



Standing in the Gap

Steve and Rachel Good • December 2007

New Adventures in Zambia

Rachel accompanied Steve on his quarterly visit to Zambia in November. One of the projects WR is starting is with jatropha trees which bear oil producing seeds within three years that are used for biodiesel. While they are growing, they will plant other food crops between the rows. Please pray for Wiggan Kanchela as he directs the agriculture program in Zambia (next to Steve, photo right).



The second week we led a microenterprise course for 19 trainers. We were inspired by the story of one of the participants, Sifuniso. He had a carpentry shop that was destroyed by fire. He decided to become a tailor and taught himself how to sew and design. He borrowed a small amount of money from a friend and has built his business from that small beginning. He has purchased six sewing machines and sells many school uniforms. Many in the group were encouraged to follow his example of taking initiative, creative financing and determination. He works long hours and is a pastor as well. Most pastors in Africa do not receive much financial support from their churches, thus the need to help them start their own small businesses.

Sifuniso, to Rachel's right, during MED training.

Joanna and Keith's Wedding



In October our family gathered together in Indiana for our daughter Joanna and Keith Lowe's wedding. It was a beautiful, brisk day for their lovely outdoor wedding at Winona Lake, Ind. We are happy for them as they start their life together in Indianapolis. An extra bonus was to have Christine, our 2000 exchange student from Norway, visit us with her baby.



"And she will bring forth a Son, and you shall call His name JESUS, for He will save His people from their sins."
Matthew 1:21

Church Development

I, Rachel, have had some changes at WR since the last newsletter. In August 2007 management of the chicken project was handed over to Helena Cikanda, a Mozambican WR staff member who had been working with me. I found myself with some free time and mentioned an interest in church development. Sam Grottis asked me to serve as a technical advisor for the program and help find a Mozambican director. Please pray with us that a person with a passion for God and the Mozambican church will be found soon to fill this position. World Relief's mission is "to work with, for, and from the Church to relieve human suffering, poverty and hunger worldwide in the name of Jesus Christ." WR programs are run in partnership with local churches. Pastor's networks are created in communities and the goal is for them to begin to run these social programs as Faith-Based Organizations with WR providing support. The objective of the Church Development program is: "In partnership with local and US partners, build the capacity of Mozambican churches to understand and carry out the mandate of the biblical church in transformation." Many of these churches have mixed Christianity with African traditional religions and need training in basic foundational Christian truths. Presently I am researching different Bible training materials written from an African biblical perspective or adaptable to this culture.

Guesthouse

We have had the privilege of hosting overnight guests in our home 98 times this past year. Our home is used as a guesthouse for some WR staff passing through and we have had family and others visiting as well. Henri Nouwen said: "When hostility is converted into hospitality then fearful strangers can become guests revealing to their hosts the promise they are carrying with them." We have been blessed by the promise and the many gifts of friendship that our guests bring as we learn to know each other. We will need to move to another house by early January. Please pray that we will find the right place for us and our guests.

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Address: World Relief, Bairro da Sommershield, Rua Dom Joao III No. 90, Caixa Postal 680, Maputo, MOZAMBIQUE

Financial Support: make checks payable to Zion Chapel, 17285 CR 34, Goshen, IN 46528 USA

Maputo Fellowship



We attend Maputo International Christian Fellowship in Maputo. It is an interesting blend of nationalities and is inter-denominational so there is a lot of diversity. We recently brought in a part-time pastor, Sammy Gumbe, and Steve was asked to serve as head elder. Someone told him, "Your gifts follow you wherever you go." Please pray for the church that we continue to grow in depth and maturity as well as in numbers and have a vision to reach out to Maputo. (fellowship dinner below.)



It was great to see many of you in October. Thank you for your prayers and for standing with us in so many ways. We wish you a blessed Christmas!

Rachel & Steve



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