



Newsletter

Volume 2, Issue 2

October 2008

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ZIM JAM 2008 Concert to Benefit Nyadire

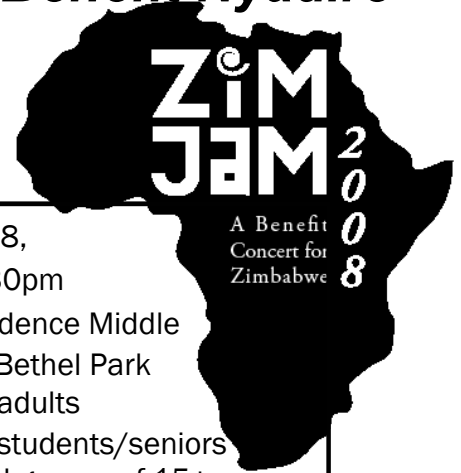
A fantastic event is soon upon us! Under the direction of Mark LaRosa, ZIM JAM 2008 is taking shape!

Two great local bands will entertain and “wow” us with contemporary Christian music. Both “Psalter” and “Suzie Ackerman and the 11:01 Band” will play.

Booths will offer crafts from Zimbabwe, provide more information about Nyadire, give you a chance to volunteer for The Nyadire Connection, and inform you about our sponsors.

Zimbabwean, baskets, notecards with photos from Nyadire, CDs of Zimbabwean music, and other great items will be available. Between the bands’ performances will be a short presentation on Nyadire, Zimbabwe.

All are welcome...bring your family, friends,



Date: Sat Nov 8,
Time: 7pm-9:30pm
Venue: Independence Middle School, Bethel Park
Cost: \$15 for adults
 \$10 for students/seniors and groups of 15+
 \$40 max per family
Reserve Tickets: 412-835-6621

social club, or youth group! Anyone interested in Africa, Zimbabwe, great music, or FUN!!!! If you’d like to support Nyadire, but can’t make the concert, please call the same phone number for more information.

The Nyadire Connection

For several years, Pittsburgh area churches have supported the United Methodist Mission in Nyadire, Zimbabwe in a variety of ways.

After eighteen United Methodists traveled to Nyadire in July/August 2006, they formed The Nyadire Connection (TNC) which seeks to organize and facilitate ongoing support for Nyadire United Methodist Mission in Zimbabwe.

This newsletter helps to keep informed those interested in Nyadire. Please email the editor with the emails of those who wish to receive the occasional newsletter.

Kimberly Greway, Editor
info@nyadire.org

Team Departed for Zimbabwe Oct 2nd

After having to postpone our June and August 2008 trips to Nyadire, The Nyadire Connection is thrilled to have sent a group off to Zimbabwe on October 2nd.

The seven-member team will not only volunteer at Nyadire but will also have a chance to work with another American group in the capital, Harare, building a church. Many of the participants will also spend several days at the end of their trip visiting Victoria Falls and Hwange Game Park in western Zimbabwe.



The team recently gathered with their large suitcases at a “packing party.” Among much mirth and merriment, donated items

are categorized, prioritized and then packed in the suitcases to be carried to Zimbabwe. Each suitcase is carefully weighed so as not to incur additional charges.

Donated items that will travel with this group include: sutures, medical books, toiletries for orphans, handmade blankets and quilts, children’s books, clothing, medication, and battery-less flashlights.

Please pray for the members of the team during their trip. If you are interested in a prayer calendar to follow during their trip, please email info@nyadire.org.

What's the New Logo Mean?

In the last issue we introduced you to the new Nyadire Connection logo. We're hoping that this logo will be easier to read and to use on a variety of publications.



Triangle

So what does the triangle mean and why was it chosen?

Many of you will already know that the triangle often represents the Trinity. It's one of the most ancient

Trinitarian symbols.

Other Trinitarian symbols include the trefoil, the triquetra, and the Trinity shield. Some representations of the Trinity combine a variety of these images.



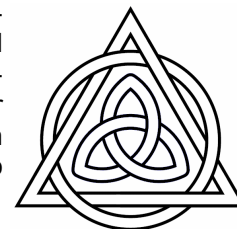
Trefoil



Triquetra

The triangle was chosen for the TNC logo to demonstrate our common faith though we may be from different churches, denominations, countries, continents.

Usually an equilateral triangle is used to depict the equality of the persons of the trinity. Our triangle is an isosceles triangle (with two



sides of equal length) for a very practical reason: the words just fit better in it!



“Best Container Yet” Sent Recently; Our Thanks to Franklin District UMW

The Steering Committee for The Nyadire Connection agreed that the recent container sent to Zimbabwe was the “best container yet.” The container was stocked with items from organization such as Global Links, Brother's Brother Foundation, Free Ride!, and the Linus Project.

Contents included 34 bikes, X-Ray machines, books, croc shoes, dental supplies, rubber gloves, slings (for weighing babies) and backpacks full of school supplies for orphans.

Our greatest challenge is to secure funding to send our containers. We've estimated that it takes \$8 to ship one cubic foot of stuff to Zimbabwe.

That means that a regular office-paper sized box which is about 1 1/2 cubic feet costs \$12 to send to Nyadire.

This is much less expensive that sending boxes by mail, however, it does add up quickly.

Would you like to **sponsor a box**? Each sponsored box costs **\$12**. Each sponsored box enables us to send ship items to Nyadire that would fit in an office-paper box. This is, of course, an approximation as we often use

boxes that are bigger or smaller than office-paper boxes.

The best think about ocean containers is that there is no weight limit or additional charge for weight. We try to save our heaviest items to send in the containers in order to save even more money.



Ocean-going container

Franklin District UMW recently held their annual United Methodist Women (UMW) meeting. Not only did they donate 18 boxes of clothing, school supplies, and blankets, but they donated nearly \$700 toward the shipping.

That means that they provided the shipping costs for their 18 boxes PLUS additional shipping costs for forty more boxes!

In fact, some donations are still coming in through the mail from Franklin District UMW groups and individuals. Thank you, thank you, thank you!

If you would like to donate to help us get much-needed supplies to Nyadire, you can **send a check** made out to “Christ United Methodist Church.” In the memo line put “Nyadire Shipping Fund.” We truly appreciate all the help that you can give.



A-Maize-ing

Home of Hope Administrator Emmanuel Chiimba told us in a recent report: *"We have almost finished harvesting our crops. A bumper harvest in the making! We have harvested enough to feed our children from now to even December next year 2009!!!!"*

Mr. Chiimba is very excited about the crops he and the HOH workers had planted on surrounding plots and three additional acres donated by the Mission.

TNC gave him some money for needed fertilizer, the rains came, and together the mothers, aunties, Mr. Chiimba and Edison (a general hand) worked the land to produce a wonderful crop. Thanks be to God!



Recent harvest of maize (corn) drying on the Home of Hope's back porch

A precious letter from Lorraine, orphan at the Home of Hope.

Transcription:

Lorraine 2008
Tethu verimachi
agoni Mutoko Nyadire
prwayimariswuru.

Ndinoenda pwyimari
swuru. Mahi nemu is Lorraine
Plehi sokaball fowu.
Ndinoenda disitiri chichi.

Npe foo is mazepe
Nbe booc risi
Agothu fowu is Lorraine
Amerika merika.

Translation:

[From] Lorraine 2008
Thank you very much again. Mutoko, Nyadire Primary School.
I am going to school. My name is Lorraine.
[I] play soccer.
I go to [the] district church.
(unsure)
...is Lorraine
America America

Lorraine 2008
TETHU VERIMACHI
AGONI MUTOKO NYADIRE
PRWAYI MARI SWURU
NDINOENDA PWYIMARI
PLEHI MAHI NEMU IS LORRAINE
SOKABALL FOWU.
NDINOENDA DISITIRI CHECHI.
NPE FOO IS MAZEPE
NBE BOOC RISI
AGOTHU FOWU IS LORRAINE
AMERIKA MERIKA

Home of Hope Outreach News

The Home of Hope Outreach Program connects Pittsburgh area students, classrooms, and families with individual Zimbabwean students.

Each Outreach sponsor (whether an individual, a family, or an entire classroom) puts together a backpack full of school supplies for a specific student. They also raise \$60 to provide for tuition and school uniforms for one year.

More than 150 backpacks have been sent to Zimbabwe in the twelve months of this project.

Here are excerpts from the Zimbabwean students' letters:

- "I am an orphan. My parents both died with a disease that spread in all countries." Yours faithfully, *Blessmore*
- "I like hanging out with my friends whilst herding cattle or hunting with my dog. I love the animals, too, but I hate baboons and monkeys, they destroy and eat our crops (maize, groundnuts)...My name has got a deep meaning, my parents named me Causemore because they want me to cause more joy where there is joy, more laughing where there is some laughing, but not to cause

more harm or hate.... I am truly thankful for receiving a letter from a special someone like you. May the Lord bless you" Yours truly, *Causemore*

- "My name is Memory. I am a short, clever girl. Our school is beautiful..... I am an orphan and my mother and father died two years ago. We are six in our family. No one cares and looks after us besides our uncle. He is in Harare. ... Zimbabwe is a very rich country which consist of minerals, like coal, gold, and asbestos." *Memory*
- "I received the things you sent to me on Saturday three May 2008. I was very happy on that day because you were the first person to send things to me. Thank you very much. I thank you for everything you sent to me because I am an artist. Please send me your cards (photos) on your next letter. (At my school we don't have computers so I write this letter with a pen."
- "I wish to thank you for the parcels you sent me. The satchel was so beautiful I couldn't help admiring it. I am full of gratitude

that people so far away would provide help to us. I am coping well now." *Brendon*

- "I think it is really cool to communicate with people who live outside of our country!" *Carlington*
- "I am a boy aged 12 years. I live with my grandmother Getrude, aged 88 years. My mother died March, father June, my younger sister with 5 years September the same year 2005. The first days I felt angry, fear, and hopelessness. I am praying for you day and night." Your friend, *Tivotenda*
- "May God bless you and it will not end forever. I become very happy when I saw these things (you sent) so I'm working very hard at school because I've got each and every item for school." *Forget*
- "Thank you for the items...Tell your class that I am good at drawing...It's my talents from God." *Chengeto*

Extra Donations to Home of Hope Orphanage

Recent extra donations have made possible a poultry project, uniforms for the orphanage mothers, and the repair of "non-runner" (i.e. a vehicle that doesn't run).

Mr. Chiimba, the administrator of the Home of Hope Orphanage, put together a proposal for a poultry project. He provided the estimates for the material to build it.

The goals are several: to provide eggs (which are outlandishly expensive) for the nutritional benefit of the children, to use the manure to fertilize next year's crops, and to educate the

children in the running and upkeep of such a venture.

Mr. Chiimba is also the administrator for the **Home of Hope Outreach Program**, which reaches out to orphans in the Nyadire Catchment Area.

There are over 400 children that have been identified as orphans. Some live with extended family, some on their own in their homesteads and villages, and some are leading their own households and are parenting their younger siblings.

Reaching these children and making deliveries is quite difficult. Repairing

this "non-runner" will provide minimal transportation to the over 30 villages. Mr. Chiimba will be sharing this vehicle with the Primary School.

Another donation was made for uniforms for the mothers, and the mothers were ecstatic. Clothes are simply not affordable. Imagine trying to keep your work clothes from wear and tear when you are hauling water several times a day, washing clothes for 23 children by hand, working in the fields, and cooking over open fire!

The letters of gratitude from the Home of Hope Orphanage keep pouring in!

Nyadire Water Project

The water situation in Nyadire is continuing to deteriorate. When we visited there first in 2002 there was ample running water which was thoroughly treated. As a matter of fact we drank it just as it came out of the tap and had no problems.

As those who have visited more recently can attest that is no longer the case.

The situation in a nutshell is this: originally there was a mission water system using local boreholes (wells) and reservoirs. As the Zimbabwe government became established, ZINWA (Zimbabwe National Water Authority) approached the Mission offering water supplied through their treatment facilities from the nearby river which they had recently dammed.

The Mission evaluated the costs and decided it would be more cost effective to go with ZINWA. Thus, the local boreholes and reservoirs became superfluous.

Now unfortunately, due to the collapsing economy, ZINWA is unable to continue the water supply. Can you imagine running a hospital without running water?

TNC, along with the Mission and the Zimbabwe Conference, asked a Zimbabwean engineer George Mutasa to look at the possibility of resurrecting the old system. George has recently completed a very similar project at Old Mutare Mission.

His report came back that it was very doable and would cost about \$80,000 to \$100,000 to complete. The plan is to construct two new reservoirs and put solar powered pumps on several of the boreholes. Solar pumps are being chosen due to the shortage of electricity and fuel. Solar pumps are very practical for this type of installation.

The existing distribution system will be used and will be examined to

eliminate as many leaks as possible.

Knowing that this was beyond our current budget, we talked to anyone that would listen to the problem. When our friend Shannon Trilli of UMCOR/GBGM heard about it she approached UMCOR and was able to secure funding through them.

Yes, this is the same UMCOR that we all donate to every year. It is really good to see some of the fruits of these donations.

Now that the funding is in place, the project has been kicked off. It is expected to take about six months to complete. We are hopeful that it will be up and running by the time of our October trip this summer.

There may be some work that our teams can do but we are specifically not planning that because we do not want the Zimbabweans to think they have to wait for us to be there.

Article about Kayla Mahalchak

The National School Boards Association recently printed an article about the value of senior projects done by high school seniors. The article focuses on Kayla Mahalchak joined the Jan 08 team on a trip to Zimbabwe.

The article begins:

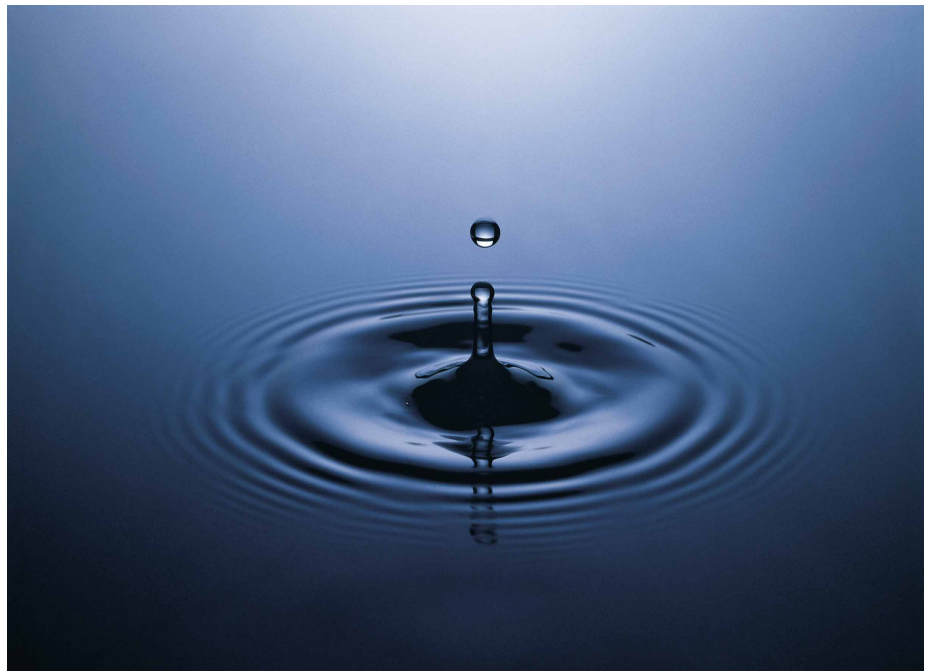
"Kayla Mahalchak's school project was not a model of the solar system. In fact, the high school senior from Chartiers Valley High School in Pennsylvania didn't use any papier-mâché at all.

"To satisfy her state's senior project requirement for graduation, Mahalchak traveled to Africa and observed medical practices in Zimbabwe."

"I'm interested in being a doctor when I'm older, and I wanted to get my feet wet and to make sure that's what I wanted to do," says the 17-year-old."

To read the rest of the article, please go to the following address and search for "Zimbabwe".

www.nsba.org



Letter from Zimbabwe

The following is a letter Elsa Zollars received from Knowledge Janast whom she met during her January 2008 visit to Nyadire. The letter came to Elsa when she was particularly sad and anxious about our friends in Nyadire. The letter helped to fix that!

Dear Elsa,

I greet you in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. I just want to thank the Almighty who gave me the opportunity to write you this note.

I am glad that I am at high school where I am doing sports which are netball, girls' soccer, basketball, chess and volley, but the best is basketball. I wish I could visit you in America Pittsburgh and see your beautiful country you were talking about and where you live.

I believe that you are continuing to stick to God's words. Words to remember from the Bible

God is:

- Before you to show you the way

- Behind to encourage
- Beside you as your friend
- Above to watch over
- Within you to give you peace

The day you come to Zimbabwe is the day I will be filled with joy than any other day.

Reply my letter, please, so that I will be happy.

Knowledge Janast

GBGM Visits Pittsburgh

"The General Board of Global Ministries is the global mission agency of The United Methodist Church, its annual conferences, missionary conferences, and local congregations. It is organized into eight program areas, the Women's Division, and General Administration." (GBGM website.)

Earlier this year we were pleased to receive a visit from Dr. Cherian Thomas and Shannon Trilli representing the United Methodist General Board of Global Ministry (GBGM) and UMCOR which is part of GBGM).

The purpose of their visit was to touch base with *The Nyadire Connection*, visit Brother's Brother Foundation, and coordinate planning for the future. It was quite a whirlwind visit but much was accomplished.

Both Cherian and Shannon have previously visited Pittsburgh and so it was nice to renew old friendships. We also were able to take advantage of their visit to introduce them to the new senior pastor of Christ United Methodist Church, Duane Thompson, and his wife Brenda.

As we visited Brother's Brother Foun-

dation we found out that Cherian was a personal friend of one of the doctors who was very involved with Brother's Brother in its early days. It is indeed a small world.

Planning included initial discussions that have turned into the project to provide a reliable water supply for the



Global Ministries
® The United Methodist Church

Nyadire Hospital and the surrounding mission.

GBGM has four stated goals:

- (1) Make disciples of Jesus Christ;
- (2) Strengthen, develop and renew Christian congregations and communities;
- (3) Alleviate human suffering;
- (4) Seek justice, freedom and peace.

The GBGM website is www.gbgm-umc.org. Please visit the website for more information about GBGM.

Half Price or Free Books?

The Half Price Books chain maintains a store at the Village Square Mall. They accept donations of books and purchase overstocks and resell them. Many used bookstores will do this.



But what do you do when the shelves are full, the books aren't moving and another bunch is on the way in? Or the season is changing and you need to make room for the new season's books?

These people have come up with a unique solution. In these situations they donate the books to charities that can use them.

Thanks to Sue Bower *The Nyadire Connection* recently received a large donation.

Many of these books are now in transit to Zimbabwe via South Carolina since they were included in the container that we shared with Campus Crusade for Christ.

If you are looking for reasonably priced books this is a great place to patronize.

Zimbabwean Pastor Support Program

When Rev. Lloyd Nyarota was here, he informed us that many the rural United Methodist pastors are receiving minimal support. They serve churches in the rural districts which simply have no resources to help the pastor and his or her family.

Rev. Lloyd proposed that a stipend of \$20 per month would go a long way toward providing support for these pastors and families. There are 25 pastors in the Mutoko-Mudzi District which surrounds the Nyadire Mission.

Almost immediately a person stepped up and offered to fund the program until sponsors could be arranged for each pastor

Now we are actively soliciting people that are willing to commit to a regular

contribution each month. The donation can be for a specific pastor or for any pastor in general. It is also possible to set up a pen pal relationship with the pastor.



Some of you may have seen the article about the Pastor Sponsorship Program in the United Methodist Western Pennsylvania newsletter

called the Interlink

Free Ride! a self-described "bicycle education facility" holds periodic bike-a-thons. One recent bike-a-thon provided thirty bicycles—one for each pastor and a couple extras for us to send to Zimbabwe. Their website is www.freeridepgh.org.

Bob Ellson from Murrysville UMC is going to head up this project for *The Nyadire Connection*. A Western Pennsylvania Conference Advance Special Number (MS004875P) has been set up to facilitate donations from United Methodists.

Anyone wishing to participate can contact Bob or send an email to info@nyadire.org.

Signatures from the Orphans at the Home of Hope

Emmanuel

(bio)
(907)
(907)

Anyway
 Chriswell, Kudekwashe Gokmols
 Tinashe

David TSungirai Lindiwe Lovemore
 Chipso Tinoenda Kennedy Beauty
 Catherine Alice Nyasha Lorraine
 Talent Tafadzwa CHARLES
 Precious