



## Planting Hope International – Manhattan, KS

*“Spreading the Gospel through improving agriculture, education, and health in developing countries”*

Spring 2019 Newsletter – Hello from Floyd and Gayle Dowell!



Grain bins being taken down in Palco, KS.



The same bins rebuilt in Kyrgyzstan!

**Agricultural work in Kyrgyzstan.** We have now supported agricultural, medical, and educational projects in 20 countries, but we don't always get to personally follow a project from start to finish. However, the pictures above are “before” and “after” pictures of bins we sent to Kyrgyzstan. Stan Grecian in Palco, Kansas, donated these two grain bins. We disassembled them, packed them in a 40ft container, and shipped them to Kyrgyzstan where last fall I (Floyd) was able to see them reassembled for a Business as Missions (BAM) project in that former Soviet Union country. The mountains in the background should be a hint that they aren't in Kansas anymore! We support several BAM projects where they establish Christian businesses as a way of witnessing to the populations there. I made several new friends in Kyrgyzstan, and we hope to do additional work to support local grain storage, milling, and feed making BAM projects.

One immediate need we have is for 8000 bushel or larger grain bins to support another BAM project in Kyrgyzstan. If you know where we can find some, please let us know! We hope to ship a container of grain bins later this year.

**Agricultural work in Ethiopia.** On a couple of occasions, we have had the chance to volunteer with Engineering Ministries International to design agricultural projects in various countries. I was fortunate to go to Ethiopia earlier this year to design an agricultural program as part of a larger church campus master plan. I learned a lot about agriculture in that part of the world and hopefully helped them develop a usable plan to increase their agricultural production. I hope the relationships I developed with some of the local people will result in additional projects.

**Student Support.** Educating the next generation continues to be a focus of our work, and we are seeing a steady stream of graduates going out to impact their own nations. We have a friend, Larry Kies, that teaches at Africa University in Zimbabwe, and he



A typical meal in Kyrgyzstan

recently attended a conference in South Africa where he stated in his newsletter: ***“It was exciting to meet many AU Agriculture students that have become missionaries, using their skills to lead Agriculture development in other African countries as they take the gospel out to the communities they work with.”*** These are very encouraging words and an excellent example of how we are having a long-term impact in these countries. That is, we are helping to raise up educated indigenous leaders.



Some of my new Ethiopian friends

We are currently supporting several students at Africa University, and we now have 140 students from 11 countries that have benefitted from your donations. We continue to get many requests from parents and individuals asking for tuition support.

**Medical Support.** We have a request to help a young man in a developing country get an artificial leg, and we are currently waiting on a cost estimate. We also continue to support the clinic at Eden Children’s Village in Zimbabwe. Our funds last year were used to buy supplies in-country as they have not been able to receive a shipping container due to the instability there. Our funds were also used for a monthly mobile medical clinic and to meet specific medical needs that they encounter.

Some of our current needs include:

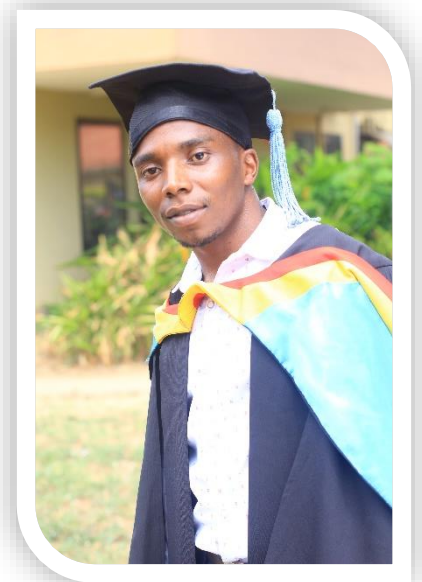
- **Agricultural needs:** We need grain bins that are 8000 bushels in capacity or larger. Since we are a non-profit, farmers or businesses that donate bins can use this as a tax deduction. We need to end up with total capacity of about 150,000 bushels for this project in Kyrgyzstan.
- **Educational needs:** 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 with specific medical issues, and we spend about \$10,000/yr on medical needs. Most of our effort is to support the clinic that serves Eden Children’s Village and surrounding communities in Zimbabwe.

We welcome your contributions as we 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 donations are used for our travel or personal expenses. 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.

For more information contact:

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Donations can be sent to:  
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One of our college graduates that is now an intern with ECHO

*James 1:27, 2:18 "care for the orphans and widows . . . show your faith through your works"*