



The Morrows in Zambia

March 2006

Special points of interest:

- Our health
- Weddings
- Economics
 - Staff
- Chief Training
 - Kids

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SECURITY FOR THE SCHOOL

The issue of security is one that is not very far from our daily conversation. The other night we got a call at 2 a.m. from the principal of the school, in Lusaka, informing us that the school was under attack by thieves who were trying to get what they could from the class rooms. Living such a far distance from the school, the only thing we could do was pray for protection and that the thieves would go away. The principal phoned three times as he was hiding with his family, listening to the windows and doors being destroyed.

The local police were phoned but since the Police don't have any transportation, traveling by foot takes time. After a few hours on my knees, I finally got the reassuring phone call that the police arrived, but the thieves got away. This is the third time that the school has

been attacked by the thieves. Even though there was a security man on duty, he couldn't do anything to a couple of guys wielding AK-47 rifles.

The first time they broke the door down and stole some items from the main school room. We then built a burglar bar door which seemed to keep them away for some time.

The second incident happened when the school set up a simple business center, with an old computer and photo copy machine, to help supplement the teachers' salaries. All was going well, until six guys with guns cut the burglar bar door off and took off with the computer. Thank God the photocopy machine was too big and heavy.

With all these things happening I purchased a panic button alarm system and installed it in a strategic place. The community also



agreed to respond when they hear the alarm. Please pray for protection and the well being of the school.

Our Kids in Zambia

We thought you might like to know a little about the kids and what they are up to these days.

Most days they spend in their home school studies. They are in grades 3-10 so it is quite a range. We have a comfortable school room for them with desks and bookshelves but many days they will settle themselves at the dining table or recline on a sofa while reading from their

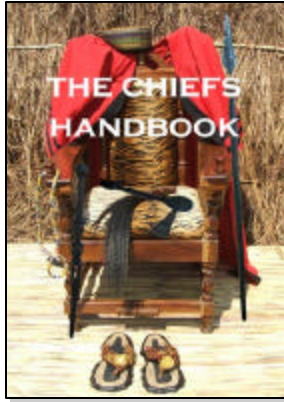
history or science books.

There are a few families here that have children with similar ages so 2 or 3 days a week the kids get together for playtime.

There is also a youth group on Friday evenings for our oldest three kids. They enjoy a chance for rough play with their peers and Bible studies that touch on relevant topics.

Current free-time activities the kids enjoy: computer games, board games (Risk is a favorite right now), watching football (soccer) games on TV, and crafts like cross stitch and knitting.

Jennifer is learning guitar, Jessica—keyboard and Jasmine—recorder.



After three months of research, the finished product for the Chief training program finally has been produced!

Chiefs for Christ

As you know, the best way to reach a tribe is through its leaders. There are thousands of traditional Chiefs here in Zambia who are still ruling their tribe in the old way. This is mainly done by fear, intimidation and (voodoo) witchcraft.

We have devised a Christian leadership curriculum specifically designed for the Chiefs. It teaches topics such as motivation, leadership skills, delegating, communication and cooperation.

Since Zambia is moving into a

more modern age in the areas of commercialism and international cooperation, the leaders need to change with the times while still retaining their rich African culture.

One of our ministries is to help these Chiefs learn better standards and techniques in regards to how they administer their Chiefdoms. It is a large task as they have been using the older method for thousands of years.

We have set up our place so that the Chiefs can spend one

week having two, 2-hour classes a day. In the evening, we show a movie on the life of Jesus and finally the Passion of Christ. In the morning before the first class we have an hour of devotions during which we cover the leadership aspects of Peter and the disciples.

Before coming the Chiefs are required to fill out an application form and once accepted, they must bring a chicken for payment! We expect we will receive many live chickens. HA!

The Appreciation of the Kwacha

In December, 2005, the local currency (the Kwacha) appreciated drastically. From what we read in the papers it seems that it has something with Zambia reaching the HPIC completion point which means that they satisfied the IMF that certain developments had taken place in their country and so their debts to the international community were erased. This means that all

the money that was paying the interest on their loans now can stay in the country.

We are affected because we receive our income through donations from you and then when we convert it to Kwacha we now receive 30% less than we used to.

Often in situations like this prices will also drop to reflect the benefit the economy is receiving but this has not hap-

pened here. In fact, many prices have actually increased. There is now tax on milk and meat so those items have increased by over 17%.

Since we came to Zambia in 2002 the prices have gone up an average of 37% and yet our income is worth 48% less. A dollar was worth 4800 Kwacha in 2002 and now is worth 3300 Kwacha.

Our main concern is for the

ministries that we want to carry on doing in this country. Since we were already living frugally the ministries are really the things that suffer because there is less to go around.

We believe that the Lord is fully in control of this situation but we are asking for your prayers at this time that the Lord will supply all of our needs and also work things out for the best for Zambia.



Baby Orphanage Update!

We want to thank all of you for the interest you have taken in seeing that the orphans of Zambia receive the care that they need to become upstanding citizens that have been trained in the ways of the Lord.

Due to the appreciation of the Kwacha, it will take us a little longer than we thought to raise the needed funds to be able to build our first structures so that we can begin taking in babies.

Because we still believe that this ministry is of the Lord we prayed about it and the Lord showed us to work with an existing orphanage to help set things up better and train the staff that are currently working there.

We are now working every afternoon at the Childcare and Adoption Society. There are many things that need to be settled and many projects that we will be working on. As

funding becomes available we will be able to do more. At the moment we will mostly be investing of ourselves and our time.

If you are interested in helping please indicate if you would like your donation to help this orphanage or to go toward the building of a new orphanage.

We will have regular updates on our progress in future newsletter. We will also introduce you to the babies.

Senior Chief Musele

To start off the year with a bang, we decided to concentrate on the Chief Training side of our ministry.

You may remember from our newsletters that this is the Chief that Tom met in March of last year. Tom was struck then by how it seemed that Chief Musele wanted to do his best to serve God. When this chief was 'sworn in', only a couple years ago, he asked that no traditional witchcraft be used. Chief Musele lives in one of the poorer provinces of

Zambia and struggles daily to assist the people in his area. We invited him back then to come for training and he was interested and looked forward to it.

Chief Musele arrived on the 3rd of January ready and willing to learn all that we had for him.

We took the chief through the training which we outlined on page two of this newsletter. Three afternoons were also spent on health awareness classes.

By the end of the eight days, the Chief was so happy that he recommended this training to all the Chiefs in Zambia.

We will be taking a trip, God willing, in April, to Chief Musele's kingdom to teach a three-day seminar on leadership and health matters to his headmen and other leaders in his community. Please pray for the Lord's leading and provision for this project. You can see photos of Chief Musele and the training session at: www.missionaryfamily.com



A satisfied Chief at the end of the course

Malaria Takes a Toll

Since the beginning of the year we have had 6 cases of malaria hit our home. Two people have even gone through it twice in just two months. This makes carrying on with our ministries much more challenging as malaria is much like a severe flu which debilitates you for some time even after the symptoms have gone.

We have learned a lot of things about malaria since being here in Zambia. There are

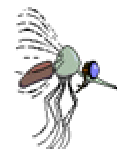
several different types and strains of malaria in the world. Here we mainly have Plasmodium Falciparum which is severe and can cause cerebral malaria but it does not lay dormant or recur like the Plasmodium Vivex strain which is more common in Asia.

There are several different medicines available to take during an attack of malaria and the health department often changes what they recommend

because of drug resistance.

We take the regular precautions: bed nets, stay indoors during the evening (or use insect repellent), and close windows for the night. All of these things are good but even with these, staying free of malaria is a difficult thing during the rainy season. This has been a hard season for many people around this city with many cases of malaria being reported.

While dealing with malaria is not pleasant and is often something that makes us cry out to the Lord, we really believe that the Lord has us here for a purpose and will keep us through all these things. Thanks for praying!



NEW STAFF MEMBERS

As our ministry continues to evolve and grow, we feel the need to take on more help. One pastor named Jerdon Yikona, a manager at Campus Crusade, has committed his extra time to helping our many projects.

Jerdon is a certified nurse and pastor and his wife, Jane, is a school teacher. They are devoted Christians who are dedicated to spreading the gospel and helping those in

need.

Jerdon and Jane have 5 children and the care of 3-5 more nieces and nephews that have been orphaned or whose parents are unable to care for them.

Jerdon is able to help us with translating when we have our chief's training. Most of the chiefs speak English, but having a translator on hand helps in case we run into a difficult

word.

We are also hoping that Jerdon and his wife will be able to help us more as we open our own orphanage and need to navigate the tricky waters of registration and all that entails. Jane would also be a help in training staff members and being hands on in administration. To have the Yikona family come on board fulltime will require monthly contributions to help support them.



If you would like to send a gift to help our work, you can make the check out to **Thomas Morrow**. On the other hand, if you'd like a tax receipt, **African Educational Services** is a project under the umbrella of a 501 [c](3) charitable foundation. Therefore, you can make gifts payable to **Family Care Foundation**, designating it for **African Educational Services (02F19)** in the memo section of the check. Mail it to: **Family Care Foundation**, P.O. Box 1039, Spring Valley, CA 91979-1039. **THANK YOU!**

For checks or mail for us:

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aeszambia@yahoo.com

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**NEW
E-MAIL
ADDRESS**

In order for us to save some money on our phone bill we are switching to G-mail. This is a free internet server for e-mail which also allows us to use Outlook Express to send and receive mail.

We will now be able to spend less time online and still keep up with our communication. Our e-mail address is now:
aeszambia@gmail.com

We will still be checking our yahoo account so we won't lose any messages.

U.S. Phone: (281) 471-0164
Zambian phone: 260-2-681-521
Or: 260-95-750-023

To find the page on our website listing our current events, simply go to www.missionaryfamily.com and look for the **NEW** box on the homepage. There is a link with all the things that happened during the month.

www.missionaryfamily.com



Traditional Zambian Wedding

Last month Tom was asked to perform a wedding for a friend, in Lusaka, who was getting married. We decided to take advantage of the opportunity to 'get away' and found a babysitter for the kids so we could both attend the wedding.

Traditionally, a marriage is arranged for couples with relatives sitting to negotiate the dowry and suitability of the union.

Now, with modern weddings coming into Zambia, you will see more of a blending of traditional and modern customs.

In the past a bride would be pulled from her home by friends of the groom and carried off forcibly to her new home. She would weep and wail the entire way to show that she was not happy to leave her childhood home. This was a mark of respect for her parents. A bride looking cheerful on her wedding day would be viewed as disrespectful.

This still carries over today as the bride is downcast and sad during the wedding.

Some couples will now partake in a civil or traditional wedding but then have a reception where the bride wears the western style white dress and has a large bridal party with 10-14 attendants.

Before a wedding takes place there will be a kitchen party



which is similar to our bridal showers but has more ceremony attached to it and is more of an instruction time for the bride-to-be than a party.

At this wedding that we attended there were supposed to be 80-100 guests. The actual amount was closer to 400. Wedding crashing is common because no one wants to be excluded or thought to not be part of the family circle. This makes for quite a challenge for the caterers as they have to ensure there will be enough food and drink. Not to be able to serve all your friends and family is humiliating. During one kitchen party I attended the food ran out before all the guests had been served. As I approached the buffet table I noticed that as people passed through the line the servings were getting smaller and

smaller until it was a bit of potato and a few grains of rice being placed on the plate. Literally! I tried to graciously bow out of the line and take my seat again to avoid embarrassing the family more but they noticed me leaving my place and hurried over to serve me a plate. They were mortified that I would not get something to eat even if it was just a bit.

The wedding ceremony now contains many of the elements that we have in our weddings: the first bite of the cake, the wedding toast, the first dance, etc., but all done in a very African way. There is much more ceremony and concern for the feelings of the parents than we would typically see in our western weddings and receptions.

We were very happy to be able to be part of this ceremony and to learn more about the culture.

Since we are sure you will find it interesting as well we will write up all the details of a traditional wedding and kitchen party and then send it out via e-mail in an upcoming 'Tom and Amy's Awesome Adventures'. Look for it soon!

