

Schedule

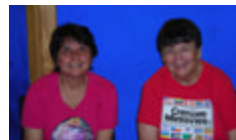
Monday, July 17th—21st	Children's outreach with Maranatha Christian Fellowship, Wilmington, NC
Saturday, 22nd	Travel to Black Mountain, NC, time with Ann McKay and family
Monday, July 24th	Travel to Indianapolis, IN
Tuesday, July 25th	Travel to Madison, Wisconsin
Wednesday, July 26th	Arrive Northwestern College, St. Paul, Minnesota
Thursday night—Saturday	noon Ministry, 5 sessions with children of staff of Compassion, International
Sunday	Worship with Compassion family
Monday, July 31st	Travel to Peoria, IL
Tuesday, August 1st	Travel to Bowling Green, KY
Wednesday, 2nd	Travel to Black Mountain, NC
Thursday, 3rd	Home
August 7—11	VBS at St. John's United Methodist Church, Avon, NC
August 28	Depart for England with our pastor, Wally Odum, his wife Gwen and daughter Jill
August 29—31	London
September 1-4	Ministry at The Bethel, East-the-Water, Bideford
September 5-8	Outreach in Lusaka, Zambia
September 9-12	Ministry in southern Zambia
September 15	Home

Many of our prayer requests are obvious—our schedule is formidable, and yet, we know that it is one orchestrated by God. The results already this summer are awesome as children and adults have responded to God's love. We've had a great time with them and seen many give their lives to the Lord or deepen their relationship with Him.

Specific requests include:

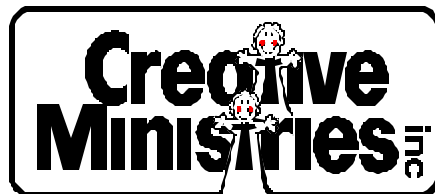
- Health and stamina for all of our staff
- Safety as we travel so many miles
- God's anointing as we minister
- God's refreshing during this time of extended ministry—and our testimony is that He has and is doing that for us daily!
- Our finances—this has been a spring of extraordinary and extreme unexpected expenses and we need extra prayers and financial help at this time.

Thank you for your prayers and concern! We could not do this without you!



This week's outreach at Liberty Christian Fellowship in Kill Devil Hills. Parents said, "What a great week! They are actually learning the Lord's Prayer and having a blast while doing it! Fay and CliffAnn and their team are awesome!"

"My daughters are never ready on time for anything, but this week they are up, dressed and ready and in the van waiting for their mom before it's time to leave because they are having so much fun. Thank you!"



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Good News!



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"Beware the Lone Hippo Wandering the Campground at Night!"

Fay Nelson

I was standing in a waterfront lodge at a campground near Livingstone, Zambia, waiting to pay my bill when I noticed the sign. It was a sign guaranteed to get your attention! I was very grateful not to be staying in one of the tents at that lovely place! More people are killed by hippos in Africa each year than any other animal. It's very easy to think of them as the cartoon Barney character, but in reality they are swift, cunning, easily angered and deadly.

As I drove back to the mission house where part of our team was working, the Lord began to bring things to my attention. I had just answered e-mails from short and long term missionary friends in Europe, in Asia, and from home—people who were then or had just been on a mission trip. The reports were remarkably similar to what our team was experiencing in Africa. There had been unprecedented spiritual warfare.

Part of preparation for a mission trip is preparation for the spiritual warfare—it is always present. But the report of each person—and each was a seasoned and dedicated mission traveler—was that the warfare encountered this time had never been stronger. And it had been fierce, often attacking the identity of the missionary, causing them to wonder why they were there or even if they were Christian.

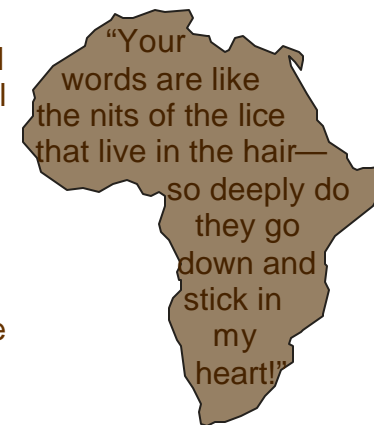
In every case, and in ours as well, the mission team fought through the warfare and saw God do truly amazing things. Our return to Sons of Thunder in Zambia was bathed in sadness because the missionary friends we have worked with there since 1997 had been led to resign and relocate. Our sense of "going home" was rattled. Both the missionary and Zambian friends were desperately happy to see us, and badly in need of encouragement.

Early in our time there, I spoke for a few minutes at a gathering of all the people who are part of the Sons of Thunder farm, schools, Bible School and community outreach. I reminded them that we are all family; that we belong to God, and our fellowship is based on His love and not limited to working through particular people. The puppet band followed my comments with the song of the day, "Be Strong and Courageous" and people relaxed and God's joy filled the place.

After the service, Anderson Mwikiisa, the 84 year old teacher of the Bible School came up and gave me a big hug. Then he grabbed my hand and jumped up and down as he said, "Your words are like the nits of the lice that live in the hair—so deeply do they go down and stick in my heart!"

I managed to contain my laughter until I could find a private place and thank God for this unusual encouragement.

Our prayer is that the words on these pages will stick in your heart like the lice that live in the hair, encouraging you, reminding you of God's very personal love for you, and inspiring you in every challenge that you face to throw yourself into His caring arms. The enemy of our souls is very much like that lone hippo, wandering around, looking for someone, or some relationship, or some dream to destroy. But God is far bigger than he and He is able and willing to take care of you!



Reflections

Try as we might, we can never communicate accurately to a team what a trip will be like. These photos and reflections by those who went give some perspective. Our team went in waves—five arrived the 25th of May, 1 on June 4th and 10 on June 16th. The focus shifted from practical helps and ministry to ministry outreach on the 16th. And the work continues as Tim Koch remains until August 2nd, leading work teams and building and repairing, and building relationships with our Zambian friends.



Brittany and Trey Andrews were unavailable for quotes, but spent their 6 weeks in Zambia loving and ministering to the children, printing the Bible School curriculum for the remainder of the year and completing building and repair projects.



Tim Koch's report from Zambia this week is that the work goes well and that he is delighting in friendships with the Zambians and learning their culture as he shares Jesus' love with them.



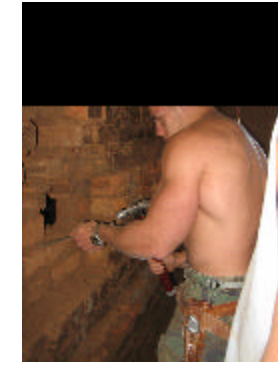
Mike McAtee, our photographer:
"It was great. God did a lot of good things."



Lisa Cooke (teaching teachers):
"Everything about this trip was absolutely amazing. It was extremely fulfilling seeing God's miracles up close and personal on a daily basis."



CliffAnn Perry (at Shoes' Church):
"One of my best moments was finding out that the 12 year old interpreter who worked with us every day as we did VBS, had asked Jesus to be his Savior the first time we ministered in that school in 2002. He is not only growing in Jesus, but serving God as worship leader in the church at Shoes. How good of God to let us see some of the fruitfulness of past ministry!"



Fay Nelson (sharing with teachers):
"The reality of God becomes very, very clear in a place like Zambia. The basics of life are the focus—will there be enough food for survival? Is there any medicine available? Seeing God provide for the needs of His people and draw them into relationship with Him always blesses me, inspires me, and humbles me. It is such a privilege to be a messenger who helps deliver His great Good News!"



Q: How many Zambians will fit in one lorry?

A. As many as there are!

Children are climbing in for the ride to the VBS



Martha Cain (teaching teachers):
"I enjoyed meeting and working with the teachers at the school. They are doing such a wonderful job with what little resources they have! Seeing their joy at the few things we were able to bring has made me want to find a way to get more supplies to them in the future."



Katie Tinney:
"I hope that we were as much of a blessing for the children as they were for us. The trip was an incredible learning and growing experience. I know that God will continue His good work in Zambia."



Bobbi Jo Jones:
"Going to Zambia has caused me to fall deeply in love with God and His people. I am just so happy to have had the chance to minister to His people there and to be a part of the amazing things that God has done, is doing, and will do in Africa!"

Whitney Jones: "Seeing the children so happy though they had so little made me want to give them everything and do all in my power to make sure they live happy, fruitful lives. It was then that I realized God was going to use us to do awesome things on this trip in order to further His kingdom."