



Hello Dear Friends! How was your summer? Ours was busy, busy, busy! Since we last wrote a newsletter in March:

- Tom visited the U.S for our annual fundraising, which was a huge success thanks to all of you!
- Nineteen volunteers helped out at the orphanage
- Our numbers grew from 18 to 22 children.
- Nine kids celebrated birthdays
- We built new buildings (small ones) and renovated other buildings
- The oldest kids started learning to read
- Tom's students completed 3 more books in the Pastor Training Course.
- and the list goes on and on.....

Here are two of our new babies.

Joseph (above) came to stay with us two weeks ago after his mother died immediately after giving birth to him. He is healthy (his mom did not have HIV), but he is lactose intolerant. This means we have to buy special formula for him which can only be found in Lusaka. Otherwise he is a good little baby and is gaining weight steadily.

Gladys (right) is ten months old. She was a very sick little girl when she came to the orphanage near the end of June. She had a bad case of malaria, which needed injections of quinine—a very powerful medicine—to kick it, and she had a very poor appetite. Thanks to the ministrations of one of our volunteers she is now healthy and happy.



Thanks to a grant from a foundation in the U.S we were able to undertake a big renovation and construction project in our kitchen, dining and washroom areas.

With so many children now eating in the dining room, our kitchen was overwhelmed at dishwashing time. We now have an area where the kids can wash their own dishes after meals and snacks under the supervision of their nanny.

We renovated a large room off the side of the dining

room and created the dishwashing station, a tool room, a storage area and a wash room. Also included in this project was renovating and outfitting the staff kitchen/dining room and also building them an outside kitchen for when the electric stove doesn't work and they need to use a charcoal brazier.

Tom also began work on a rabbit hutch. This is a 30'x32' building that will eventually allow for 100 rabbits to be sold or harvested each month.

There were also many other small construction projects that kept Tom busy over the summer.

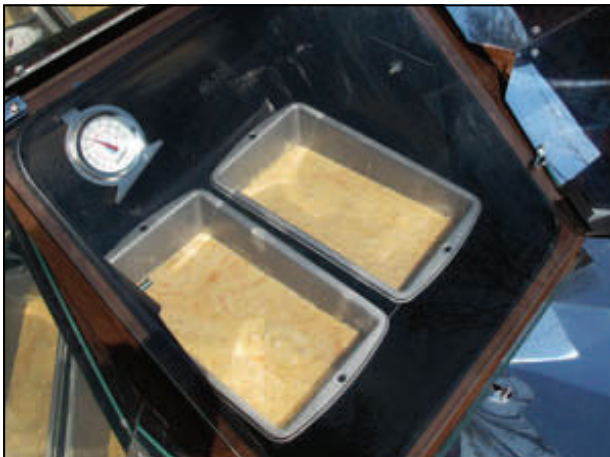
Bread of Life

One of our big accomplishments this summer was learning how to make bread straight from whole grain wheat.

A big goal for the orphanage is to move as much as possible to self-sufficiency. We can't always count on local sources of food and supplies. The more we are able to grow, produce, and create right here, the better off we'll be.

Gail (right), from Texas, came out to volunteer and thanks to donors within her home business, brought a mill and mixer for us to use in our home baking work.

She spent hours making scores of loaves of bread and teaching not only us but our kitchen helper as well.



The next step in the bread baking process was researching and eventually acquiring solar ovens so that we aren't even dependent on energy from electricity or gas.

The team of volunteers from West Texas that came out in August carried over three solar ovens from Sun Ovens (www.sunoven.com) that we are able to use to cook not only bread but meals as well.

So far, we've cooked chicken, curry, beans, rice, cakes soups, and of course, bread.

Eventually we hope to have a few more ovens and bake fresh bread daily. Using the whole grain means the bread is much healthier and baking it in a solar oven means it will be much more economical.

At the moment we cook with propane gas bottles which have to be brought all the way from Lusaka. This is expensive and not always reliable. Now, with solar ovens we can make our propane supply last longer and save money in the end.

Thank you for supporting our projects and helping to make these improvements possible.





This was our biggest summer ever for volunteers and what a treat it was!

Starting even in April we had volunteers arriving from Denmark, Belgium, Texas, and Indiana via Tennessee.

Each volunteer brought something special to the orphanage—whether a special skill or a project or love and time to spend with the kids.

Volunteers

Meg (right) is a nursing student who spent 3 months here with us helping to take care of some of the sick children and also taught the kindergartners every chance she got. Because Meg's passion is science they got plenty of lessons in that along with Bible, reading and math. Meg plans to come back next summer and then fulltime once she finishes school . Please pray for this.



We had a big group of young women (led by Gail) come out for the entire month of July. They were a huge blessing as they played with and taught the kids. This enabled them to minister to the nannies as well.

Having extra hands on deck meant we could issue vacation time to some of our staff also which helps our overall budget.

Our kids really enjoyed the extra love and attention they got during this time.

Volunteers bring so much to a missionary project. They provide extra man power which can make a world of difference in what is able to be accomplished. For us, they provide fellowship and companionship in what can otherwise be a pretty lonely place to work. They also help in a very real way by bringing in supplies and items that are sorely needed for the work to be done properly.

Volunteering can also change the volunteer's life. Why not give it a try?



Our last group of volunteers came out from West Texas and was made up of mostly men. They took care of some big construction and electrical projects around the orphanage. Tom really enjoyed having an extra hand to help get things done. The men also met

twice with Tom's pastors class, sharing their life stories and experiences and helping to be an example of what true Christian men are like.

The two women who came on the team led a 3-day Vacation Bible School for one hundred children from the village. They came in groups of 50 for morning and afternoon sessions. They loved their time doing songs, games, Bible stories and crafts.

The ladies also helped us with a couple other smaller projects in the community and with the children of the orphanage. **Volunteers are wonderful!**



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