

THE HAMELRYCKS



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GMI

Zambia Special Projects

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Grand Rapids, MI 49509

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THIS IS THE DAIRY FARM WHERE WE LIVE. COME VISIT US! A MISSION TRIP TO ZAMBIA WILL CHANGE YOUR LIFE FOREVER.

What is a week in the life of the Hamelryck Mission?

Well it is April 2011 and I just past through my 46th birthday. I guess it is time to sell everything and get a sports car. Well I already sold everything so half my dream is working out great. We don't have photos of in-field ministry work because it is usually awkward or not appropriate. However, we have a photographer that has agreed to follow us around so we hope to have more photos to share with all of you next month.

Weekdays begin between 4-5am and I usually collapse by 9 or 10pm.

Monday is my day off but in the mission field your day off isn't always off. First priority is running errands to keep our family of 12 fed and supplied. In Zambia, there isn't a SuperTarget so you may have to go to the grocery store one in half hours away. Fuel is so expensive so we have to really be careful and budget.

Recently, Ann Rachel and I have started spending our Monday afternoons in the burn unit at a local hospital. Just volunteering to change dressings and pray with a few families. It is a bit overwhelming, there are not enough meds for everyone and to see humans in such pain has taken its toll on both of us. We do what we can and have given much of our personal family supplies to help.

Tuesdays is a catch all day from having Mondays off. GMI has several rentals and small businesses that I must check on weekly. They need coaching, mentoring and attention. I also use Tues. to begin working on next week's Sunday sermon. For every one minute I speak on Sunday there is about 2 hours of study that goes into it. Then in the evening all the missionary families get together to play volleyball and have some great fellowship time.

Wednesday starts at 4:30am preparing for men's group at my house. We are working on being Godly husbands and Godly men at work. Men's Fraternity is the program we are doing right now. Great program and very good friendships are coming out of this. Then I check into the office and later around 10:30am I meet with our deaf ministry team. After lunch I go back to the burn unit at the hospital. This day is a heavy load physically and spiritually.

Thursday is sermon day. I work on Sunday's message and prepare for Bible study at our house every Thurs. evening. Ann Rachel leads the kid's part of the study. I also have to fit in the preparation I do for training the Zambian pastors and of course always stay available for the office emergencies.

“Being unwanted, unloved, uncared for, forgotten by everybody, I think that is a much greater hunger, a much greater poverty than the person who has nothing to eat.” Mother Theresa

Friday morning I meet with the local Zambian pastors for pastor’s training and discipleship. In the afternoon I try to finish writing and memorizing my sermon at home in my study so that I don’t get disturb.

Saturday I use this day to catch up on whatever wasn’t accomplished during the week. One thing I’m doing throughout the week, per request of GMI, is writing a discipleship manual to be used as a guide by Zambians and missionaries to disciple others. I also put the finishing details on the Sunday morning service.

Sunday is focused on Grace Center Church. I get up at 4:30 or 5am to start reading over my notes as many times as I can. Then 7:45 the family leaves early to set up church and practice for the music team. My 3 oldest boys are in charge of set up and run the full AV system. The kids are starting to sign some of the songs for the deaf. Ann Rachel and Page have started leading music a couple of times a month. Service is 9 to 10:30. From here we leave to go to a missionary’s house to have tea. This time is important to minister to people in the congregation. We all hang out together talking about each other’s work and encouraging each other in what we are doing.

Life of a missionary is never easy or a schedule you can plan. Phone calls and emergencies seem to riddle the week. Some days get turned completely around. You have to learn to be flexible. Five to seven days a week we have people at our house for dinner or fellowship, sometimes it is close friends but other times it’s complete strangers whom we have met on

the street. It always seems strange when it’s only our family at the dinner table.

Thanks for all your support and prayers. We are here because of you. And your support lets us do what we do. If you are already supporting us thank you so much!!! Please help us recruit businesses, churches and more individuals for monthly support. We need more support, 50 new partners at \$100 per month could make it work. This is such a great way for people to be a part of this wonderful mission work here in Zambia. We are touching lives every day and we want you to be a part of it. God bless and thanks again for everything!!! We love you all.

Serving for the Kingdom-Paul, Ann Rachel, Gabrielle, Page, Harrison, Cole, Patrick, Nola, Shane, Marty, Izzy & Chipi

Email: phamelryck12@gmail.com or follow us on Facebook Paul Hamelryck

Visit us at www.gracem.org look up Zambia then the Hamelrycks’ page.

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GMI/ZAMBIA SPECIAL PROJECTS
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THIS IS PAUL’S 46TH BIRTHDAY DINNER WITH SOME OF OUR CLOSEST FRIENDS...FELLOW MISSIONARIES AND ZIMBAWE FARMERS.