



# A New Day in Mission

## Kafakumba Training Center

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**KEN & DEBBIE VANCE,  
MISSIONARIES TO  
ZAMBIA**

### Kafakumba Pastor's School

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As the 2008 session of KPS was by far our best year ever, 2009 has proved to be every bit as special, and is topped with our graduating class. We will graduate 28 pastors, five of whom are women. These pastors represent the countries of Congo, Tanzania and Zambia.

With over 120 pastors, spouses and children, the two months of training have been highlighted by visits from some of our U.S. partners who participate in special classes and seminars, along with the staff and students who assemble from across Central Africa. Pastors Kilembo and Tanga have been our servant leaders and have given so much to make this all possible.

I was meeting with the graduating class and we were discussing their course of study. Many shared the hard road that has brought them through some very difficult days including sickness, family hardships, and the deaths of children.

One of our women pastors shared with me her excitement and joy of preaching to a seminar in Congo where the Bishop attended. After her sermon, the Bishop asked her where she learned to preach. Her response was "Kafakumba Pastors School!" She went on to thank me, her preaching teacher, as she said that when she came to Kafakumba she thought



she knew how to preach. But after going through my classes and learning how to do the research, prepare and preach a sermon, I made her preach on video so we could play it back and she see herself preach, as we do with all the students. It was her first time to ever see and hear herself and through that process has proven herself to be one of our best preachers!

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### Kafakumba Training Center

Kafakumba Training Center is a center where "anyone" can come and, in the name of Jesus, find life, meaning and purpose.

We want to hold youth conferences, Sunday School training events and Family Camps (which our 9<sup>th</sup> An-

nual Kafakumba Family Camp will be the end of July) where entire families come. For our Pastors who have graduated from Pastors School, we want to offer the opportunity for continuing education with Pastors conferences and seminars.



## Bananas and chickens

The current global economic crisis is digging deep into every aspect of society, including the church. We have seen funds drop off this year and giving is down. This has caused us to face the reality that the church in Zambia must work even harder to become self-sustaining.

Thus, projects like the bananas and chickens along with other agricultural projects—fish farming, livestock, grain, bee and honey



production, and aloe vera—go hand in hand to provide the means and resources to make the

programs that we are attempting to do possible.

So we press ahead with this vision that will guide the church into the future. Local farmers, churches and pastors will be enabled, equipped and empowered “to have life, and have it more abundantly”.

## First ever Women's Conference

Dr. Mary Kay Smith, head of the Psychiatry Department at the University of Toledo, and Jennie Conrad, Professor of Psychology at Indiana Wesleyan University, are joining forces for Kafakumba's first ever Women's Conference.

Such areas as AIDS and HIV awareness, counseling and treatment will

be addressed along with other issues concerning women in this culture in light of the teachings of Jesus in the Kingdom of God. To hold a conference for women or children is unheard of, but in light of Jesus' teaching we are “focusing on the least of these” in the local African culture.

This is not only a major shift for the church, but it is being received with excitement and great enthusiasm. Women are “coming out of the woodwork” to be present at this Conference. We are truly excited about the possibilities this creates for future and further conferences of this nature to be held.

## A personal note

We have been missionaries in Africa for 25 years. We celebrate this with all who have prayed for us, supported us, visited us and who have truly been partners with us over these years. Your love, support and encouragement through various wars, snake-bites, and traumatic encounters with armed forces have helped to sustain us.

We can not begin to thank you properly, suffice to say, “thank you!” Our call and commitment to Africa remains intact. We have also been affected by the economic crisis and giving for our financial support has

dropped this year.

We know that some can no longer support us financially and we understand and appreciate this. Others need to cut back on their giving, while some have been able to step up and fill in the gaps.

At present we have sufficient funds through August 2009 for our salary support. Our next scheduled furlough/visit to the U.S. for fund raising is scheduled for the Fall of 2010. We know that God is in control and we will continue to be servants of Christ.

All contributions should be sent to:



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The MMS Advance Special Number is:  
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