



SAM Ministries

Loving God and Loving people so they have a chance to Love God and Love people

JANUARY, 2008

Points of Interest

- *Earl and Ruth scheduled to be in Brazil in April for Mt. Horeb AGM and Earl to continue on to Mozambique until June.*
- *Chico, our monitor in Mutarara, Moz, reports that Nyangoma (story to right) has 2000+ homeless and hungry due to the floods.*



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Life is Short

Dwight Lagore

When I arrived in Nyangoma for our Pastors' seminar, I was informed that I would first be speaking at a grave-side for the 24 year old brother of one of the pastors, yet another victim of the HIV/AIDS pandemic!



In that moment as I watched the grief-stricken family and especially the young wife in desperation wailing repeatedly, "Why did you leave me?", I was reminded forcefully of why my family and I came to Mozambique. My brother-in-law, Luke, passed away when he was 17 years old and Lynn and I were just starting out our lives and careers as a couple. Besides the sadness and trauma of Luke's passing was my sudden awareness of the reality that life is short and I

had better live it investing in something more important than money. It was at this point I KNEW I had to turn my back on the job opportunities before me and enroll in Bible college. This was the first step in a series which God used to lead us to Mozambique.

Don Piper writes in his book "90 Minutes in Heaven," of his after death experience of heaven and the fact that the experience forever changed

his perspective of life here on earth. Even after coming back to life after 90 minutes and recovery of his injuries from the accident, he was severely limited by his injuries. He learned that even with his limitations, he could not worry about what he couldn't do, he had to focus on what he could do! What a powerful lesson for us all. Life is short and God has gifted you and I with the ability to do the things we can do, and this is what we must do with everything in us. The results are in His hands. Life is short, live in that awareness.

The Irish Connection

Ruth Trekofski

Arnold hails from Ireland and is a friend of ours at Mount Horeb. Those of you that have been following our progress in Brazil will remember that we have connections to Northern

Ireland. John & Phyllis Logan who have been raising support for Mount Horeb in Ireland for years, embark on a flight to Brazil every year to personally bring the support



Main Title Picture: "The green beauty of life magnified by the source" Early spring rains turn the whole world green

The Irish Connection continued...

Brazil



raised for the projects as well as to lend a helping hand. In March they made another such trip and this time brought along two friends who are also interested in missions. Arnold was one of them and as he walked

around and looked at everything at Mount Horeb he was quite appalled at the small inadequate kitchen. He returned to Ireland determined to do something about it. He is a chef, and owns four restaurants. How lucky for us that Arnold came along. He started quiz games for the patrons of his restaurants in order to raise money. All the money raised went into a fund to improve and renovate our kitchen.

Arnold was just at Mount Horeb this November with a newly de-

signed kitchen plan. He went on a spending spree and bought good heavy-duty equipment for our kitchen, then he got renovations started. You can imagine the delight of our kitchen staff who now have almost double the space and a whole lot of new utensils and equipment.

Arnold plans to be back again in March this year to put on the finishing touches. Thank you so much Arnold, John and Phyllis and our many wonderful friends in Ireland who have made all this possible.

We thank God for you.

Grade School grades

Mozambique

As many of you may know, our school year in this part of the world starts at the same as the calendar year, meaning our school children all wrote their final exams in late November with summer holidays being enjoyed over December and January.

We have been so thankful and impressed at the performance of the children. Specifically our grade 5 children who write external exams which if passed, enables them to go further with their studies. Our pass rate was 88% compared to 57% for other public schools in the area. This has significantly impressed those in the education system in this area.

Our 10 students who we have sponsored and helped to study at a



Part of the year-end celebrations

school 20 km away, enabling them to go on to grade 6, have all passed. Eight boys and 3 girls from our school will go on to join them now with sponsorship from many of you.

One of our pastors whose daughter will go into grade 7 this coming

year is leading the way and breaking a long tradition in rural Mozambique where many girls are married off at 14 years of age. Her father is so grateful for the support his daughter has been given to continue her studies.

The hope and dreams germinating in these little hearts is powerful. Many have shared their dreams of continuing their studies to become teachers, mechanics or even nurses. These children, without your help and our involvement, would never even be able to contemplate this kind of future.

We are so grateful to those of you who have chosen to sponsor a child and as a result are making a world of difference!

A Legacy of Lives Trained to bring Transformation

Mozambique

“There is no success without a successor,” said one wiser than I! Because life is short, being passionate about equipping those who will remain when we are gone, is critical. And because none of us knows how soon this may be, we had better start NOW if we haven’t already.

There is also no better way to make a difference in our world than to make a difference in the way people think about, interact with and impact the world around them.

“Changed people always change circumstances.”

This is why we are so committed to our Leadership Training Program. Who do you think is called on to accompany the Administrator to check out the flood ravaged areas of the Mutarara district? Who is selected as a key political leader in Sinjal? Who is trusted to sit on a panel to monitor elections in Guru? Who is planting churches and seeing numerous lives come to Christ

every week? Who is initiating orphan care programs in their communities? The monitors and pastors of our training program, that’s who! These awesome and amazing leaders are walking with God and making a difference, and THEY credit their study with Faith Bible Seminary (our training program).

In September we scheduled a special intensive training time for 8 new monitors from new communities who have waited, in some cases over a year, for an extension school in their area. During the weeks leading up to the training time, we had numerous breakdowns and it looked like our water well was drying up. We came very close to cancelling, but God challenged me with the message we constantly use to challenge the leaders... “without faith it is impossible to please God.” We



Pastor Chico and a volunteer in the orphan care garden

did not cancel and were able to complete initial training of 6 more monitors.

We presently have 387 pastors and leaders studying in 24 extension schools with 34 monitors enrolled in ongoing intensive training. Thank you for helping us train and encourage these men and women as they make a difference!

P.S. This garden along with many homes were destroyed in the flooding this past week...pray for wisdom & courage to start again.

THANK YOU from Brazil & Mozambique

A new year with Christmas gifts to give and a life-changing message to share...what a privilege! And all because of YOU!

So many of you responded so graciously to the **Unique Christmas Gift** items and as a result many poor people will be impacted in the months and years to come.

One couple who gave a gift did not want to specify what the money should be spent on, although their daughter felt it should be used for desks for the school. We did not

know this, but sent a thank you telling them we would like to use the money for desks for the school! They responded by sharing that this was their daughter’s wish. Awesome!

Your gifts WILL make an impact because an act of love always causes ripples of influence that we will never fully appreciate.

Thank you again and look for pictures of those you have touched.



A number of our key supporters responded to the critical need for a new vehicle in Mozambique. Having the reliability of a new vehicle saves us literally days and weeks of time and frustration. **Thank you!**

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WEB SITE

WWW.SAMMINISTRIES.ORG

ONLINE NEWS

WWW.LYNNLAGORE.BLOGSPOT.COM

New Team Members for SAMM Mozambique



Rick and Heather Neufeld joined SAMM in 2007. Check out their profile on our web site under "Our People, Field Staff".

"It never ceases to amaze us how faithful God is to provide our needs when we rely on Him. These past few months we have been blessed in so many ways, as our start up fund and monthly support levels continue to grow. We have spent the last few

months living in Rick's parents' garage (it's heated!), preparing for our move to Africa. In March we plan to spend several weeks with family in Eastern Canada, hold a fundraising dinner to sell our furniture and belongings and finish our preparations. Our goal is to be leaving for language training in Brazil in mid-April, and then on to Mozambique in July. Please pray with us that we will continue to see our base of supporters, both prayer and financial, continue to grow, and that we will have safety as we travel each week to different churches."

Never Underestimate God!



We left home in Sept. to visit some of our supporting churches. It happens they are rather widely scattered about in Alberta and Saskatchewan. We made it all the way to Manning, and were on our way to Fairview when the motor in our small diesel R.V. quit. It's an old vehicle, and decided enough was enough, it wasn't going any further. We found ourselves between two isolated towns, in a vehicle that wouldn't go any further. We limped into Fairview, and somehow Earl had to find a way back to Salmon Arm to pick up our van, and get back in two days, a 2800 km. round trip.

But, we've learned never to underestimate God. He looks after His children, whether we are aware of it or not. Fortunately Ruth's nephew Dan Litke, and his wife Karen live in Fairview. We were having a delicious Thanksgiving dinner at their home when we shared our plight with them. Dan said they were actually thinking of going to Sicamous to see friends on the weekend. "Only," he added, "if the weather is not good for harvesting!" Earl could catch a ride to Salmon Arm with them... then he added, "But please don't pray for rain!"

A few days later they informed us they had made definite plans to go, the weather wasn't too promising. Then they mentioned they'd come up with another plan. When we went to their home for that delicious meal, Earl had noticed a 'Chrysler Intrepid' sitting in their yard and he made the comment that the motor from the Intrepid, can

quite easily be adapted to our R.V., and if he ever wanted to sell it, we were interested. Dan said it was a write off, he'd hit two bears on a recent trip, and the side we didn't see was bashed in!

Then Dan called back and said they definitely were going to Sicamous, but, he said, "I have another plan, I'll give you the car, it runs fine, and if you want to drive it to Salmon Arm, we will follow close behind just to make sure you get home safely. Earl was one happy camper, and they set off on their long 'week-end trek'. The car now sits in our yard, the R.V. is in Dan's yard. Fortunately we have good friends everywhere always ready to help. Len Schamehorn from Manning will tow the RV to Salmon Arm for us as soon as possible. So things actually worked out very well when all was said and done. We owe a debt of gratitude to Dan & Karen for your kindness. The remainder of our trip went well, and we enjoyed our time with the pastors, and their congregations. We always receive such a warm welcome and are treated so well.