



April Newsletter



From the Frys in Zimbabwe

2013

“Come, all you who are thirsty, come to the waters; and you who have no money, come, buy and eat!...Let him turn to the Lord, and he will have mercy on him and to our God, for he will freely pardon.” Isaiah 55:1a,7b

April has been a busy “holiday” at Eden!

In Zimbabwe, April, August, and December are the school breaks. So, for most of the month of April, we have had a lot of “out of routine” work going on at Eden. The teenagers at Eden work to help the ministry for two weeks and then are allowed to go on vacation, rest, and prepare for the next school term for the other two weeks. Ian has been supervising several teens as they have dug septic tanks for our house and another new house at Eden. It has been good to get the opportunity to share days with these young men, talk about life, and enjoy “getting our hands dirty” together!

Ian has been busy updating school records, helping to establish a new internet service, visiting Joshua, and doing a lot of tiling at our house. Ian continues to train for the Victoria Falls Marathon in July. If you want to know more about the team running that race from Eden, please look up our website at edenrunning.com

Heidi has continued teaching piano on Sunday afternoons and has provided several delicious meals to share with friends. We have greatly enjoyed sharing tastes of American food with our Shona friends. They seem to really enjoy American food for the most part! The teenage girls decided they like chocolate desserts much better than cobbler, which, when asked what they thought of it, they simply shook their heads in a quick negating fashion to say, “NO!” We also shared a nice meal with our friends, the Stephanos.

We have also visited the village this month, though not as many times as we would have liked, due to trips to Harare to procure building supplies. We played disc golf with about 20 children under ten. No one got hurt, so we feel it was very successful! The kids asked us to bring a “football” next time!

Another Opportunity to Preach

Through conversation with Joshua, (details are on the second page) there is the possibility that we will get another chance to preach to a group of Johan Masowe followers in May. These are members of the same denomination that Jamison and Ian were

invited to speak at for the funeral last October. The Masowe do not believe in the Scriptures and go solely off of the messages “received” by their “prophets” from “god.” When Joshua mentioned this opportunity, Ian clearly expressed his excitement but also asked that Joshua speak to the leaders of Masowe to communicate our intentions, to teach about the God of Heaven and the Savior of the world, AS REVEALED IN SCRIPTURE! Joshua said he had mentioned this in a meeting before, and the leaders from Doma still wanted to have the meeting. So, please join us in praying that God will open doors and prepare hearts with this opportunity! In our understanding of what they believe, the Masowe have never left the ancient religion of demon worship but have blended that religion with some elements of Christianity. The key, though, is that they don’t believe in Jesus as God’s Son or Savior and believe salvation comes through baptism (not into Christ) and prayer, and of course, faithful attendance of Masowe meetings. We are really hopeful that God is sparking a genuine revival among this group of people. Please pray for Ian, and our teammate Jamison, as they prepare in the next few weeks to take another bold stand for Christ in this group of seeking people.

Update on the Orphanage Happenings

The harvest is in full swing at Eden! All the soy beans are in piles, and the “combine” is threshing them! Here, though, the combine isn’t a motorized vehicle. It is a team of about 35 women who take tarps and beat the daylight out of soy bean piles with long sticks for about 9 hours every day. Please pray for these diligent and incredible women as they thresh the soy beans which are vital to Eden’s annual needs. The maize (corn) is drying off well, in spite of having some late rain early in the month, and will be ready to begin harvest in mid to late May. The corn is our staple crop and is, therefore, the most prized and coveted crop. Please pray for the protection of Eden’s food supply as the season continues and the theft goes up. Our sunflower crop has come in and yielded well. We are currently drying several hundred pounds of sunflowers on the ground (on tarps). God has graciously provided through the harvest again this year, and we are deeply humbled and grateful for His providence! Thank you for your prayers for the village!

Ian’s Sermon Illustration



This month Ian dressed “oddly” to make a point in a sermon! His point was that no matter how much we dress up on the outside, God knows exactly what our lives are really like! No matter how much we pretend to be a Christian, the proof is in the fruit. The sermon was well received and even captured the early teen boys’ attention, which is saying a lot!

Trouble with teens

Over the last several months, Eden has had recurring issues with many different teenagers in our program. Mainly, the conduct issues revolve around girls or guys being alone with members of the opposite sex in compromising situations. Culturally, it is not appropriate for members of the opposite sex to be alone together unless married. So, please join us in praying for our kids! We don’t want to see any of them hurt more deeply while seeking love! Pray God will reveal Himself, especially to the girls, in such a way that they will know value, worth and significance without having to give themselves to a man. Pray for Lessina as she has left Eden 5 months pregnant with her child out of wedlock. We are seeking opportunity to stay involved in Lessina’s life and try to encourage her and her new husband, Friday, as they have decided to get married and raise the baby together. We applaud their bravery as most in their situation would have run in shame!

Prayer Requests

- Revival at our church! There are many "lukewarm" issues right now.
- Deep faith: Pray for the kids at Eden, especially the teens, to have a true relationship with Christ.
- House construction: Please continue to pray that we will be able to finish and move into our house by July.



Praises

- Our house is coming together quickly and really starting to look like a home
- Though Ian has been sick some, the family has been very healthy.
- God is always faithful to provide all that is needed

JOSHUA UPDATE

This month was really encouraging in our relationship and ministry with the Mudiwa family! For several months, I, Ian, have not felt like we were making any headway with the Mudiwas. It seemed like we were pouring in and pouring in, but nothing seemed to be changing, nothing seemed to be sinking in about Jesus, the need for Scripture, and the importance of faithfulness in farming to succeed. However, this month, we have



The Mudiwas are currently building a new house because their other one is falling apart.

seen a breakthrough! Joshua, the last time I visited, asked me an interesting question. He asked, "Please, Mr. Fry, tell me to which denomination I should go for truth." My answer was that he needed to find a church which believes in and teaches the Bible as God's Word and the revelation of God's will for His people. Through further conversation, Joshua revealed that he would come to our church in Doma. However, it is a very far walk for the entire family, and he cannot make it with his poor health. So, I mentioned starting a church on his property, on his farm, and he was ecstatic! So, we are in the process of beginning to look at our options for starting a church plant at Greenfields farm!

Spiritual Attack

As we wrote about in our blog this month, there have been some bold attacks from the enemy here in Doma lately. Apparently, there have been multiple instances of demonic manifestation in attack upon members of our congregation. This is of little surprise, as the elders had allowed a woman who was known to be "dabbling" in witchcraft to continue attending church for two years. Now, however, the pastor and elder have decided to make a stand and require this woman to put away the witchcraft or stop coming to church. This is a really bold step for these men and is extremely counter cultural! So, we are excited to see that God is stirring up a response to these attacks from the leadership of the church.

Dairy Goats

In 2010, Ian helped Eden begin a grant process to establish a dairy goat herd at Eden. In May, thanks to Rotary International, that vision and dream will finally become a reality. Sometime early in May, Ian will drive to South Africa and retrieve 25 Saanen milk goats from Limpopo dairies in Luis Trichardt, South Africa. We are very excited to see this project come to fruition after many long months of work! In the next newsletter, we will share some pictures of our newest livestock at Eden! Please pray for Ian as he makes the very long drive to South Africa and back while also needing / wanting to keep working on our house as much as possible!

Update on our Kids

This month has brought great change in our children! Mikayah has really become a "big boy" this month! His vocabulary is expanding rapidly, and his ability to structure sentences and thoughts in a fluid manner is excellent. He has also started using the potty during the day and memorizing 1 Corinthians 13 through his mommy's Sunday School lessons! We have seen a great change in his desire to do right and to be a good boy. This is a huge answer to prayer for us! He cries after he throws a tantrum, and tells us he is sorry and needs a big hug. We hold in our laughs of joy as we watch our boy begin to mature. He is also praying quite well now before bed each night.

Lilli started crawling (not as much scooting) this month and is

tearing everything apart! She can go up stairs, and can find absolutely anything that isn't a toy but looks interesting! She has started using sign language more and has

developed many new "words" and sounds, including, "that," "hat," "dad," and the imitation elephant trumpet! She is still a very happy girl, and she loves to play and play! She is definitely developing a mind of her own and knows what she wants and doesn't want, but our little Lilli is doing great! One of the most exciting things about Lilli being born and raised in Zimbabwe, so far, is that she isn't afraid of black people. We are a little concerned about how she will react to the change in complexion as we return for furlough next year!



As always, we are so grateful to be serving here in Zimbabwe! We are deeply encouraged by the new opportunities God is placing before us and the stability of having a place to live that is our own! We feel like He is giving us the green light to put down some roots here and bear fruit for His name, and we are pleased and excited to do so! Thank you for your faithful prayer and financial support! We are honored and blessed to serve on your behalf and in Jesus' name here in Doma! We pray this newsletter encourages and uplifts your heart as you hear good news from a far away land! God is working here, as He is there with you, and we are grateful to be a part of it!

Much love in Jesus,
The Frys

Please send donations to:

Eden Ministries

PO Box 491

Stuarts Draft, VA 24477

Lilliana



Easter picture



Us

Family



Mikayah.

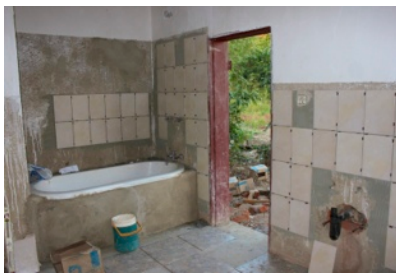
Photo Page



Disc golf at the village

Month's Events

Fun with friends celebrating our team mate, Hadassah's, birthday



This month, most of the house has been tiled, and the kitchen and bathrooms are coming together!



Showing off some moves they learned in gymnastics class