

Dear friends and family

The Zambezi River is at its fullest now and it is awesome to see this amount of water flowing past and we are also still amazed at the sight of that and the beauty of nature all around; it is then that you find it difficult to understand the poverty and the need that we are surrounded by here in Barotseland!

Personal and projects:

We reported earlier about the completion of the Mari-Simon Centre (on the right) and some of our children are now teaching the "Reading Rocket" programme (specially created for African children by Crossroads in South Africa) to a number of children from the neighbouring school. We can only handle a small number of grade-8 and -9 pupils at the moment because of the limitations of running a generator for long periods of time. On the picture are Cholwe and Mordie tutoring the children. Just keep in mind that none of these children has ever seen a computer before which is unheard of for most of us.

Our children who came to visit during the April holidays have joined forces with our local church and finished the little mud hut for the old widow and the four little orphans under her care. Two of these orphans have had a severe bout of malaria and almost did not make it after they had to walk in that state for 6-kilometres to the clinic just to be turned away without any help or medication. Do you realise how heart rendering it is to see vulnerable little children like this without a mother to love and care for them? Fortunately we had some medicine, but the medication needs to be taken at very specific times so Lourie and Mordie had to drive there at 3-0'clock one morning to administer the next dosage because there is no way for them to tell the time.



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Mari-Simon Centre



Liewe vriende en familie,

Die Zambezirivier is propvol en soos altyd baie mooi en jy verwonder jou aan die grootsheid van die hoeveelheid water wat hier verbyvloei en die mooi van die bome en die natuur; dan is dit eers moeilik om die armoede en die honger waarmee ons hier in Barotseland omring word te verstaan!

Persoonlik en projekte:

In die vorige nuusbrieff het ons vertel van die Mari-Simon Sentrum wat nou voltooi is (links), en van ons kinders bied nou die "ReadingRocket" rekenaarprogram aan wat spesiaal vir Afrika-kindere deur Crossroads in Suid Afrika ontwikkel is. Daar is op die stadium net twaalf graad-8 en -9 kindere omdat ons maar beperk word deur die tyd wat die kragopwekker aan die gang kan bly. Links is Cholwe en Mordie besig met die opleiding. Hou in gedagte dat nie een van hierdie kindere al ooit 'n rekenaar in hul lewe gesien het nie en vir baie mense is dit natuurlik ondenkbaar!

Ons kindere wat almal hier was vir die April-vakansie, het in samewerking met die plaaslike kerkie die oumatjie met die vier wesies se modderhuisie voltooi. Twee van die vier wesies het malaria gehad en by die dood omgedraai omdat die kliniek geen medikasie gehad het nie! Dit was hartverskeurend om hierdie kindere so te sien! Hulle stap met daai siek lyfies 6-kilometer kliniek toe, sonder 'n ma wat hulle kan bystaan en liefhê, net om weggewys te word sonder medisyne! Gelukkig het ons gehad maar die medikasie moet op spesifieke tye geneem word en Lourie en Mordie moes tot 3-uur in die môre soontoe ry om 'n dosis te gaan toedien omdat daar geen manier vir hulle is om tyd aan te dui nie.

Lourie is in the mean time busy ferrying patients with serious problems up and down to the hospital in Sesheke which is 50-kilometres away and that is apart from the others who are being treated at the local clinic.

You would remember that three of our children are studying teaching at the Nkana College in Kitwe. On the right are Cholwe and William who are now doing their teacher's practice at our neighbouring school, Lusu. They are going to spend the whole term with us at "home" and the "mother" is needless to say very happy that her Nkana-boys are spending time with us. They are also a great help to us in the mission field because they have all completed discipleship training and some can speak Lozi quite well.



Reading Rocket

Prayer requests:

- † Thank God for the beautiful new building and all the helpers.
- † Please pray for the children on the programme, especially the young ones.
- † Thank God that he is providing in so many wonderful ways and we can see how children's lives are changed.
- † Thank God for all of you who are part of this project.



Love and blessings from the heart of Africa.

Lourie & Gisela Ferreira

www.kanjanji.com

P.O.Box 5, Sesheke, Zambia

Tel: +260 997 867125

E-mail: gisela.ferreira007@yahoo.com



Cholwe and William

Lourie is op-en-af besig om die ernstige siekes na die hospitaal in Sesheke te karwei wat 50-km ver is en dis behalwe diesulkes wat hulp kry by die plaaslike kliniek.

Julle sal onthou dat drie van ons seuns onderwys studeer aan die Nkana Onderwyskollege in Kitwe. Links is Cholwe en William wat hierdie termyn hulle "teachers practice" by ons nabygelee skooltjie, Lusu, doen. Hulle gaan die hele termyn by die "huis" wees terwyl hulle onderwys gee en die "ma" is natuurlik baie in haar noppies dat haar Nkana-seuns bietjie tuis gaan wees! Hulle is ook vir ons 'n groot hulp in die sendingveld omdat almal reeds OM-dissipelskap gedoen het en die Lozi-taal magtig is.

Gebedsversoeke:

- † Sê saam dankie vir die pragtige gebou EN AL die hulp met die bouery.
- † Bid asb. saam vir al die kinders op die program, veral die kleintjies.
- † Sê saam dankie dat God so wonderbaarlik voorsien en dat ons kan SIEN hoe kinders se lewens aangeraak word!
- † Dankie vir julle wat deel is van DIE projek!

Liefde en seën uit die hart van Afrika.

Lourie & Gisela Ferreira

www.kanjanji.com

P.O.Box 5, Sesheke, Zambia

Tel: +260 997 867125

Epos: gisela.ferreira007@yahoo.com

