



UPDATE from MUTARE



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I have called you by your name; you are Mine. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you.'
Isaiah 41:1-2

Newsletter
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Dear friends and family,

After 5-months of visiting churches, family and friends in the USA, UK and Netherlands, we returned at the end of September to a touching welcome of warm greetings, embraces and smiles from friends, colleagues, church family and students, all of whom have helped us feel grounded and thankful to be 'home'.

Our first week we joined a campus clean-up day in preparation for the grand celebration of 30 years of Africa University.



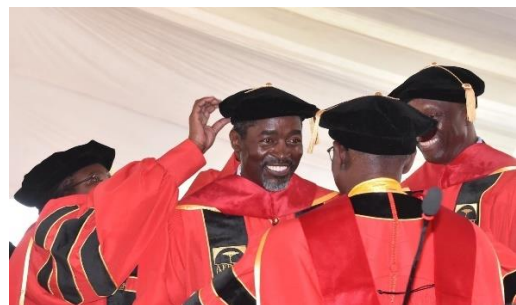
Photos courtesy OAPA, AU

Homecoming



The sounds, colours, and exuberance of Zimbabwe were apparent in an animated UMW revival over the weekend. The preaching was stirring, the singing joyful and the food delicious!

And more recently, sights and sounds of a different nature in Gonarezhou National Park during which we were blessed with the company of good friends and sightings of unbelievable numbers of the park's residents!



There was much singing and festivity over the weekend of October 22-23 as **AU celebrated 30 years AND the inauguration of the Vice Chancellor, Prof Rev Peter Mageto**. Visitors from different parts of the globe congregated to make this both a celebration of the past, and a projection of AU's commitment and potential to change Africa and the world through leadership training for the next generation of African youth.

Photo credit: UMC Council of Bishops

We are now both adjusting to the idea of **being 'retired'** as GBGM missionaries, (Jane as of October 1st). *Larry, of course, has had 2 years practice -although he will continue teaching as a volunteer.*



As we are looking out to new horizons, we will take time to reflect on the way God brought us together in ministry and guided us through new terrain in Botswana and across borders to Zimbabwe (with stops along the way in the USA, and other distant places), always with the assurance, 'I have called you by your name; you are Mine. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you.' (Isaiah 41:1-2)



Time and space do not allow us to provide pictures of or name all the special people who hosted and cared for us during our church and other visits. Family, friends, church family and GBGM staff have always held us up in prayer and warmly received us whenever we came back to the States. We are so thankful for this commitment to ministry and for the love that has held us all together in our work to carry out the mandate that Jesus gave us all to make Him known in our communities and disciple others.

Family

Besides enjoying our church family, we have received unlimited joy in sharing this journey from our own families and precious children. We came across the saying, 'one is not born in Africa; Africa is born in you'. Certainly, Africa has given them wisdom, perspective and experiences that have shaped them. They have withstood multiple challenges adapting to new cultures, but we are so proud of them and the steps they have taken to establish their own lives in new places.

This is our **last 'official' newsletter**. Please let us know if you would like to be on our list for future, more occasional letters. We will continue to use LKies@africau.edu and JKies60@gmail.com as well as the website www.LarryKies.com



Websites:

Africa University news: www.africau.edu
www.support-AfricaUniversity.org, and on
Twitter and Facebook.

A.U. scholarship fund:
<https://umcmmission.org/advance-project/3021028/>

The Farm Development Fund: For current
projects: Dr. Sebastian Chakeredza,
(chakeredzas@africau.edu)

As you may prayerfully be considering **another missionary to support**, we would like to suggest the following A.U. graduates, now GBGM missionaries:

Temba Nkomozezi (Zambia, Agricultural development). TNkomozezi@umcmmission.org.

Masuka Maleka, Ivory Coast, church development).
<https://umcmmission.org/missionary-bio/3021390/>

Always, our thanks and praise go to our heavenly Father, always there, always faithful in the valleys and the heights. We give Him all the glory as we aim to 'live a life worthy of our calling.'

Thank you!!! May you always be blessed in your service to God and others.

Jane and Larry Kies