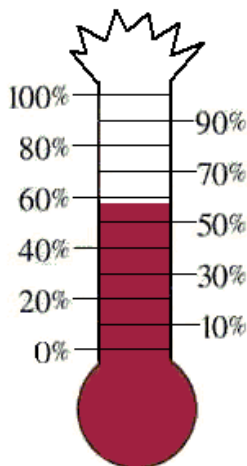


GAB'S AFRICA ADVENTURES

But my life is worth nothing unless I use it for doing the work assigned me by the Lord Jesus – the work of telling others the Good News about God's wonderful kindness and love. (Acts 20:24 NLT)



**Support Commitment
Level is at 58%**



Thank you!!

Dear Friend!

I pray that you had a blessed Advent/Christmas season and that your new year is off to a great start! There's a lot to report this time. God has been moving and shaking things up and I am excited about what's been going on!

In November, as I continued to struggle with accepting God's timeline for my departure to Africa, He made it clear that I had to take my house off the market. It took me a while to fully accept that and obey, however, in mid-November I finally did pull the listing. Immediately, I felt a great sense of relief. I know that seems quite counter-intuitive, but it was a step of faith I had to take in order to acknowledge that God is in control and that He will sell the house in His timing. Now I am sensing that it is time to put the house back on the market. Please pray that I will make the right decisions re-

garding a realtor, the price, and all the other details involved in selling a home.

For more than four years, I have been working for the same law firm. In the past several months we have seen a significant and sudden growth in our work load. *This is good!* However, growing pains tend to bring stress and tension. We have hired three new people who will help alleviate some of the work load for each of us in the next few months. Throughout these growing pains, God has shown me many things about myself: my work style, boundaries that I need to set, how I can do things differently in the future, etc. Though not always pleasant, I am thankful for what I have been learning.

During the third week of February, I will have the opportunity to attend an M.J. Murdock Trust seminar in Vancouver, WA. MJM's focus is on providing grants to charitable organizations. This seminar

will focus on helping missions agencies raise support to purchase the Kodiak Quest Airplane. I will also be able to use the grant writing training for future FMZ projects. For more airplane information go to: www.murdock-trust.org/kodiak. While I am in the Pacific NW I will also take the time to visit with some friends and supporters both before and after the seminar. I am looking forward to both.

Last fall I participated in a class called "Care to Connect" put on by Donna in my church. Its purpose was to encourage lay counseling among believers. I took it with the idea that it would be useful information on the mission field. Last week, I was able to put it into practice with a friend. She hadn't known that I'd taken the class and specifically asked for scriptural counseling. God is Good!! If you ever have the opportunity, I highly recommend taking the class.

Love,

Gabriele ☺

Praise and Prayer

- **Praise** for the opportunity to attend training in Washington State along with opportunity to visit friends and supporters
- **Pray** for traveling mercies and quality time in Oregon and Washington
- **Praise** for the many things God has been teaching me about myself
- **Pray** that my place of employment can weather the growing pains with grace and dignity
- **Pray** for those in Zambia who are already involved in the ministry there and having to do "my" job until I am able to get there (see story on back from one of those people)

STRIKING FOR JESUS: SOCCER TAKES CHILONGOLO

FMZambia Ministry Highlight

The following story was conveyed by Sally Green, a British member of Flying Mission Zambia. She is a former P.E. Teacher and holds a soccer club for the children near Chilongolo, where the FMZ airstrip is located and FMZ is headquartered. For more stories go to:

www.flyingmission.org/news

On December 26, we arranged a soccer match for our older lads. They were to play a team from Chisomo, the Street Children Drop-in Centre with which we have connections. It was the first match those lads had ever played against another team so they were very excited.

Transport is always a problem when we play away matches. Everyone wants to come! Last time we had 31 in the mini-bus, including me! It was a noisy affair and very cramped but we could do it because we were going 'bush'. Going into town is a different matter. We eventually managed to persuade a driver, Stan, to take 18 of us. We

boarded with our new green kit (supply of uniforms), given by UK supporters. It would be its first outing! We picked up Kirsty Bassham, our UK short-termer and friend, on the road. Singing heartily, we set off. Well, I wasn't singing so heartily, but everyone else seemed to be!

Upon arrival, we found the opposition waiting. Some of them were rather tall! We handed our old/previous strip (uniforms) to them to wear for the game. From the Centre we walked to the field and finally the game began. It was quite even for the first 5 minutes, then our guys got into their stride and it became a lot less so. In fact, towards the end, our strikers were deliberately missing goals. I was impressed. They are not usually inclined to such expressions of compassion! The ref was one of our lads, Jojo, and he even gave them a goal which the rest of us were sure missed the mark. We are still not sure whether it was a deliberate mistake or not, but we know Jojo is a very kind guy! Anyhow, our team won easily. Afterwards, one of the tallest members of their

team – about 6 foot 4 – came and asked us to bring our smaller team next time! We all laughed!

The best was yet to come. We went back to the Centre where there was a group waiting for us. We sat around and I opened the Bible to speak on hospitality very shortly and commend them for theirs. Then 3 of our group gave short comments on what it means to belong to Jesus. After that we opened the floor to the Chisomo lads. They had such amazing stories to share of how they were rescued from lives of crime and came to belong to Jesus. Our lads sat there, entranced. It was so good! God gave them such riches in that time. They are still talking about what they heard that morning. I can't say they were all converted, but I do believe good seed was sown. Pray for them all. Our parting gift to the Chisomo lads was the soccer strip they had worn that day. They were clearly very happy for that and our lads discovered it truly is more blessed to give than to receive. And we have invited them out to Chilongolo for a return match.



“The Chisomo lads had such amazing stories to share of how they were rescued from lives of crime and came to belong to Jesus. Our lads sat there, entranced. God gave them such riches in that time.”

I love talking about what God is doing in my life. If you know of any churches, groups, or individuals who might like to hear more about my calling or place of ministry, please let me know.

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