

## TNC Meeting Minutes - Aug 31, 2020

1. Prayer
2. General Zimbabwe Situation
3. Health -
  - Eyeglass Program; Container Shipments; Empowerment Pads; Medical Supplies; Rural Health Clinics; Medical/Doctor Support
5. Education / Volunteer in Mission Trips - Molly Michael
  - EWB; HI; Scholarships; VIM Trips; General
6. Orphans - MB Zollars
  - HOH; HOHO
7. Fund Development - Debbie Little
8. Promotions - Communications- T. Wesley
9. Finance - Richard Dickey
10. TNC Organization / Misc - D Harvey

Next TNC Meeting - Monday, Sept 28 - again via ZOOM

## TNC Meeting Minutes

### July 27, 2020 - remote meeting via ZOOM

#### I. General

- A. COVID cases and deaths in Zimbabwe were 2817 cases and 40 deaths a month ago at our last TNC meeting. Cases have increased to 6412 and deaths to 196. The Lockdown continues with strict restrictions on personal movement and closed borders for all people except returning Zimbabweans. As a comparison, Pennsylvania which has slightly less population than Zimbabwe, has 134,025 cases (20X Zimbabwe) and 7,673 deaths (39X Zimbabwe). The spread also continues in South Africa where cases have increased over the last month from 460,000 cases and 7257 deaths to 625,056 cases and 14,028 deaths.
- B. Driven by drought, the pandemic, and the lockdown, hunger continues as a major concern throughout the country.
- C. Bishop Eben K. Nhiwatiwa, Resident Bishop of the Zimbabwe Area of The United Methodist Church, was elected interim president of the Africa College of Bishops. He follows Bishop John K. Yambasu, the Resident Bishop of the Sierra Leone Area who recently died in a road accident.
- D. Zimbabwe's government signed an agreement worth \$3.5 billion to compensate white farmers who were evicted from their land during the land redistribution program in the early 2000s under former President Robert Mugabe. The compensation is not for the value of the land, but rather for the infrastructure that was lost.
- E. First Team trip to Nyadire was in Aug, 2006 ~ 14 years ago this month.

#### II. Health -

- A. Container Shipments - (Drew Harvey & Rev L. Mukundu)

1. No shipments to Zimbabwe are currently planned. We generally hope to send or participate in a Zimbabwe shipment in early 2021.
2. BBF is sending relief supplies to Texas and Louisiana in response to Hurricane Laura. Shipments include masks, gloves, hard hats, cleaning supplies, and more.

<https://pittsburgh.cbslocal.com/video/4682531-kdkas-meghan-schiller-talks-to-president-of-brothers-brother/>

#### **B. Eye Glasses - (Don Ziegler & Dr Larry Tanyanyiwa)**

1. Eyeglasses clinics will not be supported until new leadership at Nyadire is agreed upon and established.
2. Advanced training and locally conducted clinic/s planned when the Covid lockdown lifts and selected assistants can travel to Nyadire for 2 days of advanced training. They will then conduct follow-up clinics at Nyadire and at several selected rural clinics.
3. Several people have accumulated many bags of donated glasses. Don will coordinate the time but will collect them at both Dutilh UMC and CUMC.
4. Don continues developing his plans for the PHP ("People Helping People") initiative.

#### **C. Girl Empowerment Pad Program - (Bonnie Lawson & Charity Horiro)**

1. Nyadire
  - a) Continue to touch base with program leaders during this time. Bonnie has asked Charity to make any supplies available to Winnet to help in back to school efforts.
2. Pittsburgh
  - a) Working with Brother's Brothers and Phil Jones, eight sewing machines that were not suitable for Zimbabwe but suitable for local efforts were identified. These will be exchanged with the model 66 Singers that are at BBF and are well suited for conversion to manual operation.

- b) Phil has successfully modified the solid balance wheels on some machines. This will allow them to accept the standard hand crank. This modification is exciting news since there are many more Singer machines from this era available as compared to the very old Model 66/99.
- c) Bonnie has been working with Phil and BBF on a local sewing project and has been able to leverage much of the information learned from the GEP project.
- d) Completed first draft of instructions for the Master Kit and plan to move the materials from MLUMC to Surma storage to continue project.
- e) September's focus will be preparation for a virtual fundraiser in replacement for the October sewing party.

**D. Medical Supplies - (Irina Sheyko & Wilson Nhamoinesu)**

- 1. Funds for purchase of drugs to be used in the last quarter of 2020 will be transferred in late Sept.

**E. Rural Health Clinic Rebuilds - (Ralph Duckworth & Rev Austern Chepiri/Hannah Mafunda)**

- 1. Mashambanhaka Clinic
  - a) Although the clinic was scheduled for completion by mid July, progress has been delayed because of the COVID 19 lockdown. Work does continue and Phase 1 should now be complete by 15 September. Cost of Phase 1 was \$115000.
  - b) Phase 2 completes the project and includes:

Principal component Phase 2	Amount
Toilet Block	\$16 532.98
Quadruple One Bedroomed House	\$44 966.08

Toilet Block Mothers' Waiting Home	\$16 427.98
Mothers' Waiting Home - completion of outstanding works	\$11 470.17
Borehole Siting, Drilling, equipping, tank and stands and pipework reticulation	\$22 680.88
General Services (Fencing, Landscaping etc)	\$46 909.41
Total	\$158 987.44

- c) TNC will transfer available funds of \$25,000 which will allow Phase 2 work to begin with the area chosen by Mashambanhaka.
  - d) Ralph Duckworth has submitted a grant request for \$126,597 to the United Methodist Foundation of Western Pa for completion of Mashambanhaka. The foundation has created a new fund, the "Mission Opportunity Fund" which hopes to support large grants that make a significant impact. We are not sure when we might learn if we are granted none, some, or all of the requested amount.
2. TNC and Charlie Moore's ZIM VIM organization split the \$3185 cost of a new solar water pump at Dindi. The pump was installed on July 25 and water is now running again at Dindi! TNC received messages of appreciation from Rev Austern Chepiri and Bishop Nhiwatiwa.

Dear Drew and all Friends and to the Project Coordinator Rev Chepiri

On behalf of the Zimbabwe Episcopal Area and the Zimbabwe West Annual Conference and indeed Dindi Community, allow me to express sincere thanks for restoring water supply at Dindi Clinic. Without water Dindi clinic had lost the essence of its existence. You have done so much for us here in the Zimbabwe Episcopal Area to a point where the word "thank you" might not convey what we feel deep down in our hearts about how dear you are to us as church leaders and to our people.

Rev Chepiri, thank you very much. If you and your team were not meticulous in the way you supervise projects, we would have since lost these dear friends. Again thank you very much.

To name these individuals does not mean I am oblivious to the dedication you local leaders give in seeing that these installations are managed well. I say to you all thank you very much.

Grace and Peace

Bishop Nhiwatiwa

#### **F. Medical & Hospital Support - (Sue Bower & Dr Larry Tanyanyiwa)**

1. Nyadire has tested 359 people for COVID and received results for 139. Fifty tested positive, but none were hospitalized and most were asymptomatic or with mild symptoms. The Teacher's College students that first tested positive were guaranteed but have now been discharged. Currently there are no active COVID cases at the mission.

### **III. Education and VIM Trips (Molly Michaels)**

#### **A. Engineers Without Borders/CMU - (Drew Harvey & Rev L. Mukundu)**

1. Fall classes began at CMU on Aug 31, with all undergraduates attending remotely for the first week. EWB meetings will be held virtually, but will take some time to organize.
2. A Biogas summary report was sent to Nyadire in May which presents different options, but has not yet received a response. Hopefully, with Nyadire schools beginning soon, this will again become active. The Nyadire mission currently has about 1/3rd of the cattle needed to produce adequate biogas for cooking all meals at the primary school.

#### **B. Sister Rut Scholarships (Molly Michael)**

1. Mifi gadget seems to be the best way for scholarship students to have economical internet access. Two students are currently using them.
2. The Rotary Annual Chicken Dinner will NOT be held this year.
3. Graduation at Nyadire Teachers College will be postponed for Kudakwashe Mbozvi and Progress Mutandwa. Graduation fees were sent.
4. Tabudirira students (Beauty, Alice, Winnet, and Godknows) are now home at the Home of Hope. Godknows Mapika is doing his attachment (internship) at Nyadire Teachers College. Winnet will start her attachment very soon.
5. Tinashe Mapfumbidze is staying in Gweru during the Coronavirus shut-downs, doing work online.

6. Tsungirai Makoni's attachment in Harare has resumed.
7. Champion Mujuru has indicated that his exams will be the end of July. He had been able to do his online studies at NTC.
8. Lovemore Mbozvi's program of Mining Engineering will be totally online.
9. Bernard Madyauta is back in Harare & doing classes via Google Classroom.
10. Fungai Chigumbura is in Harare doing online studies, via Google Classroom.
11. Maryleen Dandira has reported that Nyadire Teachers College is to re-open in September.
12. New recipients:
  - a) Lorraine Kapembeza: Africa University, Accounting; studies began two weeks ago online.
  - b) Ruth Makoni: HOHO/O-Levels/A-Levels: Catholic University, Business Management and Information Technology; tuition sent August 2020
  - c) Takunda Pedzai: Midland States University, Human Resources Management
  - d) Raymond Chimbwanda: HOHO/O-levels/A-levels: University of Zimbabwe, Mining & Mineral Engineering - will wait till next semester
  - e) Panashe Mafemera: O-levels/A-levels: University of Zimbabwe, Sociology, Market Research Analyst (tuition only) - waiting for next semester
  - f) Angeline Mujuru (Champion's sister): O-levels: Tabudirira Vocational Centre, Agriculture
  - g) Lorraine Chipembere (Fradreck's daughter): O-levels: Tabudirira Vocational Centre, Agriculture
  - h) Stephen Chadamoyo: O-levels/A-Levels: University of Zimbabwe, Pharmacology (tuition only) - waiting till next semester

**C. Hearing Innovation (Molly Michael & Tendayi Mushapaidze)**

1. Restructuring parts of the HI Program

- a) TNC will pay for 75% of the student's school/boarding costs. Parents/Nyadire are responsible for the remaining 25%
- b) Fees will be sent prior to each educational term 3x per year in RTGS
2. Molly Michael will maintain leadership of this program, though a volunteer is needed to organize and keep up to date with all sponsorships/renewals
3. Request received from Tendayi to install a borehole and irrigate property as a way of earning funds for Hearing Innovation.
4. Put together a newsletter/email for sponsors

**D. VIM Trips - Molly Michael & Rev Mukundu**

1. Although several people are interested, trip plans cannot be made until the country reopens its borders to travelers.
2. Anyone interested in leading a team in 2021/2022? Focus is on the team, empowering volunteers, & making sure everyone has a purpose. Possibilities include being a Leader, Co-Leader, or Leader Assistant. Keep in mind tasks can be delegated to team members as well!
3. Roles & Responsibilities
  - a) Scheduling/Paperwork/Logistics
  - b) Project Planning
  - c) Spiritual Leading/Team Development
  - d) Team Trainings/Preparation
4. TNC is on Instagram @thenyadireconnection

**IV. Orphans - (MB Zollars & Emmanuel Chiimba)**

- A. **Overall:** School re-opening has been delayed, but a few tertiary schools are re-opening
- B. **HOHO - Marie Hunt & E. Chiimba**



1. During lockdown: ON HOLD: work on the roof at Manhamba Primary School.
2. During lockdown: ON HOLD: pricing, purchasing, and distributing of the backpacks and school supplies in Zimbabwe.
3. Funds for 3rd term are ready to be sent as soon as word is sent about re-opening.
4. Since the 2nd term did not happen, those funds and some surplus HOHO funds will go to helping the HOHO schools re-open with materials such as thermometers, bleach, foot pedal hand washing stations, portable blackboards for outside instruction, and gloves. Masks for all students will be made with the donated machines from the GEP and purchased fabric. Each Outreach school has a teacher representative for the Outreach Program. There are 16 schools in all on the Committee. Emmanuel and Rev. Mukundu have gathered these teachers together to form the Outreach Committee. The Committee discussed the needs and drafted the list of needed items. Materials will be purchased in bulk and distributed proportionally. Next step: developing a cost list. Funds will be sent via WorldRemit.
  - a) Chairperson: Noreen Chitengu (Manhamba Primary)
  - b) Vice Chair: Tawanda Muswe (Rudawiro Primary)
  - c) Secretary: Esnath Zimbira (Nyadire Primary)
  - d) Treasurer: Nicodimus Bandira (Nyadire High School)
  - e) Finance Secretary: Fiona Chiroroma (Nyakabau Primary)

**C. HOH - Debbie Soles & E. Chiimba**

1. "Little" Tino was re-integrated by the Social Welfare Office in July. Tino turned 19 on July 18th, at which time, she was no longer allowed to live at the Home of Hope. Her "sisters" accompanied her to her grandmother's home. It was an emotional reunion for both of them. Tino will continue to be supported for food and education by the Home of Hope. She is scheduled to take her O-level exams, as soon as school re-starts. Then Tino hopes to attend Tabudirira Vocational School. God will always be by her side!

2. Additional funds are being used for mealie meal, truck tires and repairs, medical expenses.
3. HOH Rummage Sale will not be able to be scheduled at CUMC in 2020. Scheduling for 2021 is on hold.

#### D. Other

1. Sister Rut's children are well, some of whom will be helped with the TNC Hunger Relief Package.

#### V. Fund Development (Debbie Little)

- A. Considering the possibility of a "Virtual Fund Raiser" event with Nyadire patched in via ZOOM. Several good suggestions were offered and D. Little will explore the possibility with Nyadire. Timing might be Nov or Dec.

#### VI. Promotion / Communication - (Tim Wesley)

1. Preparing Hunger Appeal email for Sept. 9
2. Drafted Rotary story for local district newsletter
3. Working on October newsletter: send stories/photos/ideas
4. Website - Send updates to Tim
5. Brochures - Working on TNC overview brochure
6. Network churches - Reached out to Liberty to establish contact person
7. Lenten Calendar - exploring other uses

#### VII. Finance - (Richard Dickey)

- A. As of 07/31/2020, TNC had \$118,566 in restricted funds and \$19,571 in unrestricted. Preliminary, not final, results for 08/31/2020 has \$123,095 in restricted accounts and \$14,274 in unrestricted.
- B. Funds recently transferred
  1. \$7360 sent to Nyadire in mid August via World Remit for purchase and distribution of food for Sept

2. Aug 7 - \$7740 sent to Mashambanhaka building contractor, Hama, for payment of "Interim Payment Certificate 003". Payment 002 (\$7925) was sent July 21.
  3. \$1950 sent July 3 for doctor support for July/Aug/Sept.
  4. \$3000 transferred on July 3 to company PCD for purchase of drugs to be used in July/Aug/Sept.
  5. \$6960 transferred on July 3 to the HOH account for the July/Aug budget support. An additional \$140 previously been sent for school fees.
- C. St Paul's UMC will be sending funds for the HOH Orphanage account of \$1,872.13, and The Nyadire Hospital/ Nurses account of \$8,057.86.
- D. TNC will be sending out an appeal to raise \$45000 to cover continued food distribution at \$7360/month for six months. Hunger is the current top priority and we will consider redirecting other restricted program funds if the hunger appeal does not raise the total amount.

#### VIII. TNC Organization / Miscellaneous - (Drew Harvey)

##### A. HUNGER CRISIS

1. Food shortages and hunger throughout Zimbabwe, including Nyadire, continues as a major concern. Working with the Nyadire Social Committee, TNC has sent \$38000 and food has been distributed for June, July, August, and September. Continued food assistance is now a "minimum food bundle" of mealie meal, cooking oil, sugar, and beans which helps provide food for a family of five for one month. Cost for each bundle is \$18 and distribution is for 407 families including those who live or work at Nyadire, the pastors of Mutoko-Mudzi district, the staff of the 6 rural health clinics, and a few selected individuals.
2. TNC hopes to continue providing \$7300/month for the next six months if we can raise the funds. A funding appeal letter will be broadly distributed in early September asking people to sponsor one or more families.

3. Since the BP/USC Rotary has cancelled the annual chicken BBQ meal this year, we are also suggesting that people who normally buy these tickets donate a comparable amount to the hunger appeal.

4. Funding Priorities:

a) Additional ongoing food support at \$7300/month

b) Add solar powered borehole at the HOH to increase food production

B. HOH crops- new Solar borehole

1. Scott Sanford is working with Emmanuel Chiimba and Lincoln Nyamusara to clarify funds needed to add a second solar powered borehole at the HOH. A quotation was received totaling \$18,500 to drill the borehole, install the pump, add solar panels, and include 6 lithium batteries allowing irrigation 24 hours/day. However, there is concern that the batteries and solar panels should be increased to insure 24 hour operation with no contribution from the grid, ZESA. Lincoln is reviewing the quote with the vendor and will advise.

C. Jim Howell has provided an article expected to be included with the upcoming Rotary District 7305 newsletter. This newsletter goes to all Rotary clubs in the Pittsburgh area and offers clubs the opportunity of working with TNC on the Hunger Response for Nyadire (or other programs). Sandy McKnight is working with the Hampton Township Rotary as they have already expressed interest.

D. Christmas Connection - Christmas cards are now complete and stored with JM Simmons at CUMC. We will transport to Nyadire at the first opportunity. D Harvey has TNC cards that will be sent to US based supporters.

E. Steve McPherson continues to work on providing a tractor for the HOH. He has rebuilt a donated tractor that could possibly be sent to Nyadire via BFF container. Steve is evaluating the option of selling the tractor here and utilizing the funds to purchase a used tractor in Zimbabwe.

- F. Nyadire Maintenance/Workshop - Christopher Kuwana recently issued a status report of their work - excellent maintenance of many vehicles, construction of a new house for the Station Chairperson, support to the mission water system, maintenance of several solar systems, and recently the development and construction of a hand washing/sanitizing station.
- G. Jessica Speer, who has been to Zimbabwe with the Immersion Program, is now the leader of the Outreach Committee at Baldwin Community UMC.
- H. Charlie Moore's ZIM VIM team continues to support major improvements at HANWA mission. Construction is near completion of a new Science Lab/Library Classroom Block and the 2nd Staff/Guest house. They have also supported water projects, food distribution, and malaria relief in the Hanwa and Dindi areas. Funds are being raised for additional projects bringing the total budget to \$114,511.

## IX Recent and Upcoming Events

- Mar 1 - Construction begins on rebuild of Mashambanhaka
- early March- Both containers arrive at Nyadire
- Mar 30 -Ongoing COVID19 Lockdown initiated throughout Zimbabwe.
- May 21 - 29 - Hunger Relief funding appeal and Nyadire food distribution
- June 4 - Food distributed at Nyadire for 329 families
- July 6 - Food distributed at Nyadire for 407 families
- July 25 - Replacement Solar Water Pump installed at Dindi Clinic
- July 27 - TNC Monthly ZOOM meeting
- Aug 25 - Food distributed at Nyadire for 407 families
- Aug 31 - TNC Meeting
- Sept 15 - Scheduled completion of Mashambanhaka Clinic
- Sept 28 - TNC meeting via ZOOM