

Churches in the News

Children Raise Funds to Help African Orphans



Lakeview Sunday School children and their paper mache banks.



Community Bottle Drive.

Each spring, **Lakeview Church** in Quesnel, BC has a special missions' project for the Sunday School children to participate in.

One of our Sunday School teachers brought the ACOP Orphan Care Program to my attention, and we were inspired by what a Sunday School class in (Moose Jaw) Saskatchewan had done to raise money for the orphans, so we thought we could do the same.

Learning 10¢ provides a hot meal for an African orphan and that \$30.00 supports a child in a home with a family that cares about them really impacted the children. Some of our children are adopted, so knowing the money they raised will help another child find a home and a family meant a great deal to them.

Over the spring we had an in-church bottle drive, and on the 1st of June 2008 we had a neighborhood bottle drive. Then the children sorted and bagged all the bottles collected.

The second church-wide fundraiser we did was a *Homemade Soup & Bun Lunch*. We have a wonderful couple in the church that makes the most delicious homemade soup and they volunteered to make the soup and dessert for the children. The Sunday School children helped with the setting up, serving, and clean up.

The first Sunday we started this missions project, the children made paper mache banks, which took a few Sundays to complete; when they were finally finished they took them home to collect coins until June. At the end of June, they had the fun of smashing their banks open and counting all the money collected. The final total the children were able to raise by the end of June was \$900.00!

We are so grateful for the generosity of our congregation and the children themselves, and we pray that God will provide all the needs to help the orphans and the families suffering in Africa.

Report submitted by Sharon Sterling, Lakeview Church Children's Ministry Leader



Sharon is a married mom with two grown sons and four grandchildren (fifth one due in March). She is a Teacher's Aid and works with special needs students in the School District. She gave her heart to the Lord twenty two years ago and when asked what she would like to do, she said she would like to teach the children. For the past 20 years God has blessed her with the desire of her heart.

Prayer Matters in Int'l Itinerant Ministries

With the vision of "Preaching the Gospel of the Kingdom to Every Nation", ACOP actively supports 25 missionaries around the globe. We invite you to join with us in prayer for their ministries.

This month's prayer focus: Lorne & Shirley Marshall, Int'l Itinerant Ministries



His secret purpose framed from the very beginning (is) to bring us to our full glory. I know of no more steady hope on which to focus my mind when circumstances tempt me to wonder why God doesn't do something. He is always doing something -- the very best thing, the thing we ourselves would certainly choose if we knew the end from the beginning. He is at work to bring us to our full glory." by Elizabeth Elliott.

Lorne and I are finding this to be true in our lives at this time, as we continue to focus our minds on the Lord's goodness, knowing that our unknown future is certainly NOT unknown to Him. He has a wonderful, divine plan in place to "bring us to our full glory", so that He in turn will receive the all the glory!

Lorne continues to progress physically from his ordeal in 2007. He underwent a third (and, we hope, the last) surgery in May, at which time a permanent acrylic plate was inserted to protect his brain in the area where a portion of skull bone had been removed during his second surgery in South Africa. Lorne had a speedy recovery physically from this surgery, but the memory function, especially short-term, is still far from normal. So at this point anyway, he is unable to perform many of the tasks and responsibilities that were such a part of his regular lifestyle and ministry involvement.

As we look to the future with it's many uncertainties and challenges, Lorne and I remain at peace and confident as we continue to stand on God's promise that Lorne was given after his surgery - "I shall not die, but live, and declare the works of the Lord" (Psalm 118:17), and take advantage of every opportunity to tell of His healing power. Already we have had the privilege of sharing our personal testimonies in various churches, and continue to be open to the call of God in whatever capacity He chooses to direct, knowing that "He who has begun a good work in us will continue to perform it until the day of Jesus Christ...!"

We are very grateful to all of our friends for their faithful love, prayers and support for us during this time of transition.



Revisiting South-Central African Mission Fields

By Lloyd & Madalene Schuetz

We had received a number of requests and invitations to revisit the mission fields of South Central Africa. We then also received an invitation from the ACOP leadership of Zambia to attend and speak at their 50th Anniversary in July. The Holy Spirit also ministered deeply to our hearts with Scripture to return to those countries in South/Central Africa where we had previously lived and served in missionary work for years. That passage of Scripture was Acts 15:36. "...let us now go back and visit our brethren in every city where we have preached the word of the Lord, and see how they are doing." Therefore, we felt that this was the right time to revisit our brothers and sisters again in those countries of

Africa, to strengthen and encourage them in their faith and ministry. We are grateful to all who encouraged us to go, committed to pray, and supported us financially to help make this ministry trip possible.

On June the 5, 2008, we left Calgary, arriving in Lusaka Zambia on June 7 where we were met by Jerry and Brenda Schuetz and their sons Jared, Samuel and Joshua. It was a real joy to see and be with them again, in Zambia where they serve as missionaries.

After our short stop in Zambia, we flew to South Africa for a few days where we ministered with Hennie and Audrey Pretorius, former graduates from our Bible School in Bulawayo Zimbabwe, who now serve in Pietermaritzburg. We also ministered with John and Cathy Van Neikrrk who pastor

a large multiethnic church in the center of the city. We have had the privilege of working with them for many years in South and Central Africa. God blessed these two meetings in a very special way. It was also a time of fellowship and encouragement for other ministers such as Pastor Raymond Ntsoko from East London, Cape Province. Our next stop was Johannesburg South Africa where we ministered with Steve and Cathy Leicher whom we helped disciple many years ago in South Africa. They give leadership to a large multiethnic church near Johannesburg. The Lord blessed the preaching of His word in their 'Father's Day' service with a good number coming forward for prayer.

From South Africa we flew to Lilongwe Malawi where we were met by Superintendent



Lloyd and Madalene Schuetz with Hennie and Audrey Pretorius.

Stephen Banda, and Missionaries Wes and Lori Jonat and others. We ministered in three centers while in Malawi. The first was at Mponela Mission where a large number of pastors/ leaders & workers gathered. This is the first place we came to after our arrival in Africa in 1955, to join our other pioneer missionaries who had preceded us. It was a joy to have fellowship again with all our fellow workers. There was a great response to the teaching and preaching of the word of God, and we were asked to pray for each of them and

God touched many lives as we prayed for them individually. Our next stop was Namitete Mission, where we had spent a year in ministry in 1955 -1956. Here again there was such a hunger for the word of God and the Holy Spirit powerfully moved upon the large gathering as we prayed for these fellow workers. Our third place of ministry was in Blantyre Malawi in a church planted by Pastor Paul Jenesi. The church was packed out. There was vibrant singing, praise and worship

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South-Central African Mission Fields, cont'd

and a great response to the preaching of the word of God. The Holy Spirit came down upon many of the pastors/workers and people that assembled. The Lord has certainly blessed the faithful service of Pioneer Missionaries and National Workers & all who have & are serving in Malawi today.

From Malawi we had to fly back to Johannesburg S. Africa and then on to Harare Zimbabwe, arriving late that night. The Immigration Official asked us if we were there to do politics? We replied, "No, we do not have time for politics; We are here to preach the Gospel." This was the week of the re-run of the Presidential Elections in Zimbabwe! Our ministry schedule had been arranged by Pastor Bonani Hadebe, in consultation with Superintendent Emmanuel Zihove and Pastor Borden and district overseers and pastors. In spite of the adverse circumstances prevailing in the country a good number of pastors, leaders and workers gathered together to drink in the teaching and preaching of the word of God in Harare. From there we were driven to the city of Gweru to the home of missionaries Jim and Naomi Borden where a group of leaders gathered for fellowship and encouragement. Unfortunately, we

were only able to be with them one evening, but the fellowship together was precious. The next day we were driven by car to the city of Bulawayo where pastors/leaders and church workers were gathered together in one of our local churches. The Lord permitted us to be here several days for fellowship/encouragement and teaching the word of God. On the Sunday, all the churches gathered together in one location for a combined service.

In spite of the many hardships: empty stores, broken street lights, broken roads, severe poverty, and many other extreme difficulties and hardships, we found the people rejoicing in the Lord as they sang, praised and worshiped God. There was such a deep hunger for the word of God wherever we ministered in Zimbabwe. Once again, the Holy Spirit powerfully moved upon the congregations as they heard the Word of God. It was so encouraging to see the pastors, leaders as well as believers in each place in Zimbabwe rejoicing in the Lord; strong in their faith and reaching out in evangelism to the lost.

Although many were concerned about us going into Zimbabwe at that

difficult time in the country, we are thankful to the Lord for permitting us to go into this country at that time to be an encouragement to the pastors, leaders and churches. One pastor commented, "We don't know how it is that we eat, but we eat every day". This does not mean that they all eat every day as many are suffering, but God has promised to care for His own people in all circumstances. As for going to church, they try to take turns going to church on public transport because of the high cost. Many thousands have fled to neighbouring countries. However, the church continues to be strong and is reaching out in evangelism. In Zimbabwe, God continues to honour and bless the faithful ministries of all the pioneer missionaries and National workers who have served and those who are serving today in spite of adverse circumstances.

From Zimbabwe, we had to fly back again to Johannesburg, and then north to the City of Ndola Zambia, where Jerry and Jared Schuetz picked us up and drove us to Kitwe for the 50th Anniversary Celebrations of ACOP of Zambia as well as to minister in churches and teach in the Bible College.

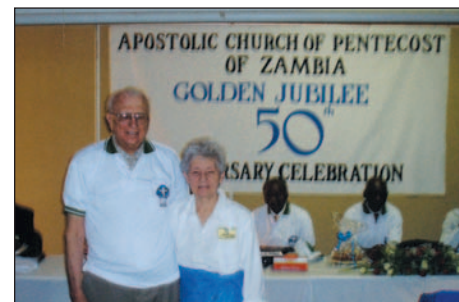
Hundred of delegates from many parts of Zambia and some from neighbouring countries gathered at Kitwe Zambia to Celebrate the 50th Anniversary of ACOP of Zambia during the weekend of July 4, 5 and 6th. There was vibrant singing, praise, and worship of God for His great faithfulness and blessing during the past 50 years. Numbers of the original ministers and believers were present as well as hundreds of others who came to celebrate God's goodness. Fifty years previously, David and Mary Jamieson, Lloyd and Madalene Schuetz and National workers Brother & Sister Mbewe, Brother and Sister Phiri, and Bro. & Sister Harawa commenced pioneering the work in this part of the copper

belt region of Zambia. Indigenous principles were emphasized from the beginning of the work. After about ten years, Nationals were elected to give leadership to the churches. The late Brother Moses Chikwati served as superintendant for many years, with Brother Standwell Lungu as General Secretary. Today Brother Lungu serves as Superintendent and Brother Kapeza as general secretary, and they, along with a leadership team, give leadership and oversight to the work in Zambia. Churches have been established in most areas of Zambia as are spreading as well into the Congo [DRC].

Jerry and Brenda, along with their boys, Jared, Samuel and Joshua arrived in Zambia in 2001 to serve alongside the ACOP churches in Zambia, and have been a great strength and blessing to the work. Heart of Africa Mission-Christian training College is a training and equipping Center where many younger men and women have and are being taught and trained and released into the ministry to help in the harvest of souls.

Speakers and others who shared were Rev's S. Lungu, F. Mbewe, S. Kapeza, E. Zihove, S. Banda, B. Hadebe, J. Schuetz and L. & M. Schuetz.

More pictures from the Schuetz' trip are posted at www.acop.ca.



Clergy Care Network Update

...
"I am worried that my pastor-husband is spending too much time with a woman in our church..."

...
"I grew up in a pastor's home and I really need to talk to someone about what that was like..."

...
"A man in my church is abusing his wife in the name of God...how do I get him to stop?"

...
"I am ashamed to admit this, but I am addicted to pornography...if the church knew, I'm afraid I would lose my job, my marriage, my family..."

...

These sorts of calls are fielded by the counsellors at the Clergy Care Network (CCN). Pastors, their spouses and families can call the Langley, B.C. office of Focus on the Family Canada on a toll-free call-in line (1-888-5-CLERGY) Mondays-Fridays between 8 am-4 pm PST and receive free support from professional Christian counsellors with significant ministry experience.

This service was developed out of a Task Force composed of representatives from Focus, the Evangelical Fellowship of Canada, counsellors and a number of denominational leaders who met to ask: "how can we offer clergy and their families confidential support beyond what we are already doing?" Focus agreed to take on the responsibility of running the program and CCN took its first call in December 2004. Fifteen denominations actively partner with us by providing both an annual financial contribution and a voice on our Advisory Committee. Services are available to any pastor of any denomination; in fact, it not required to identify one's denomination if that is what the caller prefers.

Callers can expect complete confidentiality, with the exception of legally mandated causes to break confidence (i.e. threats of suicide, homicide or revelation of child abuse). They can call once or more often, as needed. If the counsellor believes that regular counselling would be beneficial, they may recommend one of over 100 Christian counsellors all across Canada who have been screened and approved by CCN as having experience and expertise working with clergy families. Staff regularly send complimentary resources, such as books, pamphlets or CD's as gifts to address situations callers are struggling with, courtesy of FOTF.

CCN also has its own website (www.clergycare.ca). A significant number of people choose to email instead of call and that is very welcome (info@clergycares.ca). A free monthly e-newsletter (subscribe on the website), the SignPost, addresses topics of interest to pastors, with articles, resource suggestions, and free giveaways.

CCN has been working closely with Focus Canada on a new project as well, which is the gift of an incredible retreat centre near Calgary, where pastor's retreats will soon be conducted. Watch the website for more information as this project nears its launch. Pray as God brings the needed staff and funds to ensure that couples (and singles) who need their own spiritual care and feeding can receive it there.

CCN staff are enthusiastic about being available to support clergy and their families, considering it a great privilege to be able to do so. Call or write anytime.

Churches in the News

An Unusual Homecoming



Eileen Heslop, Anne Hagerty and Doris Bjornson display the quilt they helped create over 50 years ago.

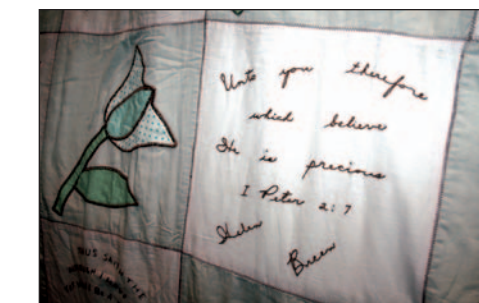
We consider a recent homecoming at Hillcrest Apostolic Church in Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan to be somewhat of a miracle.

A lady, browsing through a thrift store in BC recently, came across an old quilt that was obviously made by a church group because each square was embroidered with a scripture verse and a signature.

When she recognized some of the names from Moose Jaw, she made a phone call and shortly was in touch with Doris Bjornson, who is now the head of Hillcrest's mission group. Within a day, the quilt was on its way back home to Moose Jaw.

Doris knew she held a treasure when she first glimpsed the quilt. The quilt was made in the early 1950's by the Moose Jaw Ladies Missionary Group. Only three of the ladies from this group are still living: Doris Bjornson, Eileen Heslop and Anne Hagerty. Anne is 93 years old, and was thrilled to reminisce about the time and her own neatly embroidered square.

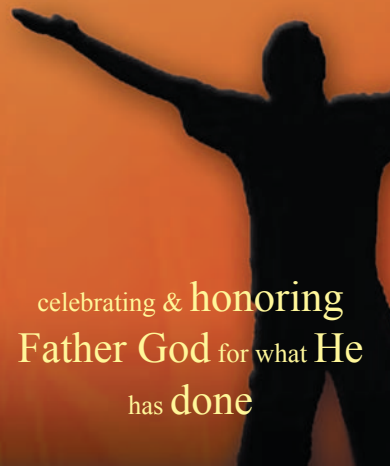
The quilt was spread on the floor at the ladies missionary meeting, and memories poured forth at the mention of long-departed saints who not only prayed for missionaries, but also sewed for them. A tulip design filled alternate squares, and bright red machine stitching added the final touch.



Plans are to display the quilt at the church and then assign it a place of honour.



Some of the leaders, speakers and missionaries at the Anniversary Celebration in Zambia.



celebrating & honoring
Father God for what **He**
has done

celebrating the faithful
witness of **Jesus Christ**

celebrating the outpouring
of the **Holy Spirit**

Centennial Celebration of Praise

~ 1908 - 2008 ~

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Full Gospel Church
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