



Zambia Lusaka Mission

NEWS

December, 2015

Vol. 4 – Issue 12



Beloved Elders and Sisters,

As we approach Christmas, we normally look forward to sharing this time with family and friends. This special year of our lives we have the unique blessing of commemorating Christmas as His full-time missionaries, engaged wholly and completely in the work this Holy infant came to initiate. This year, I wish to express my Christmas greetings by sharing a portion of the witness President Boyd K. Packer offered just before his death.

“I declare to you that I know that Jesus is the Christ. I know that He lives. He was born in the meridian of time. He taught His gospel, was tried, was crucified. He rose on the third day. He was the first fruits of the resurrection. He has a body of flesh and bone. Of this I bear testimony. Of Him I am a witness.”

“He by choice accepted the penalty in behalf of all mankind for the sum total of all wickedness and depravity; for brutality, immorality, perversion, and corruption; for addiction; for the killings and torture and terror—for all of it that ever had been or all that ever would be enacted upon this earth. In so choosing He faced the awesome power of the evil one, who was not confined to flesh nor subject to mortal pain. That was Gethsemane!”

“As mortals, we may not, indeed cannot, understand fully how the Savior fulfilled His atoning sacrifice. But for now the how is not as important as the why of His suffering. Why did He do it for you, for me, for all of humanity? He did it for the love of God the Father and all mankind. ‘

“He presented His life and in essence said, ‘It is I that taketh upon me the sins of the world’ (Mosiah 26:23). He was crucified; He died. They could not take His life from Him. He consented to die. ...

“If you have stumbled or even been lost for a time, if you feel that the adversary now holds you captive, you can move forward with faith and not wander to and fro in the world any longer. “I promise that the brilliant morning of forgiveness can come.”

“After all the years that I have lived and taught and served, after the millions of miles I have traveled around the world, with all that I have experienced, there is one great truth that I would share. That is my witness of the Savior Jesus Christ.

“Joseph Smith and Sidney Rigdon recorded the following after asacred experience:

“And now, after the many testimonies which have been given of him, this is the testimony, last of all, which we give of him: That he lives! For we saw him” (D&C 76:22–23).

“Their words are my words.”

President Packer’s words summarize the hope I feel in Christ. When we think of this small baby's birth celebrated by so many, it is because of who he truly is and what he has done and will do that I feel the depth of love, hope and joy in this Christmas season.

So I wish you all a very Merry Christmas! I hope your time away from family and friends is filled with the spirit of Christ's love for you and those you love.

President Erickson

Sisters and Elders of the Great Zambia Lusaka Mission, Christmastime is upon us! President Erickson and I love this time of year. We reflect more, give more devotion, and ponder on our Savior Jesus Christ with more adoration and appreciation than at any other time of the year. We count ourselves very blessed to be here with you this month to celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ. Did you know that the Savior himself taught volumes about himself through the use of descriptive names and titles? In the Doctrine and Covenants alone, He identified himself by more than a hundred different names. Each gives a little different insight into this incredible God we worship and love. Here are just a few....Advocate with the Father, Almighty, Beginning and the end, Beloved Son, Bridegroom, Christ the Lamb, Creator of the first day, Creator of Heavens and Earth, Creator of Worlds, Endless, Glorious Majesty on high, Good shepherd, Great I am, He who liveth, He who was slain, He who is everlasting to everlasting, I am, Jesus Christ your Lord, Judge of all, King of Kings, The Lamb, Lamb who was slain, Lawgiver, Life of men, Life of the world, Light of men, Light of the moon, Light of the stars, Light of the sun, Light of truth, Light which cannot be hid in darkness, Light which is in all things, The Living God, Master, Mediator, Messiah, Mighty to save, Only begotten son, Redeemer, The rock of Heaven, Savior of the World, Son of thy bosom, Stone of Israel, The same which spake and the world was made, True Light, The Word, Your maker, Your ruler. (*)

Elders and Sisters, can we begin to comprehend that this majestic being desires us to learn of Him, to know Him, to be like Him? He calls us friends. He promises to stand by us, to go before our face, to be merciful, to have compassion on us. He will not lie to us, he will not forsake us. He knows how to succor you, how to bear

you up and how to comfort you. He will fight your battles. He PROMISES to draw near to you....AS YOU DRAW NEAR TO HIM. What a sweet invitation. Let's take it! Let's make this Christmas the time we draw nearer to Christ than ever before. This is my humble prayer for all of us. I love you and love serving with you and wish you a truly Merry Christmas!!

Sister Erickson

*(list of names from the book: The Savior in Kirtland by Karl Ricks Anderson)

A BIG ZAMBIAN Welcome!!



Welcome Elder and Sister Salmon from Centerville, Utah. They are our new Self Reliance Missionaries and are staying in Lusaka.



There was a fabulous foursome in Chainama for 2 days while Sister Ncgobo was waiting for her visa to Zimbabwe.

Reminder for all Drivers and their Companions In Zambia:

Please remember that when you use your TOM card you need to text the Vehicle Coordinator the remaining balance of your TOM card so that the TOM card can be topped up in a timely manner. If you don't do this you will not receive more funds on the card. The vehicle coordinator can be reached on the Office Elders phone at: 0978839719

Farewell and Best Wishes



President Erickson (not leaving us yet) with Elder Kibirango



Elder Massey and Elder Parker



Wise Men Still Seek Him



New Assistant – Elder Ssenagooba

HEALTH CORNER.

Christmas, that most wonderful time of the year, is almost here. Many people you meet this month will offer goodies, and rightfully so. Please remember, if the food is supposed to be served hot, especially poultry products, make sure that it is. There has been a lot of E coli bacterial problems this year, even in the States. E coli and Salmonella are particularly subtle and dangerous bacteria. They can ruin a perfectly good Holiday, and worse. Make sure in addition to washing your hands after handling uncooked poultry, also clean the counter space where you prepared raw chicken. On New Year's Eve, I would suggest you do not drink egg nog prepared with raw eggs, nor with Bourbon. Happy and healthy Holidays to you all. Remember the advice of the Prophet Jacob in the Book of Mormon.....see Jacob 6:12

Elder Birrell MMA



*Jeffrey R. Holland
The memory of that
(first Christmas)
night would bring
Santa Claus and
Frosty and
Rudolph—and all
would be welcome.
But first and
forever there was*

just a little family, without toys or trees or tinsel. With a baby—that's how Christmas began.



*New Office Elders
Elder Slade and Elder Duncan*



5 Dec

Elder Bennett

5 Dec

Elder Kububa

9 Dec

Elder Brewerton

11 Dec

Sister Quaye

18 Dec

Elder Owor

19 Dec

Elder Bobowski

24 Dec

Sister Nyachwo

24 Dec

Elder Groesbeck

26 Dec

Elder Walusimbi

27 Dec

Sister Tuai

28 Dec

Sister Solomone

Baptisms



Want to see yourself in the baptisms section of the monthly newsletter? Email us your pictures at the office at 1461788@ldschurch.org

Congratulations! The mission had sooo many baptisms in November. Please see the list of missing records through October. I will be thrilled to get a whole bunch of missing and current Baptism and Confirmation Records this week. Thanks.



President David O. McKay

It is a glorious thing to have old St. Nicholas in our hearts and in our homes today....To bring happiness to others without seeking personal honor or praise by publishing it is a most commendable virtue...The joy (old St. Nicholas) experienced in doing kindly deeds is now shared by millions who are learning that true happiness comes only by making others happy—the practical application of the Savior's doctrine of losing one's life to gain it. In short, the Christmas spirit is the Christ spirit, that which makes our hearts glow in brotherly love and friendship and prompts us to kind deeds of service.

President Howard W. Hunter: *How is Christmas regarded today? The legend of Santa Claus, the Christmas tree, decorations of tinsel and mistletoe, and the giving of gifts all express to us the spirit of the day we celebrate; but the true spirit of Christmas lies much deeper than these. It is found in the life of the Savior, in the principles He taught, in His atoning sacrifice—which become our great heritage.*

