



# African Leadership Partners

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*Wishing all our friends a wonderful and blessed Christmas season!*

The 2012 year has been one of our most difficult years. Still there is much for which are thankful. Hardly a day goes by without a child, a worker, or a caregiver saying something that makes us realize what we are doing has eternal value. Such words of strength help us to press on in the work God has called us to.

We have now completed eleven years since founding New Life Children's Homes, and our fourth year of New Life Primary School. We have "graduated" our first Grade Seven class, three boys. They will go on to high school in January and we are eagerly awaiting the results of the required external exams.

This last school year (January through December), we have had a Zimbabwean lady, Precious Madzudzo, teaching our oldest students. Her specialty is math which is very hard to come by in this part of the world. In fact she teaches math to all the children in grades 4-7. She is a

committed believer, friendly, and works hard to develop a relationship with the children. She served a one year contract, with friends in Canada donating the money for her salary this last year. We are thrilled that she has agreed to teach for another year but we need to raise the funds to pay her, -- about \$7,000 for the year (\$580/month). **We ask that you consider helping with this need so that our children can continue to benefit from this experienced teacher.**



The school continues to grow each year as we admit little ones to Grade One. This next year about half of the 12 in-coming Grade One are from the community, while the rest are resident at New Life Homes or children of our farm staff.

Mid-year we welcomed Rob & Jennifer Taylor, plus their four children, to the community of New Life Homes. Rob's skills in construction and mechanics, plus his EMT/para-medic expertise are much appreciated. Jennifer has stepped in to teach at the Grade 3 & 4, plus English to the older class. Next year she'll teach the Grade 1 & 2.

Our Preschool is a vital part of this development and we are hopeful (keep praying) for the addition of an experienced American preschool teacher later in the year.

In January, we are also welcoming Mandi and Tommy Bottoms. Mandi will teach our Grade 3 and 4, while Tommy adds his expertise to the farm side of this project, having recently completed a PhD in Agricultural Science. We are excited to welcome all this great talent into the New Life Homes and School family.

Please continue to pray for all of us as we work daily to provide for, teach and guide the 40 children in our care, plus another 30 that attend the schools from the surrounding communities. The 15 adults who work here also need our support and involvement in their lives. Pray that God will give us His wisdom for the many situations that we face.

With thanks for your involvement in our lives,

*Mary Jean & Peter Kopp*