

Chapter 34

Rwanda



The ministry of OAC covers the breadth of Africa, ranging from Kenya in the East, to the Congo in the West, via Uganda and Rwanda! After several years of ministry trips by our former OAC International President, Robert Siakimotu (OAC New Zealand), God opened the door for us to establish an ongoing work in Rwanda. Here is how it happened.

Mpore Jean d'Amour (we call him Jean) is Rwandese but was born in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). He is married to Esther (affectionately referred to as "Queen Esther"), and in August 2019, Esther gave birth to a son whom they named Arlo Jayden.

Jean learned about the work of Open Air Campaigners in 2014, while a student at the Rwanda University Mission. While there, he became a leader in the campus Christian student group and a member of a committee that organized a mission outreach. Robert Siakimotu was the OAC man in charge of that outreach. He introduced Jean to many practical ways of sharing the gospel, including the chemical cross and sketchboard. Jean soon obtained some of these tools and began using them in evangelism. He also wanted to know more about OAC; an appointment was scheduled with Robert, who kindly shared with Jean all about OAC's mission and how Jean's gift of evangelism could be used within the organization to spread the gospel to lost people. Robert

recommended that Jean participate in one of the OAC training times, and so the Lord laid it on his heart to pursue it. Here is what happened next in Jean's own words.

"In 2016, there was a training session planned in Kenya, and I was happy to travel there to take part in these sessions. At this time of training, I met David Wilson from the USA, Rob George from Australia, and several of the Kenya staff. They taught me many useful principles of evangelism during the three



LAISA SIAKIMOTU (RIGHT) SHOWING ESTHER (JEAN'S WIFE) HOW TO SHARE THE GOSPEL USING VISUAL OBJECT LESSON



JEAN SHARING THE GOSPEL AT BOARDING SECONDARY SCHOOL



ROBERT SIAKIMOTU IN A REMOTE VILLAGE

In December of 2023, Jean and Esther moved to Germany, but the work continues in Rwanda through our new director, Gilbert Rwanyange, and his team. All of the staff team are involved in evangelism and include his wife, Umutesi Aime Alice (administrator and treasurer), Uwase Fiona (outreach coordinator), Tuyimire Gloire (legal representative), and Dusabe Justine (vice-legal representative). Ministry advisors include Gahigana Patric and Hatsindukuri Ngabo Placide.

weeks we had together, and at the end of this time, David Wilson even gave me a sketchboard as a gift to help in my ministry. God had confirmed that this was the method of evangelism for me, and OAC was the mission He wanted me to join.

“When I returned to Rwanda, we started the long process of government-required registration to establish OAC Rwanda. In 2019, approval was granted; we were officially registered with the country as an approved and recognized mission.”



MANY SCHOOL ASSEMBLIES TAKE PLACE REGULARLY

The ministry in Rwanda is busy and varied, with outreach to children being a significant aspect. However, the ministry also includes clubs, sports-related special activities, and sharing the gospel within the school system. Gospel films are used to reach many



RWANYANGE GILBERT



UMUTESI AIME ALICE



UWASE FIONA

people in the villages with the news of salvation. Our staff work closely with local pastors to plant house churches, which serve as effective follow-up vehicles for those who come to Christ through our open-air film meetings. OAC Rwanda is also taking the gospel to villages, schools, and communities where there are no churches for many miles and where no one else is going.



RWANYANGE GILBERT AT THE BOARD



USING THE JESUS FILM IN A VILLAGE



ROBERT & JEAN AT SCHOOL



RWANYANGE USING THE CHEMICAL CROSS



FILM MEETING IN THE OPEN AIR



GOVERNMENT SCHOOL ASSEMBLY - A LOCAL PASTOR AND HIS TEAM FOLLOWED UP