

Second Saturday Net

March 2005

Zimbabwe



Interview with Mrs. Martha Mukangara

February 28th was my mother's birthday, and in honor of her memory I worshiped at the United Methodist Church on the 27th of last month. The year she lived with me in Santa Cruz, we attended there regularly, but I have not been back for several years and was surprised to learn that a Zimbabwean divinity student named Martha had been, until recently, a member of their congregation. A few days later, I flew to the east coast to participate in an educational tour commemorating the 40th anniversary of the 1965 Voters Rights March that began in Selma, Alabama. As I passed through Atlanta, on Friday March 4th, my godson Jason and I had an opportunity to visit briefly with Mrs. Mukangara at the seminary where she currently resides.

Nubra: *How did you first come to the United States?*

Martha: Originally I was trained at Epworth Theological College in Harare, and for many years I did pastoral work in various parts of Zimbabwe, including Chicanga and Mutare...It was while I was serving in Mutare that I was sent to attend an evangelism seminar at Emory University, which is here in Atlanta.

Nubra: *And what brought you to California?*

Martha: My son was living in San Leandro, so I went to see him there, and that visit eventually led to an opportunity for me to study at Bethany College.

Nubra: *I know that's a church related school and that it's located near where I live in Santa Cruz, but I didn't know it was affiliated with the Methodist Church...*

Martha: No—it's actually Pentacostal, but, once I got adjusted, I got along well and was able to spend four years there, which allowed me to complete a degree in general ministries...

Nubra: *Is that similar to majoring in sociology or psychology at a liberal arts college—or would it be more like studying social work?*

Martha: Yes there was sociology and psychology but also a good deal of math and science. As the name implies it was a program of general studies.

Nubra: *And now what are you studying at the seminary?*

Martha: Here I am doing Biblical studies with an emphasis on pastoral care...I know that I have a calling as a healer to work with HIV/AIDS as a spiritual challenge...But I'm not yet sure where I will be able to do that work—I just know that is what I have been called to do.

Nubra: *Well, it sounds like you've gotten this far on faith...*

Martha: Yes—I am not allowed to work in this country, but I have applied for scholarships, and each time the means have been provided...In the beginning, I really didn't know how I was going to manage, but I just said, "God, you are the one who brought me here, and you will have to show me what to do now that I am here..."

Nubra: *And how long are you planning to stay in the United States?..*

Martha: Now I am in my second semester at Gammon Theological Seminary, and so I expect to be here until 2007.

Nubra: *Thanks so much for taking time out from studying for your final exams to meet with us today ... I would very much like to come and visit you again some time and to maybe bring one of our students, who is here from Harare to meet you.*

Martha: That would be fine—you are welcome to come again anytime, and I hope I will be able to offer you some food when you come—that is very important to us Zimbabweans, your know!



Sarah Fein shares reactions to Marion, Alabama's Civil Rights Freedom Wall as one of several Atlanta area high schoolers participating in a tour sponsored by women of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference in honor of the 1965 Voters Rights March. *photo by nef* **Mar 2005**

You have, I have

how many eyes do I have?
two.
don't you?

with my two eyes
I see and memorize
the hate and debate
that caused the fate
of nations skies

how many eyes do I have?
two
don't you?

with my two eyes and my two ears
I see and hear our nations fears
with my ears I hear the horror
and I will open the door
for all people to understand the tears

how many voices do I have?
one
don't you?

with my one little voice
I make the choice
and I choose to love my neighbor
without it being a labor
I choose to let me be me
and let my love for all run free...
-Sarah Fein

Highfield High School
P.O. Box HD 19
Highfield
HARARE

17 February 2005

Compliments of the New Year Dr. Nubra Floyd!

...I am no longer at Highfield High School. Before I left on 12 November 2004, the members of the Zim Second Saturday Network were doing very well in the Tuck Shop operations. They had realized over one million Zimbabwe dollars from the initial capital of ZIM\$253,300.00. Their plans were to use the money to pay fees for some of the needy pupils at the school.

This initiative by the students is going to be of great assistance to those beneficiaries of the funds which we deposited into the Zim Second Net account at Century Bank Machipisa since all the Century Bank (now CFX) branches were put under curatorship with effect from 17 December 2004. The funds are going to be locked up for at least six months. We hope they will be released so that the pupils can benefit from them...

Best wishes and kind regards

F.M. Mashoko



Highfield students who have so far benefited from Second Saturday contributions. *photo by nef* **Jul 2003**

Nubra Elaine Floyd, PhD
Project Coordinator

Second Saturday Network
Post Office Box 8347
Santa Cruz, California 95061
Phone: 831 427 3487
Email: secondnet@hotmail.com