



APRIL 2010

A Message from the ZRF Board

Delene is coming to Colorado in May and will begin much needed time to be rejuvenated spiritually, emotionally and physically. She has worked nonstop for such a long time, even when she has come to the States in the past she has "hit the ground running." We have prayerfully decided that it is time for Delene to be awarded a sabbatical for her revitalization for the important work she has done and will continue to do in the name of Our Lord when she returns to Africa. Please continue to pray for her upcoming travel, her time of respite in Colorado, and for the team she leaves in Africa to continue her heart's work. As her time here unfolds we will know better when a gathering of her supporters might take place and we will keep you informed.

Thank you for understanding this important time of quiet, contemplation and rest for Delene.

The ZRF Board of Directors

Dear Friends,

Greetings from Africa where we are deep in summer and soon the weather will be changing. This is a season of change for me as well. As most of you know, our plans for Botswana have not panned out as we had hoped. Doors haven't opened, hopes have not become realities and stumbling blocks have continued to appear. During the same two years I have been here in Botswana, things have settled down somewhat in Zimbabwe. With the dollarization of the Zimbabwe economy and the stabilization of the currency, food and other staples are now available in markets. Prices are high, but at least they are stable. All of this has led me and the ZRF Board to rethink our situation. One fact that overshadows all the rest is that I have been doing ministry in Africa for 12 years without a break or sabbatical. The constant frustration over the situation in Botswana has given me time to realize I'm very tired and in need of a respite. Therefore the ZRF Board and I think this is the perfect time to pull back, regroup, rethink and refresh.

DAWN activities

Friends and family were invited, and it turned out to be a great afternoon. People thanked the Lord for the gift of life by readings from the book of Psalms. The second meeting was special in the sense that it was more of a counseling session by Delene. Dawn members were encouraged to be proud of who they are, to be patient with one another and focus on positive thinking. The group, furthermore, has increased in number. Prayers have been a significance aspect during group meetings. Other accomplishments include social support between group members themselves, and from external friends such as the Zimbabwe Relief Foundation in the form of foodstuffs, sanitary ware and some clothing.

Members have been busy in their respective areas of occupation. One woman has continued with sign language interpretations, writing translations, while they are some who are doing some art work such as batik designs and painting. There are some who are teaching computers at the International Computers Driving License level. The above projects have economically enhanced these women.

The Elderly group

The over 70s group still continues to receive whatever food donations is available to sustain themselves and their orphans.

They then decided to show their appreciation to the donors by sewing bookmarks made out of scrap materials. They like to send their warmest greetings and gratitude for all your support especially during 2008 which was the worst drought year. Unfortunately, this year 2010 has also been declared a drought year because of poor rains and this has led to the decommissioning of three dams by the city council. This means there will be water rationing in addition to the starvation.

The Christmas party

The Christmas party which was held at the end of 2009 for the elderly at one of the local churches was received with great pleasure. There was eating and merrymaking, as well as receiving of some donations at the end of the day.



Youth Career Guidance

A career guidance program was organized for the youth at a local church. Over 30 representatives from different institutions discussed with the zealous youth. Amongst these representatives were the Ambulance and the Fire Brigade departments, motor mechanics, bankers and local universities. The youth were accompanied by their parents to this program.



KING'S Kids Pre-School - Viola and Margaret.

2009 was a difficult year for us. We had 36 children but sadly one died because he was HIV positive. It was a hard time for all of us but we continued with all our activities. We were doing much more on the environment, getting the kids to get involved in caring for nature. We went for many nature walks and the kids enjoyed these little adventures.

The new gowns for graduation were sewn by Viola and it was an exciting time to watch 25 kids dressed in their new attire graduate. We were very proud of them.

We are always grateful for the food supplies, school supplies, materials and furniture which we continue to get from ZRF. Parents are also playing their part by contributing to cook the children's meals daily.

I am extremely blessed to have such a dedicated and hardworking team serving the communities in Zimbabwe. They continue to soldier on and are loyal and supportive of those in their care.

I thank you too for your dedication to praying and supporting the Zimbabwe people through ZRF. We appreciate you being part of our global team.

At this Eastertide we would like to wish you all the blessings of Our Risen Lord.

In Christ's Love,

Delene and the Zim Team