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Good Words - August 1975, No. 55

Brethren in Christ Church in Africa

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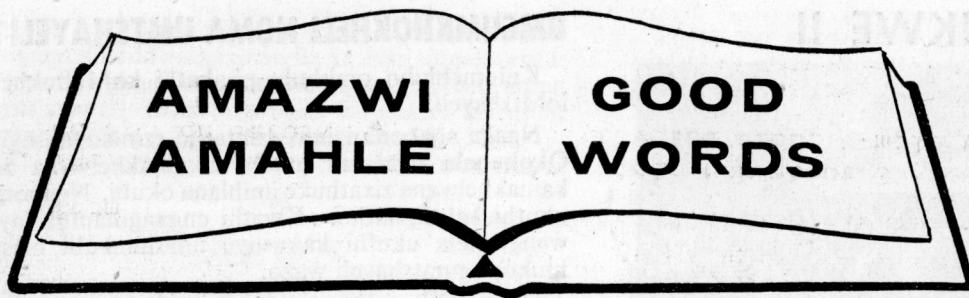
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1975



Number 55

FOUR CHURCHES DEDICATED IN 1975

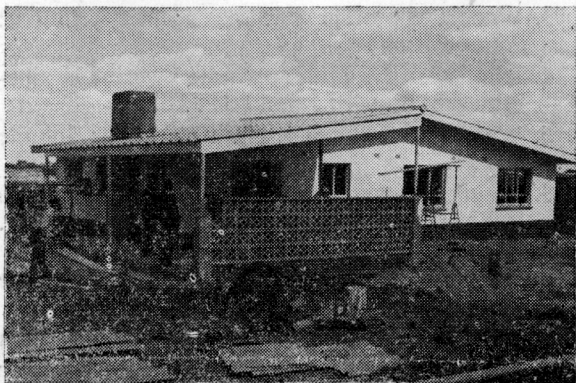
SALISBURY



Salisbury Church.

Last year work was begun on a church building for Salisbury. It is located in Glen Norah, a new township. On Dedication Day, March 2, we could look out the open door and imagine we were in Matabeleland. No buildings were in sight, just an open field and a kopje. However, if we turned to look the other way there were many buildings. On that day electricity had not yet come to the area but today the church has electric light.

Elias Moyo, the new Pastor, moved to Salisbury with his family in February. During the baptism/communion/dedication weekend the congregation chose their first deacon, Themba Nyathi. Four were baptised in the new baptistry and seven were



Salisbury Parsonage.

returned to church fellowship. The offering on Dedication Day amounted to \$154,51½ and a chicken.

The main problem of the congregation was the lack of a parsonage. It was on the 7th of April when Knight Ngwabi from Nyuambane went to Salisbury to make preparation for the building. Work progressed steadily, the building was completed, approved by the city, and the Moyo family have been living in the new parsonage since the 27th June.

If you are in Salisbury on Sunday, why not attend the church services there? Sunday School is at 11 a.m. and the main services at 12 noon.

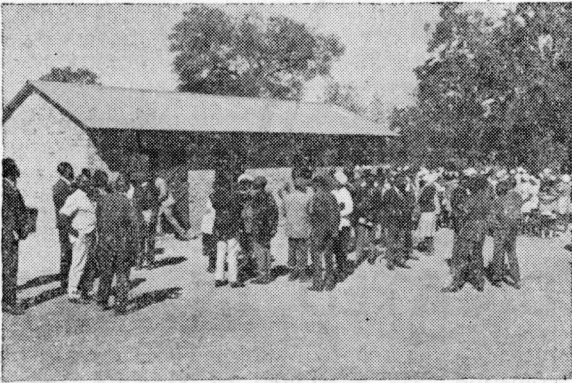
GWANDA

The Brethren in Christ have been having regular services in Gwanda for more than five years. The people gathered in other churches, the school or the hall. Everyone was happy when Rev. S. Ndlovu was successful in securing a site on which to build. The present location allows plenty of space for a parsonage with a garden. The church was dedicated on the 16th March.



Bishop P. M. Khumalo flew out of Bulawayo on the 27th June, to help in making plans for the Mennonite World Conference in 1978. The meeting was held in Puerto Rico. On his return, Bishop Khumalo visited with Rev. and Mrs. A. J. Book at the airport in New York City while awaiting his plane for Johannesburg.

SILIKWE II



For almost ten years people have worshipped under a tree at Silikwe II. Well-placed stones and tree trunks provided benches and a pulpit. At one time they had a choir. On Dedication Day, 18th May, many good wishes were received, especially from neighbouring Zhukwe. The large tree to the right of the picture provided shelter for worshippers before the church was built. There were 98 communicants on the morning of Dedication Day.

DEWE



Dewe, in the Matopo District, was another place where people worshipped under the shade of a tree. Much of the manual labour in erecting the building was done by three young men. The pastor of a neighbouring church donated 20 pockets of cement. On Dedication Day, 22nd June, the people of Mahwanke in the Wenlock area of the Mtshabezi District presented a Bible and hymnbook to the church. The message for the day was given by Evangelist Shadreck Maloka and the offering to be used for the purchase of benches amounted to \$71,57.

Rev. Earl Musser, Director of Missions, and Rev. Wilmer Heisey, Executive Secretary of the Board for Missions, with their wives visited Rhodesia from the 25th July until the 12th August to contact national church leaders and missionaries. They will be in Zambia from the 13th August until the 25th when they leave for Zaire.

UMGUMKHOKHELI NOMA UMTSHAYELI?

Kulomehluho omkhulu phakathi koMkhokheli loMtshayeli.

Ngake ngabona izinto ezintathu ezimangalisayo. Okokuqala ngabona inkabi zikamakhelwana zikamakhelwana zixathuke imihlana okubi. Ngabona ukuthi kalasiphatho. Kwathi engangihamba laye wangitshela ukuthi kakusuye umnininkabi olesihluku, ngumtshayeli wazo.

Okwesibili ngabona ngabona abantwana abacakileyo okwesabekayo. Ngazengabala lembanjana zabo ngabona ukuthi ngamunye babelembambo exingamashumi amabili lane. Ngabuza kohamba lami ukuthi kambe nga balomkhuhlane bani. Wapendula ngokuthi loobakhathalelayo kabaphi ukudla okwakha umzimba. Umnikazi wabo wamupha lo konke ukudla okuhle kodwa osebenzayo kabaphi.

Okwesithathu ngabona ngaselwandle umkhumbi ugwele abantu ngabona owukhokhelayo ejuluka izithukuthuku esekhuphe leyembe kutshengisa ukuthi uthwelenzima. Ngabuza engangihamba laye ukuthi phezukwentshongolo lomoya lomqando ongaka uginqiswe yini lomkhokheli? Wathi nginazelele ukuthi usebenza kanzima njani abanye bonke bezichelesele bekhohliwe.

Utkini wena? Ukuthi umuntu ngumkhokheli lokuthi ngumtshayeli kulomehluko yini? Umehluko omkhulu nanku: Umkhokheli uhamba phambili, umtshayeli uhamba ngemuva lesatswepu. Umkhokheli ubamba intambo atshengise indlela eqondileyo. Umtshayeli uhamba emuva athi inkabi zizazibonela indlela. Noma zingalakeleka zizazibuyisa.

Njengabakhokheli kufanele siqaphele ukuthi izimvu zeNkosi sizikhokhela njani ukuze zingafani lenkabi ezixathukileyo ngokuphathwa kabi, labantwana bakhanya imbajana ngokuswela ukudla kwakomoya. Uma umkhokheli eqinile ekhuthela, thina abakhokhelweyo asisukumbuka nje asebenze aze aginqe thina sizihlalele.

UJesu Isibonelo Esihle soMkhokheli:

1. Weza ukuba izimvu zibelokuphila: Johane 10: 10.
2. Uyazazi ezakhe lazo ziyamazi: Johane 10: 14.
3. Wadela ukuphila kwakhe ngenxa yezimvu: Johane 10: 15b.
4. Uletha lezinye ezingaphandle kwesibaya zibemhlambi munye: Johane 10: 16.
5. Wafundisa etshaya isipikili ekhanda: Johane 10: 26.
6. Wanika izimvu zakhe ukuphila okuphakade thina singekwenze lokho. Johane 10: 28. Thina singazipha izwi.
7. Wahamba phambi kwezimvu zakhe: Johane 10: 4.

Umkhokheli yinceku. Asikhohlwe ngokuhlala esihlalweni esiphakemeyo sibengbakhokheli abazanika impilo zabo ngokweqiniso emsebenzini esiwuthunywe yinkosi. Ngawethu amandla singeke

siziphe izimvu ukudla okwaneleyo, noma sizihole zingalimali kodwa ngamandla ka Jesu singakwenza. Ungazibuzakhe lawe kumbe ungumkhokheli noma umtshayeli? Uma ungesikho kwalokhu kokubili, ungumlandeli. Pho ulandela kanjani?

BRUCE KHUMALO.

NEWS

Rev. and Mrs. L. B. Sider, who worked for two terms in Rhodesia and Zambia, retiring in 1961, have returned to Rhodesia. They arrived in Bulawayo on the 27th May and Rev. Sider is now serving as the Financial Secretary.

Bina David, wife of Rev. Peter Munsaka of Sikalonga, died in the Macha Hospital of a stroke on Monday, 26th May.

Jonah R. Moyo, overseer of the Macha District, died at Macha Hospital on Tuesday night, 10th June. It was estimated that more than 1 000 were present for the funeral when he was buried near the church at Macha Mission. One of the mourners was Elijah Mudenda, Prime Minister of Zambia.

Pastor Jonathan C. Mwaalu was ordained at the Livingstone Church on the 27th July. Andreah Moono, pastor of the Macha Mission and Hospital, and Levi Brubaker, pastor of the Choma Church, were ordained at Macha Mission on the 17th August.

Did you know that there are nine TEE centres among the Brethren in Christ in Rhodesia? They are at Nsezi, Munkula, Zhukwe, Sitezi, Gqalaza, Silobi, Sinkukwe, Mpopoma and Tshabalala. Fred and Grace Holland conducted a TEE Workshop at the Baptist Camp Grounds in Gwelo from 21-25 July. Among the 40 who attended were the following Brethren in Christ: Jake and Nancy Shenk, Peter and Nellie Mlotshwa, George Bundy, Bruce Khumalo and Edgar Ndlovu. Before returning to the States, the Hollands had TEE contacts in South Africa and conducted a workshop in Zambia.

Have you heard the Brethren in Christ radio broadcast over Trans World Radio? If you tune in to the 49-metre band between 6.30 and 7.00 p.m. on Tuesday and Friday evenings, you will be able to hear AMAGUGU EVANGELI. The theme song is UJESU WABATSHELA. The first programme was broadcast on the 4th July. The Tuesday evening programme includes the reading of the book IZITHELO, book reviews and a message from Bishop P. M. Khumalo. The Friday evening programme rotates its emphasis from devotions to women's needs to youth and children. Music has been recorded in the churches and at the missions and a recording studio has been built on the first floor of the Matopo Book Centre. Letter responses have started to come from people who have heard the broadcast.

The bans for 8 weddings were read at Mpopoma on 6th July.

There was an excellent spirit among the church leaders at their Retreat held at Ekuphileni Bible Institute from the 4th to the 9th May. There were 72 different leaders present and they studied the Preparation and Preaching of Sermons, The Book of Acts and The Sunday School. Bishop Khumalo and the overseers directed the evening sessions.

Rev. S. N. Ndlovu received his degree from Messiah College on the 10th May, 1975. Mrs. Ndlovu was present for the occasion. The Ndlovus returned to Rhodesia on the 29th May.

Naka Pawuli (Mrs. Bunu Ncube) passed away on the 25th July and was buried near the village on the 26th.

Edgar Ndlovu and his helpers led a group of 101 release-time students at the Mtshabezi Youth Camp from 8 to 10 August.

Dr. and Mrs. Alvin Thuma returned to Zambia at the end of July. Dr. Thuma is working at the Hospital at Macha and Mrs. Thuma is teaching at the secondary school.

Evangelist Shadreck Maloka was with the Brethren in Christ in Rhodesia from 21st June until the 4th August. In Bulawayo alone there were more than 250 people who remained to pray. One evening 502 people packed the Mpopoma Church.

A great-grandson of Rev. W. O. Winger was born at Macha Hospital. The grandson, Dale, son of Bert and his wife Linda Winger are working at Sikalonga Mission.

Mr. E. Ncube and Mr. C. D. Gatsi received commendation from the school inspectors for the quality of their teaching at the Mtshabezi Secondary School.

There were 80 present for the Sunday School Rally Day at the Salisbury Brethren in Christ Church. It was the first service to be conducted in both Ndebele and Shona. Five people repented during the service.

Mr. and Mrs. Reader Ncube of Daystar Communications will fly out of Rhodesia for Nairobi on the 25th August, for further studies in Research, Anthropology and Communications. While there Mr. Ncube will start working on his B.A. degree. They plan to be away for a year and a half.

To collect a "Story Book" of illustrative material for the writers of a new Sunday School curriculum that will be known as the FOUNDATION SERIES, trained story gatherers are visiting local Christian workers of Brethren in Christ and Mennonite communities of Asia, Africa and Latin America. Erma Hare, who served with Brethren in Christ Missions in India from 1947 until 1971, has been assigned to the overseas Story Mission. Erma visited Japan, India, Zambia, Rhodesia and South Africa.

July Moyo, who is working for Every Home Evangelism, has visited homes in the Matobo District and is now in the Godhlweyo area of the Insiza District. Four other graduates of Ekuphileni Bible Institute are Pioneer Crusaders distributing literature: Morrison Mpfu is working in the Nyamandhlovu area, Alfred Zulu in the Belingwe area, Musa Moyo in the Shabani area and Webson Ngulube in the Lupani area.

Have you heard the Gospel Tide Hour — the official Brethren in Christ radio broadcast from the United States and Canada? You can hear it at 8.30 a.m. on the 49-metre band or on the 90-metre band from 9.30 to 10.00 every Saturday night. Bishop Kipe and the Macha Secondary School Choir presented their first programme on the 14th December. Bishop P. M. Khumalo spoke on the 1st February.

UMBONO KUMAKHOSIKAZI

Sekwangathi kuyangimangalisa ukuthi kungani amakhosikazi ebandla leBrethren In Christ bengathakazeleli infundo. Mhlawumbe thina omama siyakubona sikufise kodwa asikaze siphumisele kubobaba. Noma kuyikuthi thina uqobo lwethu asilambono. Makhosikazi, asivukeni sizize abantwana bethu. Kwamanye amabandla omama bakhuthela kakhulukazi. Asiboni yini ukuthi izinto ezinjengalezi engizaziqamba khathesi ziyasweleka yini: 1. Izifundo ze Red-Cross. 2. Imihlangano eqinileyo yabatsha asebetshiye isikolo ngenxa yokwehluleka ukuyaphambili ngezizatho ezinengi. 3. Izifundo zabancinyane abangakaqalisi isikolo (Pre-school Education). 4. Ama-Sunday-School abantwana awokuseni emabandleni ethu. Kunengi kakhulu engingakuqamba okusweleka ukuthi nga thina amakhosikazi sibalombono kukho. Kambe sibili nxasibona abantwana bethu bezulazula ezitisthini zamabus, ezitolo lasemigwaqweni sithi kuzabacinisa ngaphi? Sesenzeni thina njengamakhosikazi ebandla ukusiza eziqintini zakithi. Kambe asiboni nje ukuthi siyalahlekelwa kakhulu ngokungananzeleli kwethu. Asiziboni yini izingozi emakhaya ethu eziswela ukuphalalelwa yithi njengengozi eyehla eMtshabezi ngenxa yamahewu. Bangaki abethu omama ababengasiza uma lengozi yayenzakele emzini wakho?

Ngangiyethatha izifundo zeRed-Cross kodwa lanxa sengivela khona angizake ngibone olesifiso sokwazi ngaleso sikolo lokuyazifundela. Asivukeni Makhosikazi, isikhathi sokulala lokwenzelwa konke sidlulile. Siphila emhlabeni wako Vukuzenzele. Umasingakwazi esingakwenza asibuzeni kwabadala basiluleke Sethu Rusike.

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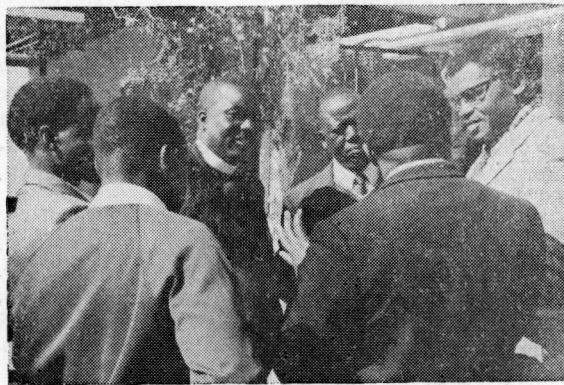
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UBUFAKAZI

Ngithanda ukubonga kakhulu uMlimu ngokungisiza kwakhe ekuguleni komkami okweminyaka ethile. Kuthe lanxa esegulela ukungitshiya, inkosi yabalami ngendlela emangalisayo. Ubufakazi bakhe ngokukholwa kwakhe kwakungiqinisa kakhulu ngoba wayengipha isibindi sokuthi uya ekhaya ezulwini.

Ngibonga kakhulu isibindi iNkosi eyangipha sona ukuthi ngamukele lobubunzima ngokwethemba yona. Lakhathesi ngiyethemba ukuthi uphumule eNkosini. Lingikhumbule emithandazweni bazalwane lami ngelinye ilanga ngize ngiyephumula eNkosini. Ngiyabonga.

MRS. NGELEZA SIBANDA.



Some of the Brethren in Christ delegates to the Church Growth Seminar held in Salisbury from 30th June until 4th July, having a discussion. Left to right they are: E. McMoyo, Rev. J. Ncube, Rev. J. Dlodlo and Rev. S. Ndlovu. With backs to the picture are Z. Mhlalapani and Rev. N. Mnkandla.

Church Calendar

Baptism/Communion Services

September 5-7: Nkai — Kana.

12-14: Gwaai — Mgomeni.

19-21: Wanezi South — Mbaulo.

26-28: Gokwe — Bhandu.

October 3-5: Wanezi Central — Filabusi.

10-12: Lupane East — Zalikwe.

17-19: Wanezi Mission.

October 31 to

November 2: Matopo Mission.

7-9: Mtshabezi Mission.

Commencement November 29: — Ekuphileni Bible Institute.