



HILTY NEWSLETTER feb '08

Wow! It has been a long time since we sent a newsletter. With that in mind, please bear with a two page newsletter. Many of you will already know that Tim's role in Action Zambia leadership did not come to an end in 2007. He has been asked to remain as the interim Field Leader until June 30th. Tim has really been stretched in this position as so many issues and people vie for his attention. One of the major issues occupying Tim's time has been the discovery of how exposed AZ missionaries have been to Zambian tax. Another main issue has been refining AZ employee policy and practices. Once these two issues are ironed out, the mission will have a lot more solid financial grounding in Zambia. Praise God that we haven't had to sort these things out on our own. With the help of our team-mates and nationals we are getting to the bottom of these things. Praise God for Glenn Ripley and Graham Melville, whose combined business and professional experiences have helped give the field strategic and wise guidance.

Tim has felt strongly about moving Action Zambia's office to a centralized down town location. In December that vision became reality when an office location became available through one of our board members. It is now mostly set up and providing a location out of which to serve the mission as well as the local churches.

Upon our return to Zambia, Tim will be overseeing the arrival of two new families, the Singletons and the Roberts. This will bolster our team to seven families and one single missionary. Of the seven families, five will have been on the field for no longer than one year. In the coming year we are praying that God will bind us together as a team and not allow division to creep in. Please pray that Tim would have wisdom beyond his years and experience. This task is monumental and surpasses his ability. We trust that God has his purposes for Tim at this juncture and we praise him for using us as he sees fit.

A special thank you to New City Fellowship of Chattanooga and to St James CESA of South Africa for organizing baby showers or stork parties as they say here in SA. Thank you for your generosity!!

NEWSWORTHY ITEMS

- Ian Stanley Hilty was born on Jan 9th. He has been such a precious addition to our family. He now weighs 9.5 lbs and has just begun to woo us with his smiles.
- Tim moved our belongings into our new home early in December. We will be returning to Zambia from South Africa on Feb 18th. All of us are looking forward to settling in and establishing our home. Ireen can't wait to see her friends and tell them about the ocean she got to taste and run-away from.
- Our vehicle "died" in December. I'll call it massive engine failure! God has graciously provided the means for us to replace the engine. It should be operational by the beginning of March.



Tim & Andrea Hilty

All gifts are used as designated and receipted for tax purposes.
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- The CROSS team is busy developing a culturally appropriate Christian sex education curriculum for youth to be taught in churches. Our hope is that this will create opportunities for Christian parents to speak with their children about sex in a way that exalts Christ.
- The CROSS Project is partnering with a new set of churches to work with in order to encourage and strengthen their HIV ministries.
- In November the CROSS Project organized an all day seminar for the churches from last term. Our guest speakers were Randolph and Madeline Melville from the UK. They spoke on leadership in a time of crisis, focusing particularly on the life of Jonah and Gideon.

FINANCIAL UPDATE

Due to a 35% Zambian income tax as well as our increasing needs as a four member family, we find that our expenses continue to increase. We anticipate that we will need to raise an additional \$400–500 per month for the 2008 year. If you would like to give monthly or a one time gift please see the enclosed response form.

As the mission grows and our family grows we are also growing at a personal level. Tim and I will each share a little about what God is currently doing in our lives.

TIMOTHY

I'm doing great, though I've never felt so much responsibility in my life! In fact, it's all a bit overwhelming. Time management isn't my forte and I struggle to find a proper balance in my life. How does a father, husband, missionary, team leader wear all these different hats in such a way that no one gets left out? I often feel inadequate for the task and to make things worse, my personal tendency is to focus on one thing to the exclusion of others. But handling my life these days, in this way, simply doesn't work. Please pray for me, that I'll be able to prioritize the most important things and not live my life feeling guilty about the things I can't get done. My sense, is that the Lord is sending me through a refresher course on what it means to be resting in Him.

God has also been kindling a vision within me for the type of home life he wants to build for our family. His design looks a lot like brokenness, availability, grace-giving and compassion—things that I fail at miserably. Our home can and must be a place where God is revered, loved and welcomed even in the most pressing of circumstances. I share this with all of you—so that you will partner to pray for me, that I might be able to model to others, something of the love of God for me.

ANDREA

I'm a new mom. Technically I've been a mom for more than a year but that experience alone hasn't helped in the last few months. I didn't realize it but I had significant expectations for how I would cope with delivery and a newborn. After having an emergency c-section, I somehow felt that I didn't measure up as a mom. Then Ian didn't gain any weight in the first two weeks (in fact he was 200g under his birth weight after 2.5 weeks). The doctor told me he needed more than I could give him. We started supplementing with formula and again I felt that I had failed. Along with these feelings of failure, I've become a full blown worry wart. Those who knew me before my mom years will know that I'm not usually one to worry excessively over anything.

I share these things to give you a little background for what God has been teaching me. Firstly, he has humbled me by showing me that I can't do it on my own. I'm not a "naturally good" mom. With this humility I've been convicted of how I need to extend grace to others. I've been ministered to by gracious individuals who have just encouraged me and identified with me during this time. I so badly want that to mark my life and relationship with others. Secondly, I am actively attempting to "take every thought captive to Christ" when I begin to worry.

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