



## Mission Newsletter

**AFRICA CHRISTIAN MEDICAL MISSIONS, Inc. (ACMMI)**

*"Volunteers healing bodies and souls in the nations of Africa and the Caribbean."*

### UPCOMING EVENT

#### Moody Gardens



#### Galveston Dinner Cruise

**Date: Saturday Feb 13, 2010**

**Venue: Galveston/Gulf of Mexico**

**For Info call: 713-240-0235**

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### ACMMI HIGHLIGHTS:



Over 50,000 reached with the Gospel of Salvation through JESUS CHRIST



Over 500 operations performed by our volunteer surgeons.

## WARM & GRACIOUS PEOPLE – ZAMBIANS

*By Waltona Cummings, RN, Nurse-Midwife*

"The greatest use of life is to spend it for something that outlasts." William James

The Africa Christian Medical Mission, Inc (ACMMI) 15-member team included 3 doctors, a surgeon, 3 nurses, an advanced practice nurse, a midwife, 2 pharmacists, and 2 pharmacy technicians who left Houston, Texas on April 14<sup>th</sup> and returned April 28<sup>th</sup>, 2009. We were very excited and expectant on arrival in Lusaka, Zambia and were warmly received by Rev. Joseph Mumba of Church on the Rock Ministry and Bishop Edward Mbaso of Blessed Christ Ministries, our local partners.

After a long ten hour drive from Lusaka we arrived Ukwimi, a settlement in the Eastern province of Petuake District. Our first site was a new health center that was recently completed by the Church on the Rock Ministry as an extension of their holistic mission outreach to the Riverside community with the help of a building mission team from Holland, Netherlands. This was the first-ever medical mission outreach in this community and the district health officers were very welcoming and assisted the ACMMI team tremendously.

There is no electricity or running water in this community and subsistence household farming is the primary source of income and food for many. Women carry their children on their flanks or backs to ease transportation which may explain why so many of them were complaining of back and waist pains. Prolonged breast feeding is very common along with its side-benefit of pregnancy spacing.

Common pediatric diseases we encountered include bacterial, protozoan and other respiratory infections. Infants with conditions requiring care beyond what we could provide in the field such as severe dehydration and malnutrition were taken to

the nearest hospital which required a rough two-hour drive to Petuake, the district headquarters. Adults primarily had musculoskeletal complaints along with bacterial, fungal, and protozoan infectious diseases. The usual degenerative diseases associated with advancing age such as cardiovascular, gastrointestinal, endocrine, dermatologic, and ophthalmologic were common. For many adults, especially the men, it was their first professional health assessment ever. It was therefore important that sound health education, personal hygiene and counseling (health and spiritual) be made part of this first encounter. HIV/AIDS did not appear to be a major health issue in this community.

The other sites were St. John compound in Lusaka and Kafue. At these two sites we encountered similar disease patterns except that HIV/AIDS was more prevalent than we observed in Ukwimi. Although most attended the local HIV/AIDS clinics and were already on anti-viral medications, they still came out in good numbers to be seen by "the medical mission team from America." Their spiritual and physical health needs were addresses in a holistic approach. A few had insomnia or anxiety and saw the psychologist for counseling and anxiolytics provided as indicated.

Short term outreaches like ours help to bring basic health care and education to some of the world's most resource-poor communities. ACMMI showed the love of God by serving the physical and spiritual needs of the wonderful people of Zambia. The trip ended with experiencing the Victoria Falls (Mosi-oa-Tunya: "the smoke that thunders") in Livingstone. We were very excited and grateful to God who made this unique experience possible for us.





**Serving Children under a Tree in Nigeria**

One of the definitions given for the word **TREE** in the 2<sup>nd</sup> College Edition of the American Heritage Dictionary is “The cross on which Jesus was crucified.” In the Bible there are over 200 references made about tree(s) beginning with the creation narrative where it is noted that God created the vegetation, plants, and trees on the third day (Gen 1:11).

In the Garden of Eden there were two trees in the middle of the garden, the tree of life and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil (Gen 2:9 NIV). God gave specific command to Adam concerning the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. **And the LORD God commanded the man, "You are free to eat from any tree in the garden; but you must not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, for when you eat of it you will surely die."** (Gen 2:16-17 NIV). As we all now know, the serpent craftily deceived Eve and Adam into disobeying the command of God and they ate of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. Consequently God cursed mankind for the disobedience (i.e. sin) **“Therefore, just as sin entered the world through one man, and death through sin, and in this way death came to all men, because all sinned”** (Rom 5:12 NIV). Therefore diseases became the means by which the death sentence of that curse is executed.

A portion of the curse of the serpent states: **“And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will crush your head, and you will strike his heel.”** (Gen 3:15 NIV). One of the other times the Bible talks about this tripartite relationship between man, serpent, and tree is in the Numbers chapter 21 and verses 4-9. The children of Israel were grumbling and complaining about their situation and blaming Moses and God for their perceived predicament. Doesn't that sound like what you and I do so often? Whether it is between children and parents, students and teachers, employees and employers, citizens and their respective governments, yes we are all often guilty of grumbling and complaining. In response God sent venomous snakes to bit the Israelites and many died. When they acknowledged their sin and repented, God intervened through the medium of a bronze snake (serpent) on a pole (tree) whereby anyone (man) bitten by the venomous snakes could look up to it and was saved from death.

Furthermore, in the Gospel of John, Jesus makes an analogy for salvation using the example in Numbers mentioned above. Nicodemus, a respected Pharisee, a member of the Jewish ruling council came to Jesus by night seeking to know about salvation. Jesus responded thus: **Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the desert, so the Son of Man must be lifted up, that everyone who believes in him may have eternal life. "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life."** (John 3:14-16 NIV)

In 2009 ACMMI missionary volunteers served in two countries namely, Zambia (in partnership with Church on the Rock Ministry) and Nigeria (in partnership with Pro-Health International). At some sites during each of these missions, lack of adequate facilities forced us to set up some service stations under a tree. The situation made me to reflect on its biblical significance. I thought to myself, isn't it ironic that ACMMI volunteers were trying to point the offspring of Adam and Eve (man), who have been **“struck at the heel by the serpent”** (i.e. afflicted with diseases) to look up to the true Tree (the cross of Calvary) for salvation and newness of Life.

Yes, we served them with pharmaceuticals and surgical intervention when necessary but only God can bring true cure and healing of their sin-plagued souls and diseased-afflicted bodies. It is a privilege to serve in His vineyard!



**Serving Adults under a Tree in Zambia**

You may not have personally encountered ACMMI on its medical missions like these Zambians but you are reading this short mission report. Is your soul plagued by sin (i.e. disobeying God or failing to live according to God's statutes)? You may think or say to yourself, no, I am a good person, and do not have any particular sin. I have not stolen or cheated or killed anyone. But the Bible states: **“As it is written: "There is no one righteous, not even one; there is no one who understands, no one who seeks God. All have turned away, they have together become worthless; there is no one who does good, not even one." For ALL have sinned and fall short of the glory of God”** Rom 3:10-12, 23 NIV. (see page 3 Tree)



Tree cont'd By G. Gbaanador, MD, FACS - (Founder)

We are all therefore infected at birth by the Adamic sin regardless of whether we chose to admit it or not. This our sinful state carries a guilty and death sentence just as God stated in Genesis 2:17.

Praise God, I have Good News for us. The Bible further states; "For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord." (Rom 6:23 NIV). There is relief for you, free for the asking, just as we offered the patients we encountered in Zambia and Nigeria. The Bible says "That if you confess with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved. As the Scripture says, "Anyone who trusts in him will never be put to shame." For there is no difference between Jew and Gentile--the same Lord is Lord of all and richly blesses all who call on him, for, "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved." Romans 10:9-13 (NIV). This therapeutic modality is readily available, just for your asking. Best of all, it does not have an expiration date, it's FREE, and you can receive it right where you are NOW without having to travel far or even be in a queue.

Over two thousand years ago, Jesus Christ came to make available this therapeutic modality. He was crucified and died on the cross (tree) in order to pay the price for ALL your (man) sins and is ready and willing to redeem and set you free from the consequences of your sin (and its attendant diseases and death) TODAY. All you need to do is acknowledge that you are a sinner (i.e. failed to obey the laws and statutes of God), confess your sins to Him, repent, and ask for His forgiveness. Accept Him as your personal LORD and Savior, and He promises you not only salvation now but also eternal life with Him. I plead with you not to let this opportunity for salvation to pass you by. Act NOW and If you have any questions contact us at: [www.acmmi.org](http://www.acmmi.org)

ACMMI medical mission is a tool by which sin-plagued souls and disease-afflicted bodies can be ministered to by volunteers with the intent of relief, repair, rehabilitation, and spiritual restoration even under a tree(Cross). The missionary volunteers of ACMMI are moved to serve in obedience to the Great Commission of Matthew 28:19-20 NIV). ACMMI is only able to carry out its missions because caring and loving people just like you willingly PRAY, GIVE, and when possible, GO. I wish to thank all our past & present partners/donors: Braeswood AG Church, Ethicon, ExxonMobil, Four J's, Heart To Heart, Kingsway Charities, MAP, Memorial Hermann-SW, ProHealth, WL Gore & Assoc., ValleyLab, and many other persons & organizations.



Sharing The Gospel



### ACMMI – MEDICAL REPORT

YEAR	COUNTRY SERVED	CHILDREN SERVED	ADULT SERVED	TOTAL	SURGERY DONE	EYE GLASS
2000	NIGERIA	1500	4500	6000	73	N/A
2001	GHANA	1100	3900	5000	N/A	N/A
2002	SIERRA LEONE	907	2450	3357	11	N/A
2003	NIGERIA	1200	3280	4480	14	N/A
2004	KENYA & TANZANIA	1895	3174	5069	N/A	N/A
2005	JAMAICA / NIGERIA	1373	6150	7523	147	N/A
2006	RWANDA	802	1703	2505	3	N/A
2007	GHANA & NIGERIA	5327	7914	13,241	307	863
2008	HAITI & NIGERIA	4128	6147	10,275	202	1426
2009	ZAMBIA & NIGERIA	2929	3612	5641	98	467



Long Registration queue in Zambia



Dr. Janice Powells Consulting



Dr. G. Gbaanador Consulting

### ACMMI – SPIRITUAL REPORT

YEAR	COUNTRY	NEW CONVERTS	REDEDICATED	REFUSED
2000	NIGERIA	2600	3400	N/A
2001	GHANA	3000	2000	N/A
2002	SIERRA LEONE	1242	866	342
2003	NIGERIA	1597	1500	183
2004	KENYA & TANZANIA	2461	2044	219
2005	JAMAICA/ NIGERIA	1709	5397	267
2006	RWANDA	742	1628	135
2007	GHANA & NIGERIA	1551	2080	1132
2008	HAITI & NIGERIA	743	3262	159
2009	ZAMBIA & NIGERIA	2178	2708	755

"A big thank you very much for the wonderful, wonderful job, and the extension of love to the people of Zambia. The mission was great and a success. The Ukwimi people have no words to express their gratitude. What happened there has never happened ever since the resettlement was established. You were a great blessing from God! Thank you very much for your support." ----- Pastor Joseph Mumba, Zambia

Set Apart for the Work of the LORD



Go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation. Mark 16:15



ACMMI Zambia Team



PHI/ACMMI Nigeria Team

ACMMI (www.acmmi.org)  
9000 W. Bellfort, Ste 310  
Houston, Texas 77031  
Tel: 713-240-0235

# ACMMI Mission 2010 – NIGERIA

*Travel Dates: April 16 – 30, 2010*



## SOME FACTS ABOUT NIGERIA

Nigeria is the most populous country in Africa, and the 8<sup>th</sup> most populous country in the world. It also has the highest twin birth rate in the world.

The Federal Republic of Nigeria is comprised of 36 States, and the Federal Capital Territory, Abuja. The three tiers of government are Federal, State, and Local Government Areas (LGA).

Healthcare services in Nigeria is in a deplorable state due to a combination of factors; under-funding, dilapidated infrastructure, lack of modern equipment and properly trained personnel, under-staffing, and overutilization.

The majority of Nigerians live in rural communities but the few healthcare practitioners in Nigeria are concentrated in the urban areas. People living in rural and remote areas therefore have limited or no access to even basic health care services also because of geographic isolation, poverty, lack of education and inefficient public transportation system.

In the Niger Delta region these factors are further compounded by decades of neglect by the political elite and now exacerbated by mushrooming militancy and criminality. ACMMI intends to partner with Pro-Health International (PHI) to serve the physical & spiritual needs of the Nigerian people in 2010.



**Location:** West Africa.

**Population:** 150 million ('08 est.)

**Ethnic groups:** Over 250 ethnic groups.  
Hausa & Fulani 29%, Yoruba 21%, Igbo 18%, Ijaw 10%, Kanuri 4%, Others 18%

**Major Infectious Diseases:**  
HIV/AIDS, Lower Respiratory, Malaria, Diarrheal, Measles, Typhoid fever (2004)

**Religions:** Muslim 50%, Christian 40%, Indigenous beliefs 10%

**Life Expectancy at Birth:** 46yrs ('08)

**Infant Mortality:** 97/1000 life births

**Under-5 Mortality:** 197/1000 life births

Source: [worldfacts](#) & [World Health Data](#)

### DONATE /SUPPORT

Support ACMMI with a one-time financial pledge of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Support ACMMI with monthly financial pledge of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**ACMMI**  
9000 W. Bellfort, Suite 310  
Houston, Texas 77031

### SIGN-UP

Volunteer for missions, call me at \_\_\_\_\_

Professional Partner (i.e. doctors, nurses, dentists, pastors, counselors, or donate medical equipment, supplies, medicines, literature, etc)

Become a Prayer Support Partner of ACMMI



Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

