

Namibia Open Team

LOCATION: NAMIBIA OPEN TEAM

PROJECT DATES: MARCH 17 - 29, 2015

PARTICIPATION FEE: \$1,695 per person

\$745 for children 12 and under, with 2 paying adults

Flight to Livingstone, Zambia is not included in the participation fee



Information Packet

MARANATHA IN NAMIBIA

Maranatha started its most recent volunteer endeavor in Africa in 2008 when we began building churches in Mozambique. Since then, Maranatha has expanded its work to Malawi, Zimbabwe, Ghana, Angola, Chad, and Zambia. This project marks Maranatha's first effort in Namibia, a country located in southern Africa and in desperate need of schools.

PROJECT OVERVIEW

Namibia has a Seventh-day Adventist membership of approximately 18,000; however, when compared to the growing membership of neighboring countries, such as Zambia and Zimbabwe, Namibia's growth is relatively small. The Adventist church in Namibia does not have any primary or secondary schools; there are only a couple of preschools scattered throughout the country. Government schools host teachers that are not properly trained, and access to even these schools is limited.

Adventist leadership recognizes that the presence of schools can be the driving force for membership growth within a region or country. Of the 18,000 members in Namibia, approximately 80% live in the Caprivi Strip, a narrow portion of Namibia stretching eastward towards Zambia. This concentration of church membership, along with the desperate need for schools, makes this area the perfect place for a new Maranatha school building.

The Mavuluma Seventh-day Adventist Church in Katima Mulilo has been operating a preschool in their sanctuary, hanging sheets in the space to create separate rooms. Their dream is to start a primary school so they can continue providing students a Christian education. The church already has a large plot of land for a new school building. So now, Maranatha volunteers will help to make their dreams a reality by building a One-Day School campus here. The school year will officially begin January 13, 2015, so this project will take place just in time!

In addition to school construction, volunteers will have the opportunity to reach out into the local community through outreach activities, such as holding interactive health programs for the local school children. The church has also requested medical clinics, and we would like to answer their request and hold clinics during the project. However, we'll need your help. If you are a medical professional and are interested in volunteering, please contact Maranatha for more information on how to join these clinics. We will also need to raise money for the medications and equipment the clinics will utilize. For more information on this, please see the Giving Opportunity section at the end of this packet.

PROJECT SCHEDULE

Tuesday, March 17

Arrival in Livingstone, Zambia and travel to Katima Mulilo

Wed., March 18- Fri., March 20

Orientation and work days

Saturday, March 21

Worship with the local congregation

Sun., March 22 – Wed., March 25

Work days

Thursday, March 26

Excursion to Chobe National Park

Friday, March 27

Victoria Falls and other area excursions

Saturday, March 28

Worship with local congregations

Sunday, March 29

Departures from Livingstone, Zambia

Accommodations

Volunteers will stay at the Protea Hotel in Katima Mulilo. This beautiful hotel is on the banks of the Zambezi River and just a couple of miles from the Mavuluma construction site. The hotel has furnished rooms with hot water, air-conditioning, and private bathrooms. WiFi is available, and there is a pool on the hotel property. All linens are provided; however, washcloths are not often included, so please plan on bringing your own.

For more information about the Protea Hotel visit www.proteahotels.com/hotels/Pages/protea-hotel-zambezi-river-lodge.aspx

**Address: Protea Hotel Zambezi River Lodge
Ngoma Road, Caprivi Region
Katima Mulilo 9000
Namibia**

Excursions

Chobe National Park: At the end of the project, volunteers will have the opportunity to go on a safari in the floodplains of Chobe National Park in Botswana. Chobe is home to elephants, hippos, buffalos, zebras, lions, hyenas, crocodiles, antelopes, and impalas. If you're lucky, you may even see leopards, cheetahs, and wild dogs. This is definitely something you don't want to miss!

Victoria Falls: One of the Seven Wonders of the World, Victoria Falls is one of the world's greatest sights. Upon arrival in Livingstone, Zambia, you will hear the thundering of flowing water and see the mist that rises over 1,600 feet into the air. The falls are over a mile wide and nearly 150 million gallons of water pour down the drop off each minute during the Zambezi River's peak high-water flow. While in Victoria Falls, you can also take some time to explore the town's stores and eateries. Transportation and entrance fees to the falls are included. There are also many area attractions that you may be interested in; you are welcome to take part in these excursions at your own expense. A list of these excursions with price estimates will be included in your final packet.

Expenses

The participation fee of \$1,695 covers housing for twelve nights, three vegetarian meals a day, ground transportation to and from the airport and project site, local excursion to Chobe National Park, secondary accident insurance, a Maranatha t-shirt, and luggage tags. This fee does not cover your flight to Livingstone, travel visas, and any health precautions you choose to take prior to traveling.

Maranatha must receive all funds and forms by February 17, 2015, due to application processing time. Wait for confirmation of acceptance on the project before purchasing your airfare.

If you are fundraising or receiving donations, please have them sent directly to you, or work with your local church treasurer to collect funds and issue tax-deductible receipts; it is difficult for Maranatha to track individual small checks. If your church will not work with you, please wait until you have collected the full amount of your participation fee before submitting your participation fee to Maranatha.

Estimate of Additional Costs

<u>Flight to Livingstone, Zambia</u>	\$1,100-2,300
<u>Passport</u>	\$130 or \$110 for renewal
<u>Zambia Visa</u>	Multiple Entry Visa (applied for ahead of time) Regular: \$155 Multiple Entry Visa (applied for ahead of time) Expedited: \$210 Double and Single Entry Visa (purchased upon arrival at border): \$80 + \$50 = \$130

Leadership

Karen Godfrey | Project Coordinator

Karen and her family reside in Gold River, California, where she works for Maranatha as vice president of advancement. She has led numerous Maranatha projects with her most recent trips being to northern Brazil, India, and Zambia. She is excited to share this experience with volunteers in Namibia.

Peter Thomas | Construction Coordinator

Peter joins the group from Fort Worth, Texas where he works as a home builder and land developer. However, his history with the African continent is extensive. He was born in Kenya and lived as a missionary's kid in Zimbabwe and Tanzania during the 60's. He is excited to go back.

ABOUT NAMIBIA

Although Namibia is one of the youngest countries in Africa, its history stretches back generations to a time when indigenous tribes resided in the arid landscapes of the region. In the late 1800s, the region became a German colony, resulting in local rebellions against the foreign settlers. Then in 1904, the uprisings escalated into war and an event known as the Herero and Namaqua Genocide. (Herero and Namaqua are ethnic people groups in Namibia).

After the German defeat in WWI, the region came under South African rule and its apartheid policies. The ethnic persecutions were opposed by growing nationalist sentiment, and a constitution was formed that would preserve human rights, private property, and a democratic nation-state. The country gained its independence on March 21, 1990.

The majority of Namibia is comprised of sand dunes and gravel plains. The Namib Desert skirts the coast, and moving inland, the terrain changes to savannah and plateau before transforming into the Kalahari Desert to the east. Namibia is the country with the least rainfall in all of sub-Saharan Africa and droughts are common.

The Caprivi Strip of northeast Namibia is a vastly different region. This area receives much more precipitation than the rest of the country, resulting in a more humid climate near the floodplains of the Zambezi River.

TRAVEL INFORMATION

Volunteers will purchase their own plane tickets to Livingstone, Zambia (see below). Please wait for confirmation from Maranatha before purchasing your airfare to ensure there is still space on the project. After arriving, volunteers will travel together by bus to the project location. The border of Namibia is approximately two and a half hours from the Livingstone airport, and Katima Mulilo is about 15 minutes past the border.

Arrival

Please plan to arrive in Livingstone, Zambia (airport code LVI) in the afternoon of Tuesday, March 17, 2015.

Departure

Please plan to depart from Livingstone (LVI) in the afternoon of Sunday, March 29, 2015.

Travel Resources

Azumano Travel: 800-454-4099 or by email with Erle at edpenha@azumano.com

Butler Travel: 503-879-5005 or by email with Nathanael at nathan@butlertravel.com or with Ellen at ellen@butlertravel.com.

Kayak: www.kayak.com

When contacting the Azumano or Butler travel agencies, make sure you mention Maranatha for the best fares.

Entry Requirements

All passports must be valid for at least six months from the dates of intended travel (Sept 29, 2015). If you do not have a passport, U.S. citizens can apply at any U.S. post office or online at <http://travel.state.gov>. Canadian citizens can apply online at www.passport.gc.ca. It can take up to two months to complete the entire process.

FACTS & FIGURES

Capital: Windhoek

Population: 2.2 Million

Language: Oshiwambo, Nama, Afrikaans, and a variety of indigenous dialects

Climate: Mostly dry and hot climates of the Namib and Kalahari Deserts although northern Namibia is in the tropical climate zone and has higher humidity.

Religion: Christian 85%, Indigenous Beliefs 15%

Currency: Namibian Dollar. Approximately 11.53 NAD to \$1 USD (Dec 2014)



In addition to a passport, travelers must also have a valid visa for the country of Zambia. No visa is needed for Namibia or Botswana, but because we will be flying in and out of Zambia, you will need an entry visa with multiple entry and exits for Zambia. There are two ways to acquire this visa. The first way is to purchase a double entry and a single entry visa upon arrival in Zambia. This is probably the easiest method and doesn't require any paperwork ahead of time. The second way is to apply for a multiple entry visa ahead of time through the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists. This method takes a little more time and paperwork but you will already have your visa in hand as you travel.

A document with complete visa requirements, a copy of the visa application, and tips for filling out your forms will be sent to you with your confirmation of participation.

Citizens of other countries, please consult the Namibian, Zambian, and Botswanian embassy or consulate in your home country for entrance requirements.

Traveling With Children

Children and Young Adults are welcome on the Namibia Open Team. However, parts of Africa have increased their entrance requirements for children under the age of 18. Anyone traveling through South Africa or Botswana should note that they could be required to show their birth certificate listing BOTH their legal parent's names. If one or none of the parents are traveling with the child, the child must travel with a certified document from the missing parent or parents showing permission to travel with whomever they are traveling.

MEDICAL REQUIREMENTS & PRECAUTIONS

Maranatha requires that every volunteer have a current tetanus vaccine (within the last 10 years). The Centers of Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) also recommend vaccinations for hepatitis A and typhoid, as well as a malaria preventative medicine other than chloroquine. The Caprivi Strip is known as a malaria endemic area, and the malaria strain in the region is chloroquine resistant. Volunteers should take personal precautions against mosquito bites, including wearing a repellent with DEET. There is no risk of yellow fever in Namibia; however, in order to receive your Zambia visa, you will be required to provide a copy of your yellow fever vaccination certificate.

Some of these vaccinations you may already have and some of them you may deem unnecessary for this trip. Because Maranatha is not a medical organization, we recommend that you speak with a travel clinic doctor about the medical risks in Namibia.

GIVING OPPORTUNITY

The local church members in Katima Mulilo has requested a Medical Clinic, and this ministry could make a big difference in the community. However, we do not have the funds to fully support a medical clinic for this project. In order to hold the medical clinic, we will need approximately \$300 per day to purchase medication and supplies. If you are interested in donating to this ministry, please contact Maranatha at (916) 774-7700.

HOW TO REGISTER

To register, please complete the online registration and pay the full participation fee or an initial deposit of at least half the total participation fee. You can make this payment by credit card online or over the phone or with a check to Maranatha Volunteers International, sent to the address below. If for any reason you need to cancel your participation, Maranatha will do our best to refund your deposit, up until one month before travel. After that point, \$150 is non-refundable and the remainder will depend on the reservations and the project arrangements already made.

Register online at Maranatha.org or over the phone.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Phone: (916) 774-7700

Fax: (916) 774-7701

Email: volunteer@maranatha.org

Website: www.maranatha.org

Mailing Address:

Maranatha Volunteers International
990 Reserve Drive
Suite 100
Roseville, CA 95678

Canadian Payments Only:

Maranatha Volunteers
International Association
c/o V06494C
PO Box 6494, Station Terminal
Vancouver, BC V6B 6R3

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NIKE CLASSIC POLO \$45



This classic golf polo has stitch-trimmed shoulder panels, flat knit collar, three-button placket and open hem sleeves—with Dri-FIT fabric technology to keep you dry on those hot days.

HARD HAT \$11



This MSA V-Gard hard hat, with Staz-On suspension, ensures excellent shock absorption on the job site.



TO ORDER, VISIT MARANATHA.ORG/STORE OR CALL (916) 774-7700

All prices are excluding sales tax and shipping.

CAP \$12



All cotton and easy to pack, this cap is sure to keep the sun off your face on a mission project and at home.

WATER BOTTLE \$15



The autospout water bottle by Contigo features a one-touch-button spout for convenient one-handed drinking. It also has a spout shield to protect the spout from debris and dirt when not in use—perfect for the project site.

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