



Planting Hope International

"Spreading the Gospel through improving agriculture, education, and health in developing countries"

Fall 2017 Newsletter – Hello from Floyd and Gayle Dowell!



The last day of taking down bins in Nebraska

where Christianity cannot easily be shared. Missionaries share the Gospel with workers through these businesses. Lives are being impacted, churches are being started, and the Gospel is being spread.

Gayle and I also had the chance to travel to Nicaragua with Engineering Ministries International to design an agricultural program for a church/camp/sport complex outside of Managua. This was a great chance to work with other engineers and architects from various countries to help a ministry reach the youth of their country.

Student Support. We have been funding students long enough that we are now seeing a steady stream of graduates. We get many joyful emails of appreciation from students and parents. Of all the projects we have been involved in over the past 20 years of this ministry, funding all levels of education and training seems to be the best way to promote sustainability in many of these countries. Here are some of our recent educational projects:

- We provided 5 scholarships for indigenous leaders of various agricultural groups to attend a training conference on sustainable agriculture in Thailand that was coordinated by ECHO, a Christian agricultural group.
- We have funded 118 students that have attended, or are attending, the US equivalent of grade school, high school, college, or technical school in their respective countries. Degrees include engineering, business, medicine, carpentry, and agriculture. These will be the future Christian leaders of their villages and nations!

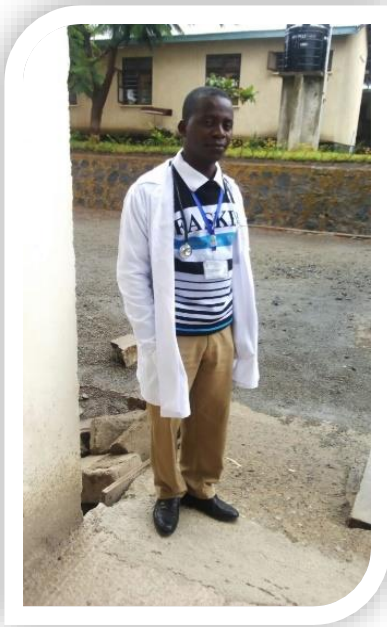
This has been a busy year of taking down and shipping grain bins, funding students, hosting missionaries from various countries, and visiting current and potential projects. We also collected items to send to Eden Children's Village in Zimbabwe and collected funds to help with the hurricane damage relief in Houston.

We continue to have many opportunities to meet spiritual and physical needs throughout the world. We thank you for your continued support. Below is a summary of our recent projects.

Agricultural projects. We sent a 40ft container of grain storage and handling equipment to a communist country and to a muslim country in Asia. One container arrived for the soybean harvest, and one 10,000 bushel grain bin was assembled and filled with the new harvest! This equipment supports Business as Missions projects in those countries



Bins from Nebraska that are now in central Asia



A soon-to-be Clinical Officer

as Mission projects in central and southeast Asia, which costs about \$15,000 per shipment. We also hope to help set up feed quality testing labs in those countries to help them improve the quality of their products, at a cost of about \$10,000. We have requests to help send containers of equipment to agricultural projects in Zimbabwe, Uganda, and South Sudan.

- **Educational needs:** We continue to get requests for tuition help from kids of all ages as this part of our ministry continues to grow. Depending on their school and age, the cost is from \$50 to \$6,000/yr.
- **Medical needs:** We continue to help specific medical emergencies, and we spend about \$10,000/yr on medical needs.

For all students we support, we witness to them whenever possible, and we require them to make good grades and send us receipts for their expenses. We also check with schools and people from the surrounding community to make sure students are doing well. We maintain email contact with many students or their relatives, and we have met many of them personally. We now fund, or have funded, students in Tanzania, Kenya, Zimbabwe, Zambia, Malawi, Ghana, Thailand, Nepal, Pakistan, and the Democratic Republic of Congo.

Medical Support. One of our favorite projects continues to be supporting the clinic at Eden Children's Village in Zimbabwe. They see thousands of patients a year. We are presently shipping medical supplies and clothing in a 40ft container that is leaving out of Indiana.

Some of our needs include:

• **Agricultural needs:**

We hope to send additional grain handling and storage equipment to Business



Sorting through 5000 lbs of clothes donated by Howies Recycling for kids in Zimbabwe

— We welcome your contributions as we seek to continue Planting Hope in lives around the world. We continue to operate on less than 1% overhead cost so that all your donations go directly to projects we support. As always, no funds are used for our personal expenses or travel. You can contribute through our website or send a check to the address below. You can see our annual reports and past newsletters on our website. Donations are tax deductible. We hold the highest rating issued by GuideStar for our commitment to transparency.

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Donations can be sent to:
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James 1:27, 2:18 "care for the orphans and widows . . . show your faith through your works"