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tlc Updates

We bring greetings from Children of Zion Village in Namibia Africa! We are sorry for the delay in our newsletter and pray this finds you well and finding your joy in our Lord!

The worst part of being a missionary in a place so far from family is the coming and the going; the "hellos" and "goodbyes". Everyone is so good to us when we come stateside and we are so thankful. We sleep in nice homes, we use others cars, we eat others food, we get loved on and it has more meaning that you will ever know! **We thank God for all of you who take us in and care for us.**

We have been in Namibia for almost four years, so we say this is now our home. But we are still the foreigners. We do not have a home anyplace else on this earth but we are still US citizens. It is confusing when people ask where we are from. But it is even more confusing when they ask where is home. If home is where the heart is, then we are divided in half with our hearts needing to be on two sides of the "BIG puddle". **It was so great to come back to the children and the staff and community but it was so hard to leave our family and friends stateside. I guess that part of hard will never change. But, we look forward to the "home" that is not on this earth.** We look forward to leaving our earthly belongings to join our heavenly Father in our heavenly home. Then there will be no sadness and no sorrow and there will be no more question about where is home.

After our quick stateside trip to The Global Gathering for The Mission Society missionaries and our home church Global Impact Celebration and doctors and dentists, snow and ice, we returned to heat and rain in Katima Mulilo. We resumed what we call routine even though it is hard to find routine in the day to day changes and the meaning of flexible and patience becomes even better known. We returned to only one working car and termites building skyscrapers in our house. But we also returned to many hugs and stories, Sunday church with the children, walks through the bush, 7am Monday morning school assemblies, much love and countless blessings.

The rains have finally stopped but the river was rising and the bridge was getting wet. When the bridge "goes" we become an island so when the water is high enough under the bridge to make the sand wet, we start to become concerned. Sand bags were placed along the edge of the bridge and the middle was filled with more dirt to try to keep it from "going under." Even taking a walk with the children became a challenge because everywhere we turned there was water. They seem to like going through the water, but not so much for us. The boat was also in the shop for some repairs – just in case. Even the hippos have been close by for a visit.



The school has increased in size and is at capacity. When we first arrived here only the children that live here were able to attend the school. Now we have opened up the school to the public. Last year we had about 60 coming from outside of Zion. This year we have about 90 coming from outside of Zion! We are so excited about how God is working through this Mission School. It is so exciting to be able to reach so many children for Christ through a Christian Education. They learn how to pray, learn scripture and are also working on all of the character traits of Christ. Along with studies, the children work on sports – soccer, basketball, net ball and track and field. They are awesome athletes!



tlc Updates continued

This year for the first time, the President called a **National day of Prayer! The focus was on battered women and children.** So, we at Zion joined together. We brought all of the children from the school and all the staff into the big dining hall to pray. Two of the managers put together a nice organized program with prayer topics. Even the children joined in and prayed very nicely. I was really amazed at the children and how focused they were and how beautifully they prayed. It was a day of Blessing!



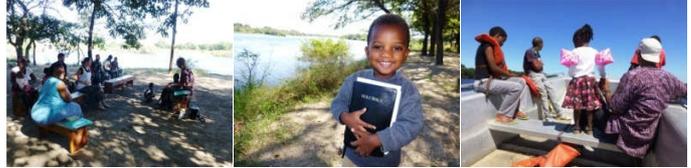
There is a public pool nearby that we never knew about. So, we decided to check it out. One Saturday we loaded 15 children (not the older ones that were away for school and not the youngest 4) in ONE car, since the other 2 cars were in the shop, and went off to the pool. The children do not have swimming suits (yet) so they wore shorts. The pool was big and there was also a small shallow pool for the younger ones. We had a blast. **Swimming, jumping, playing with the blow up balls, and laughing. Seems like it might be an activity to do more frequently.**



The middle of April marks the end of the first term for Zion Mission School. Then the children and teachers have a one month holiday. This is when our children have the opportunity to go and visit family/relatives in the village where they live. I have to say, it is difficult to drop children when you are not really sure about where they are going. But, we hope and pray that one day they will be reunited with their family and therefore it is best that they know them or it will be harder for them later in life. Some live very close and some live 4-5 hours away. So, the transport for all of them turns into 2 days on the road. Those of us that are left know that we must pray for each of them every day. Pray for safety, good health and that they make good and right choices. We trust they are in God's hands.



Easter was rather quiet since most of the children (except for 8) are out. **We had a nice Easter Service outside by the river.** We can never be thankful enough for the sacrifice and pain that Christ suffered for our sins. Now, because of His unconditional love we can look forward to life eternal. After the service, we went for a boat ride around the island. This time we did not see any hippos but the weather was beautiful and we were thankful that our boat is working again.



From the baby girls to the small girls to the big girls...



From the toddler boys to the small boys to the big boys...



And, from the two older people



WE are ALL THANKFUL to GOD for YOU!!!!

May our Lord Jesus Christ Himself and God our Father, who loved us and by His grace gave us eternal encouragement and good hope, encourage your hearts and strengthen you in every good deed and word. 2 Thessalonians 2: 16-17

tlc Updates continued

Thank you for your prayers, financial support and encouragement! We are here because of God's call and you are our precious partners with God leading the way!

Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ who has blessed us in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing in Christ. Ephesians 1:2, 3

If you would like to donate to us on behalf of God's mission in Namibia, please use one of the following links:

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Thank you and God Bless you!
Because of HIM Travis and Lorna Curry (TLC)

