



PRAYERS OF HOPE

Jean Baptiste is approximately 20 years old and was not working when we met him. He is taking care of siblings and also a sick mother who cannot work due to a chronic disease. We met him on a Saturday and he told us he had not eaten since Thursday. We also found out that he had malaria but had no money for medical treatment. While ZOE is an empowerment program that requires its teens and children to work to solve their own problems, ZOE provides immediate access to health care as this kind of relief is deemed a matter of survival. All ZOE teens and children are encouraged to let their ZOE social worker or the local ZOE advocate know immediately when they have health care needs. ZOE also works to make sure every working group member has health insurance going forward.



JEAN BAPTISTE

*For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."
- Jeremiah 29:11*

See reverse side for details about ZOE

Please fill out and return now or to the church office
ATTN: Peggy Caverly, Missions or send to serve@st.lukes.org.

Name _____

Email _____

- I agree to regularly pray for **Jean Baptiste**.
- I would like to be on the ZOE/St. Luke's email list to receive updates about this ministry and St. Luke's working group.
- I am interested in assisting the ZOE Ministry with a few special events a year.
- I would like to serve on the ZOE Core Group (meets monthly).
- I would like to know more about contributing to St. Luke's ZOE Working Group or giving in other ways to support this ministry.

ZOE is a distinctive, three-year empowerment program that works with orphans and vulnerable children in Rwanda, Kenya, Zimbabwe, Liberia, Malawi, India and Guatemala. ZOE goes into communities where teens and children (like the one on this prayer card) are already living. ZOE's in-country staff helps the children make an extended family by combining sibling groups into a Working Group of 60-100 children to create a new family that works together. They help them articulate dreams for their lives and then ZOE provides training and minimal strategic resources that they need to transform their lives in just three years. ZOE leads to sustainability rather than long-term dependency. The children, who often have felt invisible even to God, are able to see and hear the gospel in beautiful and tangible ways that are empowering.

St. Luke's UMC began its journey by meeting the challenge of funding a ZOE working group during the Advent season of 2015. Since then, more working groups have been funded by St. Luke's families. During a visit by a St. Luke's team visit to Rwanda in February 2016, we were able to capture some of the children's stories. Every child's story is different and yet the same. They are stories of suffering, pain and isolation. Now that they are part of a ZOE working group, there is new hope. Through this prayer card, we are asking you to make a commitment to regularly pray for this particular child and her siblings. She is just one of many so please pray for those for whom we do not yet know by name.

There are many things you might consider praying for (hope, health, food security, good crops, safety, knowing that God is with them) as this child helps her family rise out of extreme poverty. Your prayers are a way to walk alongside this child and this working group and cheer them on in spirit.

www.zoehelps.org
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www.st.lukes.org/journey-with-jenn

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