

Our Next Term

We hope to return to Zambia in August 2014 with the following primary goals:

1. The focus of John's efforts will be to further assist our three national church partners in **developing ways to train their leaders**. All three churches see this as crucial to the continued growth of the church in Zambia. He will be involved in training pastors and church leaders, who will in turn teach others. We believe this will result in making disciples who can carry the Gospel to every village in Zambia, so that all may hear and respond to the Good News of Jesus Christ.
2. Dawn will be focusing on the continued development of the **adult literacy** program. The materials are in place, but workers who are burdened for those who cannot read and who are gifted in this area need to be identified and trained.



Training Leaders in Choma

How You Can Help

1. **Prayer.** We need people to join us in prayer concerning our ministry. You can follow us on Facebook (look for John Morris Elliott) and Google+ or you can receive our e-mail Prayer Update.
2. **Monthly Pledges.** We are seeking an additional \$1200 in monthly pledges to help us cover the expenses of training more workers and seeing that believers in our churches can read God's Word for themselves!
3. **Cash.** We need funds to cover the expenses of itineration and for our return to Zambia.

Will you partner with us?



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John & Dawn Elliott

Missionaries to Zambia



Investing in Africa's Church Leaders

&

Enabling Believers to Read God's Word



ASSEMBLIES of GOD WORLD MISSIONS

Zambia

Geography

Area: 290,585 sq. mi., slightly larger than the state of Texas.

Capital: Lusaka

Climate: six months wet, six months dry. Most rain falls in December-February. July is the coolest month; October the hottest.



Lusaka

People

Population: Over 13 million.

Religions: Christian, African traditional beliefs, Muslim, Hindu.

Languages: English (official); about 40 local languages, including Bemba, Lozi, Kaonde, Lunda, Luvale, Tonga, and Nyanja.

Health: Life expectancy—37 years. HIV prevalence (age 15-49)—17%.

Work force: 75% agriculture, 6% mining and manufacturing, and 19% services.

Christianity in Zambia



Village in Southern Province

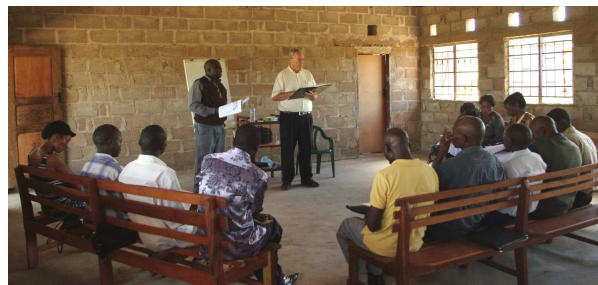
Christianity has been in Zambia for over 100 years, having been introduced by David Livingstone in the mid-1800's. Response to the Gospel was initially very slow. Less than 2% of Zambians had declared themselves to be Christians and had been baptized by 1930. This number increased to about one-third by the 1960's and has exploded during the last few decades. Today the majority of Zambians call themselves "Christian," and for the past twenty years the nation's official religion has been Christianity.

However, many of these Christians are members of the Jehovah's Witnesses and other Christian cults who do not have a Biblical understanding of the Gospel. In addition, Islam is rising rapidly, especially in the eastern parts of the country. The doors for evangelism and church planting are wide open now, but this may not continue for long. It is imperative that leaders of all sorts be equipped as soon as possible to gather in the millions of Zambians who currently do not know Jesus personally as their Lord and Savior.

The American Assemblies of God entered Zambia officially in 1997. The Elliotts were the second missionary couple to reside there. Currently there are also two other couples, one single missionary, and two missionary associates doing ministry in the country. We work with three different national churches in Zambia, all affiliated with the World Assemblies of God Alliance. The largest of these, with about 1700 congregations, is the Pentecostal Assemblies of God. The other two groups—the Assemblies of God in Zambia and Grace Ministries Mission—each have close to one hundred congregations. Together these three groups have increased eight-fold in size since 1990!

Our Ministry in Zambia

We went to Zambia in 1998 with the goal of developing a non-residential leadership training program to equip those God was calling and raising up as leaders among the three national churches we partner with in Zambia. Under the umbrella program called Christian Leaders Training Institute, the three groups have operated a number of centers which have trained over 1000 leaders on various levels.



Leaders attending class in Luwingu



Pastor Leonard Lubula and his congregation in 2008 and three years later. He is now running about 200!

John has several other responsibilities too. He serves as the national director for Global University, overseeing several dozen students working on their B.A. degree by correspondence. He is also adjunct faculty for the PThS doctoral program. And finally, he is the team leader for Zambia, giving oversight to the other AGWM missionaries working in Zambia.

Over the years, Dawn has taught a number of courses at the degree level. But during the past term Dawn has also become involved in **adult literacy**. About 25% of all women and a lesser number of men have not been to school and cannot read and write. Many of these are believers in our churches, and some are even church leaders! Dawn has revamped the Bemba adult literacy curriculum developed in the 1980's and has implemented it in a couple of churches, with the goal of enabling believers to read their Bibles for themselves, and as a means of sharing the Gospel with the lost as they are learning how to read.



Dawn teaching women to read in Bemba