

D A M O N & L I S A

MATACCHIERA

H O P E Z A M B I A I N T E R N A T I O N A L

PREVIOUS ISSUE: 04/2026 CURRENT ISSUE: 05/2026



BEE STINGS ARE BETTER THAN SNAKE BITES-

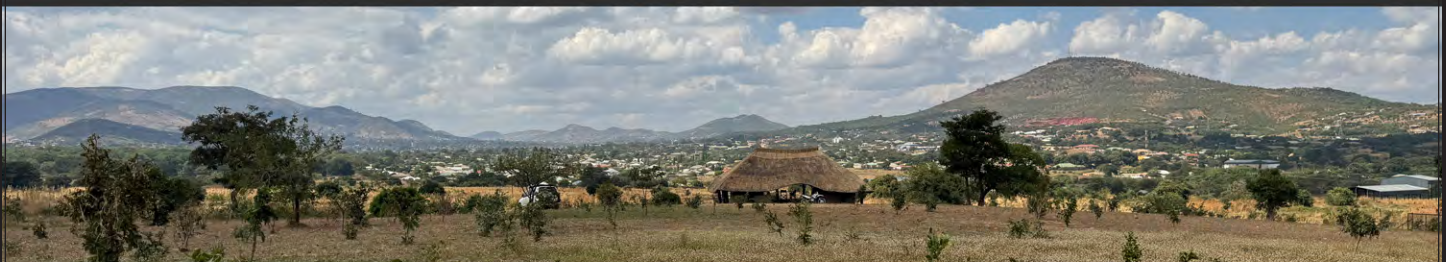
As we got home at dusk, we noticed our cat stuck up in a tree. Joey reached into the dark branches to help, and suddenly something struck his hand. When we saw two puncture marks, we feared a snake, especially since just a week earlier, our dog had encountered a spitting cobra. The big tree snakes in our area are the black mamba, boomslang, and twig snake, so the worst-case scenario flashed through our minds. At the hospital, we were confused because his hand wasn't swelling as you would see with a typical snake bite. Meanwhile, our friend searched the tree. To our surprise, he found that the branch Joey reached for was hollow and filled with wood-boring bees, the same ones that had stung him multiple times. We were so relieved because no matter how you look at it, bee stings are better than snake bites!

All that excitement aside, we've been hard at work clearing the church plot now that we have the title deed. The men of the church came together with slashers and a propane torch to burn the grass. It's been a combination of hard work and unity as we prepare the land. This isn't just a place where we're building. It represents a permanent home in the heart of Chipata, a place where families will worship, young people will be married, and leaders will be trained. This land represents so much of our heart and what we want to do here in Chipata. We're so thankful for everyone who has participated in helping make all this come together: establishing a Bible-believing church that loves the Lord, reaches the community, and equips God's people for faithful service in the gospel. Pray for us as we begin developing this land and fundraising for the first phase of work, which will include installing a security fence and drilling a well to provide water for mixing cement!

Beyond the work on the property, one of the biggest blessings this past month has been seeing the church continue to grow and become more involved. Our young adult fellowship has continued to gain momentum; our kids' clubs have seen more participation from church members than ever before; and a new ladies' Bible study has begun working through the Beatitudes. It's encouraging to watch people not just attend church, but actively serve, build relationships, and grow together in the Lord. We're thankful for all that God continues to do as we seek to make Christ known here in Chipata, Zambia.

We're excited about returning to the United States for furlough this fall, and we've officially purchased our tickets. As we prepare, we're praying and planning toward purchasing a vehicle for our travels while we're in the United States. Reliable transportation will be an important part of visiting churches, reconnecting with ministry partners, and making the most of the year ahead. Along with the vehicle, there are many logistical expenses that come with transitioning our family of eight back to the United States, and we would appreciate your prayers as we work through all the details. Please pray with us for wisdom and provision as we move forward.

The Matacchiera Homestead - Chipata



Scan
for more info!



SUPPORT ADDRESS:
Word For the World
P.O. Box 849
Rossville, GA 30741
706.866.8826

HOME CHURCH:
Old Paths Bible Baptist
4782 Hall Road
Holley, NY 14470
585.723.6496



nomad.dm@gmail.com



585-333-9586



hopezambia.com