

De Jong Update July 2009  
(See Picture Page at end of Update)

We had a wonderful but busy time in the Boston area during our recent trip, at the end of June, to celebrate the widow Rose's graduation from Law School. We rejoiced to see Rose again and meet some of her siblings. Sylvia especially enjoyed visiting with friends from the Emmanuel Gospel Center (EGC), where she (Sylvia) worked while she was in seminary. We stayed with the EGC Director, Jeff Bass, in whose home the party was held.

The South End Neighborhood Church of Emmanuel (SENCE) had an outdoor meeting on the plaza Sunday morning. Although it threatened rain, God held it back until after the meeting. We were able to mingle with many people from LOTS of different backgrounds - doctors to street people, young Harvard students to handicap people, from English speaking, to Spanish and several other languages. David met a young man, Reza (see picture), from Iran who used to be Muslim and had converted to Christianity. He had been tortured severely for his "crime" of becoming a Christian. He has only been in the states for five months and has not received good treatment by Americans either. We tried to assure him that most Americans were not like that. We hope to communicate in the future, so pray God will make us a blessing to him.

It was such a delight to see Clarence McGregor, who had accepted Christ in jail many years ago. Clarence (see picture) is an associate pastor at SENCE, also a street pastor with Starlight Homeless Ministry. He preached the sermon on the Prodigal son with a real passion. Because of his experiences, he was able to connect with the people who were there. When the invitation was given, many responded. Sylvia was asked to counsel a young woman who came back to the Lord. After the service, they provided a meal for everyone there.

Also, while in Boston, we were able to spend time with Marilyn Mason, who had been a missionary in Africa years ago, and who had also ministered several years in Haiti. She developed a Creole language orthography tool (computer program) which is being used effectively now. We also enjoyed spending time with several other friends, Sandy Jackson and Jorave Telfort. Fellowship with old friends is so sweet!

Another exciting part of the trip was to stay with Rex, Kim, and family overnight. Their son, Baxter was recently in Europe for the performance tour of a band made up of exceptional high school musicians. He plays the French horn (among other instruments). Two days after we left N.J., David's grandson, Daniel arrived at Rex and Kim's with a mission team of young people from his church in Georgia for two overnights, so Rex could show them the city of New York. Many of them had never been to NYC before. Then the group went to Neptune, New Jersey for a week of ministry. Daniel's construction skills come in handy as they worked on four construction projects while there. When their team ministered at the church in NJ, a 103 yr old woman and her 83 yr. old daughter both prayed to receive Christ.

Our hearts are burdened with several areas of great need that we cannot ignore. We believe God would have us share them with you. If God lays on your heart to participate in His provision for these needs, you would bless both God and the one or ones you help. You can participate by prayer or by giving or both. Here are the requests that have been shared with us.

Davison Zulu (see picture), our Zambian pastor friend, has 3 prayer requests:

**a)** The owner, of the home they rent, unexpectedly has to move back into the home in August. They must immediately find another place. There is an adequate, secure home near them for sale and available. The asking price is \$13,300. A good down payment could secure it for them and they could arrange a mortgage and move in. They have no savings to put down.

**b)** His wife Jean is not well. She has fibroid tumors in her uterus which may require surgery. Please pray for her healing according to God's will.

c) Praise God - Joy Again Foundation, International, (JAFI ) ministry for widows and orphans is now registered and launched in Zambia. [We have agreed to be consultants and serve on their advisory board.] Davison writes, **“Yesterday evening, Jean, I and the team completed the visitation program to the widows' homes so that we could know those who come to our Saturday Bible Study Fellowships, who they really are...their family members....orphans they keep or take care of.. 59 homes of widows alone have been visited. Amazingly, it was discovered that many of these widows do actually take care of these orphans. Many were discovered to be living in very deplorable condition. One can not imagine how some of these people survive day by day. The majority, looking at the age statistics are in the mid 70s to 80s. Most of them were abandoned long time ago by their own off spring and relatives The situation is bad, to say the least. It appears the only moment these poor folks seem to enjoy is when they come to fellowship with us in our Bible Studies. Many speak and share their experiences and by hearing what most of them say, one can easily make conclusions that they are facing tough time. Your book, WOT is inspiring them to continue have faith in God. What a blessing we have in this book as a tool to give hope to these women. Jean and I do understand that many come to our meeting thinking that - ‘...perhaps, to day, Jean and Davison will give us some thing to take home and eat...’ We wished we could do it there and then, but have no money to buy food for them.”** Please **pray** - that God will provide **funds for some basic food** for these widows and orphans now. **Pray** - that God will raise up **financial support for JAFI**. to begin training classes to **equip widows** who are able to learn skills they can use to begin to support themselves, also **funds to help educate the orphans**.

If God lays it on your heart to give to any of the above projects, a check can be made out to Interlink Ministries and designated to the purpose for which you want it used. Please send to:  
Interlink Ministries, Inc.

P.O. Box 460

Apple Creek, OH 44606.

We will see that it is used for its designated purpose. Together, we can see God's work accomplished for His glory.

Many blessings,

David and Sylvia

See picture page below.



Sandy and Sylvia



Pastor Clarence McGregor



Reza and David



Jean and Davison Zulu



Sylvia and Marilyn