

Box 908
Charlestown
Nevis, W.I

August 12, 2008

Dear Friends in Christ:

I am delighted to report that the missionary trip to Africa last month was very rewarding. Sister Estica Hicks and Sister Mary Victor did a wonderful job in ministering to the children. We are gratefully glad for their valuable contribution to the Africa mission. We thank the Lord for the opportunity to preach the Word of God in eight different cities. We rejoice because many children and young people received the Lord. To God be the glory!

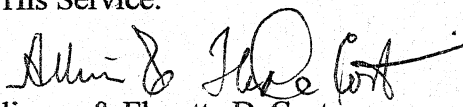
We deeply appreciate your financial contribution to the Africa mission. Because you gave we were able to go and preach the glorious gospel of God. Because you gave we were able to buy 130 Bibles for new believers. Because you gave we were able to provide the money for 2 ladies to take a 6 month course in dress making and designing. Because you gave we were able to financially assist some of the Pastors. Because you gave we made a financial contribution to the Midlands Children Home to help feed these precious orphans. The problem of AIDS has produced many orphans in Africa and the number is increasing rapidly.

When I made my first trip to Africa in 1998, the Lord burdened my heart concerning the need for an orphanage. That dream is still in my heart and with your prayers and your support it can and will become a reality. Your advice and counsel regarding this matter will be deeply appreciated. This orphanage shall be called "House of Hope."

The transportation system in Zimbabwe is very unreliable and chaotic. I thank the Lord for providing Pastor Christopher to assist us by using his van to take us throughout the country. Pastor Chris has a desire to visit Nevis and St Maarten during the month of January, 2009. The cost of the trip is about US\$2600.00. We are kindly asking you to help us get him to Nevis and St. Maarten and then back to Africa.

Thank you very much for helping us and for holding us up in prayer. Thank you for being a generous missionary minded Christian. Keep up the good work and the Lord of the Harvest will richly bless you as you continue to serve Him faithfully. My contact information is: e-mail, dacosta_allinson@hotmail.com, telephone number, 1-869-469-5680 & 1-896-763-6082. Looking forward to hearing from you.

In His Service.


Allinson & Floretta DaCosta

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Dear Brothers in the Lord

We greet you all in the wonderful name of our Lord Jesus. Phikwe Baptist Church greets you. We thank God for the wonderful time we had with Pastor Allinson Da Costa, Sisters Estica Hicks and Mary Victor here at Phikwe Baptist Church in Botswana. We thank you for sending them to come and minister among us. May I take you through what they were able to do while with us here at Phikwe Baptist Church from the 07th to the 13th of July 2008.

OUTREACH PROGRAMME

- (i) Witnessing: Everyday from 10.00am to 1230 afternoon, they would go out House to House in our community sharing the good news and God's plan of salvation. We saw many coming to Christ and being saved through this effort. At the end of this effort we had about 25 or more who came to know the Lord Jesus Christ as their Lord and personal saviour. Also as they witnessed house to house they distributed Christian tracts and invited people for the evening preachings. Those from our church who accompanied them on doing witnessing felt challenged and promised to keep on doing it. They did learn how to witness as they saw the passion for lost souls from Pastor Da Costa, Sister Estica Hicks and Sister Mary Victor. Those who accompanied them have never done it before. So they were really challenged and also excited to see people receiving Jesus as a result of going and witnessing. We pray that even after Pastor Da Costa and the Sisters have gone back to West Indies we will continue witnessing for Jesus. And we will follow up the new converts. We say to Pastor Da Costa and Sisters Estica Hicks, Mary Victor, well done God Bless You.

- (ii) **Schools and Institutions**

- (a) **Schools**

- They visited schools to share and preach the word of God. The main objective was to introduce Jesus to the school children for he alone can change their lives for good behaviour, moral upright discipline in their studies and a better future and a better nation. Of the schools they visited they spoke to more than 800 pupils. They also spoke to teachers and staff who really expressed that they were encouraged by their visit and blessed from the messages

that were preached. At one of the schools they shared the good news to a Scripture Union (SU) group. This is an interdenominational group where Christian students come to fellowship together. They really had a wonderful time. They wanted Pastor and the team to come the following day, but could not because of time.

(b) **Institutions**

These are various Government Departments and Private Companies who when they start their working day they start with prayers. Pastor Da Costa shared the word of God in these institutions encouraging them and witnessing to them. He taught on faithfulness and being good stewards of their time at work and while still in life. For one day they will give an account of how they used their time before God. This ministry resulted in our church being invited by one bank institution to always come once every week to speak to their staff. Is not this wonderful!! We praise God for this opportunity.

(iii) **Children's Ministry**

Ministering to children was one of the main focus as a church. Sisters Mary Victor and Estica Hicks did a wonderful job. As they went to schools they shared Jesus to them. They invited them to come to church. On Saturday the 12th of July they had 120 kids who came for the afternoon programme. They had fun, games, Bible stories, singing, dancing, playing with balloons, sweets and drinks. The children enjoyed it. This became the birth of Children Bible Club. They invited the children to be in church on Sunday the 13th of July. Guess, on Sunday morning we had 95 children in church for the first time ever. They occupied the other row of chairs that used to be empty on our Sundays. This is wonderful. God is great. We say thank you Sisters Estica and Mary. Our Sunday School teachers committed themselves to love and care for these kids. Pray for us as a church that we will love, care and support the Children Bible Club. May God richly bless you.

(iv) **Gift to the Children's Ministry**

Pastor Da Costa gave a gift to the Children's Bible Club. He bought 120 Youth Bibles to be given to the children. We really thank him and appreciate. May God richly bless him for the gift.

(v) **Evenings Church Revival**

During evenings Pastor Da Costa preached from Tuesday 8 till Sunday. This was a wonderful time for our church to be revived through the preachings. He encouraged the church to be on the go for Jesus Christ. He stressed that a going church is a growing church. His emphasis was the harvest is ready. We also had baptism on Sunday the 13th of

July. We asked Pastor Da Costa to conduct it. We baptized 7. We thank God for all what was done and accomplished during their time with us in Selebi-Phikwe Town at Selebi-Phikwe Baptist Church. We wished we could have them to stay but they had to go back to Zimbabwe and visit other mission places. Thank you, God bless you.

(vi) **Gaborone, Hokutwe and Molepolole**

From Phikwe Pastor and the team visited the above mission field where he met with Pastors and leaders to pray with them and encourage them. Some of these Pastors find themselves left alone on the mission field with no one to encourage them and appreciate what they are doing. The Pastors and leaders in these areas thanked God for Pastor Da Costa and the team to come and visit and encourage them.

CHALLENGES

- (i) Leadership Training
- (ii) Orphans Care
- (iii) Transport

(i) **Leadership Training**

As I accompanied Pastor Da Costa and the team, I realized that most of the Pastors and leaders have no formal training. There is need to train some of the Pastors and leaders, to be well equipped for the ministry. With my formal training I felt I could volunteer to step in and help with the training programme. This would require me to travel from Botswana to Zimbabwe. God willing I plan to start in November with the Marondera Mission Field. For this to become a reality financial support is needed. Pray for this training programme and for me.

(ii) **Orphan Care**

Zimbabwe has so many positive attributes, a well educated citizenry that is friendly. The country has made progress in this area focusing on education regardless of other challenges it is facing now.

But HIV / AIDS threatens this great progress. The size and complexity of this problem must be understood and overcome if Zimbabwe is to continue its progress. Furthermore, its very existence may be at risk.

As a result of HIV / AIDS many families have lost either husband or wife or both. This has created a problem of children in affected families. Where they are left with no one to care and provide for them. In some cases these children are divided among family relatives to take care of them, and in most cases they are not given proper care and schooling. They find themselves being more abused than cared for. This has resulted in big demand for the care of orphans and vulnerable children.

(4)

The government has a social welfare programme that is overburdened that needs some help from other bodies to come in and assist in the care of orphans. Assistance could be just supporting of orphans where they are or establishing an orphanage home. An orphanage home is more suitable. The church in Zimbabwe has a role to play in supporting or establishing orphanage homes. We have identified a property that is adequate to establish an orphanage home. We plan to call it HOUSE OF HOPE. We need your prayers and support for this to be a reality. Pastor Da Costa and the team visited some orphanage homes and gave donations. May God bless them.

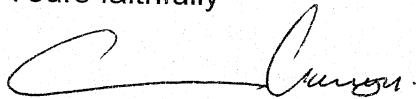
(iii) **Transport**

For Pastor Da Costa and the team to be able to move from one place to another, it was a big challenge. The transport system here is unreliable and chaotic I had to assist them with transport to cover 1500 miles.

CONCLUSION

We thank you all dear friends who gave in kind, financial support and prayers to Pastor Allinson Da Costa, Sisters Estica Hicks and Mary Victor. May God richly bless you. They were a blessing and they did wonderful work. May God richly bless them. Thank you for your love dear friends. We love you.

Yours faithfully



PASTOR CHRISTOPHER EMMANUEL GUMUNYU