Jonathan's Impact Orphan Ministries



May 2014 Mission Trip

We are delighted to announce the news of Emilio & Sara Russo traveling to the Chilleleko Children's Home in Zimbabwe, Africa in May. Sara prepared the following words about how she and her husband became involved with this ministry.

"Africa has been an integral part of our relationship even prior to our marriage. As a young man, Emilio had the opportunity to spend some time in various parts of Africa, and this began a growing love and appreciation for the people of this vast and alluring, albeit challenging, place. This passion was frequently part of our conversation as we grew as a couple, even to such an extent that we discussed the real possibility of living there later in our lives. The Lord has given us an opportunity to be a part of a young developing church outside of Cape Town. We have even had a chance to take our two oldest children there to be with the African extension of our family.

As time has gone on, we have been blessed with a third child and have been experiencing the comprehensive change that is child-rearing---an awesome, fun, yet challenging task. We live in Covington, not in Cape Town. Our kids are in a very pleasant and safe community, not in sub-Saharan Africa. And now more than ever, we feel that Spirit of God has us as a family right where He wants us...

...But our love for our friends in Africa has only grown...the connection we share with that place, while visibly infrequent, continues to mature...but how do we connect with three small kids? With growing responsibilities at work? That was when we met Steve and Cassy. Upon entering church one morning, we encountered a woman who was offering a chance to be a part of an outreach in Zimbabwe. We were curious, but we knew very little. A few weeks later, as a church, we were collecting toiletries and various sundries to send to a group of orphans in Harare.



The Russo Family

It was then that we came to know more about Jonathan's Impact. It was then that we started to develop a relationship with not just a woman outside the church, but with a family whose story is both tremendously painful and yet beautifully powerful and transformative.

As we have gotten to know Steve and Cassy, and experience a small part of the passion that they as a family have for a precious few children in Zimbabwe, we are encouraged and inspired to be a part of Jonathan's Impact on another level. The joy in their faces as they sit and speak about each of the children by name is infectious. Both the pain and their parental pride, as they remember their inspired son and his love for these children, is palpable.

We found ourselves thinking...."let's go to Zimbabwe...let's meet these children in person...maybe God is giving us another chance to go be a part of His family in Africa!" Before we knew it, we were planning travel logistics and looking forward to our next adventure."

April 2014 Page 2



10 year old, Runyararo Mberikwazvo



5 year old, Maybe Musaka



2 year old, Kuzileza Chifodyo

*Above are just three of the fourteen children at the Chilleleko Children's Home in Harare, Zimbabwe

Clothing Collection

April 13- May 11

City Church, with Jonathan's Impact, will be holding a sponsorship drive for the children of the Chilleleko Home in Harare, Zimbabwe from April 13th to May 11th. The Chilleleko Home is a home for orphan children, jointly supported by Jonathan's Impact Orphan Ministries and City Church. The home houses 14 children and meets all of the needs of the children, including food, clothing, education, medical care, and Christian upbringing.

The monthly cost for complete support of one child is \$200. Sponsorships are available in \$25 a month increments. More information is available on the online brochure, as well as on the <u>jonathansimpact.org</u> website, explaining the program.

CLOTHING DRIVE

Would you like to bless the orphans of Chilleleko with donations of your children's used winter clothing? A used clothing drive will also be held from April 15th - May 15th for the children of the Chilleleko Home. Sizes needed are:

Name	Size	Name	Size
Nokutenda	6	Tanaka	6
Maybe	5	Runyararo	10
Ado	12,14	Ratidzo	14, 16
Nyasha	14	Tarisai	5
Ellah	12,14	Chipo	12mo,2T
Progress	14,16	Bright	2-4
Annastancia	10	Kudileza	3-5

PINK NAMES ARE THE GIRLS; BLUE ARE THE BOYS.

While all clothing is needed, a special emphasis is being placed on winter clothing. The Zimbabwean winter begins in June. Also, our goal is to collect one nice dress for each of the girls, ages 5 - 16. Please contact us if you would like to help.

*MISSION TRIP: Please pray for Emilio and Sara Russo, who will be travelling to Zimbabwe at the end of May to minister to the children of the Chilleleko Home. They will also be delivering the clothing that will be collected.

Jonathan's Impact Orphan Ministries

23445 Heidi Drive Covington, LA 70435

Phone: (985)273-1193

E-mail: cassy@jonathansimpact.org Website: www.jonathansimpact.org

Facebook: Jonathan's Impact Orphan Ministries