



Dorothea News

- No. 2/2013 -

Newsletter of the **Dorothea Mission** - an evangelical faith mission
Operating in: South Africa, Namibia, Zimbabwe, Zambia, Malawi and Mozambique
(A non-profit organization Reg. No. 039-294-NPO)



Top: First children's camp - held in tents.

Below: The campsite today with hill in background.

Bottom: Prayer meeting on 13 June 2013.



Taken from the shelf

Our weekly prayer meeting at Dorothea on Thursday, 13th June was special to us as we rededicated the Mission's campsite, that had recently been upgraded, to the Lord.

"A book that sits on a shelf and is not being read, does not benefit anyone. It had value when it was bought and read, but now has no purpose until someone reads it again." Words to this effect were said by the Mission's Director, Jacques Malan, on this occasion.

In the seventies the buildings at the campsite were the first to be erected and brought into use here at *Dorothea*. Before the construction work was completed we held our first children's camp. At that stage a team of evangelists from the Mission was ministering the Word daily at schools and there was a great need for holding camps for these children. Their joy knew no bounds when God answered this prayer!

For many years camps were held during almost every school holiday and there are many adults who today can testify that the Lord used these camps

to convert them or help in their spiritual growth when they were children. Times, circumstances and our body of workers have changed and we were very sad to see that our campsite was being used less and less. That which the Lord has given to us to use in His service couldn't just fall into disuse!

After prayer and deliberation the Council decided, early in 2012, that the campsite needed to be upgraded and made available to Christian churches and groups for camps. Much time was spent in planning, but when it came to the implementation of the plans there were some obstacles. We began, but the work just did not take off.

In April this year two wonderful things happened! Firstly, we received a special donation for this project. Secondly, just two days later, while we were still rejoicing over this gift, a friend of the Mission phoned to ask if he could help us with any practical work. Praise the Lord! Immediately we were able to address all the necessary needs so that we now can offer the campsite for use without feeling embarrassed about its condition! We had everything - the necessary finances and the hands to do the work. More hours were given to this task - this time in practical work by this friend as well as our workers and students.

So it was with great thanksgiving that we could dedicate the campsite afresh to the Lord - this time not only to be used for the Mission's activities, but also by others who seek to advance God's kingdom. May the Lord grant that His Word will be proclaimed regularly here and may precious souls be saved and helped spiritually. And may it also be a place where many will have the opportunity to get away from the rush of daily life and seek God's face.

***“For since the beginning of the world
men have not heard nor perceived by the ear, nor has the eye seen
any God besides You, who acts for the one who waits for Him.”
(Isaiah 64:4)***

Camps for Men and Ladies

God willing, we will hold a men's camp as well as a ladies' camp at our mission station, *Dorothea*, this year. The details are as follows:

Men's Camp: Thursday 8 till Sunday 10 August.

Ladies' Camp: Friday 25 till Sunday 27 October.

Language: English and a local African language.

If you need any further information you are welcome to contact our office. (See p. 8)

In the previous edition of the *Dorothea News* we mentioned that we would possibly hold a conference for the wives of our evangelists in other countries at our mission station in Harare, Zimbabwe, in July. For various reasons this has been postponed to April/May 2014. Thank you to all who remembered it in your prayers. The prayers have been piled up before the Lord's throne and we believe He will answer them in His time.

From the heart

David Livingstone knew how to work hard and persevere. At the age of ten he started working 14 hours per day, six days per week, in a cotton factory. While doing work that didn't need much concentration, he studied. He also attended classes in the evenings after work and studied a bit before his 4-hour sleep. Very few of us would have coped with such a load. Considering his attitude and discipline, however, we are not surprised that he achieved so much as a missionary, explorer, doctor, scientist and slave-trade opponent later on in life. People like that inspire us.

Good, lasting results are achieved by hard work and perseverance, not by a lucky day! We read that *"wealth gained by dishonesty will be diminished, but he who gathers by labour will increase"* (Proverbs 13:11). Someone did some research on national lottery winners in England. It was found that more than 90% of the top winners were in debt and worse off than what they had been before winning! Honest labour seems to be the better policy and the way that God is likely to bless.

Let us then persevere with plenty of good, solid, hard work for the Lord. Jesus said to His disciples, *"I must work the works of Him who sent Me while it is day; the night is coming when no one can work"* (John 9:4).

The fruit of continuing hard work is not immediately evident, but in its time it will appear. The builder knows that there are no short cuts to laying 10 000 bricks. Your vast knowledge of the Bible did not come by simply watching a video, but by many hours of reading with concentration through the years. A monthly contribution of R50 over a long time to a worthy cause doesn't excite people as much as a once off R1,000, but it amounts to more. Daily time on our knees will please the Lord more than a once-off prayer. The discipline of regularly witnessing to unsaved people will usually also do more in Christ's Kingdom than an exciting once off dramatic outreach.

The Lord sees your ongoing labours for His sake. Be assured that *"Your labour is not in vain in the Lord"* (1 Corinthians 15:58). May He keep you and us from becoming lazy, impatient or discouraged. By God's grace, the Dorothea Mission evangelists will keep on with the good work while it is day. Thank you for interceding for us. Please continue.

Yours sincerely

Jacques Malan

Practical outreach by the Bible College

It was a privilege for us, as a Bible College, to hold evangelistic outreaches in Tickyline and Lorraine (near Sekororo, Tzaneen.) As usual, we held services and also spent a lot of time in house visiting. Although most of the people in that area are members of a well-known sect, which has a strong hold on them, we were well received on the whole. We met people with various needs.

Our ladies came to a house where the woman was busy, but she took a tract and made an appointment for them to come the next day. When they came again she had read the tract and as a result was ready to commit her life to the Lord, which she did there and then.

One day I was accompanied by a member from the congregation when we met a group of young men that were busy with their “mountain school” training. This is a pagan initiation practice and it causes quite a sensation when they make their appearance in the village to ask the residents for food. This made us realize afresh the huge spiritual need among the people.



At one of the villages some members of the congregation accompanied us during house visiting. In the mornings we had a time of Bible study and prayer together before we moved out in groups. Afterwards we met again and gave feedback. These people strengthened our ranks and as a result we were able to visit more homes. It was a blessing to them to be involved in this way and they learned a lot.

Those that are converted and leave the sects can expect a lot of resistance from their families. It is our prayer that they will stand firm in their faith and will attend church services regularly so that they can grow spiritually. Please join us in prayer for that.

“Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and you will be saved” (Acts 16:31).

Hungry for help

Bible College: During an open-air meeting on a Sunday afternoon, a certain woman came. After the service she indicated that she wanted to see us and so we made an appointment. When we got there she was waiting for us and we shared the Word with her. She received the Lord Jesus as her Saviour and now attends a church where the Word is preached. She also comes to our open-air meetings regularly and we can still offer her advice. In the past she was bound by witchcraft, but she has destroyed everything to do with that and is now free. One of the problems that she has is that her husband is an alcoholic and takes no responsibility for his family.

Church member got saved

Zimbabwe: We held an outreach about 200 km from Harare. In the mornings we held Bible studies with the members of the church that had invited us. It was attended mainly by younger people. In the afternoons we did house visiting and found many people who did not understand the Gospel. One elderly woman, Mrs Jere, invited us into her house and asked how she could receive Christ as her Saviour. Although she had been a member of the church for many years, she did not know how to do that. We explained the way of salvation to her and she gave her life to the Lord.

A changed patient

Hospital Ministry: A certain man was admitted with a tumour in his neck. This was diagnosed as an aggressive cancer. Soon he lost the use of his legs. At first he was a difficult patient. I visited him regularly and spoke to him about spiritual things. It was evident that he was a soul ready to be harvested and he gave his heart to the Lord with great joy. Immediately there were signs that he was a new person. I was able to help him daily and he had the assurance that his sins were forgiven and that he had eternal life.

One Monday when I came to him, he asked my help. During the weekend he had spoken to a friend on the phone who was at a party and was drinking alcohol. The patient rebuked him and tried to convince him that it was wrong. The friend ended the conversation and since then had not answered his phone when this patient had tried to contact him. The patient asked me to phone his friend on his behalf and to apologise if he had spoken insensitively to him. This attitude showed how the Lord had changed this patient's life.

*“If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation.”
(2 Cor. 5:17)*

A new name is needed

Tete: During an outreach at Chiringa one of the converts was a boy who had been introduced to witchcraft by his grandmother. He had ugly scars on his head as he was punished because he did not carry out the blood-thirsty instructions that he had received. After he heard the Word he chose to serve Christ. In our culture a person's name often refers to his activities or his circumstances. His name also reflected that, but his uncle agreed to arrange that his name be changed to suit his new lifestyle.

Sometimes we become discouraged

*A*t the end of the second term one of our Bible College students, Fortune Duna, completed his training and a dedication service was held to send him out in the Lord's service. The minister, whom he is going to work with in the congregation for which he has been trained, also attended.

Fortune testified as follows: *"The three years of training have been a long road to travel and they were not always easy. I had many questions, but am thankful that the staff had patience with me. They went to a lot of trouble to help me. There were several occasions when I wanted to give up my studies, but they encouraged me to carry on. I have never in my life experienced such wonderful support. The harvest is great and I am looking forward to doing my part in gathering it in!"*



Young and old are reached

*Z*ambia: We have a new opening at a school in Lusaka where we can minister the Word on Tuesdays and Thursdays. At one of the children's clubs which we hold in the afternoons, two teenagers, Frank and Michael, were converted. They come from two different sects and need much prayer.



Happy children at the club in Lilanda received gifts from another organisation. Michael and Frank are 5th and 6th from the left at the back.

We worked together with a church in Kafue for seven days and it went very well. We did house visiting in the mornings and held open-air meetings in the evenings. The response was very good and several people recommitted their lives to the Lord. Some of them are now doing our correspondence Bible studies to help them spiritually. The congregation has taken on the responsibility of continuing to help these people further.

During house visiting we had a call from a family. Their 17-year old son, Junior, was experiencing demons working in his life. This was manifested by nightmares and unexplainable illnesses. The doctors couldn't help him. We spoke to him and he gave his life to the Lord. In answer to prayer the Lord also freed him from the evil spirits.

Annual Conference

The Lord has kept the Dorothea Mission going for another year. All the glory goes to Him for 71 years! Our annual conference, which consists of the Mission's birthday and the days of prayer and teaching after the birthday, is drawing nearer. We **sincerely invite you to both these occasions**, the details of which are as follows:

Birthday

Date and time: Saturday 14 September 2013 at 13:45.

Place: Dutch Reformed Church, Onderstepoort Congregation, 377 Eeufees Street, Pretoria North. (The same venue that we used in 2011. Contact us for a map.)

Programme: Reports by workers, singing and a message from the Word.



Main Speaker: Rev. Leigh Robinson was born in Johannesburg and at a young age was converted and experienced the Lord calling him to full-time service. He studied at the *Prairie Bible College* in Alberta, Canada, and also lectured there for 7 years. When he returned to South Africa he served congregations in Durban (7 years) and Honeyridge (17 years). After that he served at a congregation in Canada for 3 years. Since 2004 Rev. Robinson has been the minister at the *Rosebank Union Church* in Johannesburg. He is married to Irene and they have three adult children and two grandchildren. Rev. Robinson has a heart for missions and missionaries and he and his wife have ministered to missionaries in 13 different countries.

Please note:

- ★ There is only one meeting - at 13:45 - and it will NOT take place at *Dorothea*.
- ★ You are welcome to enjoy a cup of tea with us from 13:10 till 13:40.
- ★ Free refreshments will be served after the meeting.
- ★ Good spiritual books and CDs will be for sale.
- ★ It is not necessary to book for the birthday, but you are welcome to contact us at **012-5602002** or **082-8967960** if you have any queries.

Days of Prayer and Teaching

We would like to invite our friends as well as former workers and students to the four days of prayer and teaching. Details are as follows:

- ★ **Dates:** Sunday 15 to Wednesday 18 September, D.V.
- ★ **Place:** Our mission station, *Dorothea*, outside Rosslyn. (Maps are available.)
- ★ **Programme:** Meetings which will include times of prayer and messages from the Word.
- ★ **Main speaker:** Rev. Leigh Robinson from the *Rosebank Union Church*.
- ★ **Who:** Any Christian who is interested is welcome to attend, even if it is only for a few services. Day visitors are also welcome.
- ★ **Language:** The medium will be English.
- ★ **Please phone** us before you come to make sure of our programme.

Prayer Requests

Since the time that the Dorothea Mission was established our intercessors, who stand together with us in the work, are very precious to us. It is our prayer that the Lord will bless each one richly. May we again bring a few specific matters and planned activities to your attention please?

1. The **men's camp** (8-10 Aug.) and **ladies' camp** (25-27 Oct.) at Dorothea - for a good attendance and that the Lord may work in the hearts of all who will be there.
2. For the **birthday** and the **days of prayer and teaching** that will be held by the various teams. In South Africa it will take place on 14 September and 15 to 18 September, respectively. (See page 7)
 - ★ That the Lord will equip the guest speaker with His Word.
 - ★ That every person who attends will be blessed.
 - ★ For good attendance and for safety for those travelling.
 - ★ For all practical matters and preparations.
3. **Joseph Nota**, the principal of the Bible College, will be in the **United Kingdom** from 27 September to 26 October to represent the Mission, D.V. Our part-time representatives, John and Gwyneth Symons, are finalising his programme and will assist him. Pray that the Lord will equip Joseph and use him to His honour.
4. The following are some of the planned **outreaches**:
 - ★ Zambia: Kampekete from 5 to 11 August.
 - ★ Chokwe (Mozambique): Ndonga from 19 to 23 August.
 - ★ Tete (Mozambique): Marowera 29 September to 20 October
 - ★ South Africa Bible College: Boshof (Free State Province) 1 to 14 October.
5. Pray that the people who receive our **tracts and Bible studies** will read them and that these would speak to their hearts. Also pray that more people will use the Bible studies and complete the series so that they will be spiritually helped.
6. We trust that the Lord will call **more dedicated and capable people** to serve in our ranks so that we can achieve more for Him.

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The Dorothea News is also available by e-mail.

With reference to enquiries we receive from time to time, we herewith supply the bank account details of the Dorothea Mission:

Dorothea Mission, Standard Bank, Van der Walt Street branch, branch code 010145 and account number 011030801.