

African HARVEST

OCTOBER 2024

Spreading the Gospel Together

“For my Father’s will is that everyone who looks to the Son and believes in him shall have eternal life, and I will raise them up at the last day.” John 6:40

It’s a joy for me to present to you our Spring Newsletter. I pray that you will be encouraged by how God is at work in the continent of Africa as many people respond to the Lord Jesus. The stories in this newsletter represent just a small fraction of what Jesus is doing through our national teams as they work with local churches in bringing the gospel to the cities of Africa.

From South Africa to Ghana, our teams continue to share their lives and their faith in Jesus with those who do not know him. Despite ongoing economic challenges, God remains faithful and is bringing many into his kingdom.

In July and September, we saw the revival of our short-term missions. I hope you enjoy reading the testimonies from a partner church that sent teams to Rwanda and Malawi.

It truly was an incredible time of mutual encouragement in the Lord as they partnered together in gospel ministry.

In this final quarter of 2024, I encourage you to keep holding to the Lord Jesus, because the one who called us will finish what he started in us (Philippians 1:6). May the Lord continue to sustain you, for He knows you and is faithful to carry out his promises.

I want to thank you for your continuing support, your prayers and your generosity which enables AE to resource the preaching of the gospel in Africa.

May the Lord bless you.



Simba Musvamhiri,
CEO AE Australasia



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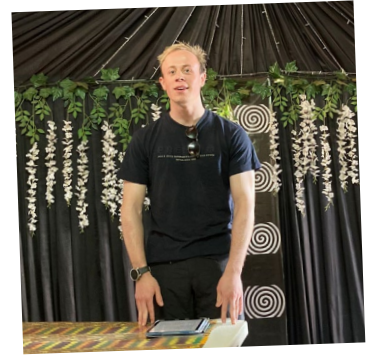
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Challenged to spread the Gospel

BY STEPHEN DAVIDSON



Stephen Davidson sharing the gospel in Rwanda.

I was blessed to be part of the Young Adults Team sent from Camberwell Presbyterian Church to share the gospel in Rwanda with AE. Each one of our large team of 25 members, was greatly impacted throughout the mission and on our return to Australia.

In Rwanda, I was confronted by injustice and poverty. However, I now have a new passion in my heart to be where God wants me and to do what he calls me to. I recently shared about the mission with others from our team at Donvale Christian College, in Victoria. Prior to the mission I wouldn't have considered doing something like this, but God took me out of my comfort zone and the materialism all around us in Australia. I was challenged by God as I saw that the Rwandan people I met were not materially rich, but they were incredibly spiritually rich.



Members of the Camberwell Presbyterian Church team in Rwanda.

As we shared the gospel in schools, farming communities, and open-air meetings, and served others by helping to build a house, there were so many times that I thought – “why didn't I do this sooner in my life?”



Communities in Rwanda celebrating the gospel.

My experience in Rwanda has given me a deeper understanding of the Scripture that says the harvest is plentiful, but the labourers are few (Matthew 9:37).

I am passionate to see more labourers getting involved in gospel work. Imagine if all God's people were to go out into the mission field, whether that's here in Australia or overseas? I truly believe we can and should spread the gospel, whether it's through school groups or media or writing articles – the list is endless.

GO

How is God calling you to be one of the labourers in his harvest? Prayerfully consider being part of a short-term mission, and contact us to learn more:



The joy of serving God in Malawi

BY DEB TAYLOR



Doctors from Australia giving donated equipment to medical staff in Malawi.

“Don’t underestimate how God could use your skills on a short-term mission in Africa!” challenged Rev Simba Musvamhiri, during a visit to our church in Camberwell, Melbourne in 2023.

A team of 10 from our church recently returned from Lilongwe, Malawi, deeply thankful for an incredible and life-changing experience. Our team consisted of five doctors, together with their partners (all either teachers or allied health professionals). We were also delighted that Rev Simba joined us for the first week.

Sharing medical experience

Under the leadership of the current director of AE Malawi, Dr Cornelius Huwa, a dynamic young paediatrician and palliative care specialist turned pastor, our team partnered with Kamuzu Central Hospital, a major teaching hospital in Lilongwe.

The doctors saw many different cases including malaria, organophosphate poisoning and a case of rabies. One of the most striking challenges was the diagnosis and management of patients without the tools and tests considered standard in Australia. Sometimes these tests were not available, e.g. iron studies for anaemia. Other times the hospital had run out e.g. glucose testing sticks for diabetes.

Over dinner each night the team exchanged incredible stories of the hardworking staff at Kamuzu Central Hospital. They saw tokens of God’s presence in small ways, like a nurse playing worship music in the operating theatre, and a doctor discussing church support possibilities with a patient’s family on discharge as a standard part of their care plan.

Serving in different ways

As partners we didn’t know beforehand what we might be doing in Malawi, but our hosts had planned an extraordinary program. We visited schools, rural villages, Transformation Projects, and ran discipleship sessions with young people preparing to start university and work. We met women in an AE tailoring course who proudly showed us the sewing they were learning and the beautiful garments they had produced.

Everywhere we went, we were asked to share our testimonies, a prayer of blessing here, a worship song there or an impromptu Bible message to 600+ school children! We were challenged to let go of any feelings of inadequacy and launch into what we were asked to do, and God absolutely met us.

We were delighted to visit Phereni school, a disadvantaged school supported by AE. From the moment we arrived, we were surrounded by children giving us high five’s! During the visit we met with the Principal and had the absolute joy and privilege of presenting gifts from our church, including school supplies and stationery, balls and frisbees, hats and donated school uniforms, to an ecstatic group of children at an impromptu assembly. I will never forget their genuine gratitude and their beautiful smiles.

Blessings of church partnership

In addition to this short-term medical mission, our church sent a youth mission team to Kigali, Rwanda in June this year. We give thanks to God for the way that stepping out in faith and obedience to Simba’s challenge has resulted in wonderful blessings to our church in 2024.

Read more from Deb about this amazing short-term medical mission: <https://africanenterprise.com.au/malawi/the-joy-of-serving-god-in-malawi/>



GIVE

Deb says, “I encourage churches to explore the fantastic work of AE in Africa, and also how you can partner with AE in Australia. It is exciting to support the work of people on the ground who are passionate in their delivery of programs to improve lives, present the gospel and extend God’s Kingdom.”

Learn more about how your church can partner with AE:



Lawrence wanted to take his life but then God intervened



Lawrence is no longer captive to his past but lives freely in the love of Christ.

The Malawi Foxfires stepped out in faith on a hot, dusty afternoon in Lilongwe. It's the time of the day when the city comes to life. There's movement, noise, music, and people appealing to passers-by to come and buy whatever they're selling – fresh fish, meat, vegetables, scrap metal, second-hand clothing. And it's here that the Foxfire Team gave one hour of ministry, the one hour that was legally allowed by the local city council and the police.

As soon as their sound system came to life, the Team erupted into a high energy choreographed dance, lighting up the whole market with laughter and joy. They then performed a skit with a spiritual theme pointing to God as the Saviour. One of the AE evangelists then read John 12: 44-48. As soon as he had shared the Word he went full throttle, explaining the urgency of the people who were listening to turn to Jesus as the Saviour. He passionately explained that God was calling every person hearing the Word to trust in his Son Jesus Christ.

Often when preachers come to these parts of the city, they come with false promises. But on this day, AE brought a very distinct gospel message offering nothing but Jesus – the need for man to trust in Jesus for salvation because we are sinners and without Him, we are condemned. The Holy Spirit moved powerfully and a sea of hands lifted across the crowd.



The Foxfire Team immediately sprung into action, ministering to people in the crowd and writing decision cards to ensure that each person could be followed up.

Amongst the many stories, one stood out on that day, from a young man called Lawrence. Having lived in a cycle of debt, Lawrence owed a million kwacha (\$850 AUD) and he was tired of running away from people who had lent him money. On this day, he had planned to take his life in the evening. But while he sat in his house contemplating the end of his life, he could hear the music of the Foxfires and the booming voice of the African Enterprise evangelist.

He walked out of his house and was captured by the message that Jesus is the Saviour and wants to save. At that minute, under the conviction of the Holy Spirit he understood he was a sinner and put his faith in Jesus.

Now, even as you read this, Lawrence is being followed up by a local church. All of those who responded on that day are being followed up by local churches, including the Baptist Church, the Anglican Church, and the Central Church of Africa Presbyterian (CCAP).

Lawrence's situation is similar to many people living in downtown Malawi and Southern Africa - people who are desperate and contemplating taking their life because of incredible hardship. Praise God for the new souls who turned to Jesus and for the Foxfires who return to the streets every day, sharing the hope and message of Jesus Christ our Lord.



PRAY

Please pray for:

- Lawrence, and for all who put their faith in Christ that day, to grow in their faith and not be deceived by false teaching.
- The AE Team and the Foxfires in Malawi as they encourage local churches to disciple these new believers.

AE Ghana - Tema Mission 2024



Janet Ohenewaa, a Christian student from Tema High School

On 24 August, AE Ghana Team Leader Ben Sachie led comprehensive evangelism training for church leaders in Tema in preparation for the October mission.

The training covered the core message and the 'dos' and 'don'ts' of evangelism, and equipped participants with the necessary skills to effectively utilise gospel tracts or booklets in communicating the gospel. One participant said,

"We are fired up for 25 October so that we can go out to evangelise!"



Rev. Francis Tetteh from Gateway Baptist Church took the initiative to bring a number of his church leaders to the training, demonstrating his commitment to spreading the knowledge gained. He also mentioned plans to organise further training sessions to equip other church members who were unable to attend the initial session.

David Kwabeng from Peace Community Church said, "I have benefited immensely from the evangelism training. We have been helped to know how to identify potential areas for ministry in Tema. I have learnt how to win souls, how to record data from the new convert, and also how to do effective follow up. This mission in Tema is a timely and divine intervention for the city.

Souls are perishing and we need to reach out in order to win them for Christ."

Janet Ohenewaa, a Christian student from Tema High School felt equipped through the evangelism training and is ready to share the gospel with her friends. She said, "I am grateful to African Enterprise for this training...I'm going to encourage other Christians in my school to joyfully share the Good News. We want our school to know the Lord Jesus."

Update October 2024

- 782 people registered their interest in participating in a second evangelism training session which took place on 19 October. Praise God!
- With the help of the Steering Committee, AE have created seven 'zones' in the city, and so far 93 churches have signed on. The Church mobilisation team is still working to bring in more churches.



PRAY

Please pray for:

- Ben Sachie, AE Ghana's Team leader as he leads and coordinates the follow up of the Tema Mission, for continued godly wisdom in building relationships with churches and pastors, for his health and protection of his family.
- The 1352 local Christians including pastors that trained & undertook evangelism and are now engaged in follow-up and discipleship.
- God's protection and good health over all who came to faith during mission week.
- The people of Tema to come to a full knowledge of Jesus beyond mission week.

Please keep us in your prayers

We are looking forward to these upcoming missions, and would value your prayer and support:

25 OCTOBER - 3 NOVEMBER

AE Ghana, Tema Mission

27 OCTOBER - 3 NOVEMBER

AE South Sudan, Juba West Mission

24 DECEMBER - 29 DECEMBER

AE Ethiopia, Nefas Silk Mission



Medical mission in Malawi

Be involved

We want to stay in touch with you and keep you updated. Here are a few ways to stay connected:



PRAY

Pray for all our Teams that God may give them wisdom, joy and strength as they proclaim Christ.



JOIN

Join us on a short-term mission to Africa.



ASK

Ask us about going to see what we are doing in Africa.



PARTNER

Please partner with us by giving to the work that we are doing. Visit our website to donate.



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