

Missionary to ZAMBIA

Children's Ministries Agape Farm

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Dear friends of Children's Ministries Agape Farm,

Much has transpired in Zambia since our last update in December. The new year started with a fresh excitement and anticipation in the planting of a new 15 acre maize field. An investment of \$2000 was made in seeds, fertilizer and labor to plant the new field. Not only could the new crop aid in the children's feeding program, the surplus crop could be sold as a source of self-sustainable income.

No one imagined that by the end of February, Zambian president Hakainde Hichilema would declare a national disaster and emergency due to the country's debilitating drought which devastated food production and electricity generation across the nation. Along with the rest of the country, Agape Farm felt the impact of the driest February in over 40 years, suffering a total loss of the new maize crop.

Collins Nzovu, Minister of Green Economy and Environment of Zambia, told The Guardian newspaper in May 2024 that "What has happened this year is that we received well below the normal rainfall. This has been a crippling drought," he said. "We've had a huge crop failure. A lot of people who depend on maize, who depend on agriculture for their very survival, face starvation and hunger."

(<https://www.theguardian.com/world/article/2024/may/28/crippling-drought-in-zambia-threatens-hunger-for-millions-says-minister>)



Expanded corn field, January 2024



Severe drought causes crop failure, February 2024

In the midst of this hardship, we marvel at God's provision, giving thanks for the preservation of food from the main gardens & banana trees which survived due to the irrigation system installed last year –

a sustainability achievement made possible by your gifts! Praise God the feeding program at Agape has remained uninterrupted in this crisis! Your faithful prayers & financial support truly make an immeasurable difference. Thank you for your generosity that enables so much.

Given the situation, the most urgent need is to install additional irrigation systems to ensure that future crops can succeed in the face of likely ongoing drought. The average cost of a water well, tower and irrigation system is \$5,000. Our goal is to install at least two more as soon as possible.

Will you consider making a one-time gift for this urgent need? Donations can be made online at: <https://globalhz.org/childrens-ministries-agape-farm>. Or, to donate by check, make your gift payable to "Global Horizons" and note "Agape Farm" in the memo. The enclosed return envelope is provided for your convenience.



Feeding program continues amid droughts

We call to mind this promise, praying it over CMAF and each of you, our friends & sponsors:

"The LORD will guide you always; he will satisfy your needs in a sun-scorched land and will strengthen your frame. You will be like a well-watered garden, like a spring whose waters never fail." Isaiah 58:11



First water tower installed spring 2023

We also thank God for our fellow Zambian board members and CMAF staff who faithfully and joyfully steward the day-to-day operations of the ministry.

As these leaders tend the land, oversee the food program, build new structures on the property, restore & maintain existing buildings and share the good news of Jesus...may God strengthen and prosper every good work!



CMAF Staff 2024

With gratitude for your partnership,

Diane Gorham & Children's Ministries Agape Farm Board
(Mike and Martha Port, Mark and Gayle Stage, Mary Stage)