

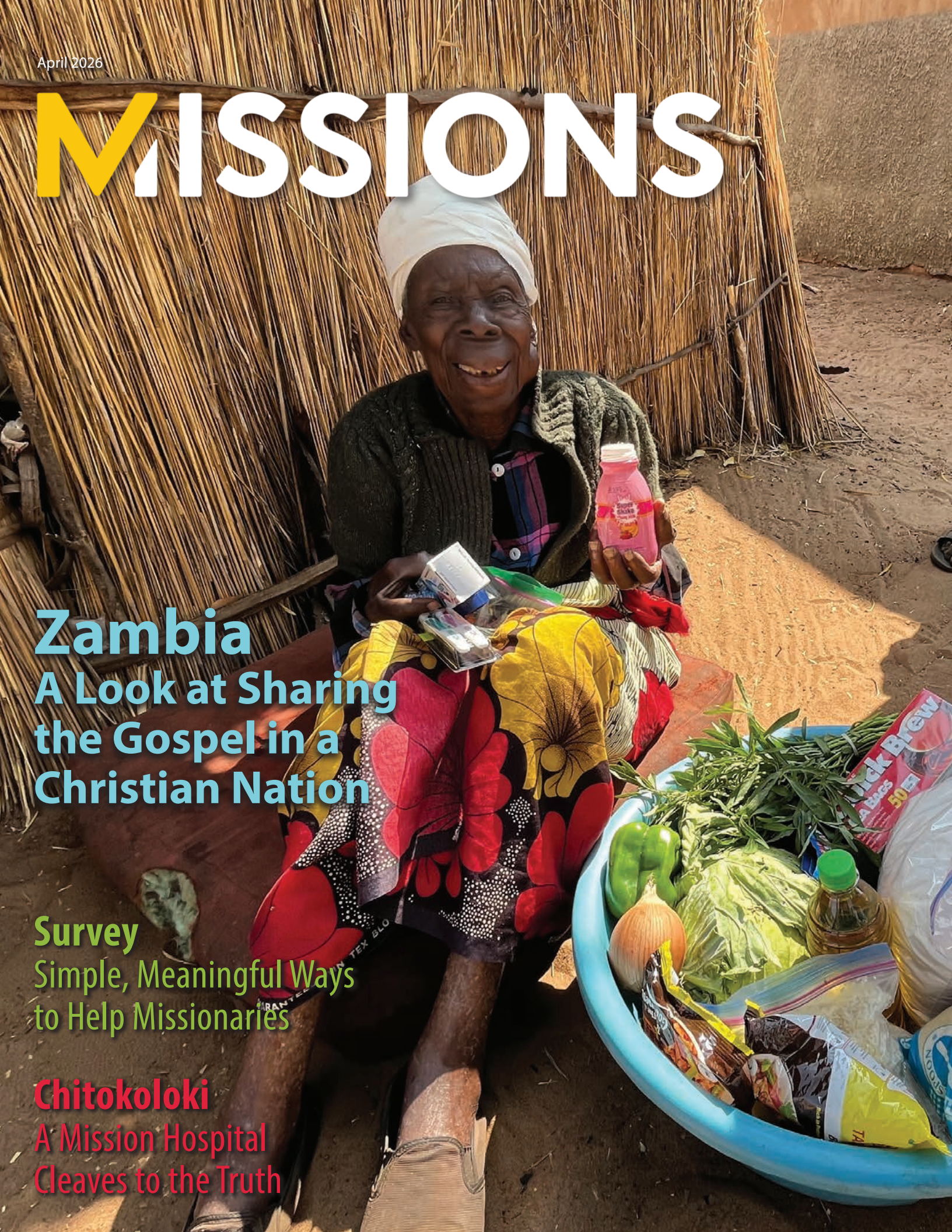
April 2026

MISSIONS

Zambia A Look at Sharing the Gospel in a Christian Nation

Survey
Simple, Meaningful Ways
to Help Missionaries

Chitokoloki
A Mission Hospital
Cleaves to the Truth





THINKING IT THROUGH

BY MARK A. SWAIM

Our Ministry in Light of Eternity

In Colossians 1:3–7, Paul thanks God for the good things he has heard about the believers in Colossae: their faith in Christ Jesus and their love for the saints—faith and love due to the hope they have in what God has in store for them. That hope, in part, anticipates the glorious appearing of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ (Titus 2:13).

The entrance of the Gospel had certainly changed the lives of individuals in Colossae and was bearing fruit in the form of Christian virtues. The believers had Epaphras to thank. While God transformed their lives, Epaphras’s ministry first brought the Gospel to them. He was a faithful minister of Christ, not just in Colossae but also in Laodicea and Hierapolis (Colossians 4:13), and he had great concern for the believers in these areas.

I am thankful for the servants of God who have helped me in my pilgrim journey. Many are unaware that their ministry has influenced my life for eternity. I am thankful for preachers, evangelists, and church planters. I am thankful for those who support and help, counsel, and disciple. I am thankful for those who pray.

Built into humankind is the desire for purpose, meaningful work, and satisfaction in life. We want our lives to be relevant, our existence meaningful, and our earthly legacy lasting. As a result, many people live for time, not eternity. But, in Colossians 3:2, Paul encourages believers to set their minds, thoughts, and affections on things above, not on the things of the earth. We should strive to see our work in light of eternity, as the Colossian believers, Epaphras, and the saints who helped me did.

Our work is part of God’s great work

The great work that God is doing is reconciliation. From eternity past, God purposed to reconcile all things to Himself through Christ (Colossians 1:19–20). In this work, we are ambassadors for Christ, carrying the message of reconciliation (2 Corinthians 5:18–20). This responsibility puts a high value on the purpose of our lives. When eternity’s values are in view, they transform our daily tasks and help us see that all our words and actions can aid in God’s grand work.

Our work influences individuals

The way we live our lives and the service we render to God shape the eternal trajectory of individuals. God desires that we be a light for Christ in this dark world (Matthew 5:16). When we live godly lives, Christ’s light shines through our character, which can have an eternal influence on others. We should desire to see the conversion of souls and the maturity of believers (Proverbs 11:30; Daniel 12:3; Colossians 1:28).

Our work has the potential to remain eternally

These three things will remain long after our time on earth: faith, hope, and love (1 Corinthians 13:13). Our ministry, when done in love for Christ and for our neighbor, resonates with God because God is love. Relationships forged, compassion shown, and sacrifices made in love have lasting value.

Our work brings a reward

God desires to reward our service to Him. In Matthew 25:14–30, Jesus tells a parable about a person who goes on a journey after entrusting his affairs to those who work for him. When the man returns, he requires each servant to give an account of his service. In the end, he rewards faithful service. Likewise, one day, we will give an account to God of our service and lives (Romans 14:12).

The lens of eternity elevates our ministry’s significance, deepens our motivation, and shapes our priorities. Even mundane tasks transform into something of greater importance.

Paul writes, “And whatever you do, do it heartily, as to the Lord and not to men, knowing that from the Lord you will receive the reward of the inheritance; for you serve the Lord Christ.” (Colossians 3:23–24)

The work we as believers do is part of a divine tapestry, woven for eternal glory. “Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your labor is not in vain in the Lord.” (1 Corinthians 15:58) ■

Mark Swaim, Other Overseas Service (MPH Day 28)

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COVER PHOTO: Chokwe woman receives food—Photo courtesy of Shawn and Rhonda Markle





Sharing the Gospel in a Christian Nation

Rejoicing over Freedom While Redefining Notions

BY SHAWN MARKLE

The Constitution of the Republic of Zambia declares the republic a Christian nation. As such, one should rejoice over the Christian values that exist and the openness and freedom to share the Gospel. However, this declaration comes with a downside: many feel that because Zambia is a Christian nation, that makes them Christians.

On numerous occasions, I have asked people to define what a Christian is. The standard answer is, “Someone who believes in God.” This definition seems to hold until you quote James 2:19, “You believe that there is one God. You do well. Even the demons believe—and tremble!”

As a result of this underlying belief, challenges arise when presenting the Gospel. One must first get listeners to accept that they are lost before God and in need of a Savior. Even in nonevangelistic ministry, one must add a touch of the Gospel in an effort to encourage listeners to evaluate their standing before a holy God.

To help address this spiritual need, my wife, Rhonda, and I moved to Chitokoloki Mission in January 2009 to serve full time. Chitokoloki Mission is home to a hospital, conference center, and many homes for missionaries and local staff—all managed by the mission. There is a local assembly in Chitokoloki and a government-managed basic school and high school nearby.

Since 2021, we have spent a considerable amount of time in Canada while settling our children into life and school there. We make frequent trips back to Chitokoloki and look forward to when we will return on a full-time basis.

Nevertheless, working alongside the efforts at Chitokoloki Mission, we have five main avenues through which we share the Gospel and teach biblical truths: gospel outreaches, Bible studies, the local school, funerals, and food distribution to the elderly.

Making the Gospel known

In the early days of the village outreach work, many children attended but only a few adults. Thankfully, we have now seen an increase in the number of adults. In addition, we have seen an improvement in their participation, including answering questions or giving out hymns for the group to sing. While the number of those in attendance varies by village, we are encouraged by the overall interest.

We have also been encouraged by those coming to the English gospel meeting. Although the numbers fluctuate each week, some unsaved people, as well as missionaries’ children, come out. Many specialist doctors visit Chitokoloki, so people from all over Zambia come for treatment. As a result, many patients do not speak the vernacular languages of our area. Thankfully, many



Above (from top): Mr. and Mrs. Chingungu appreciate that food is accompanied by care; More adults now attend the village outreach meetings, such as this one in Chambula.

can speak English, and they come to the English gospel meeting. We look to the Lord to save all who come.

As with the village work, we do not preach alone. We deeply appreciate the local believers and fellow missionaries who share in the load of speaking. Also, some local sisters in Christ support the village work, and missionaries who labor at the hospital support the English gospel meeting. Working with these fellow believers is a real joy. Together, we have seen spiritual growth in many people, and we are thankful.

As Philippians 1:27 says, “Only let your conduct be worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that whether I come and see you or am absent, I may hear of your affairs, that you stand fast in one spirit, with one mind striving together for the faith of the Gospel.”

Rhonda and some of the local believers hold a well-attended outreach for women on Tuesday afternoons. The ladies come and say a memory verse and then enjoy singing, a gospel message, and crafts. We trust that even if the crafts and social interaction are what draw many women in, they will also find true peace in knowing Christ as their Savior.

Deepening biblical knowledge

Recently, we have seen a decrease in the number attending the Bible study in Zambezi, the district in which Chitokoloki is located. The government began improving the roads and required the market vendors to remove their stands. They have moved another kilometer away from where the Bible study is held, which makes attending a challenge. Lord willing, we hope to find a meeting location closer to their new stands.



Over the last 10 years, we have learned to stick to fundamental topics and a basic teaching level in these Bible studies, since many attendees don't get any in-depth teaching in their churches. We have also come to learn that many don't or can't read the Bible for themselves but rely on their church leaders to impart biblical knowledge. As a result, we started going through the Gospel of John—bringing out essential truths as we progress through the book.

Sadly, many are taught that they can lose their salvation. After one Bible study, during which I had addressed the security of salvation, a young man stated, “I'm not sure you are right, Mr. Shawn.” I encouraged him to read John 10:27–30 and think about it until the next Bible study. A week later, he remained convinced that a person could lose his or her salvation. But, by the next time he attended, his answer was very different: “Mr. Shawn, I think you may be right.” Oh, how wonderful it is when the Spirit of God works with a seeking soul in a way that we cannot!

For a time, we saw a decrease in the number of young people who would attend the Thursday Bible study. However, each week since January, 40–50 teens have gathered. What a joy it is to teach these young people week after week! We pray that God's Word will dramatically affect their lives.

Opening doors for spiritual influence

Recently, we were invited to share the Gospel at the opening and closing school assemblies for the local high school. Although the school's official enrollment is over 300 students, often only half attend on the first and last days, even though they are required to be there. We are thrilled to have this opportunity and are happy to share the Gospel with those who do show up.

We also help in practical ways at the school, namely in the installation of chalkboards and small electrical wiring jobs. With the arrival of the government power grid in the Zambezi area a few years ago, the school needs electrical outlets to charge its phones and computers and run its printers. The going rate for installation is 500 kwachas (or about US\$25 or



Top: Patients and community members attend the weekly English gospel meeting. **Bottom (L–R):** Despite location challenges, believers attend the Zambezi Bible study; The Chitokoloki high school has invited the Markles to share the Gospel at its opening and closing assemblies.

MANY FEEL THAT BECAUSE ZAMBIA IS A CHRISTIAN NATION, THAT MAKES THEM CHRISTIANS.

C\$35) per room, which doesn't seem like much until you add on transportation, lodging, and food for the workers. This pushes the rate far above what a bush school can pay. Currently, the school buys the supplies, and I do the work as I can.

These small jobs keep us in contact with the school administration and the students. We trust that the practical work will continue to be a door for spiritual work.



Being ready for every opportunity

Funerals are an important part of the Zambian culture. Many people will attend a funeral in their community out of respect, even if they didn't know the person directly. Sometimes, these events draw large gatherings. Recently, we attended a funeral as mourners. The family of the individual who had passed away was part of a church; however, the church leaders weren't willing to take the lead role in the funeral.



As we sat in the crowd, those presiding over the funeral came and asked if I would preach. With over 500 people in attendance, how could anyone pass on the opportunity to share the Gospel? I asked them to sing a couple of hymns and pray, and then, I would be ready. They were happy to afford me the time to collect my thoughts.

Four days later, a woman in her 80s passed away, and I was again asked to speak. Thankfully, I was given more time to prepare. After speaking on things that are never satisfied and the satisfaction found in Christ (Proverbs 30:15-16; Proverbs 27:20; Psalm 17:15), a few church leaders from the area came and asked me for my notes as they had "never heard such a message."

Delivering essential care

For the last 15 years, we have been involved in delivering food to some of the elderly adults in the Chitokoloki assembly. Some of these people do not have any family nearby; others have large families, but our help can lessen the burden on their relatives who care for them. Distributing food gives us a chance to visit with these older people and check on their well-being, as some cannot walk to the church due to health issues. Having a good grasp of the local language is essential, as most of these elderly folks do not speak English.



Praying for this Christian nation

We ask for your prayers for these ministries and those who labor with us. Village life can be challenging, especially for those who seek to live for the Lord. The devil is on the attack and will use all sorts of things to try to hinder those who desire to share the Gospel. Please pray that all who were born in and live in this Christian nation will, in fact, come to know Christ as their Savior and will live to serve Him. ■



Shawn and Rhonda Markle are commended from Sault Ste. Marie Gospel Hall in Ontario.

Left (from top): Shawn updates the high school's electrical wiring; Funerals are an opportunity to share the Gospel with hundreds of Zambians. **Right (L-R, from top):** Shawn and Rhonda distribute food to the elderly of the Chitokoloki assembly; This Chokwe granny enjoys the food she's received; Sunset catches the eye in Chitokoloki.

Simple, Meaningful Ways to Help Missionaries

A SURVEY PRESENTS WORKERS' NEEDS AND HOW TO RESPOND



BY LARRY KEATING

Have you ever wondered how you could help a missionary? Have you ever wished that missionaries would be honest about how to help?

Recently, while on furlough in the US, I was invited to speak at a missions conference, and after much prayer, I was led to speak about missionary support. I wanted to gather insight from my fellow missionaries beforehand, for to truly help missionaries, we need to know their struggles. So, with CMML's permission, I sent an anonymous survey of seven questions to CMML missionaries. I was excited to receive the results and to present the conclusions at the conference—and now to you.

THE BIBLICAL BASIS

I have heard missions compared to climbing Mount Everest: every climber has a team. The team consists of a group of people who guide, transport gear and food, fix ropes and ladders, cook, sponsor, monitor safety, and prepare for search and rescue. A climber could not complete the quest alone. The same is true of missions. A supporting team is vital to the missionary and the ministry.

In Acts 13:1–3, Paul was commended, sent, and prayerfully supported by the church of Antioch. In 2 Corinthians 1:8–11, Paul honestly shared the great difficulty experienced on the missionary trip, which the prayers of the saints helped ease. Later, Paul thanked the church of Philippi for sharing with him financially (Philippians 4:10–19). The church's giving demonstrated interest in Paul's ministry, which encouraged him. Paul told the saints that when they gave, they extended their worship.

Lastly, in 1 Corinthians 16:15–18, Paul commended the believers for how they served the Lord's people. Their efforts refreshed Paul's spirit.

THE QUESTIONS

What great examples these passages are for the church today. The concern and interest believers show to missionaries

encourage and refresh the workers as they serve the Lord. Let's dive into our survey, which 66 missionaries contributed to, so we can better understand the areas where most missionaries need and appreciate support.

1 How long have you been on the mission field?

Out of the 66 who responded, 71 percent have been on the mission field for more than 20 years. That leaves 29 percent who have been on the field for less than 20 years. This information helped me know the audience of the survey. I appreciated the insights of all and especially the wisdom of those who have been on the field for an extended period of time.

2 What is the best part of being on the mission field?

This question was multiple choice, but respondents could choose only one: A. serving the Lord, B. watching the Holy Spirit work, or C. helping people. I made the question challenging on purpose. I knew that most missionaries would say that all three options are important, but I wanted to see which most motivates missionaries to go to and to stay on the mission field. Fifty percent of the participants said serving the Lord, 42 percent said watching the Holy Spirit work, and 8 percent said helping people.

3 What are the hardest parts of being on the mission field?

I invited the participants to choose as many of the six possible answers as applied: almost half (45%) chose being away from family and friends; about a quarter (24%) selected loneliness. The remaining answers included being in a foreign country or culture (18%), financial support (14%), lack of quality medical care (11%), and other (2%).

4 What is the best way someone can encourage you on the mission field?

For this straightforward multiple-choice question, I offered seven possible options: A. financial gift (8%), B. visit (9%), C. encouraging note (6%), D. prayer (6%), E. phone call (3%), F. all the above (62%), and G. other (6%). The majority said all the mentioned ways are encouraging, but notice that, of the individual options, most participants chose visits.

9%
chose visits

5 Do you feel supported on the mission field?

I wanted the missionaries to state point-blank whether they feel supported. Thankfully, 76 percent said yes. In their short answers, this majority mentioned that God has always provided, they feel supported by prayer, and they have good communication with the assemblies. The next group (24%) said yes and no. They explained that they are supported financially but wish they were better connected to their commending assemblies. One person answered “not really” but did not expand on it. Two refocused missionaries in assisted living expressed loneliness and hoped that people still remember them and pray for them.

76%
answered
yes

6 Share a time when someone encouraged you on the mission field.

Over 25 people shared stories about someone visiting them. One worker said, “Visit your missionary. Walk with him, see the places he frequents, listen to his stories, meet the people he serves, eat their food, etc. It will not only bless the missionary, but it will make your life richer. . . . [Also,] when he writes or calls, you will know what he’s talking about.”

Then, 27 percent shared stories of when people communicated with them: “I can think of a number of cases,” said one missionary, “when I received an encouraging email from a supporter. It was encouraging to hear that people were interested in what I was doing and praying for me.” Another missionary replied, “I love getting responses to my email updates, especially [from] people who respond frequently.”

Two others mentioned they had been praying for specific projects and then received the exact amount needed to fund them. Reading the missionaries’ responses was a great encouragement to me!

7 Share any additional comments.

In this final step of the survey, 43 of the 66 participants offered additional comments—from the challenges of planning a furlough to the benefit of regular communication. One missionary, however, explained a fundamental need:

“Everyone, deep down, wants to be understood. Of course, the Lord Jesus Christ is our great High Priest, who understands us at the deepest level possible, and we all desire to draw near to Him and receive the comfort and strength that we need. As far as body life goes, it feels hard for many missionaries to be understood by others (due to cultural or linguistic influences and barriers, radically different lifestyles and experiences, etc.). Sometimes, it feels easier not to share than to share and risk being misunderstood. It’s very helpful when people ask good questions, listen to the answers, and refrain . . . from trying to fix the missionary’s problems.”

THE OBSERVATIONS

After going through all of the results from the survey, a few points stood out to me. It was clear that missionaries want to feel that people are interested in their ministry. This desire can be met by consistent financial support, faithful prayer, regular communication, and good questions. But we can do several other things to support missionaries.

Visit

Missionaries greatly desire to have visitors on the field. This gesture sends the message that their church cares for them and the Lord's work, and it is something each assembly should consider doing. I was also reminded that we must continue to encourage and support the refocused missionaries. Leaving the field and their life work and returning to their "home" country is a difficult transition that refocused missionaries need assistance with. Many now live in North America and might be located just a drive away from you.

Communicate

It is important to be consistent with communication—to check in with missionaries regularly. One missionary mentioned that it is encouraging when someone simply responds to their prayer newsletters. Others suggested things like monthly video calls with elders. Regular communication shows that you care.

Address furlough needs

When missionaries are on furlough, they experience many needs, including temporary housing, a car, temporary health insurance, schooling for their children, and more. My wife and I have some friends who provide us with cell phone service; others have given our children winter clothing.

On furlough, missionaries often must visit churches and family. However, encourage your missionary to rest too, as being on the field is tiring. Often, it is good for missionaries to debrief with their elders or even go to counseling. Though counseling can be expensive, it may be an opportunity you can give to someone who is struggling. It is also good to simply get to know your missionaries better. Take them out for coffee or a meal and ask questions—show interest in their mission work.

Encourage their children

Another way to help missionaries is to support their older children who stay behind. Two of our children now live in the United States while we are on the mission field; being unable

help our own kids because of the distance is a new challenge. You might help missionary kids who are working or in college by sending cards or care packages, hosting them at your house during school breaks, or even visiting them during family weekends or graduation.



Connect with refocused missionaries

Lastly, it is necessary to continue to help the refocused missionaries. In the survey, older missionaries reported feeling lonely. We must continue to communicate with and visit missionaries when they are no longer on the field. Initially, they will experience reverse culture shock and need help transitioning back to North America. They will need practical assistance with housing, furniture, a car, and more. Often, missionaries don't have enough funds for retirement and rely on continued financial support. These refocused workers are so important and have sacrificed most of their lives yet often struggle off the field.

COUNTLESS BLESSINGS

In our lives as missionaries, my wife and I have been encouraged and blessed by countless people in small and big ways. We thank the Lord for each person. Ultimately, we trust God to provide and take care of our needs. But I believe that He uses other believers to help and encourage missionaries, which encourages the giver too. It is a beautiful thing when the body of Christ comes together to help each other. How can you bless a missionary today? ■

It is a beautiful thing when the body of Christ comes together to help each other.



Larry and Kim Keating are commended from Warrenville Bible Chapel in Illinois.



Chitokoloki Mission Hospital

Holding Fast to the Truth in a Darkening World

BY ANDRÉ TRUTER

We live in a time of increasing theological confusion. Many dangerous trends exist today, even among professing Christians. One is the attack on the penal substitutionary atonement, the central truth that Christ died in our place.

This is not a small disagreement. It is a direct assault on the justice, holiness, and love of God. But Scripture is clear: Christ is God in the flesh (John 8:24; Isaiah 9:6). He alone is Savior (Acts 4:12). He “bore our sins in His own body on the tree.” (1 Peter 2:24) The Lord “laid on Him the iniquity of us all.” (Isaiah 53:6) And “Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures.” (1 Corinthians 15:3)

This is the Gospel that Paul preached. This is the Gospel that saves. And this is the truth that the enemy seeks to corrupt.

A startling outbreak at Chitokoloki

Recently, several young people from the same village came to Chitokoloki Mission Hospital with severe necrotic facial lesions—black eschars with surrounding swelling. At first glance, one might have thought of MRSA or tropical skin infections. But one of Chitokoloki’s doctors, Dr. Ross, recognized it immediately: cutaneous anthrax, a skin infection caused when anthrax spores enter a cut or scrape.

We then identified five living cases and discovered one young man had died in the village before reaching us. A quick investigation revealed what had happened: A cow died in the bush. The villagers butchered it and ate the meat. But the carcass had been heavily contaminated with *Bacillus anthracis*, the bacteria naturally found in soil that can infect livestock and wild animals and then humans.

It is sobering to consider that anthrax—classified internationally as a potential bioweapon—found its way into a small rural village through something as simple as a shared meal. The symptoms were frightening. The consequences tragic. And the spiritual lesson unmistakable.

Bad meat destroys—the human body and the church

These young people became gravely ill because they handled and consumed bad meat. Spiritually, the same thing happens. The Bible uses the language of food to describe doctrine: “Everyone who partakes only of milk is unskilled in the word. . . . But solid food belongs to those who are full of age.” (Hebrews 5:13–14)

When doctrines are corrupted, diluted, or twisted, believers become spiritually sick. We see this all over the world: assemblies weakening; churches dying; Christians confused, unstable, and fearful; and false teaching spreading through social media and popular writers. Just like anthrax, false doctrine enters quietly—but, untreated, its effects are devastating.

Here in northwestern Zambia, many groups teach that salvation can be lost. Others elevate visions, dreams, and man-made traditions above Scripture. Some mix biblical truth with old “apostolic” errors from generations past. This teaching is spiritual anthrax, bad meat—deadly.

And the results are the same everywhere: fear, instability, division, decay, and spiritual death.



The only antidote: The pure Gospel of Christ

The only cure for anthrax is the correct antidote. The only cure for spiritual contamination is the Word of God. God has given us one Gospel, one Savior, and one message: “Christ died for our sins . . . He was buried . . . He rose again.” (1 Corinthians 15:3–4)

This message must be preached in power, clarity, and conviction. Not milk endlessly. Not trends. Not popular opinions. Not what social media promotes as Christian teaching.

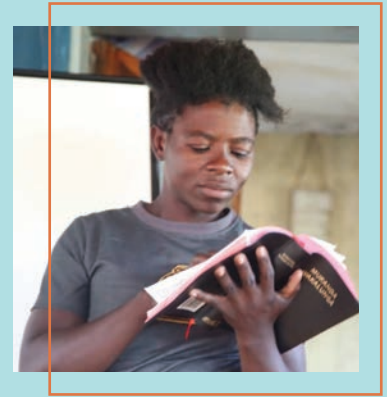
What we need—and what every assembly needs—is the clear, undiluted, Christ-centered Gospel. Christ must be preached faithfully, biblically, and without compromise.

Opposite page: The staff at Chitokoloki Mission Hospital proclaim the Gospel while providing medical care. **This page (L–R):** Dr. Truter smiles with patients successfully treated for cutaneous anthrax; A Zambian woman reads the Bible in her language, Lunda.

A needed exhortation

“Examine yourselves as to whether you are in the faith.” (2 Corinthians 13:5)

This exhortation is not written for unbelievers. It is written to professing Christians. In a world overflowing with spiritual anthrax, polluted doctrine, and subtle false teaching, are we truly feeding on the Word of God? Are we grounded in the Gospel that saves? Are we walking in holiness and truth? Are we standing firm in the essentials of the faith? Are we guarding ourselves, our families, and our assemblies?



Prayer requests

As we continue the work in Zambia, we kindly ask you to join us in prayer in these specific ways:

1. Pray for a clear gospel witness. Pray that a pure, undiluted Gospel would be preached consistently by our Zambian brothers and sisters who labor faithfully in the Word—preaching “in season and out of season.” (2 Timothy 4:2) Pray for sound teaching, discernment, and the protection of assemblies from false doctrine.
2. Pray for strength in the hospital work. The workload here at Chitokoloki is often exhausting and overwhelming. Please pray that we will not grow weary in doing good. Pray, too, that we will have open doors to speak of the hope within us. We pray that the Lord will use us not only to provide medical care but to clearly explain the seriousness of sin, for “all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.” (Romans 3:23)
3. Pray for the expanding outreach work. Another doctor at Chitokoloki, Dr. Felix, is actively involved in multiple outreach efforts: new clinics in Angola, teaching opportunities, and meetings with new groups of believers hungry for Scripture. Pray that the Lord will strengthen these new assemblies, ground them in truth, and protect them from error.

Just as the villagers were unaware that the meat they ate was deadly, consuming teaching that quietly destroys our spiritual health is easy. May the Lord give us discernment. May we hold fast to the truth. And may we continually examine ourselves to ensure that we are indeed in the faith. ■



André and Felitia Truter are commended from Oak Bay Gospel Assembly in Victoria, British Columbia.

8 CMML RESOURCES

BY CRAIG



MISSIONS MAGAZINE

Published 11 times per year, *Missions* features articles and letters from the missionaries included in the MPH. The articles present readers with an in-depth view of the missionaries' ministries and lives, while the "Connections" department offers updates from the field, organized by the missionaries' location within the MPH. "Keeping in Touch," the final department in each issue, notifies readers of changes to the MPH, including furloughs, new missionaries, deletions, marriages, births, and home calls. This information helps you pray more knowledgeably for the missionaries as you work through the MPH monthly. If you aren't already a *Missions* subscriber, sign up today—subscriptions are free.



"MISSIONS UPDATE" VIDEOS

Once per month, CMML releases a video featuring a missionary listed in the MPH. These three-to-four-minute "Missions Update" videos give you a glimpse into the lives of missionaries around the world and are perfect for sharing online or showing during church services. You may watch the videos on our website or YouTube channel.



CMML has a long history of publishing the names of missionaries in our Missions service. The reason has always been prayer. Prayer cards appeared annually in our predecessors' publications, *Voices of the Field* and *Prayer Handbooks* were distributed to display in homes and chapels. Finally, in 1967, CMML published the first *Missionary Prayer Handbook*.

Today, the MPH lists missionaries by country and includes contact information, and ministry description, plus info about how to pray for them over the next 30 days so believers can pray for a new group of missionaries.

For decades, the MPH has been a useful tool that enabled believers to pray for missionaries. However, did you know that CMML's other resources flow from the MPH? The articles you read, the videos you watch, the podcasts you listen to, and the updates you receive supplement the MPH. All CMML's resources are designed to help you pray for missionaries.

To get the most out of your *Missionary Prayer Handbook*, scan each QR code to learn more or see page 23 for more information.



CMML UPDATES EMAIL

Periodic messages keep you up to date with all the new and exciting resources, events, and needs associated with CMML and the missionaries we serve. Visit CMML.us to sign up.



THE CMML PODCAST

To the Ends of the Earth is a story-driven podcast designed to rekindle, equip, and inspire believers toward meaningful engagement in God's global mission. The hosts interview missionaries, whose stories and wisdom compel us to lift up our eyes. Episodes are available on Apple Podcasts, Spotify, YouTube, and CMML.us.



S TO HELP YOU PRAY

FRITCHEY

Individuals and families commended to cross-cultural prayer. In the early years, these missionary prayer lists appeared in *Missions* as *Prayers from the Vineyard* and *The Fields*. Then, prayer calendars, and later, CMML produced a list in booklet format. See *Missionary Prayer Handbook*.

Each issue includes a picture of each person or family, their contact information, and their country of service. It divides the listed missionaries into sections for each day of the month.

How does CMML enable believers to pray around the world monthly. How does it connect to the *Missionary Prayer Handbook*? The tools on our website, the social media posts you like, and the prayer emails you receive are all connected.

Use this book, use it alongside the following CMML resources. See our contact information.



MISSION PRAYER ITEMS EMAIL

MSC Canada, our sister organization, and CMML jointly publish Mission Prayer Items, an email that MSC sends out weekly. It features prayer requests from missionaries listed in the *Missionary Prayer Handbook*. Like the “Connections” department of *Missions*, the prayer requests are organized by the missionaries’ location within the MPH. You may sign up on our website.



THE CMML WEBSITE

CMML.us is chock-full of missions and assembly information, much of which expands on the MPH and enables you to interact with missionaries. You can access special prayer requests, learn about upcoming conferences and missions opportunities, watch videos, and read a portion of each *Missions* issue. You can also find missionary profiles for most of the US-commended missionaries listed in the MPH. Some choose not to have public profiles for security reasons. Through our website, you may donate to every missionary CMML serves, even if they don’t have a public profile. Similarly, you can learn about and give to associated ministries—those connected to the missionaries.



SOCIAL MEDIA

A benefit of social media is the ability to update prayer warriors instantly. On CMML’s Facebook, Instagram, and X accounts, we post about news, prayer requests, and developments as they occur around the world. We also share about CMML events and other information. Follow CMML (@cmmlus) on your preferred platforms.



Copies of the *Missionary Prayer Handbook*

See page 22 of this issue to learn how you can receive the 2026 MPH.

Craig Fritchey, CMML assembly relations and missionary care liaison