

# Living Beyond Hope

December 2017

Issue 2

## Teamwork Makes Dream Work in Arnoldine, Zimbabwe

### *A Letter to Our Donors*

Merry Christmas to you all and we wish you a happy new year! *Living Beyond Hope*, along with the Arnoldine community, continue to be very thankful for your generous donations towards the Secondary School project.

With your help this year we managed to complete a huge task—building of the first classroom block which will be in use this upcoming school year. The addition of this building is the first of many projects to come.



In this newsletter we would like to bring you up to date regarding current and ongoing projects, both big and small, surrounding the Secondary School. Also, we will touch on other news in the community bringing positive impacts to Arnoldine.

We hope you will take a moment to review this newsletter and learn more about this community and their needs. For a long time the people of Arnoldine could only hope to experience the quality of life that many of us take for granted. However, through your generosity the people of Arnoldine are beginning to live beyond this hope.

As an organization, Living Beyond Hope continues to grow and plant its roots, as there is still more that can be done to ensure a bright future for the people of Arnoldine. In March of 2018, *LBH* will be holding another fundraising campaign to aid the projects at Arnoldine. Information about this campaign will come to you in early 2018. Once again, we thank you for your support and look forward to sharing our progress with you!

**Farai Rukunda, President, Living Beyond Hope**

## Building the Future



Living Beyond Hope began with a dream to improve the quality of life for the people of the Arnoldine mission, a small, underprivileged, village in Zimbabwe, Africa. Through your generous support, the people of Arnoldine now have hope beyond what they have experienced throughout their lives.

Read on to learn more about the progress that has been made in this community, and see what our plans are for future projects.

If you are interested in supporting our organization, please contact us at [livingbeyondh@gmail.com](mailto:livingbeyondh@gmail.com)

Or 269-930-3959.

## **Arnoldine Secondary School**

### ***Addition of classrooms***

As we mentioned in our last newsletter, the first classroom block is almost complete. Currently the roof is being installed as well as the installation of windows and doors. This building will consist of 2 classrooms and 2 small offices. Each classroom will hold a capacity of 45 students. As you can imagine once the classroom is complete, they will be in need of desks, chalk boards, and other accessories which are needed for a functional classroom.



In addition to the generous donations from you, this classroom block is nearing completion because the local community stepped up by providing bricks, quick sand, and digging the foundation. Money may not be easily accessible, but they do not hesitate to put in the manual labor at any given time when needed to benefit the children. In the picture at left are the gentlemen responsible for building the complex in the picture above.



L-R: Mr. Stephen Njambi, Mr. Tonderai Tapfumanei, Mr. Samuel Gotora, Mr. Agripper Maforo and Mr. Solomon Njambi. These gentlemen have been residents of Arnoldine mission for decades and they are excited to be part of this mission.

## **Arnoldine Secondary School**

### ***Progress attracts visitors from the Diaspora***

With the help of the Stevensville United Methodist church, local businesses, and private donors, we have made enough impact at the secondary school to draw attention to the children of Arnoldine who have moved on to other places.



Ms. Winnie Magaya of Edmonton Canada (left) was recently in Zimbabwe (December 3, 2017) on private business and she felt the need to visit her home village, not only to visit family but to get updates on the school. The picture at left is Ms. Magaya taking a tour of the classrooms.

In the picture at right, Mr. Lovemore Mbwizhu, lifelong resident of the community; Ms. Manhiri, school teacher; Ms. Chiremba, school



principal and Ms. Winnie Magaya listening to the school updates from the teachers.

Fortunately enough, the progress we have made thus far has not only sparked interest to the children of Arnoldine in Diaspora but to Non-Governmental Organizations (NGO) as well. As a result of the new classroom block near completion, a group of organizations from Europe have partnered together with the local community to build a similar classroom block, a new concept called Chabadza.

## **Arnoldine Secondary School**

### ***Opportunity for Continued Support***

We are very much aware of the magnitude of this secondary school project financially and the amount of effort involved on the ground and remotely. There is a place for everyone to help either financially, or by volunteering labor if you currently are in Zimbabwe. The school is in need of textbooks, desks, cement for finishing the current building, building material, computers, scholarships and the list continues. Below you will find more information about specific needs that are ongoing at the school.

#### **Books**

Before we stepped in to help with providing some textbooks, none of the secondary school students had textbooks. They relied on the information shared from the teacher's own set of textbooks. The school curriculum includes 9 subjects, English, Math, History, Geography, Agriculture, Biology, Chemistry, Shona (Native language) and Bible. Textbooks for students are an urgent need.

To buy all the 9 text books it will cost \$160 per student, with each textbook costing, on average, \$17. The current student population, with the new enrollment, is approximately 250.



### Desk

"The new building will accommodate 45 students per classroom. Two students will sit together at each desk, sharing textbooks when donated. The cost for each desk is \$50."



### Building

Even though the new classroom block is near completion, a few building materials are still needed to plaster the walls, smooth-coat the floors, and complete the roofing. These include:

1. 60 bags of cement at \$12 a bag.
2. 25 roofing sheets at \$21 per sheet

Please be assured that 100% of your donation will go toward the projects listed above. If any of these projects interest you, you may send a check made payable to Stevensville United Methodist, and in the memo line, write **Arnoldine Mission-Books, Arnoldine Mission-Desks, or Arnoldine Mission-Building**, depending on your project interest.

Please mail all payments to:

**Living Beyond Hope**  
**c/o Stevensville United Methodist Church**  
**5506 Ridge Rd,**  
**Stevensville, MI, 49127**

## Other News in the Arnoldine Community

While we focus on the Arnoldine secondary school, there are other groups working on different projects within the community, continuing to improve their quality of life and creating opportunities for the community to get themselves out of poverty.

During this past summer Dr. Kennedy Mukwindidza and Pastor Scott Hannon, members of the **Compassionate Consultation Initiative Project – Zimbabwe** (CCIP) organization from Kansas, USA travelled to Arnoldine.

CCIP-Zimbabwe held a workshop on August 7<sup>th</sup> at Arnoldine mission, inviting to join the Sunflower growing and processing project. The purpose of the project was to help farmers to move from subsistence agriculture (growing food just for home consumption) to producing cash crops to meet more family financial needs.



Sunflower is one of the drought-resistant crops that does not require plenty of rain or irrigation. It is one crop that does not require much labor to grow, tend and process. Where there is irrigation, farmers may have two crops in one year. Sunflowers may turn into cash as soon as they are harvested. CCIP-Zimbabwe encouraged the local community to grow sunflowers this season and guaranteed them a market after harvesting which comes in early March of 2018.

**Africa Outreach USA (AOUSA)** brings opportunity to Zimbabwe youth through basketball and other sports. Africa Outreach USA is a non-profit 501(c)-3 volunteer organization committed to breaking the poverty cycle for disadvantaged children across Africa. Founded in 2008 by Gus & Madeline Chikamba, the organization supports youth sports programs, (basketball, soccer and volleyball) as a game changer to empower underserved children with faith based habit success patterns needed to overcome social barriers & excel in life. The concept is to set up sustainable youth organized sports programs in under privileged communities. Early this summer Mr. Chikamba was at Arnoldine elementary school presenting basketball uniforms to the school children. Mr. Chikamba's organization also helped Arnoldine elementary school to construct a basketball court and now they are committed to help the Arnoldine secondary school as well.



*Happy  
Holidays*

# Living Beyond Hope

## Donation Form

Name\_\_\_\_\_

Address\_\_\_\_\_

City\_\_\_\_\_

State\_\_\_\_\_

Zip\_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address\_\_\_\_\_

Donation in honor of/in memory of (circle one and list name below)

\_\_\_\_\_

**Please indicate how you would like your gift to be used:**

\_\_\_ Arnoldine Mission – Books

\_\_\_ Arnoldine Mission – Desks

\_\_\_ Arnoldine Mission – Building

\_\_\_ General Arnoldine Mission fund

**Please mail your check (made payable to Stevensville United Methodist Church) with this form to:**

Living Beyond Hope  
c/o Stevensville United Methodist Church  
5506 Ridge Rd,  
Stevensville, MI, 49127