



Dear brothers and sisters in the Lord,

We are grateful that over the years so many have joined in supporting the mission work! From that perspective, the mission is the centre of the world, uniting many different believers and churches from all over the world with God's people in Zambia. Please receive this newsletter as a means to foster that relationship.

News from the Trust

From March 26-27, the Board of Trustees held its Annual General Meeting here at the mission. From various churches and countries, the brothers arrived to discuss the progress and prospects of the three Ministries: College, Farm, and Education. The Board also approves budgets for the next year and checks the accounts, assisted by a professional accountant from Lusaka. The Board encouraged the Management to compose a list of various projects, large and small, to publish the ministries' needs to the churches and enable individuals and congregations to take responsibility of those (see the selection of Projects below).

It also considered the feasibility of adding a Health Ministry, which would concentrate on the Christian training of community health workers. The Trust decided to explore this option.

The Trust spent considerable time to review the Vision plans that were drafted in the previous months for each ministry (see *Vision*).

The Trust also met again with representatives from the students' churches; this strengthens the ties between the College and the denominations in our area.

The Management team is being assisted by Rev. McDonald to create a new website, covering all the work of Covenant College Zambia Trust.

College

In this College update, I would like to highlight some blessings and challenges we are experiencing.

In February, the College commenced its 10th year of training pastors in the Eastern Province of Zambia. Nine new students joined the fourteen who remained after eight graduated last October. Sixteen students are enrolled in the Diploma stream, and 7 pursue a Certificate. We are thankful for a stable number of local church leaders who find their way to Covenant College, and for the dedication among students to work hard.

We are thankful for the steady support which enables the College to operate without disruption, in the form of funds, or of materials such as books, or in the form of enabling lecturers to teach at no expense to the College. It was good to visit supporting churches during the College break; Heinrich presented the work again in South Africa, and visited the Free Church of Scotland (continuing) in November. Cees visited the Heritage Reformed Congregations in North America and presented the College to friends in The Netherlands. It is encouraging to see churches commit to stand together in the work of the Lord. We thank Mr Pompe and Mr Van der Merwe for the new uniforms! We acknowledge pastors Smit, Van der Walt (Reformed Churches of South Africa), and Kamanga (Reformed Baptist Zambia), as well as Mr Thomas (Mukhanyo Theological College) for jobs well done teaching courses in 2009. Two graduates are involved in teaching, Pastor Banda (Certificate classes) and Mr Chellah (English). One graduate, Mr. Mwale, is now enrolled in Mukhanyo's B.Th. program with the support of Centurion Reformed Church; we expect him to become a teacher in due time. Several people responded positively to the Adopt-a-Student program; one family took responsibility for four students!

The accreditation acquiring process through Mukhanyo has progressed slowly but steadily; now that they have received their independent status, our position can be finalized soon as well.

In terms of College staff, our two Zambian employees perform commendable jobs and we could not run the College without Mr. Phiri and Mr. Banda. The Zwemstra family is expecting to receive their third child very soon, and are in South Africa to await the birth. The Molenaar family was glad that a teacher volunteer from the Netherlands, Jaap van de Kamp, joined them in November to take responsibility of Joas and Rhoda's education this year.

Vision

1. We are inspired by the Bible and emphasize its authority and application in all areas of life. Therefore, we seek to promote a Biblical worldview in our ministries which addresses the totality of daily life of the people around us, including faith, culture, family relationships, work, and education.
(...)
2. We realize that the Word of God is the most important gift we can share with the people around us, and that practical help cannot stand on its own in a church based mission work. However, we are also convinced that the Word should be accompanied by Deeds of mercy and Christian development of life. Since different aspects are realized in each ministry, we complement each other for a balanced missionary approach.
(...)
5. Each ministry is driven by a desire to serve God in serving the churches, Christians, and the people of Eastern Province in general. We acknowledge that God has His church here, that many Christians are devoted to serve Him, and that in many ways responsibilities are taken by churches and Christians to propagate the Gospel, to reach out to those in need, and to educate children.
6. In respect to this, we are convinced that our major focus should be the training of other people. We are not here to take away the churches' responsibility, to replace local Christians, or to make local knowledge and experience redundant – but to strengthen and develop what is already here. This applies to all areas of ministry.
(...)

From *Trust Vision*, March 2010

Challenges

In the midst of these blessings, what are some of the challenges we face? By far, the greatest challenge remains to offer theological education which is both true to the whole Bible and relevant to all of life, and to train men for a God-glorifying ministry in the local churches.

At a smaller scale, we are concentrating on the College's relationship with the local churches, and on maintaining the relationship with our graduates.

We will work more closely together with the churches to create more ownership of the College locally, and to evaluate the College training in light of what happens at ground level. We will also invite all our graduates to a special Graduates Conference this year – and pay their transport if at all possible since most are not financially supported by their churches. At the same time, we hope to hold our general pastors conference to aid the many untrained church leaders in our area, and to encourage their enrolment at the College. It is our desire to organize such conferences in more than one location, to cast the net wider.

In order for the College to seriously undertake all this, we need the right resources. Therefore, the College is looking for a full time lecturer (see box) to safeguard the continuation of the ministry. The Trust also approved that we appoint two part time Zambian lecturers. We hope to find men who are experienced as pastors, committed to reformed theology, and have a heart for teaching in a rural setup. The part time teachers will not be required to live at the mission station. This also emphasizes the importance of continued financial support. In our Project list we name a few specific needs for your consideration.

The Trust wants to come in contact with a missionary/pastor to serve Covenant College as a

Full time Lecturer in Theology

This need arises from the expansion of the work and from an expected vacancy in the near future.

See Job Description below.



Christian Education Ministry – Marjanne Hendriksen

During the first term this year we were able to visit most of the schools CEM supports. Once we had to abandon a trip because there was a lot of mud on the road. People from the villages around came to warn us. The day before a 4x4 got stuck over there and the people had to stay in their car the whole night before there was enough help to get them out... I was really thankful for this warning!

It was good to visit the schools again and encouraging to see teachers doing a Bible lesson. But there are also schools with problems. Two schools were still closed this term because their communities didn't take their responsibility in supporting the teachers. In one village we had a meeting with the parents and headmen. In the other village we had several talks with teachers. Both schools plan to open next term. At the moment we are busy with a three days conference for teachers. Four people from the Excellence Christian Academy in Kabwe came to help me with the teaching. It was encouraging to work together. It is also good and really nice to meet our teachers again and to learn more together about Christian Education!

Farm Ministry – Phil Bailey

CC Farm Open Day

On Friday 19th March we held our Farm Open Day. Over 150 people came, mostly farmers, from throughout the district. Encouragingly, two District Agricultural Co-Ordinators (DACO's) came along as well. One from Petauke and the other from the next District, Katete. These men are the Heads of the Districts' Agriculture and both were enthusiastic about Farming God's Way.

Bilison was extolling the virtues of manure and compost pits. Not the most pleasant subject but a very important part of conservation farming and for overcoming the escalating price of fertilizer. Then we moved onto the maize trial fields where the benefits of FGW were shown and explained.

We also had a FGW demonstration plot at the local Farm Training Centre and at their Open Day we were able to explain the biblical application to FGW.



CC Farm Workshop

Building of the new workshop is well on the way. It will comprise two large rooms, one for carpentry and one for welding/metal work. We aim to rent these out to local craftsmen to provide services to the local community and to the College. In time, we hope that this facility will also provide training in these trades for the students of Covenant College. The tools to equip the workshops are being sent out from the UK by the charity 'Tools with a Mission' (www.twam.co.uk)

The Farm has advertised for the position of a **Zambian Agricultural Missionary** to work alongside Phil in the CC Farm ministry. Please pray that the Lord will lead someone with a heart for mission work and agricultural experience to apply.

Ministry:	Projects for Support – a selection Project Description:	\$ Amount:
College	<i>Graduates Conference</i> – the work of a rural pastor is often hard and isolated; he does not receive enough support to buy books or attend conferences. We offer them a week of refreshing teaching and encouraging fellowship. The costs are mainly transport, a speaker, and if possible a book. We count on 45 attendees.	1,000
All	<i>Internet</i> – Communication is crucial for a mission project with a wide web of supporters. Email and internet is also an important means for the missionaries to maintain the relationship with the home church, family and friends. Per month we pay about \$200, which gives a decent speed and a good bandwidth.	200 monthly
College	<i>Adopt a Student</i> – with \$600 per year, you cover all the expenses of training one pastor from rural Zambia. He has never had the chance in his life time!	600 per Student
College	<i>Bibles</i> – It is difficult to buy a Bible in our area. We always try to have some from Malawi, and we sell them at a discounted rate. Per Bible we lose \$3.00 How many Bibles will you help us buy?	3 per Bible
Women Ministry (College)	<i>Pastors Wives Meetings</i> – Three times a year, we invite all the students' wives for a two-day meeting. Many of them have had little school or teaching from the Bible – yet they are often called to lead the women of their congregation. We provide their transport to the College, food, and sometimes a small gift.	400 per Conference

Prayer and Thanksgiving

- Thank God for keeping us all in good health and for giving us the energy and desire to serve Him. Please pray for this to continue, not only among the missionaries but also among the Zambian staff and their families.
- Please pray that the Lord will send out people to serve in the various ministries: an agricultural missionary, part time lecturers, and a full time lecturer.
- Join us in thanksgiving for a good growing season so far; please pray for the rains to stop so that the crops will dry in the field to enable harvesting. This harvest forms the main income and provision of food for most of the people around us.
- Please pray that communities will be committed to support the schools of their children.
- Pray for more teachers who see the importance of daily Bible lessons; pray that the teachers' conference will have a lasting influence on the Christian character of education in the community schools.
- Thank the Lord that the Zwemstras had a safe journey to South Africa; please pray that the delivery will go well.
- Please pray that Heinrich's teaching at Mukhanyo will go well; pray for our graduate, Mwale, who studies there far away from his family, and for the accreditation process to be completed soon.
- We covet your prayers for all our graduates and students, and for other pastors we come in contact with, that the Lord will give much fruit on the ministry of His Word and that the churches may live the truth and show mercy to those in need.

Praying that this update indeed binds us together,

In Christ's service, Cees Molenaar

CONTACT INFORMATION COVENANT COLLEGE ZAMBIA TRUST P.O. Box 560229 – Petauke, ZAMBIA

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Receive someone's personal Newsletters

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Vacant – Mukhanyo Theological College (South Africa)
Pastor Lovemore Banda (Petauke, Zambia)
Pastor David Lipsy – Heritage Reformed Congregations (America)
Pastor Greg McDonald, Free Church of Scotland (continuing)
Pastor Richard Mwenda (Kawere, Zambia)
Pastor Joseph Pettitt (English Churches)

Please help us by
forwarding this
letter to your
church and friends.

Thank you!

College Account: Zambia National Commercial Bank Plc, Acc. N° 0050010000060586
Bank address: P.O. Box 560325, Petauke, Zambia. **Swift code:** ZNCOZMLU

For administrative purposes it is necessary to email us when you make a donation, indicating the date, amount, and designation.

April 2010

Covenant College Zambia Trust

is looking for a person qualified to fill the position of

Lecturer in Theology

Job Profile

The Lecturer in Theology is expected to assist in the total operation of the College. This includes:

1. *Lecturing* in any of the theological subjects of our curriculum. All teaching should be adapted to the cultural setting of the college and students.
2. *Mentoring* the students in their individual learning process and pastoral practice.
3. *Assisting* in the overall college administration, such as accounting, fundraising, and duties to represent the college.
4. *Contribute* to the various activities that flow from the missionary character of the Covenant College ministries in general.

Job Qualifications

The person who qualifies for this position should meet these basic requirements:

1. He is a dedicated Christian, and member in good standing of a Reformed church;
2. He has received adequate formal theological training;
3. He has a desire to serve the Lord as a missionary; he is willing to live on the mission station; he (and his family) have the abilities to adapt to the African rural setting of the mission station.

The Trust would prefer to appoint someone:

- who has experience in pastoral work and/ or theological instruction;
- whose church/ denomination can support him financially.

General Description: Mission

The Trust is responsible for the following ministries:

Covenant College – for the training of local pastors

College Farm – to supply food for the students, provide small business training and community development aid

Christian Education Ministry (CEM) – assisting Christian Community Schools with materials and teacher training

Child Evangelism and *Pastors Wives training*.

Description: College

Calling: Covenant College responds to the calling to assist local churches with the training of their leaders. After three years of study, students obtain either a Certificate or Diploma in Theology. The curriculum covers the basic areas of the theological disciplines, such as OT, NT, Systematic Theology, Church History, Practical Theology, and Missiology.

Doctrinal Basis: The doctrinal basis is the Holy Bible and the Reformed Confessions of Faith (Belgic Confession of Faith, Heidelberg Catechism, Canons of Dordt, Westminster Confession of Faith, Larger and Shorter Catechism, 1689 Baptist Confession of Faith). The College is interdenominational, with regards to the churches that it assists, and the churches that support it.

Character: The College emphasizes the great value of personal relationships between instructor and learner. The academic achievements are no end in themselves, but should support the general calling of each student to lead his church by example, preaching, and teaching.

Application

The Secretary of Covenant College Trust and the College Principal are available to give more detailed information regarding the position and the qualifications.

The person convicted to apply is invited to write a letter of application to Covenant College Zambia Trust. This application should be accompanied by a CV (résumé), letters of recommendation from church and work, diplomas/ certificates of schooling and training, and any other relevant material illustrating his suitability for this position.

Contact and information:

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c/o The Principal

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