

Hodzi Family News

Harare, Zimbabwe



Prayer & Praise

✚ We thank God for an encouraging time in both the States and Germany.

✚ Pray for the church in Buhera; to be a testimony to their community, for the hearts of those attending the training to be open to God's Word. Pray for safety as Thomas and other men travel there.

✚ Pray for diligence and effectiveness in homeschooling.

✚ Praise: Dany's permanent residency permit was approved.

✚ Pray for us as parents, as husband and wife to be faithful to God's Word and each other. Pray for our children to know Jesus personally.

✚ Pray for Thomas' health. He has not been very well of late and the doctors don't know what it is.



Family

We have settled back into life in Zimbabwe. After being gone for close to 4 months, it took everyone a few weeks for things to feel normal again. Our youngest, Charis, had probably the hardest time because she remembered nothing about this place...and after being sheltered from insects during the cold German winter months she started screaming when first encountering a fly...the first of many. She is fine now though, running around outside and getting dirty like a pro. We miss family and friends in both the States and Germany, while also happy to be back – it is always a mixed bag of emotions.

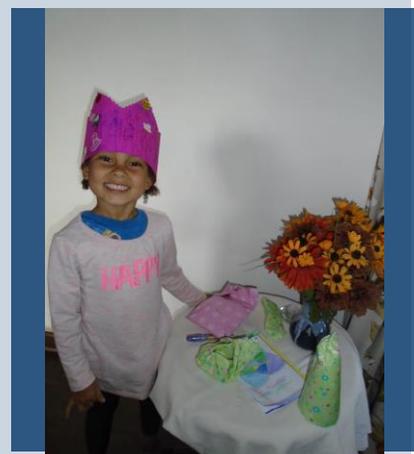
After having lived in Zimbabwe for 5 years, I (Dany) was eligible to apply for my permanent residency status here in Zimbabwe in March. We thank God that it was approved...no more visa renewals for me any more.

Ministry Profile: Buhera

Buhera is a rural area four and a half hours drive south east of Harare. The road is good about three quarters of the way but after that it is a dirt road that is painful and sometimes very slow to travel on. Just on this last trip I hit a big rock hidden in the brush of one of the trails I had to drive on and cracked my exhaust pipe. Thankfully I was able to make it back to Harare ok. I had the opportunity of speaking from Isaiah 53 at their Easter regional conference and was so thankful that over 20 people made a profession of faith and expressed a willingness to be baptized.

Training

COFIM is training leaders from 3 churches in the Mabota area who meet at Buhera Baptist church led by Pastor Tom. I met Pastor Tom early last year after he travelled a whole day by bus to hear me teach in a different village. He expressed how his village needs teaching and I promised him we would start a training site there. That promise came to reality in March and we started with 15 people committing to be trained by COFIM for at least two years. 12 of them are men, leaders in their churches who desire to know God's word more and possibly church plant in other villages as well.



Aletheia turned 4 in March. She is full of life, has many crazy ideas, thinks all animals (especially ants and lizards) are her friends, she loves pink and pretty things, loves taking care of her sister and playing rough with her brother, swinging and climbing trees...

We have started them off with Essentials of the Gospel, Old Testament Survey and How to study the Bible. As I was teaching I realized that for many of them it was the first time understanding what the gospel really is. This is the case in many of the places we teach as the pastors are so ill equipped. I have been so encouraged by Pastor Tom though and his humility even to ask questions during the training when some of his elders are there such as 'why do we still sin if Jesus died for our sins on the cross?'

Orphan Ministry

Through your help COFIM has started supporting 14 orphans out of the 70 in the Buhera church. We would like to do more if funds permit. I mentioned earlier that there are 15 people in the training. This includes 3 women from the Mabota Baptist church who help run the orphan ministry. They are responsible for visiting and ministering to the orphans. My brother Blayson will be overseeing that work of visiting and encouraging the orphan families. We thought it vital that they be involved in the training as they will be teaching these children in some capacity and sharing the gospel with the children and the extended relatives they live with. We currently are helping these orphans with paying for their fees and food groceries.

Rima Project

Buhera is classified as a region 5 area in Zimbabwe. This means that it is a very dry area prone to droughts. The soil is very poor and it is hard to eke out a living. Most of the people rely on growing peanuts. The few livestock that are in the area are lack good grazing lands and are very skinny. The RIMA project is a COFIM initiative that seeks to help the pastor be self-sustaining and not rely on support as they church can hardly support him. A good brother of ours and farmer, Graham Bowker is also working with us to help the people develop better farming methods in order to be able to feed their families and support the church as they are fed God's Word. We are praying through buying Pastor Tom a peanut butter making machine so that he can be able to support his family and give to the church in some of its ministries. Would you join us in prayer as well? Thank you for your prayers.



Blayson Chivarange Graham Bowker



Pastor Tom



Graham teaching on farming

Thank you for being a part of the work God is doing in Zimbabwe and Ghana. Please continue to pray for us and the people here.

We love and miss you all,

Thomas & Dany, Joel, Aletheia, Charis

Hodzi

11 Melrose Drive

Marlborough, Harare

Zimbabwe

thehodzis@yahoo.com

Skype: thodzi12

Sign up for WhatsApp and let us know your cell phone number to receive frequent prayer request and updates on your phone!

Thank you so much for your faithfulness in praying for us and supporting us financially. May our Lord who is always near be bless you.

Zimbabwe/ Ghana Ministry Support

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COFIM
1317 N. San Fernando Blvd
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Burbank, CA 91504

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