



Thanksgiving\Christmas 2015



Hopefully this note will reach you a little early, sharing some encouraging words as we approach Thanksgiving and later Advent/Christmas: Faith makes our paths a little clearer; Hope makes our lives a little brighter; and Peace brings us all a little nearer. I know that you identify and live those words....and it isn't easy. I'm anxious to hear how you are. You deserve more notes from me, and I apologize for our limited internet at times and the work I know you want me to do. I keep you and yours in my prayers each day, and ask for yours. I try to be faithful, looking ahead in hope that this work can carry on with less demands in other hands. That hasn't happened as yet, hampered mainly by funds to keep going. This is my biggest headache I was slowed down in September of last year when I fell off a tall ladder, taking time to heal and get back in the saddle. Have a slight limp which is manageable and no pain. I purposely do things more slowly. The Kobets family in Missouri, Kansas, and California are doing well and happy to welcome one more with John Thomas to Teresa and Dave in May of this year. Another sweetie to hold and cherish. We are blessed.

**Of course it is always encouraging here in Gweru when Abraham, one of our orphans, shares an example with me of some of his harvest using seeds provided by our Orphans Education and Agriculture Support (OEAS) charity program in Gweru, Zimbabwe.**



Below are some of our heroes, Helped by OEAS, both living on small farms in the rural area.



**"Granny Five"**  
**(who died this year at 106 years)**  
**having cared for her orphaned g'children in the family.**

Another grandparent, Grandpa Manyuchi (age 69) is helping to raise and educate 5 of 9 grandchildren.



OEAS is working with him and his wife to deepen their existing well. and get a water tank



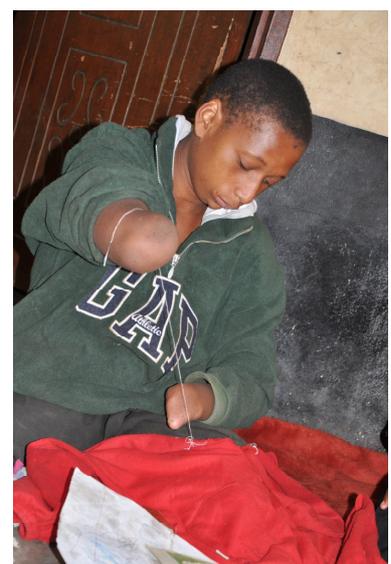
This would help with a market garden. They need the help for everything and we are on the agriculture/food production side.

**When we noticed the very poor surroundings of one rural primary school where one of our orphans was enrolled, we made sure that we purchased heavy plywood 1" width and our staff member, Willie Chakauya (photo centre), painted the boards with chalkboard paint. So now the kids and their teachers have boards for their makeshift sheds and under the trees.**

**Big improvement.**



**We include children and youth who are physically and/or mentally challenged. "Sindy" has incomplete arms and legs. She is bright, handles a speech defect, can draw, dance, sew...just a little tender loving care, what a difference.**



OEAS has 85 orphans in education, 175 in agriculture, and 260 in health/hygiene/nutrition with 18 to 20 being tutored in english, maths, and science. To keep this all going in a charity is still a desperate need and I want to thank you for your prayers and support. If anyone wants to help, donations can be sent c/o Sr. Ellen McDonald, M.M., Maryknoll Sisters, Box 311, Maryknoll, N.Y. 10545 0311 designated as mission gift for Sr. Mary Frances Kobets, project no. 4438.

Here's a sample of some of our kids.....off the streets and now focused.



## Orphans' Education & Agriculture Support

Children Orphaned by HIV & AIDS

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OEAS

Keeping God's love visible



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p.s. as I write the World Series has just completed game 3. Very proud of the Royals and K.C.