

Jonathan's Impact Orphan Ministries

Christmas 2017 Newsletter

Zimbabwe Revolution 2017

As you may have heard or read on the news, the Zimbabwean Army took over the government and placed ruler Robert Mugabe under house arrest within the past week after Mugabe fired his vice-president, presumably with the intention of turning over rulership to his wife Grace. The citizens and those in government, including the ruling party, called for his resignation, which he gave on November 21. Tens of thousands of people are rejoicing in the streets of Zimbabwe, celebrating the end of the Mugabe era and a new start for the citizens of Zimbabwe, who have been struggling to survive in Zimbabwe's collapsing economy. Despite the celebratory atmosphere pictured on the television, Chileleko's home director Lucia Dandahuni had this to say about her experience, "These last two weeks have been like a nightmare to me. I was so scared for safety of all these children under my care," and "I was so scared with troops everywhere. We were being searched twice every day when going home." Please continue to pray for peace, safety, and the future government in Zimbabwe.

Chileleko Agricultural Projects

Because of the expertise and generosity of agronomist Tonderai Gatora of Zimbabwe, the Chileleko agricultural projects are well underway to providing a significant portion of the Chileleko budget for 2018. In June of 2018, Tonderai cemented his decision to dedicate one hectare of his farmland to Chileleko support, with the possibility of greater land donation in the future. Many challenges arose as this project was initiated, including attempted theft of the water tank with cutting of the pipes, damaged electrical poles and wiring, problems with pumping and the irrigation system, and the discovery of the crops by rats. After overcoming these hurdles, the crops have been planted and will be ready for first harvest in December. This move towards self-sufficiency for Chileleko is the realization of a long-standing dream for the home. We thank Tonderai for his Spirit led benevolence. Pictures of the crop can viewed on the next page.

Christmas Collection 2017

A Christmas collection is underway to provide gifts for the children and staff of Chileleko this year. Lucia, the home director, hopes to rent a spacewalk, buy a Christmas gift for each child, and give Christmas bonuses to each caregiver at the home. If you would like to help with the Chileleko Christmas, you may do so online at jonathansimpact.org or mail a check to 23445 Heidi Drive, Covington, LA 70435.

MISSION TRIP 2018

The 2018 mission trip will be June 3 – 12. The cost of the trip is about \$1500 - \$2000, depending on airfare. We welcome your participation. If you would like more information, you may call Stephen DiLeo at 985-249-1612 or email him at stdileo@live.com. You may also email Cassy at cmdileo@live.com.

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Tonderai crop progress – November 2017

