. We will be attending this year's international trade fair in July. The children will be using this opportunity to reach out to other children for Christ.

The Teachers' training program is being conducted every Mondays and Tuesdays. The training is changing the way we are teaching at Haven of Hope. This is the most powerful teachers' training that I have ever attended. I am a product of the Zambian education and I can see the great difference between the way we teach and the tutoring concepts in this program. Daniel is growing very fast and soon he will be going for kindergarten. Charity is undergoing treatment for fibroids. We as family are praying for God's healing hand and favor to be upon her.

Prayer Requests:

- ◆ We are asking you to pray for us as a family.
- ◆ Pray for the children that they grow in the things of God
- ◆ Pray for the teachers that they should learn to love the children as their own.
- ◆ Pray that government of Zambia gives us the land we have requested.



Douglas Muwaya
Died January 13, 2009

Book Fair

Last fall an idea was born in the heart of one of the sponsors. When approached to do an Usborn Book party by a neighbor, Kim Plummer wondered how that could benefit the children at Haven of Hope. That thought turned into a Bookfair that was held on November 22nd to benefit the Haven of Hope school. Through this event, \$315.00 in quality Usborn books were earned for the students at Haven of Hope. These books will be delivered to the children by the next team traveling to Zambia March 12, 2009. Many thanks go out to Kim who worked hard to make the Bookfair a success!

Hope for 60 more

Haven of Hope #2 is to launch May 1st. The second primary school, Haven of Hope #2 is scheduled to begin classes on May 1st in Luanshya, Zambia, approximately 30 minutes from Ndola. The start up costs for the new school is \$7000.00 as outlined below:

School start-up costs:

20 desks	\$37.50/ea	\$750.00
3 Chairs/tables	\$37.50/ea	\$112.50
1 office Desk and chair		\$250.00
1 Refrigerator		\$500.00
1 Stove		\$500.00
2 Nshima pots	\$32.50/ea	\$65.00
70 Plates	\$.38/ea	\$26.25
70 Cups	\$.25/ea	\$17.50
70 Spoons	\$.13/ea	\$8.75
5 Cooking sticks	\$7.50/ea	\$37.50
1 TV/DVD player		\$250.00
Filing cabinet/tray, blackboard		\$400.00
Teacher's manuals		\$950.00

*not a complete list

We currently have \$4300.00 committed toward this goal! We are still in need of \$2700.00 to fulfill our commitment to Haven of Hope #2.

Future Happenings

We hope to have profiles for the Haven of Hope #2 school on April 1st. If you are interested in sponsoring a child or would like more information about the sponsorship program, please contact Marci Bidelspach at marci.bidelspach@scccweb.com or (814) 238-5913.

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Our Zambia Missions team has outlined a 5 year plan in anticipation of the work God is doing in Zambia. You can review the plan on our website at www.scccweb.com.

The current Haven of Hope school is planning to execute a football tournament for both girls and boys in the community. The tournament will take place in June 2009. We expect approximately 20 teams to participate in this tournament.

If you would like to give a one-time gift to benefit the Haven of Hope School, the following are our financial priorities for 2009:

1. \$2700.00 needed to launch the second Haven of Hope primary school.
2. \$2677.00 for textbooks. Our current students are without textbooks. We still need to purchase 20 textbooks per grade, grades 1-7.
3. \$10,500.00 for John Banda's Salary. Our hope as we continue to develop relationships with other churches is that they will partner with us in securing John's salary. Any additional funds we collect this year will be used to offset the current \$10,500.00 shortfall in John's salary.

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