

**If you are considering where to make a special end of year gift that would have eternal value please consider giving to one or more of our ZEMA families.**

You can write a check to ZEMA with a note designating the ZEMA family/families you would like to donate to and mail those to: ZEMA, PO Box 913, Monument CO 80132 or you can give online. Go to <http://www.zema.org/support/> scroll down and find the name of the missionary you would like to gift. Click the blue “Donate” button under their name and it will take you to our secure donation page operated by GivingFuel. Select your donation amount or click “Other” to enter the amount of the gift you wish to give, select your payment method (check or credit/debit card), enter your billing information and click the ‘submit‘ button. You will receive an email receipt!



### The New Kids on the ZEMA Block!

#### Meet the Steiners

Hi there, guten Tag! We are Timon and Ann-Kristin Steiner. In August, our family joined the ZEMA team from Germany. Our three children are David (5), Jael (3) and Aaron (1), and as you can see, another addition is on its way.

We are excited to be serving with the Adkins in Port Elizabeth, once we have been immersed into the local culture and language. We have made the first steps of settling into the field and are getting to know the town and it’s people. God has been so faithful to us. Missions has been on our hearts since our youth and God has enabled us to launch into this mission now. It has been quite a journey so far.

**In the next issue of Focus, you will be able to read about the Steiner’s journey from Germany to the amaZioni...**



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# THE ZEMA Family Christmas

DECEMBER NEWSLETTER

Christmas letters have become a tradition for many families in the United States of America. Our missionaries would like to begin that tradition with you, our ZEMA family. Inside this issue of Focus you will read encouraging stories of what God is doing on the field through YOUR prayers and generous gifts.

### From the Adkins

This story is about one of our ZEBS students whom Barry has been meeting with and mentoring the past 4 years:

**A man walks up to the pastor and says, "Hello, do you remember me?"**

The pastor did not, **so the man reminded him...**

About 6 months ago, while organizing Bibles to sell, the pastor saw a young man standing around. Pastor began a conversation with the man and soon learned that the man was in real need, as he was drowning his sorrows with alcohol. **Pastor felt the Lord impress on his heart to give this young man some money.** The Pastor tells Barry he only had a 100 Rand. If he had two 50 Rand he would only have given him 50 Rand but he decided to give all he had. The pastor shared the Gospel with this young man and gave him one of the Bibles. **This was a real sacrifice for the pastor** as he lives from hand to mouth and sells Bibles to try and make a few Rand. For instance, on a few occasions when Barry went to visit they would have no electricity as they did not have money to pay. So to give away 100 Rand as well as a Bible was a huge sacrifice prompted by God.

The pastor did not recognize this young man because he was now looking healthy and sober. **The young man had returned to say thank you as his life had been turned around. Pastor then took him and introduced him to two other men and asked him to share with them what God had done.**

We do praise the Lord for His work in and through us as we make disciples amongst the amaZioni so that they in turn can make disciples!

### From the Goosens

**What must we do to be saved?** Eager faces stared at me, **imploring me to help them know how to be saved.** Do we have to live in hell forever and what will it be like? **The conviction of the Holy Spirit was evident and these students had come running to me as I was about to enter the vehicle.** I saw the group needed to speak to me. They wanted to know how they could be right with God. I shared the gospel with them but **their sin seemed insurmountable to them and there appeared to be no way out.** I explained how God himself paid our debt by being our substitute and purchasing us with his blood. I encouraged them to pray right there and then and to place their faith in Jesus for forgiveness of sin and then to turn away from all sin. **Right there we prayed and their joy couldn't be contained.** They expressed their gratitude and gave us hugs as we got into the truck to move to the next venue. **Praise God for wide open doors for ministry.** We need more workers! Please pray!

### From the Akers

Cyclone Idai made landfall near Beira city, Mozambique on March 14, 2019 as a Category 2 storm. Its heavy rains and strong winds led to flash flooding, hundreds of deaths, and massive destruction of property and crops. What made matters worse was that very few people were able to evacuate and ride out the storm in houses not built for these circumstances. We were able to respond in two ways: firstly we asked friends and supporters to contribute to a relief fund and **we PRAISE GOD that around \$8000 was donated!** Secondly, **we handed these funds over to local amaZioni church leaders for THEM to be in the frontline of delivering this relief.** Not only did they accept this challenge but they appealed to amaZioni in unaffected areas to donate clothes and blankets. AmaZioni leaders were able to deliver emergency relief over 3 visits to areas around Buzi, help with building repairs and rehabilitate farming fields in time for replanting to people who had no means to help themselves. **Less than 3 months after this disaster, the ZEBS classes at Buzi were back in the swing of teaching and the locals rejoiced that THEIR OWN PEOPLE had come to their rescue!**

### From the Emanuelsons

Avoiding traditions involving ancestral worship is a major task for African Christians. In the East London area of the Eastern Cape of South Africa, **evidence of God working in the life of a man named Mr. Zingani is becoming quite evident.** After graduating from the Zion Evangelical Bible School (ZEBS) in Mdantsane, he joined a distance learning center of Mukhanyo Theological College that meets in East London, pursuing an accredited diploma. **He has also started teaching at ZEBS.** At class one day he explained how **he is no longer attending funerals associated with ancestral worship. Praise God for his commitment to serving the Lord now!**



### From the Hoffmans

Many churches who hold church camp at Sunbury use our pool for a baptism service during the time they are with us. Recently a church contacted us to use our pool exclusively for a baptism service. **They contacted several other places and were unable to locate a place to have their service.** Someone suggested Sunbury and while we do not normally do this type of event, it did work into our schedule so we agreed to allow them to come early on a Sunday morning. **We witnessed over 15 people get baptized.**

During the service, we learned that **most of those getting baptised had recently turned to Christ and were new believers.** At the end, after everyone was out of the pool, **two others who had witnessed the earlier baptisms expressed their desire to be baptised and professed Christ! The pastors quickly got back into the pool and baptised the two! What a joy it was!**

### From the Seghers

One of the exciting things about being a part of the ZEBS and ZBC schools is seeing the way God is growing the schools through the vision and commitment of African pastors and leaders. Our questionnaire to new students shows that **the #1 way new students come to our ZEBS @ Sunbury is through our students talking to others.** Additionally, through conversation with two of our ZEBS teachers, we learned some students have received invitations to become pastors for churches in other Christian denominations. One told us, **"Why would I take the light into the light? I know that God has called me to take His light into the darkness of churches who don't know Jesus."** The other's response was, **"My heart is with the Zionists. I cannot turn away from what God has called me to, even though they offer me cars and money the Zionists cannot provide."**

### From the Seelhammers

**Over the past year** as Paul visited churches in the Vhembe District in different locations, **they wear different uniforms, but they all wanted to buy Bibles.** Paul sold over 400 Bibles in the English, TshiVenda, and Tsonga languages. **The Zionists are hungry for the Word of God** in this mostly rural area of South Africa that borders with Mozambique and Zimbabwe. **Plans and preparations are being made to start ZEBS classes there in 2020!**

### From the Kuehls

**In the beginning of 2019, God opened the way for two new ZEBS through the excitement and hard work of current students who desired to bring biblical teaching to their communities.** Both of these ZEBS Bible Colleges are now open and are going strong with 20-40 students. Praise God! Since we did not have any open dates in our schedule, that means **we now have 4 schools on the second weekend of the month, two on Saturday and two on Sunday.** We are using the 'divide and conquer' method to handle this unique situation. For instance, 4 teachers climb into the car together. Two get dropped at one location and two carry on to teach at the further location. We also switch teachers every other month so that the students get the benefit of the diverse teaching gifts of our staff. One of the new schools meets next to an informal housing settlement in a poor community and many of the students (and a teacher) are immigrants. Through this school is the potential to reach congregations in Malawi, Zimbabwe, and beyond. The other ZEBS meets in a rural area, where no one has come in the past to help these people. Not long after starting his studies one student from this school declared, **"All my life I have not been able to know what the Bible says. Now, through ZEBS, I can understand the Bible!" So exciting!**

### From the Boatmans

Our highlight of the year was definitely our visit to the U.K. and Holland in the summer. We surprised Dennis's parents during their furlough as **they hadn't yet met Connor, their second grandson.** We were also able to visit both of Dennis's remaining grandparents, **introducing them to both their great-grandsons. The timing couldn't have been better.** Within a few weeks/months of our visit, health issues started mounting for both of them. Those two weeks of time with family, sightseeing, and attending the Keswick Convention were **such a huge blessing and privilege,** despite the whirlwind of traveling nonstop.

### From the Home Office

The ZEMA Home Office would like to thank all of the volunteers who assisted in the writing, design, and editing of this newsletter. We would also like to thank all of the volunteers that help us fold, seal, address, and organize the hundreds of envelopes / mailings each year.

**We Are Grateful for YOU!**