



Zion Journal

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Fall 2011

AROUND THE FELLOWSHIP

Hans, Donna, and Samuel Dibbits Cameroon

The summer holidays are over, and school has begun again in earnest for the Dibbits family. Samuel's fifth grade began in the middle of August with a 2-week program and a dozen other MKs (missionary kids). He had a great time, and their "special unit" was on creepy, crawly things. When it was over, he and Donna jumped into their regular studies and both have settled in nicely. Meanwhile, the Bible school is back in session, and Hans will teach throughout September and October.

During the holidays, all kept busy with various projects around the house and the school campus. Hans, with the help of a Cameroonian pastor, was also able to make another 900 books to be used as textbooks in FGBI. They are excited to be able to share the teachings of Zion with the soon-to-be pastors.

Werner and Helga Knorr have returned to Bamenda at the end of August from a short stay in their homeland of Germany over the summer. The Dibbits are thankful for their safe arrival, and are looking forward to helping the Knorrs prepare for another FGBI graduation in November. This year, more than eighty are expected to graduate. Once again, many visitors and family members are expected to be there for the joyous celebrations.

The month of October is also going to be an important time for the country of Cameroon. National elections have been called for Sunday, October 9. Hans and Donna anticipate that things will go smoothly, even though other places on the African continent have experienced unrest. Nevertheless, they would appreciate prayers for the nation and the government officials that would be elected. Paul himself exhorts the brethren in I Timothy 2:1-2, *"I exhort therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks, be made for all men; For kings, and for all that are in authority; that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty."* Christians in this nation have enjoyed much freedom for decades, and the liberty to preach the gospel. We pray that the Lord would continue to bless this country in this way.

Finally, the Dibbits family is looking forward to the first week of December, when the Full Gospel Mission will celebrate its Jubilee. The Knorrs came to Cameroon fifty years ago, and pioneered the work that today has grown to be the largest Pentecostal denomination in the nation. With more than 1000 churches and preaching points, more than 60,000 members and churches planted in the nations surrounding Cameroon, the work is a testimony to what the Lord can do through dedicated, upright and faithful

believers. While these celebrations will certainly include times of reflection, there will also be opportunities to look to God for the future and the work He has planned. They pray too that the Lord will continue to be given His rightful place of leadership, and that the work will be pleasing to Him. The Dibbits are very grateful to be given an opportunity to have a small role in this great work: the furtherance of His Kingdom! Join them to pray for the Lord's continued grace in that place. May the Lord bless you all richly!

Ron and MaryBeth Courier Swaziland

"And the Lord will create upon every dwelling place of Mount Zion, and upon her assemblies, a cloud and smoke by day, and the shining of a flaming fire by night: for upon all the glory shall be a defence [spread a covering]" Isaiah 4:5.

Since our last newsletter in July, Deryc and I had the privilege of presenting a seminar in Maputo, Mozambique, through a pastor studying in the ZCU Masters Program in Swaziland. It was a three-day seminar and the attendance was in excess of 600-standing room only. They were so pleased he is coming to Swaziland shortly to schedule another one after the first of the year.

Final arrangements are in process for seminars scheduled for October in South Africa on the Holy Spirit and November in Swaziland on Leadership. The Lord has increased the student rolls to 142, and we are so thankful.

The CMP programs have been presented and we are in the waiting stage, so we would appreciate your prayers. Nothing goes fast in Africa. Another pastor studying with Zion is so pleased with the studies, has scheduled a meeting for September 11, 2011, to invite all the pastors in their denomination to promote Zion and recommend the programs. We would appreciate your prayers.

Deryc has returned to the USA for a break and direction for the future, please pray for the Lord's confirmation.

The classes with AOG and Swedish Free Church are going very well and we are continuing to minister, counsel, and teach as the Lord opens doors. During the holidays there will be a printing spree to prepare for the beginning of 2012.

Zion Chapel Waverly, New York

The entire ZMI building has been undergoing several major changes, inside and out this summer. We have had gas lines put into the ground as we are converting to natural gas to make our building more energy efficient. We are also adding wind turbines and solar panels on the roofs, with the same purpose in mind. Many of these projects have been done by our own men here at Zion, Waverly, and many volunteers within the Fellowship. The project has been going on all summer long, and many have come to donate their time and expertise in needed areas. We are very thankful for all of this help.

Also, a new room/office for Pastor Bailey has been beautifully decorated, after much 'overhauling'. Walls, ceiling, floors, a new chandelier, new bookshelves and a handmade fireplace mantle have been put together by men in the Fellowship.

We are awaiting a blessed handful of new ZMI students who will be arriving soon to begin the fall, September 19th, 2011, classes. Half of all the ZMI students are international.

Zion Academy is very happy to have 15 students this semester, an increase of three students and one new teacher, Mrs. Sarah Gutierrez, who is teaching 3rd grade. We now have students in kindergarten, first, second, third, sixth, eighth, tenth, and eleventh grades. ZA will be having an open house in October for parents and the public to visit the classrooms and talk with the teachers.

John and Donna Heyer Kitchener, Ontario

Five of the MZAK youth went down to Wellsboro, Pennsylvania, to attend the Zion Youth Camp. Pastor Curtis Sharp shared with the youth, and all of the teens that went had a great time. They really met with the Lord and were spiritually revived. They also all shared their testimonies and thoughts from the week with our church the following Sunday evening. We are all blessed to see and hear what God is doing in our youth's lives, and in the lives of all the Zion youth.

Mt. Zion Assembly was blessed to have two young people from our church come forward and reaffirm their relationship with Jesus through water baptism. Erin Rieck and Nico Weber both chose to be baptised, and we had their baptism late in August.

Our church also organises a youth camping trip each year on Labour Day weekend, and this year 17 people from the youth group spent the weekend in the wilderness, enjoying God's creation. Everyone had a wonderful time having fun, drawing close together as friends, and meeting with God surrounded by His beauty and creation.

Bobby McClement, Stephanie Dotzert, and Chris Walter will be heading back to Mt. Zion Ministerial Institute for their last semester at Bible school, and Bevan Hamilton

will be going as well, starting his first semester there. They will be missed, but our church family is excited to see them going on in the Lord and pressing on to know His voice.

Curtis, Cathy, and Camry Sharp Costa Rica

CURTIS' TRAVELS

Thank you for your prayers as Curtis was in the D.R. teaching and then he was in the States. He was gone for three weeks and we all appreciate the prayers during that time. The Lord was merciful as he taught in the Bible institute in the D.R. and he always enjoys the privilege of sharing with the youth at the Zion Youth Camp. We trust the Lord for eternal fruit to come forth out of these times.

Curtis has an upcoming trip on the 18th to Miami where he will be teaching in the Institute then he plans to attend Zion's Pastor's Convention. Lord willing He will arrive back to the bush on the 4th of October. Please keep his travels in prayer.

Also hold his travels to Central America in November before the Lord.

BATS AND ANTS

We have killed 26 bats in our house since mid July, and we are praying that we will not have to continue to deal with them getting in. A "bat house" has been made and we are praying they will go to that instead.

We have also been invaded by ants. Please pray that the Lord will give us wisdom concerning this problem.

ZION CHURCH/ INSTITUTE

We are in the middle of making some changes to our church building. It should look very nice when it is completed. We have a goal to have the tile floor in for the Bible institute graduation in October. We are looking forward to Pastor David Wallis and his wife being here with us to teach and officiate the graduation.

It was my privilege to teach the book of Job from my spiritual father's course "Turning the Curse into a Blessing."

This was taught in the local Bible institute. I was blessed with many things that God spoke to me as I taught the class as well.

Sonia who is a third level student taught last month on the book of Joshua. It was an excellent class and the Lord spoke many truths to us all through it. The next course will also be taught by an advanced student, Leonardo (Nando) O'Neil. He is teaching on David and Solomon. He has a gift when it comes to preaching and this will be his first institute course, and he is a bit nervous so you can pray for him. We know he will do a good job, that is why he was asked to share. For those of you who know, he is Lupe and Irineo's son.

CAMRY'S SCHOOLING

During Camry's school "break" we have been working on her Social Studies project which counts for half the year's grade. We had a very late start on that as we were unable to acquire the necessary information from the net and had to wait till we obtained books on the State of PA to finish the project. Curtis undertook the main part of this project, teaching her how to write a paper that was over 30 pages in length. She has also been working on catching up a bit in her 7th grade Math during her break and she finished some literature as well. Lord willing, we will take two or three weeks rest and then we will officially begin her 8th grade school year on October 3rd. She will be half way through on 7th grade level with her Math. Please pray for her schooling that the Lord would help her as she studies. Pray for her as she continues to grow in stature and in favor with God and man. She will be turning 14 in November.

SPECIAL PRYER REQUESTS

Please pray for Karlita's mother, Paulina. She is the sister in our church who had surgery for two tumors on her head last year. Another one has appeared behind her eye and she is in the hospital now on a waiting list for another surgery. There are risks of her coming out of the surgery not knowing anyone or even herself. We want to

pray that the Lord would be glorified through this all.

For those who have been praying for Dina, thank you. Please continue. The doctor has her on a medication and they feel the tumor will disappear in a few months time and that she will not need surgery. Let's keep praying that God will show Himself merciful in this situation.

Thank you so very much for your love and support toward the mission in Costa Rica. May the Lord have a harvest of fruit from this field for all eternity.

Update on Paulina: She has come out of surgery and is able to recognize everyone. However she is still in the hospital and will have further tests.

Editing Staff of Zion Journal

When we sent out our last Zion Journal, we included a letter asking if you felt the Journal was helpful and useful. We want to thank you for your response.

We have decided to continue the Journal. We will, however, cease the printing and mailing. There were a couple of requests for the continued printed journals. We will still print and post those that requested this, but please note that it will be in the form that this one is printed.

For those of you who responded and gave us your email address, we will send them to you via your email in pdf format.

For those of you who did not respond, please take note that the Journal will be posted on Zion's website for viewing. You can go to www.zionfellowship.org and look for the link.

As you can see by this current edition, we did not receive many articles. We hope that you will continue to send in your articles, they are very much a blessing to the Fellowship.

Once again, we are thankful for your response. It is gratifying for us to know that the Journal has been a blessing to you.