

# Ebenezer Ministries

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Chairman: Rod Caldwell  
Treasurer: Dave Flitcroft  
July 2013

Dear Friends and Family,

Our two grand-daughters – Eleanor White, born March 1<sup>st</sup>, and Blair Dee, born April 12<sup>th</sup> – both arrived safely this spring. Lots of fun excitement (especially for Grandma). Some of you already know that Eleanor’s follow up MRI in June showed a normal brain – no abnormalities, as in the initial March 7<sup>th</sup> MRI – which we view as being miraculous! Thank you Jesus! With the official adoption of Devon and Kelci into Jonnie and Whitney’s family (June 20<sup>th</sup>), we now have 8 grandkids – this, too, is very good! When Susan and I first married (36 years ago), we could never have forecasted this season of life with our three



children, their particular spouses, and all these particular grandkids. Who could have guessed? A pleasant mixture of gratitude, mystery, and wonder swirls around in me when I stop to reflect on God’s goodness to us as a family unit.



During our May trip to Zimbabwe we hosted a week long camp for the elementary age Good Shepherd kids at Lasting Impressions Camp – 42 campers altogether. It was the first time these kids had ever experienced a camp setting, and they had a blast! Highest on their “like” list? – food and hot showers. Games, canoeing, archery, crafts, mud fights, and lessons about the Wemmicks and Punchinello (“You Are Special”) made for a fun and busy week. Thanks to those who

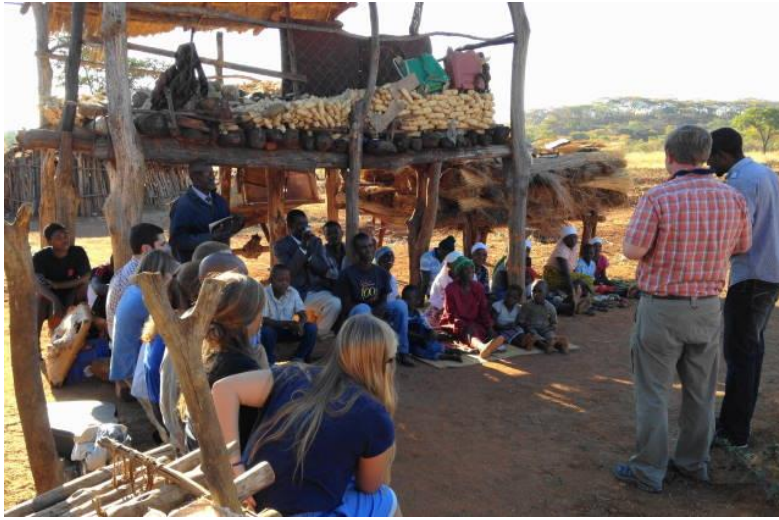
helped scholarship the kids and also sent them their letters and gift packets. Each child also received a pair of shoes and a hoodie. They were very pleased, of course, with the all the attention and goodies!

Susan and the 1<sup>st</sup> group flew home late May, and I stayed over to host a college group from Fellowship Church, Knoxville. They scholarshipped 36 high school campers from





GSO to a week of camp at LI. Interacting with the kids and listening to some of their stories was very impactful, and the school and village meetings proved to be a unique experience for them as well.



We were very sad to learn of Derek Olivier's death, July 5<sup>th</sup>. He had a heart attack and died in his sleep at home in Chinhoyi. The Oliviers have been long time friends of ours, and have hosted many of our groups while visiting the GSO. Aurrell, Derek's wife, has served as the Chairlady of GSO

for many years. Susan and I will be back in Chinhoyi in September with another team, at which time we hope to get a better idea of what Aurrell's future looks like, how this may/may not affect the orphanage long term.



Thank you, again, for the continued interest, prayer, and support that allows us to do what we do. Once again, "We invite to touch Africa, to reach its people." The September group flies out Sept.14<sup>th</sup> and returns Oct.1<sup>st</sup>. Hope you join us sometime.

John and Sue Dee.