

August Report 2011

Through Him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or even imagine, the one who sits on the rainbow-encircled throne, I greet you all brothers and sisters. God has been good to us and we are grateful that He has given us the privilege and opportunity to work alongside Him in His vineyard.

Serenje Land



Church in middle of nowhere

Faced with the ever mushrooming number of small churches in central Zambia, we have thought it wise to “take the school to where the people are”. As such I spent the big portion of the first two weeks of August in Serenje (Central Province) trying to acquire a piece of land on behalf of Mapepe Bible College from the local government in the area. Fortunately, our persistent request was honored and we have been approved to hold land in Serenje.

Our intention is to have some buildings in Serenje where we can be having occasional preacher/leadership training sessions so that the church members in Central Province can have easy access to Mapepe material. We also intend to use the same piece of land as a demonstration farm where farmers in the area can be taught better farming skills thereby building rapport among residents and contributing to the national food-basket.

Moreover, most of the medical missions that Mapepe has spearheaded have been in the Kapiri-Mposhi/Serenje/Mkushi area. Therefore, the new Mapepe property could also be used as both a clinic and medical staff residence during medical missions. A lot of money that has been getting spent on accommodation could be spared for other uses.

We do have several Mapepe graduates who live and work in Central Zambia. These graduates have been busy in the Kingdom as can be attested to by



...along Kapiri-Serenje highway

the rapid growth of village churches in Kapiri-Mposhi, Mkushi and Serenje. When the Mapepe Resource Centre is established in Serenje we can also use it to strengthen our bond with our graduates in that part of Zambia.

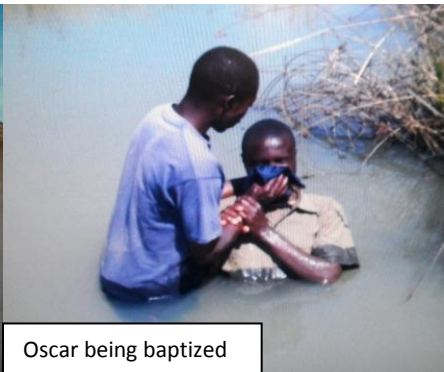
Siakalele Outreach

Responding a request from the church in Siakalele area of Southern Province, we went to attend or rather participate in a gospel conference which included evening Bible studies and daily evangelism from August 18 to 22, 2011.

After spending four tireless days of evangelism and counseling, eighteen (18) brethren were restored to the Lord and six (6) were baptized. Most people (especially women) confessed of being actively involved in witchcraft. They believed that you cannot survive in the adult world without the help of charms and other unholy concoctions. After much exhortation from the word of God, their faith in God was revamped and their trust in Christ enhanced.



Where saints meet



Oscar being baptized



Memory immersed

Those that gave themselves to God through baptism are Olivia Miyanda, Onista Sikwaaza, Oscar Sikwaaza, Memory Munachimwali, Clement Chilikwazi, and Violet Muleya.

Thirteen churches were represented at the Siamabele church conference. These are small



Fred at work

congregations (as is the characteristic of most village churches in Zambia). It was gratifying to a good number of children participate in the conference. The kids had an insatiable appetite for learning the Word of God and Fred Mufuzi was equal to the task as he lovingly spent many hours

daily with them.

Graduation Ceremony



It's all smiles for Liberty

What a colorful graduation ceremony we had when 60 graduates walked down the aisle on September 2, 2011! Indeed we had 41 graduates in the Spiritual Formation program, 14 in the Bible & Ministry program, and 5 in the Missions program. The first two programs are certificate programs while the last one (Missions) is a diploma program. So the

five graduates got their diplomas from Sunset and Mapepe in Missions after spending three years with us at Mapepe.

This year's graduation was graced with the presence of the Dean for International Schools Dr. Timothy Burow and his immediate predecessor Dr. Chris Swinford both of Sunset International Bible Institute. We were also blessed with the presence of Jeff and Michael Rader. Jeff was born in Zambia and left Zambia when he was three. His elder brother (Doctor from Oklahoma) nonetheless, is more Zambian than Jeff in that he knows more about Zambian and Zambian culture than the "Zambian" Jeff.



Dr. Burow thanks Sydney

Several churches from within Lusaka and Kafue attended the graduation ceremony as did relatives and friends of the graduates. As usual after the graduation we had a banquet in honor of our graduating students. In spite of the graduation, the five missionary students (Missions program) will continue doing their practical ministry with us until November. Equally, 24 from the Bible and Ministry program will also be doing additional class work and fieldwork until early November.

Michelo Married

After 8 long years of courtship, Michelo finally tied the knot with Mutinta Hakonze (formerly Mutinta Kafupi) on September 3. Michelo is one of the first nine students we

had at the school in Kabwe. Before then, he was a member of the youth group that we had started working with a few months before we left for the United States in 2002. I remember him being baptized three weeks before our departure for Texas.

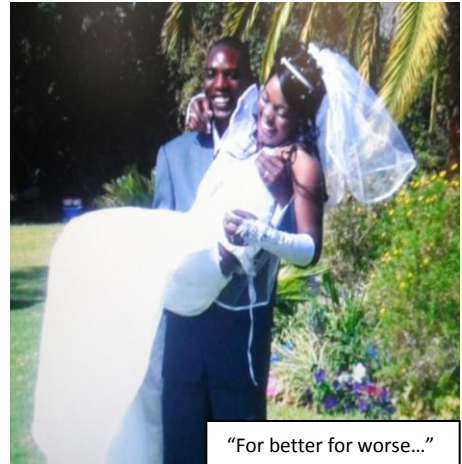


Michelo and Mutinta rejoicing

Mutinta was equally a member of the same youth group and it's through this group that they first met. When they broke the news to me that they had intentions of getting married some time in the future, I urged them to wait for the right time. Little did I know that "the right time" would come 8 years later!

The wedding was divided into two segments: the church and the reception segments. At church

Michelo and Mutinta exchanged vows and rings in the presence of about 100 witnesses. At the reception, there was a whole lot of entertainment and the occasion was graced with the presence of a local radio presenter who served as the Master of Ceremonies. I gladly and gratefully served as middleman, counselor (premarital counseling), and marriage commissioner. As middleman it had, since June 2009, been my responsibility to talk with the Kafupi family on behalf Michelo's family. I negotiated the bridal price and many other things. In Zambian cultures, the bridegroom to-be cannot directly converse with his in-laws except through a middleman.



"For better for worse..."

The many movements and heavy involvement in daily school activities took a toll on my health so much that by the time I was pronouncing Michelo and Mutinta as husband and wife I was totally powerless. I have been down with a terrible flu which I believe was due to lack of rest. I have since recuperated but still regaining my strength.

In all this we give thanks and glory to our God who leads us through a triumphant procession.

May God bless you all.

Your partners,

Kennedy & Cynthia Mukuka