

Africa Update
16 July, 2008



Dear All,

Kitwe has gotten colder during June and July but not anything quite like the chill of a typical western winter. It is the dry season now so even though the clouds gather on some days, there is never any rain during this time of the year. It is good to have a break from the hotter, humid weather and the constant sweat which accompanies the other months of the year. The break from having to deal with the mud of the wet season also makes some aspects of life easier. The strong winds, dust, smoke and ash that accompany this dry season are the current forces to be reckoned with. In defiance to my present practice of keeping all the windows shut, the dust still manages to creep in and build up on the inside of my house.

The last month has seen me very busy preparing for the team of four ladies who will be arriving from Australia at the end of this month. I will be driving to Blantyre, Malawi at the end of this week to assist with the preparations of the first of four women's conferences that we will be conducting over three weeks.



*Brown Headed Kingfisher outside my kitchen window – my
favourite type of bird*

Since most of the groundwork for the three Zambian conferences has now been completed, I am free to cross over to Malawi prior to the Australian team's arrival to check on the arrangements there.

After both the Blantyre conference and three days of ministry in some women's prisons and a youth detention centre, we will be driving across to Zambia for the remaining three conferences.

Immigration is still processing changes to my work permit here and I am hoping to have all my immigration issues sorted out before I cross over to Malawi. I've been told it should be sorted out in the next few days so I'm hoping.

Because of the amount of work that has been required to organise the women's conferences and the Australian team's three week program, I have had less time to work on the children's project over the last month. I intend to resume this work more fully after the team's program is completed. Having said that, some of the legal processes required to run the "Children of Destiny Project" are currently being attended to as these processes tend to take quite a long time to complete. My hands are fairly tied in regards to moving forward with the project until all the necessary legal requirements are in place.

Both of my bible college classes completed their final exams at the end of June which coincided well with my transition towards spending more time on conference preparations. After the conferences, I plan to start teaching the same bible course in another town called Mufulira which is about 40 minutes drive away from where I live.

That's about all my news for now. I imagine that I will be writing again to you towards the end of August when the Australian team has finished its African program.

Until then,
Stay well.

Mike