

tlc in HIS service

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Visit us at www.tlcinhiservice.org or contact us at tlcinhiservice@yahoo.com



tlc Updates

Volunteers: We are forever grateful for the volunteers that God sends us. June was very busy with volunteers and we experienced our biggest number so far. There were 10 in total. **We feel it most appropriate to honor our volunteers in this newsletter and thank God for His generosity and the way he has touched hearts for this ministry at Children of Zion Village.**

Lena: Lena (sometimes known as Whistle the Clown) served at Zion for 6 months!! She taught kindergarten each morning. She spent time with the staff and helped with the kitchen and babies. She ran errands for the directors, worked in the med room, taught a first aid class, shared the love of Christ and much, much more!! We all miss you Auntie Lena! Please pray for Lena and Johannes as they are getting married on August 13th in Germany. They plan to continue in missions and serve long term on the mission field where God calls them.



Sarah and Abby: As a result of a connection with the Navigators we made in Colorado Springs during our missionary training we had the pleasure of meeting Sarah and Abby. They initially contacted us several months before their planned visit. When they finally arrived it was like being reunited with old friends. The girls were staying at the Cheshire Home, a home for disabled children. Sarah was doing research for university and Abby was volunteering at Cheshire Home. During their time here they attended worship service with us, they helped with the Race around the World, conducted an abstinence class with our teens, participated in our talent show, and Abby assisted with our kindergarten class. They have blessed us and we pray that God will send them back across our path again someday.



Jimmy Riggs: Jimmy served at Zion a couple of years ago and God placed it on his heart to return. He was here a short month. Jimmy LOVED to shovel manure!! WOW! What a blessing! He also worked hard at clearing the land around the Epiphany house and knocking down the "old" traditional mud house. He connected to the children and he was a barrel of laughs for all of us! He gets the "housekeeping" award at the boys "cabin". We also hope that he will be back soon!



Epiphany Team: An energetic team of youth and 2 pastors from Epiphany United Methodist arrived to assist a variety of labor intensive work days and fun filled evenings. They were a huge blessing as they helped dig, clear the ground, paint the Epiphany house, haul manure for the garden, play games with children, lead worship and the dedication service for the Epiphany Transition house AND participate in the talent show! Lisa also helped with teaching school.



Kimberly: All the volunteers above are now back in the states but we are blessed to have Kim serve here for another month! She has taken over Lena's role of kindergarten teacher so she is blessing little ones each morning in class. She is also helping with the meds for the children. She is obviously full of God's love and is a blessing to all of us.

Kim, Lena and Jimmy

Kindergarten/1st grade with Kim and Lena



Another team of 8 is on the way from 1st UMC Skhuykill Haven. Please pray for their travel and look for them in the July Newsletter.

tlc Updates continued

The International Day of the African Child has been celebrated on **June 16** every year since 1991, when it was first initiated by the Organization of African Unity. It honors those who participated in the Soweto Uprising in 1976 on that day. In Soweto, South Africa, on June 16, 1976, about ten thousand black school children marched in a column more than half a mile long, protesting the poor quality of their education and demanding their right to be taught in their own language. Hundreds of young students were shot. More than a hundred people were killed in the protests the following two weeks, and more than a thousand were injured.

The day also draws attention to the need to improve the condition and wellbeing of children across the African continent. Being born into poverty, which is the reality for millions of African children, reduces chances of survival, good health and finishing their education. They are also at risk from neglect, abuse, exploitation and violence. The Day of the African Child seeks to draw the attention of all involved in improving the condition of children on the continent and to unite their efforts to combat the ills that plague the daily lives of children. It is also an occasion for Governments, International Institutions and Communities to deal with this delicate condition of the children by organizing activities to promote the rights of the child.

Race Around the World: On **Saturday 18 June** we transported **all** of our children and staff to the Katima Sports Complex to start the initial leg of the Race Around the World. Special thanks to 2M Civils for providing a truck and driver to transport our participants. Without their assistance we would have made multiple trips in our vehicles to get all the children and staff to the Sports Complex. After an opening prayer and organizing our lap counters the race started at 9:40 am. The children ran, walked, and were carried around the track for the next hour. On each lap they reported to the lap counters and collected a piece of candy. At the end of the race 861 total laps had been completed. Upon arriving back home everyone enjoyed a wonderful meal prepared by the handful of folks that stayed behind. As our day was ending the race was starting in Maryland, then Ohio, then Texas. **Thanks to everyone around the world that participated.**



Talent Show: On **Saturday 25 June** we hosted our second talent show. In addition to our children, we were joined by **Whistle the Clown, Sarah and Abby**, 15 children from Cheshire Home, Kim and Jimmy (volunteers), the Epiphany Team and even some of our staff members. The directors (yes, **Travis and Lorna**) started the final performance of the day by dancing to Jeremy Camp's "Give Me Jesus". We invited all of our family to join so it was an awesome site! All participants received prizes and enjoyed an extra treat of Toppers cookies donated by the Cheshire Home.



Urban renewal

Traditional house: The traditional house on the property was damaged during a flood. After a look at the path of the flood waters it was decided to move the traditional house to a slightly different location and raise the level of the ground on which the house sits. So, first the walls must come down. The bush poles for the frame go up. Then the tin/zinc roof goes on and the small poles get tied between the big ones. This is where the mud gets filled in. Lorna is excitedly awaiting the mud stage – that is traditionally the women's job to apply the mud. (Look for Lorna & mud in July!)

"old" traditional house



Knocking down the walls



New traditional house frame and roof



Epiphany Transition house: The team from Epiphany UMC helped to paint the exterior, clear the ground and dig a soak away for the Epiphany Transition House. On Sunday after the church service, the dedication service was awesome and the house parents and first ten students were announced. This is where the older children will live and learn necessary traditional ways of life including budgeting, shopping, cooking, cleaning, gardening and many others. They will continue to be disciplined by the house parents and us. The plans are underway to get the items necessary for the new occupants to move in as quickly as possible. There is still much to do but we are moving ahead as effectively as possible. We pray this will allow us to have more kids come to the children's home that are in need of care.

New house parents Agnes and Leonard



Praying for the house parents



House parents, Jennie and first group of children



tlc Updates continued

It is winter here and it seems that families like to camp during the winter. The campground next door has been full for several weeks. One of the families visiting was from a **church in South Africa**. The camping trip is an annual family tradition. In addition to the camping they do community service work for nearby villages. This year they were painting and doing VBS in several locations. It seems they had been to the Children of Zion Village in previous years. This year they brought us their extra paint (a washable interior paint) and painting supplies. They also provided some medicines, clothes, VBS crafts, and a children's Bible. On Friday night they performed a puppet show and sang. Our children also performed several songs for our guests. On Sunday morning they joined us for worship service before heading on their journey home. **God keeps putting wonderful people in our path that are certainly blessing us and the Children's Home!**



Wildlife on the island: Groups of monkeys have been spotted playing and feeding on the island right across the river from our house during various parts of the day. We have also caught a glimpse of river otters playing in the river. The variety of birds continues to increase almost daily. Their size, colors and songs are wonderful to enjoy.

Puppies: Yes, there is another litter of puppies at Zion. Congratulations Lydia. I think this should be your last. The doctor/vet thinks Lydia may have a cancerous tumor ☹ Well, the puppies are certainly cute but they are loud at night and we have had complaints from our camper neighbors. We try to feed them late and hope they will rest peacefully but it is not always the case. A couple more weeks and they will be going to new homes.



Prayers and Praises!

A BIG THANK YOU to those of you that have made a monthly pledge or provided a one-time donation through The Mission Society to our ministry #538.

Prayers: For our strength, patience, health, safety, wisdom and that God would shine through us as we become smaller and HE becomes BIGGER!!!

Pray for our Work Permit approval and that we can stay safely in the country where God has called us to serve.

Pray for our children – health, safety, wisdom and for their education.

Pray for our staff – that they might be more like Christ in their actions and words and be an example for the children.

Pray for the government, community and villages around us.

Praise: For our families, friends, prayer team, financial supporters, The Mission Society, our home Church and New Life SS class!

Praise for God's grace and blessings and love that pours out on us each and every day!!!

Praise God for the volunteers and people that HE puts in our path that will minister to us and the children.

Praise God for our safety, our health and for our clear calling to serve HIM in Namibia!

