

Transforming lives in Ndola, Zambia by strengthening the church, educating the next generation, and serving the community in the name of Jesus Christ.

Ndola, Zambia

With Thanksgiving

Vince Smith

Chairman, Haven of Hope Ministries

As we quickly approach Thanksgiving this verse in Philippians 1:3, *"I thank my God every time I remember you,"* rings true every time I think about those who make up the Haven of Hope family. In 2010 the family grew as there are 20 more children now being sponsored.

As the Christmas gifts have poured into the office the last few weeks, I smile every time a package arrives. Its apparent sponsors have put much thought and love into the gifts that will truly give HOPE to each child.

As I look back at 2010 I'm also reminded that this is the first year our director, John Banda, has been able to receive a full salary for his sacrificial work. Again, I'm thankful for every one of you who has helped make that possible. While the salary is not lucrative it takes care of the Banda's financial needs and allows them to give more attention to the children at HOH.

Friends, thank you for giving. Thank you for loving. Thank you for providing HOPE. Jesus says it this way in Matthew 25:40 *"I tell you the truth, when you did it to one of the least of these... you were doing it to me!"* (NLT).

In two weeks there will be a small team of us delivering the gifts. As always, I wish you could be with us for this incredible experience. Maybe you can decide now to join us next December!

While we are excited about delivering the gifts it's not the only purpose of the trip. In January of 2012 HOH should have 6 children who will be ready for middle school. We will start working on a plan for a HOH campus that will one day house the elementary, middle school, and possibly the future high school. This is a big endeavor for HOH. Please be praying with us as we begin the next steps in this journey.

As we look ahead at 2011 will you consider joining us on a trip to meet your sponsored child? Tentative trip dates are the second week in May 2011 and December 2011.

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While we received enough to provide John with a full salary in 2010, we are still short of reaching that goal in 2011 by approximately \$4,000. Would you consider a one-time gift towards John's salary? Or better yet, adding any amount to your monthly sponsorship helps ensure a steady income for the Banda's.

Thank you for all you do.



Vince with his wife, Beth and John, Charity and Daniel Banda

Worth Noting:

- ❖ Coming in 2011! The SCCC Youth Group will be hosting a benefit concert with proceeds going to Haven of Hope!! More details to come!

From John Banda

*John Banda, Director
Haven of Hope Schools*

The weather here in the Copperbelt is extremely hot. With temperatures above 35 degrees Celsius (that's 90+ degrees Fahrenheit), we are mostly exhausted before the day ends. Sometimes when you take a lunch hour nap, you end up over doing it. The rains that normally come in the mid of October to rescue us from the heat are also late. This means only one thing – extremely hot until the rains come.

Christmas is just around the corner and some families are making plans to celebrate with a roasted chicken on their table and a lot of other foods and drinks. I know in the USA it is roasted turkey. But the orphaned children who have lost both or one parent will not have anything to celebrate with. Christmas will just be like any other day to these children. How I wish every child could have the same opportunity of fun. I remember vividly during Easter when my family and I visited the USA and Daniel had a treat for his life. I want every child to have fun during Christmas and look for the Easter bunny during Easter. I know from my heart of hearts that in the new earth there will be so much fun for everyone.

Haven of Hope recently completed the roofing of Steven's house. This has cheered the members of this household. They are now rain protected. I am sure they cannot wait for the rains to come and tell the rains – "you can't get us."

Haven of Hope School will be sending teens to a boot camp this December. The boot camp is organized by Teen Mission Zambia, a Christian organization. The children that attend these camps will become equipped with survival skills and missionary knowledge. Through hard work they will become self-disciplined teens. We bought the children that will be attending boot camp new bed sheets. We are asking all our friends, sponsors and supporters to pray for these children.

All the children at Haven of Hope School in both locations received clothes for their Christmas. We hope they will be able to wear these clothes on Christmas Day as they go for the special church service.

Ecclesiastes 4: 12 say "Though one may be overpowered by another, two can withstand him. And a threefold cord is not quickly broken." This what this relationship is to us – a threefold cord. We us (haven of hope staff and student, you (friends, sponsors, supporters) and God (the Father, Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit) we can never be broken.

Pray for us as we plan for next year and that we will definitely accomplish our goals that we have set for ourselves. We are also praying for you. God bless you all!



Steven's new roof



Students with their new clothes



A Future in Reading

David L. Lee, Penn State University
Education Team Leader

Approximately 30% of Zambians cannot read. This number is probably much higher in the compounds where our children live. To give you a point of reference, the literacy rate in the United States (depending on definition) is around 99%.

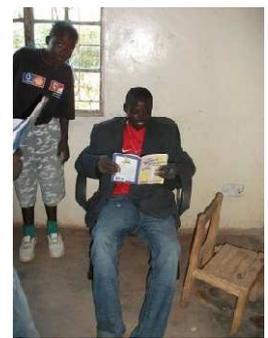
As you can probably imagine, reading is a gateway skill. In other words, reading can open doors for many other subject areas including social studies, science, and math. Without reading, there is no higher education, no good paying job. Without reading the cycle of poverty continues.

Given its importance, reading will be the focus of the next phase of teacher training at the Haven of Hope Schools. Over the past two years, the teachers at Haven of Hope have received training in general instructional and classroom management strategies. This training has set the foundation for more specific training in the area of reading.

We are also in the process of collecting reading data from each child at Haven of Hope. This data will allow teachers to place students in appropriate reading levels and also track progress. Our plan is to make this data available to sponsors on an annual basis.

What can you do to help?

- Write letters to your child at their grade level. It would be wonderful if your child could independently read their letter whenever they want without the assistance of a translator.
- Be sure to encourage your child to read in the letters you write to them. Stress that reading is important.
- After we determine the reading level of your child, consider purchasing a small book at that level as a Christmas gift.
- Pray for your child.
- Consider volunteering with the Education Team.



Aston, Isaac & Boniface reading books
in English



From One of the Sponsors...

Michael Regan is one of the youth group members at SCCC. The youth group sponsors Robison Tembo at Haven of Hope I.

I had many experiences in Zambia that I would say changed my views about home, about school, about priorities and government and food. I had many moments when I could reflect on where I lived, and what I could do differently when I returned home. The lesson I had trouble learning while in Zambia was what we could do right there, in Ndoli. Things seemed hopeless in the long-term view.

I still enjoyed working with the kids. I handed out food and clothing. I spent time with them. My favorite thing to do was to read to the kids. One day, at the second Haven of Hope School, a book I was reading finally taught me what we could do.

We had just finished passing out shoes, and a few members of the team had sat down to read to the kids. The book I chose was, "Oh, the Places You'll Go!" by Dr. Seuss, because I had fond memories of reading it when I was younger. After reading a few pages, however, I stopped and noticed something.

In the book was the line, "You have brains in your head. / You have feet in your shoes. / You can steer yourself / any direction you choose." That line hit me hard while I sat there, because I realized that that was exactly what we were doing for those kids.

(continued next page)

Sponsors... (continued from p. 3)

We were reading to them and teaching them, and we had just given all of them shoes for their feet. The line from the story had come true!

Later that day, we visited the college that we plan to send the kids to. That was a direct physical example of what the kids could achieve, with just their brains and their feet.



Michael reading to the children

Recognizing our Partners

With humble beginnings State College Christian Church established the Haven of Hope Schools in Ndola, Zambia, but it would not have grown to what it is today without the blessing of God's hand on the hearts of other churches whose passion for the care of orphans and widows was stirred by our story. Through the obedience of believers who are following the path to pure religion as stated in James 1:27, Haven of Hope has grown from 15 children in 2007 to 110 children at 2 schools in 2010. Many thanks and blessings go out to the following for their continued partnership as we move toward where God would have this ministry go in 2011 and beyond.

St. John's Reformed Church, Hollidaysburg, PA, whose pastor, David Haydu, after meeting our Chairman, Vince Smith at a preaching conference in 2008, agreed to travel on the next team to Zambia. Their church, children's VBS, pastor, and individual members, sponsor 7 children at Haven of Hope.

Shepherd's Grace Chapel, Dubois, PA, who started out sponsoring Victor Chengo at Haven of Hope. They were so excited that they decorated their church with "It's a Boy!" decorations to celebrate the change they knew would happen in his life. This small congregation stepped forward in faith after hearing a presentation about Haven of Hope and now sponsors 3 children at Haven of Hope.

Philipsburg First Church of Christ, Philipsburg, PA. After learning about Haven of Hope at the Eastern Christian Convention in 2009, their pastor, Tim Richmond took the message back to his congregation. The result was 2 members travelling to Zambia with the next travel team. Their church and individual members now sponsor 5 children at Haven of Hope.

Zion Community Church, Zion, PA. Pastor, Rob Tevis' family and another church family began sponsoring a child at Haven of Hope. In July of 2010, they chose Haven of Hope as their mission focus during their Vacation Bible School. The children that week raised \$900 for Haven of Hope, surpassing their goal and forcing Rob to kiss a live pig!! In addition to the money raised, a family attending VBS that week chose to sponsor a child.

Nittany Christian School, State College, PA. In 2009 NCS grades K through 8 collected Christmas gifts for the children at Haven of Hope. They have continued to support the mission of Haven of Hope and have collected Christmas gifts again for 2010. Their generosity is evident in the more than 38 gallon-sized ziplock bags that the students filled for the children at Haven of Hope this year. They have also chosen Haven of Hope to receive the tithe from their "Boxtops for Education" funds.

Calvary Evangelical Free Church, Indiana, PA. Last year, one of Calvary's members who already sponsor 2 children at Haven of Hope, requested profiles to highlight in their weekly bulletin. As a result, 6 children were sponsored.



Nittany Christian School's 2nd grade class with their Christmas gifts for Haven of Hope students

Financial Needs

Here is a list of the financial needs that Haven of Hope is currently facing:

1. We are looking for donations to host a Christmas party at both Haven of Hope I and Haven of Hope II for the students and their caregivers during the December trip. The cost of these parties will be about \$700.
2. We are also in need of funds to pay for excess baggage for the December trip. The way we currently get the Christmas gifts to the children at Haven of Hope is in the trip luggage. With only 4 team members travelling on this trip, that gives us only 4 free suitcases for gifts. We will likely have 5 or 6 suitcases of just gifts that we will have to pay an excess baggage fee for. Your contribution to this immediate need would be greatly appreciated!
3. The Haven of Hope website is being redesigned to make it more user-friendly, as well as allow us to process sponsorships on the web! The work should be done soon, but we are still in need of \$250 to accomplish our goal.
4. We are also looking for generous people interested in making a financial commitment toward John Banda's Salary. Sponsoring John and his family with a monthly amount would allow him to focus completely on the Haven of Hope ministry.

If you are willing to donate toward the Christmas gatherings at the schools, the baggage fees, the website or John's salary, please send your check to Haven of Hope Ministries, 1107 William Street, State College, PA 16801 with an appropriate description in the memo. You can also donate **online** through the Haven of Hope website at www.havenofhopezambia.org and click "Donate." Feel free to contact us at (814) 238-5913 or marci.bidelspach@scccweb.com if you have questions about our financial needs.

Zambia Trip -- December 2010

Please continue to pray for the team that will be delivering the Christmas gifts to the students. They will be leaving the US on December 6th and returning December 17. Please pray for safety in travel, their health and that they would be open to the leading of the Spirit in what needs to be accomplished.

Haven of Hope Ministries

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