

Revealing Jesus through
EDUCATION, HUMANITARIAN SERVICE & CHRISTIAN LEADERSHIP



The Haven Reunion

The party was scheduled for Monday, August 20, but the guests began arriving on Friday, the 18th. Some came on foot. Some rode bikes. Most used public transportation, riding small mini-buses to Kalomo and then hopping aboard shuttle buses for the 4-mile trip from town to Namwianga Mission. They came from near and far. One family traveled nine hours. All arrived with big smiles and were greeted with warm hugs and exclamations of “My, how you’ve grown!”



This was a very special party—a reunion party for children who had spent their early weeks, months, or years in Namwianga’s orphan care program and who are now back

with their families. Planners Meagan Hawley, Cecilia Siafwiyo, Jana Miller, and Kathi Merritt put the word out on six radio stations throughout Zambia, inviting anyone who had ever been in Namwianga’s orphan care to come to the reunion party.

And come they did! Miller, The Haven’s family advocate, admits hoping for 100 families and was amazed as the number swelled to 225. The aunts (The Haven’s caregivers) and other

workers started cooking two days before the party. When so many people arrived, there was a bit of panic. Would there be enough to feed them all? But the food stretched beautifully. There was plenty of chicken, rice, soup, and cabbage to feed everyone.

Namwianga’s orphan care began in 1985 when missionary Kathi Merritt took in a baby boy whose mother had died in childbirth. Other infants were brought to her and grew up in her home. In 2002 The Haven opened its first house to care for more infants and children. There are now three Haven houses plus Eric’s House for older boys. More than 500 orphaned or abandoned children have been loved and cared for at Namwianga.

The goal of orphan care at Namwianga is to reunite the children with their families when they are 2 years old. Research shows that an orphaned child who makes it to age 2 has a very good chance of surviving into adulthood. The Haven’s reunification process includes finding a relative who is willing to take the child and then working with both the child and the welcoming relative’s family to make sure the transition goes well. Hawley, medical advocate for The Haven, said the happy families that came back for the reunion were an encouragement to her. “It was so powerful just to see that it works, this Haven of

ours. Each of those 225 children who showed up represents a family that has been put back together, and we are so grateful to get to be a part of that type of work.”

The youngest returning Haven child had been gone just one month. The oldest who came back was married and brought her children with her. The reunion guests played games, ate, and partied for five hours. And at the end of the day, the goat wrangling began. Forty goats were ready to go home with families, and the other families provided contact information so that they could receive a goat later. The goats are given to families so that they will have a source of income to pay for the children’s school fees.



Cecilia Siafwiyo or “Mama” is The Haven’s manager. She was delighted to see so many of the babies she had cared for and loved. “If you are doing something good, like planting maize, you need to go to the field and check to see if it’s growing well. If there’s some problem, you fix it, and you watch how it grows. So I am very happy to see my babies growing up!”



If you would like to sponsor an orphan, or if you would like to purchase a goat for a family, visit our website at

zambiamission.org/orphancare.

Zambia Medical Mission By the Numbers



In July, the 24th annual Zambia Medical Mission offered medical and spiritual healing to those who live in remote rural areas of southern Zambia. Co-director Ellie Hamby reported these numbers:

Days of clinics.....	6
Patients treated.....	10,639
Cataract surgeries.....	74
Cervical cancer screenings.....	182
Dental patients.....	1780
Optical patients.....	870
Physical Therapy treatments.....	245
Team members (Zambian and American).....	240
Baptisms during 2018 medical mission.....	72
Congregations started (to date).....	4
as a result of 2018 medical mission	
Congregations started as a result of	325
24 years of medical missions	

Prime TV, Zambia's top-rated station, sent a broadcaster and cameraman to report on the Zambia Medical Mission clinic in the village of Sikalaye. The segment aired on the evening news. The TV crew was impressed by what they saw and said they will be back for next year's clinics.

The 2019 Medical Mission is scheduled for July 6-20. Medical and support staff are needed. Applications are available online at zambiamission.org/medicalmission.

Radio Station Update

The last issue of the Kalomo Reporter highlighted the work of Namwianga Christian Radio and presented the need for \$14,000 in one-time funds to upgrade the station's equipment. Generous donors responded to that plea and filled the need.

Lackson Siadunka is a church elder and leader in Simakakata, a village of blind residents. Siadunka offered this testimonial: "We have highly benefited from the radio station through its programs. It teaches us a lot of scripture and helps us to be updated in areas of news and physical skills. The radio encourages us to be strong in our Christian faith despite our status." Monthly funding for operations is still needed. Find out more about Namwianga Christian Radio at zambiamission.org/radio.

Preaching Banker Comes to Namwianga



Edgar Syanjelele and his staff arrive at the Namwianga Mission Finance Office at 8:00 each morning and begin their workday. Just an hour later, though, the office closes, and all employees walk across campus to attend chapel with the students at George Benson Christian College.

Chapel attendance is one of the changes Syanjelele initiated since becoming Chief Financial Officer at Namwianga in May. He also brought a wealth of financial and executive experience from his former position with Standard Chartered, a multi-national bank, where he served as the head of both retail treasury banking and employee banking. But Syanjelele brought even more valuable experience in church leadership and evangelism.

Syanjelele has preached since his high school days when he traveled to area congregations during the holidays to share the Word. He continued to preach throughout his 25-year career as a banker. Once he spoke at a secondary school chapel program. Afterward the school's chaplain said, "I have never seen a banker and a preacher. It is a rare combination!"

The "Preaching Banker," as he is sometimes called, served many years as an elder for the Central Church of Christ in Lusaka and has also been a leader in other congregations. He had a long history with Namwianga even before his employment there. He spoke at the annual lectureships and youth gatherings and joined Namwianga personnel in outreaches to the remote Gwembe Valley.

Syanjelele's banking experience has made him a welcome asset to Namwianga Mission, but his impact on the mission is greater than just his financial prowess. Stateside Superintendent Richard Prather said, "When Edgar's work in the finance office finishes, he fills his weekend schedule with preaching or working with Namwianga students in a remote village outreach. There is no greater blessing than to have a Chief Financial Officer who is a seasoned elder in the Church." Nixon Siamungande goes on outreaches with Syanjelele and appreciates his partnership in the gospel: "We have reached so many souls for Jesus Christ in a short time with him. His heart is for the people to know Jesus."

Preacher or banker? Syanjelele is content to be both.

Estate Planning Ensures Namwianga's Future

Dr. Marylou Behnke from Gainesville, Florida, included Zambia Mission Fund as one of the beneficiaries in her estate. "My heart has been touched by the tremendous physical and spiritual needs of the people in Zambia," Behnke said. "One way I can help is with financial support for the ongoing work through estate planning."



remember that the intangible benefits and the impact of giving far exceed any tax benefits that may exist.

What are the options donors have for including ZMF in their estate planning?

There are many ways to structure a future gift. Some of those include 1) naming ZMF as a beneficiary in a will; 2) naming ZMF as a beneficiary or joint owner with right of survivorship of a financial account (retirement account, brokerage account, certificate of deposit, bank account, etc.); 3) naming ZMF as a remainder beneficiary on property such as life insurance, residence, other real estate, etc.); and 4) creating a trust that names ZMF as a current or remainder beneficiary.

What about non-monetary gifts like stocks or land?

Any property can be given to ZMF, including stocks and land. As mentioned earlier, sometimes capital gains taxes can be avoided by making gifts of appreciated property.

If you are interested in including Zambia Mission Fund in your estate planning, contact your financial adviser or attorney. Ferguson also would be happy to answer your questions. Contact him by email at ray.ferguson@condley.com or by phone at 800-993-3461.



Including Zambia Mission Fund (ZMF) in estate planning ensures that Namwianga Mission will continue to have the resources needed to minister to the people of Zambia for generations to come. Ray Ferguson is co-director of Zambia Medical Mission and is a Certified Financial Planner. He answered some practical questions about estate planning.

What benefits can a donor receive by giving to ZMF?

Depending on how a legacy or future gift is structured, there can be current income tax benefits, although those benefits are usually less than those available for current gifts. Sometimes capital gains taxes can be avoided by making gifts of appreciated property. It is important to

Tonga Bibles Needed for Southern Zambia



The village is dark. Without electricity, the only light comes from the blazing fire. Logs provide seating for the friends and family gathered around the flames. All are listening intently as a villager opens the Bible and begins to read scriptures in the native Tonga language.

In rural areas of Zambia this scene is familiar. Tonga Bibles are too expensive for most to afford, and few copies are available. Nixon Siamungande serves on Namwianga's Evangelism and Spiritual Growth (ESG) team. "Some local churches meet without a single copy of the Bible. This makes it very difficult for preachers to conduct effective church services," he said.

The ESG team distributes available Tonga Bibles to individuals and congregations. The team has seen the transforming power of putting God's word into the hands

of believers. Siamungande told of an older woman who received a Tonga Bible and called it the most precious gift she could ever receive. She said, "Now no one will ever tell me lies about what the Bible says because I will now read the Bible on my own!" She reads aloud to her neighbors and grandchildren.

Evangelist Bruce Munsaka described a time when a man named Cheelo relied on the word of God. Cheelo's wife was very sick. There was no hospital and no doctor in their remote area. Cheelo walked to a nearby village and borrowed a Tonga Bible. He returned to his hut and began reading the Bible aloud to her. Eventually Cheelo laid it on her chest as a sign of faith in God's healing power. Cheelo's wife recovered from her illness, and their story has strengthened the faith of their fellow villagers. Munsaka said, "Instead of running to witch doctors, the people who have the word of God available to them will develop a deeper faith in God and forsake the traditional practices."

Siamungande, Munsaka, and other ESG team members desperately need more Tonga Bibles for churches and individuals. Through a special bulk purchase, Namwianga Mission can buy Bibles for only \$10.00 each. Please consider helping to spread God's word to the people of southern Zambia by donating funds to purchase Tonga Bibles. See zambiamission.org/bibles to donate online.

Annual Signature Campaign Funds Operations

Zambia Mission Fund (ZMF) launched the annual Signature Campaign in November. The goal, said ZMF Board Chairman Klay Bartee, is to raise \$250,000 in operational funds for the coming year.



“Our appeal this year focuses on the healing and hope that Namwianga Mission offers to the people of southern Zambia,” Bartee said. “Our many ministries touch thousands

of lives in the name of Jesus each year. We rely on our generous donors to keep these ministries functioning.”

If you would like to help Zambia Mission Fund offer healing and hope, please consider a tax-deductible gift of any amount. You can use the enclosed envelope or donate online at zambiamission.org/signature.

Dr. Hazelip Honored at Benefit Dinner



Dr. Sandy Hazelip was honored at the Tree of Mercy Benefit Dinner in Abilene, Texas, on November 10. Hazelip has served on seven Zambia Medical Mission teams and helped to start the cervical cancer screening program at Namwianga Zonal Health Center (NZHC). A long-time supporter of Zambia Mission Fund, Hazelip believes “it does exactly what Jesus commanded us to do: serve others and preach the gospel.”

The goals of this year’s Tree of Mercy Benefit Dinner were to fund the Center’s operating expenses for the next year, add equipment and supplies for the surgery center, and fund the salary for a full-time physician. Organizer Ellie Hamby reported that the Benefit provided essential support for NZHC: “The generosity of so many donors is going to help us continue working hand in hand with the Zambians to offer healing and hope in the name of Jesus.” Additional funds for a full-time physician are still needed.



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