

The Matacchiera **FAMILY**

THE STORY. THE HEART. THE MISSION.



DAMON & LISA

MATACCHIERA

HOPE ZAMBIA INTERNATIONAL



The Matacchiera Family!

A MINISTRY INTRODUCTION

Thank you for taking a few moments to read this and get to know our family and ministry. My name is Damon Matacchiera, and I have had the privilege of serving the Lord in Zambia since 2000, when I first came to serve alongside my father. In 2006, my wife Lisa and I began serving here together, and over the years Zambia has become home to

our family. God has given us a deep love for the people here, and that long-term investment has shaped the way we look at ministry, missions, and the work of the local church. As a second-generation missionary, the Great Commission was part of my life long before God brought me to Zambia. Over the years, the Lord has used both that heritage and more than 25 years of ministry here to shape my burden for gospel ministry, biblical discipleship, and strong local churches.

As we prepare to come back on furlough, my desire is not simply to give an update from Zambia, but to encourage God's people back home that the Great Commission is still the calling of the local church and that every believer has a part in it. One of the burdens I carry is to help people see that missions is not something distant or reserved for a few, but something that every church can be part of.

The work God has given us here in Chipata includes preaching, teaching, discipleship, evangelism, leadership training, family ministry, youth ministry, and helping strengthen the overall life of the church. Over the years, my burden has grown not merely for activity, but for depth. I want to see people truly grounded in the Word of God. I want to see believers grow in spiritual maturity. I want to see men trained to lead faithfully. And I want to see local churches strengthened in a way that produces lasting fruit.



Hope Bible Baptist Church - Chipata

One of the important developments in our ministry has been the formation of Hope Zambia International. In many ways, Hope Zambia reflects the combined efforts of our missionary team as we labor together here in Chipata with shared goals, shared values, and a common burden to further the Great Commission. Rather than approaching the work as isolated individuals, we have sought to build a team that can labor alongside one another in unity, strengthen one another, and move forward with greater purpose. I'm thankful for the way the Lord has brought that together, and I believe it has helped give greater clarity and stability to the work here.



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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
 www.hopezambia.com

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Through all of this, one of my strongest convictions is that missions should not create unhealthy dependency or revolve around temporary excitement. Our desire is to invest in the kind of ministry that helps build faithful believers, strong churches, and lasting gospel influence. We want to do more than stay busy. We want to be part of work that will stand the test of time and continue bearing fruit for years to come.



As we travel on furlough, we would count it a privilege to visit churches, reconnect with faithful supporters, and meet pastors who have a heart for the Great Commission. If the Lord allows our paths to cross, I would simply want to be a help and an encouragement to your church. Whether through a presentation, a testimony, a Sunday school hour, or time spent in fellowship, my desire would be to strengthen your people's burden for missions and give them a Christ-centered view of what God is doing here in Zambia.

Missions is not just about what we want to do or what we can accomplish from the American church outward. It is also about building healthy partnerships with churches and believers in other countries, cultures, ethnic groups, and languages. God is raising up His people all over the world, and they should have a seat at the table as we think through world evangelism together. If we are going to reach the world with the gospel of Jesus Christ, we need to work together with humility, wisdom, and a shared commitment to the Great Commission.

Thank you again for taking the time to read this. We are deeply grateful for the churches and individuals who pray, give, and stand behind missionaries around the world. It is a blessing we do not take lightly. If you would like to learn more about who we are, what we believe, and the work the Lord is allowing us to do here in Zambia, I would encourage you to visit our website at hopezambia.com. That is also where we post our newsletters and ministry updates. Please pray for us as we continue serving here and as we prepare for this upcoming furlough season.



Hope Bible Baptist church - chipata



The Eagle's Nest at our farm in chipata



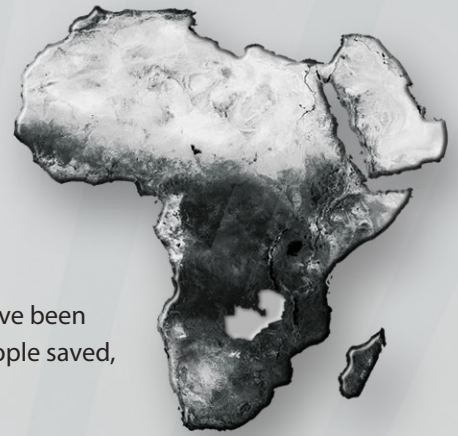
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🌐 www.hopezambia.com



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS:

01. What is the main focus of the ministry in Chipata?

Our main focus is gospel ministry through the local church. Over the years, we have been involved in five separate church plants across Zambia, and our desire is to see people saved, disciplined, trained, and equipped to serve the Lord faithfully.

02. How does your ministry put discipleship into practice?

We invest in people through discipleship, Bible teaching, leadership training, and hands-on ministry opportunities. Our goal is to help believers grow in truth, serve with confidence, and become active in the ministry God has given them.

03. What is the vision for the farm property?

The farm is our family's personal property and will serve as a base in fulfilling our team's long-term planning and mission-strategy. Lord willing, this will be the place where we live, where our team can come together to plan ahead, coordinate ministry logistics, host interns, operate our print shop and radio ministry, and develop gardens and agricultural demo sites for practical training. This property will act as the field HQ for Hope Zambia International.

04. What is the vision for the church property?

The church property of Hope Bible Baptist Church of Chipata and is being developed as a permanent home for the church in the heart of the city. Our desire is to see it become a place for worship, discipleship, children's ministry, training, outreach, and long-term gospel impact as we raise up local leadership for the future.

05. What are your current needs?

Our current needs include an increase in monthly support, especially as the dollar has lost nearly 30% of its buying power against the kwacha. We are also raising funds for furlough travel expenses, property infrastructure at the farm, and the new church building we hope to begin in the coming year. We are asking the Lord to provide as we move forward with both long-term ministry development and our upcoming furlough season.

06. How can churches or individuals give or learn more?

Churches or individuals who would like to give, schedule a meeting, or learn more about the ministry can contact Damon directly at nomad.dm@gmail.com. Gifts can also be sent through our clearing house, Word for the World, with more information available at www.hopezambia.com.



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MINISTRY HIGHLIGHTS: WHAT WE'VE DONE

01. CHURCH PLANTING – We've had the opportunity to be involved in five church plants across Zambia, from the Copperbelt Province to the Eastern Province.

02. CHURCH PROPERTY DEVELOPMENT – Purchased 2 acres of land in the city for Hope Bible Baptist Church, valued at approximately \$60,000, as a long-term investment toward a permanent church home in Chipata.

03. HOPE ZAMBIA HQ DEVELOPMENT – Developing our farm property in Chipata, which will serve as the future Hope Zambia headquarters for ministry operations, training, and outreach.

04. CITY DISCIPLESHIP – 25 men and women disciplined through our three-month city discipleship program focused on biblical growth and spiritual foundations.

05. VILLAGE LEADERSHIP TRAINING – 10 church leaders disciplined through our one-year village leadership program.

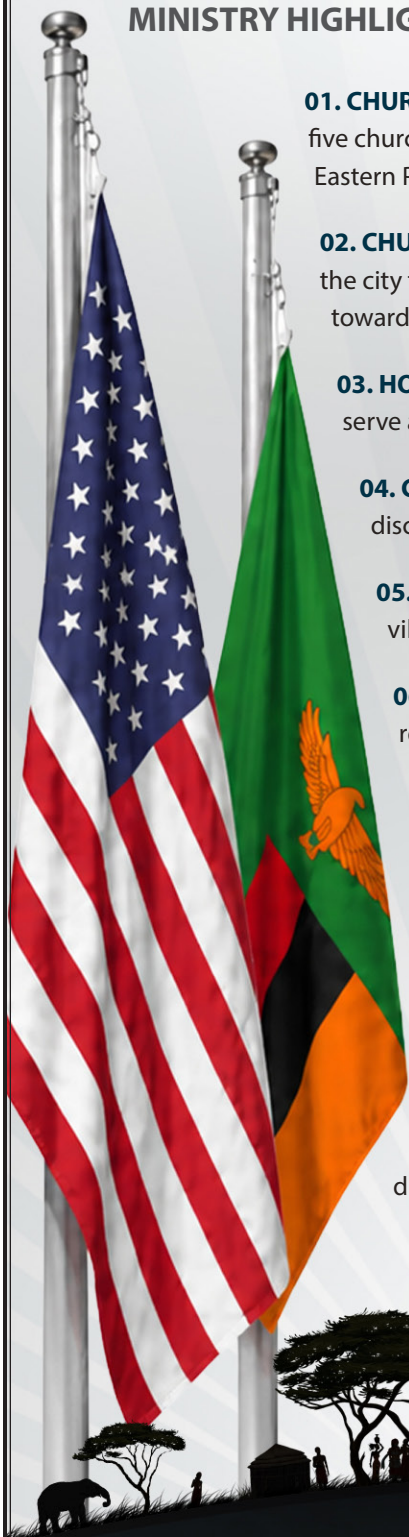
06. BIBLE SCHOOL TRAINING – 50 pastors completed a four-year village Bible school refresher program through quarterly training sessions.

07. MEDIA & GOSPEL OUTREACH – The launch of The Christian Roundtable, a live online podcast reaching Chipata and beyond with the gospel.

08. VILLAGE WATER PROJECTS – 12 wells drilled in village communities to provide access to clean water where there was previously none.

09. BABY BASKET OUTREACH – 340 baby baskets distributed through our baby basket outreach program to provide mothers with the essential supplies needed for safer hospital deliveries.

10. FAMINE RELIEF – 17.5 metric tons of maize distributed through the Joseph Project during the year of famine. 1.5 tons of seed given as relief aid.



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my father and I in the village

MY CALLING INTO MISSIONS:

From the time I was young, our family was deeply involved in ministry. My dad was very active in our home church, and missions was constantly before us. As a family, we had a strong desire to be involved in world evangelism. My father enrolled in Bible Institute with the goal of becoming a missionary to a particular country, but although that door eventually closed, it helped

cultivate a lasting burden for missions in our home. While we waited on the Lord's direction, our family became even more involved in our home church in New York. Then, in 1999, our church took a missions trip to Zambia, Africa, and our family went along with several others from the church. During that trip, the Lord worked in my father's heart and made it clear that He was leading our family back to Zambia as full-time missionaries.

People often ask me how I felt about moving to Africa, but honestly, the desire for missions was already there. My dad's zeal and excitement for the ministry were contagious, and by that point I genuinely wanted to give my life to something that truly mattered. I wouldn't say I had a specific calling at that moment, but I did have a strong desire to be involved in the work God was doing.

Just one year after that missions trip, our family moved to Zambia as full-time missionaries. The Lord faithfully provided the support we needed, allowing us to move directly to the field. During those early years, I truly fell in love with both the ministry and the people of Sub-Saharan Africa.

Eventually, I had to personally seek the Lord about His will for my own life and ask whether He wanted me to remain in Zambia long term or lead me somewhere else.

During that first four-year term, the Lord firmly confirmed His direction in my life.

After returning to the United States, Lisa and I were married, and together we returned to Zambia as missionaries in our own right. Then in 2011, the Lord led us across the country to begin the work that would eventually become Hope Zambia International and continue the journey God had started many years earlier.

Throughout our time in Zambia, the Lord's allowed us to be involved in many different areas of ministry and has given us opportunities we never could've imagined. We're deeply thankful not only for the lives we've been able to invest in, but also for the work God's done in our own hearts through this journey. We're thankful for this calling, for the privilege of serving in Zambia, and for the Great Commission that brings believers together for the cause of Christ.



Our first trip to Zambia in 1999



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DOCTRINAL STATEMENT: PAGE ONE

- 01. The Bible Is the Final Authority** - We believe all Scripture is given by inspiration of God (2 Tim. 3:16) and that God has promised to preserve His pure words (Ps. 12:6-7). The Bible is the inspired and preserved Word of God and is therefore the supreme, inerrant, infallible, and final authority in all matters of faith, doctrine, and conduct. Hope Zambia exclusively uses the KJV when ministering in English.
- 02. Salvation Comes by Grace Through Faith** - We believe salvation is the free gift of God (Eph. 2:8-9), offered by His grace and received by personal faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. It does not require culture, character, religion, or good works to receive or secure it, and it is offered to all mankind. Every born-again child of God is eternally secure in Christ and should live without fear of losing it. (Eph. 1:13).
- 03. The Godhead** - We believe there is only one living and true God (1 Tim. 2:5). He is infinite, intelligent, and the Maker and Supreme Ruler of Heaven and Earth (Deut. 4:39). In the unity of the Godhead are three Persons: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, equal in every divine perfection.
- 04. Jesus Christ** - We believe Jesus Christ is God (Jn. 1:1-3), born of a virgin (Is. 7:14), God manifest in the flesh (1 Tim. 3:16), and sinless in life (Heb. 4:15). He laid down His life for our sins (Rom. 5:8), arose the third day (1 Cor. 15:4), ascended to Heaven (Acts 1:9), sits glorified at the right hand of the Father (Heb. 1:13), is the Head of the Church (Col. 1:18), is coming again (Titus 2:13), and is the only way to Heaven (Jn. 14:6).
- 05. The Local Church** - We believe the local church is a body of believers gathered in obedience to Christ to carry out the commands of the New Testament (Mt. 28:19-20). The local church should be self-governing, free from the interference of hierarchy, individuals, or organizations, and committed to preaching the Word, edifying believers, observing the ordinances, and serving the Lord together.
- 06. The Body of Christ** - We believe every believer in the Church Age is baptized by the Holy Spirit into the spiritual body of Christ upon salvation (1 Cor. 12:13). The body of Christ was a great mystery hidden from past ages until it was revealed by Christ through the apostle Paul, and it is made up of all born-again Christians, with Christ as its Head (Eph. 3:1-12; Eph. 1:22-23). This spiritual body is distinct from the local church, yet believers are still commanded to assemble, serve, and grow within a local church body.



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DOCTRINAL STATEMENT: PAGE TWO

- 07. Baptism** - We believe in following the biblical pattern of baptism. Water baptism is only for those who have first believed in Jesus Christ (Acts 8:37). It is full immersion into water, symbolizing and identifying with the death, burial, and resurrection of Christ (Mt. 3:16). Baptism identifies the believer with the local church and is an act of obedience to the Lord's command (Mt. 28:19). Water baptism does not impute grace or forgiveness of sins.
- 08. The Lord's Supper** - We believe the Lord's Supper, or Communion, is a remembrance of what Christ did for us. The unleavened bread and fruit of the vine symbolize His body and blood. This time of self-examination and appreciation allows believers to look back at His sacrifice and ahead to His coming (1 Cor. 11:23-34). The elements do not become supernatural in any way, but are symbolic only.
- 09. Missions** - We believe the command to give the gospel to the world is clear and unmistakable (Mt. 28:19-20). It is the church's responsibility to carry out this commission by sending forth those whom God has called. Missions should be centered on preaching the gospel, making disciples, strengthening churches, and equipping believers to serve the Lord faithfully. The support and supply of missionaries is the duty of the church.
- 10. Prophecy** - We believe Christ is coming before the Tribulation period for the members of His body. The dead in Christ will rise first, and those who are alive will be caught up to meet Christ in the air (1 Thess. 4:13-18). This blessed hope is distinct from the Second Coming of Christ to the earth in judgment at the end of the Tribulation, when He will establish His righteous kingdom (Titus 2:13; Rev. 19:11-16).
- 11. Calvinism** - We reject Calvinism where it teaches that God has predetermined only certain individuals to be saved and withheld that opportunity from others. We believe Christ died for all men (1 Tim. 2:6), God is not willing that any should perish (2 Pet. 3:9), and the gospel is to be preached to every creature (Mk. 16:15). While we affirm God's sovereignty, we do not believe the Scriptures teach unconditional election unto salvation or limited atonement.
- 12. Lordship Salvation** - We reject Lordship Salvation where a person is taught that full surrender, commitment, or submission to Christ's lordship is required to be saved. Salvation is received by grace through faith in Jesus Christ apart from works, promises, or personal reform (Eph. 2:8-9; Rom. 4:5). While salvation should result in a changed life and spiritual growth, those are the fruit of salvation, not the requirement for it (2 Cor. 5:17).



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