

TNC Meeting Minutes

Feb. 24, 2025

Rural Health Clinics

Ralph Duckworth and Rev. Austern Chepiri

- With the dedication of Chindenga, TNC has completed its rural health clinics rebuild program, which began more than 10 years ago. Thanks to the amazing and generous support of our donors, network churches and the global UM church, the program rebuilt six clinics, which provide critical care to thousands of residents.
- Photo, left to right: Bishop Eben Nhiwatiwa, District Superintendent Heather Zisengwe and TNC Chairman Ralph Duckworth celebrated at the Chindenga dedication on Feb. 22.



Engineers Without Borders and Critical Vehicles

Kevin Riley, Christopher Kuwana, EWB CMU students, Dr. Larry and Gashi Chikonyora
Infrastructure & related items

- Starlink WiFi- no further update this month.
- Field bore hole pump replacement and solar power addition- no further update this month.
- Hospital Power Backup- A proposal to update all hospital solar arrays with new batteries and inverters (~\$20,500)- Electrical contractor Lincoln is reviewing his proposal to see if the pricing is still good from 9 months ago and to determine if it can be split into phases. Now that solar would be the primary power source, and not just a back up, he is concerned about battery stress and longevity.

Hospital Vehicles

- TNC provided \$700 this past month for water pump replacements on the two Land Cruisers and replacement of two tires that blew out on one of them.
- Sale of all “parked” vehicles at the Shop- no further update this month.

EWB (Engineers Without Borders)

- There is a conference call with EWB National next week. We are hopeful the students can obtain at least preliminary project approval so they can proceed with travel planning to Nyadire with a projected departure date of May 7.

Home of Hope, Home of Hope Outreach, Scholarships

Mary Beth Zollars

HOHO – 22 schools in all

- Fees sent for 4 students continuing on to A-levels.

S.Y.STEM

Coding Club Star: Mrs. Portia Mambwere – Math teacher at Nyadire Primary
No updates.

HOH

- **Mar/Apr funds** are being prepared.
- One new boy has arrived, bringing the total number of children to 30.
- **2 more outdoor kitchens** have been built; funds needed for appliances & silverware needed for last kitchen.
- **Quick HOH Update** sent to sponsors with video and updated contribution form. This included appeal for funds for **Triplets** born at Nyadire Hospital.
- **Collaborative and Joined Hands for the Needy:** This is a group of former HOH children who are working together to provide support for others like them. They have been helping to support each other, when issues arise.
- **Emmie Bush** (Dutilh UMC), a high school senior, held a fundraiser (refreshments and cookies) at the church talent show on February 7th. Funds will go towards new school uniforms. Estimate = over \$700.
- MB presented lessons to **Wednesday Night ChristKids** about the HOH; each week we send video messages back and forth.

SISTER RUT SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM:

MB submitted the BP-USC Rotary Grant application for the scholarship students.

Congratulations:

- **Campion Mujuru** University of Zimbabwe; medicine; passed all exams; awaiting graduation

Professional Licenses:

- **Raymond Chimbwanda**, recent graduate in Real Estate, has applied to a variety of districts and is interested in getting his real estate license. We have offered him some funding to get his license to be repaid in part and includes community service.

Finished awaiting graduation:

- **Lorraine Kapembeza:** Africa University, Accounting, 4.2, has finished all requirements and has received her transcript. Graduation next June is the next step!

Fourth Year students:

- **Tinashe Mapfumbidze**, (MSU) 4.2 student; Midland States University; Business Management; He is making up classes from last semester when he fell ill and will finish his dissertation. He completed his community service and obtained and medical documents from the clinic and academic documents from his school supervisors to qualify for tuition.
- **Rutendo Mupfawa**, University of Zimbabwe, Honours Program for Accounting and Finance; 4.2 student; Her dissertation topic: creating a model of reducing the effects of exchange rate fluctuations on trade.
- **Blessing Mabii**, accepted at Midland States University, Business Studies, 4.s, working on dissertation.

- **Panashe Mafemera:** Bindura University, Peace and Governance (tuition only) – 4.2 student.

Third Year students:

- **Nyasha Given Katema:** Zimbabwe Institute for Legal Studies. Finishing his attachment as a prosecutor; starting next-to-last term.
- **Praise Mashumba,** Midland States University, Human Resources Management (tuition only); 3.2 student, found attachment at Zimbabwe Space Agency!

Second Year:

- **Praise Josi:** (tuition only) Midland States University, Data Science, 2.2
- **Morejoy Madzika,** University of Zimbabwe, Medicine, 2.2 (tuition only)

First Year:

- **Josphat Nyatoro (HOHO):** Nyadire College of Education, 1.2
- **Precious Muripo (HOH):** Kushinga Phikelela College, electrical engineering, 1.2; attachment from August 2025-July 2026 will follow to complete program.

Graduate Students:

- **Tsungirai Makoni,** University of Zimbabwe, Actuarial Science, Masters; last of 3 semesters.

TABUDIRIRA VOCATIONAL CENTRE:

- **Onias Chengai (HOHO),** Tabudirira Vocational Centre, electrician training, attachment

NAKHIWA VOCATIONAL CENTRE:

- **Theresa Nyadembera,** attachment in 2025 pending last term's results and community service
- **Nyasha Alfabeti (HOHO),** building, started in 2024, will finish coursework in 2024

AGRICULTURAL SCHOLARSHIP:

- **Tinashe Katsuro:** agriculture at Africa University, 3.2. Current courses are: Project Appraisal and Evaluation, Pasture and Range management, Community Based Natural Resources Management, Management of Drainage Basins and Water Resources, and Ecotourism.
- **Delight Katsata:** BSC Honours Program in Crop Improvement and Seed Systems at the University of Zimbabwe, 3.2 student. Doing attachment at Kutsaga Research.
- **Praise Tsaurai,** agricultural engineering CUT (Chinoyi University of Technology); 2.2 student. Current courses: Fluid Mechanics, Engineering Hydrology, Engineering Numerical Analysis and Modelling, Thermodynamics and Heat Transfer
- **Yvette Mutize,** Agriculture; Kashinga Phikelela Agricultural College; already completed horticulture at Kashinga Phikelela Polytechnic School; 3.2 student, doing attachment. (3-year program). Her diploma in agriculture covers five sections: agri-business, animal science, crop science, horticulture, and engineering. Her area of greatest interest is horticulture, followed by engineering.

NOTEWORTHY:

Stephen Chadamoyo has paid off his **loan** for his physiotherapy license.

Possible new candidates:

- **Joseph Visent**, Midland States University, Accounting (on hold)
- **Malvin Katsande**, Speciss, IT & Secretarial School, Harare (on hold)
- **Kudakwashe Nyamunda**, Nyadire College of Education (on hold)
- **Jeremiah Nyabote**, Nyadire College of Education (on hold)
- **Vimbai Kativhu**, AG, Kashinga Phikelela Polytechnic School (on hold)
- **Gamuchirai Chidsvondo**, AG (on hold)
- **Matilda Matirasa**, AG (on hold)
- **Tawanda Makope**, (one of Sister Rut's children), IT, August intake
- **Ashmore Chitsuro**, (HOHO), Nyadire College of Education, August intake

Craft Sales:

- Spring Craft Fair at Christ Church, Sat., April 26, 9:30-3. Looking for volunteers.

VIM

Molly Michael/Mary Beth Zollars

- MBZ needs a co-leader, in order to lead a team next summer (June-ish) 2025.
- Emmanuel welcomes the idea of a team coming during the school holidays, as well.
- Deborah is considering leading an H-I trip in June/July 2025.

Communications

Tim Wesley

- Chindenga clinic dedication publicity
 - UMNews and WPAUMC
 - Newspapers: PG, Butler Eagle, Beaver County Times
 - Magazines: Mt. Lebanon, Pitt and CMU alumni
 - Dutilh pulpit announcement
- March newsletter deadline: Friday, March 7
- Network churches
 - Christ Church: Expanded presence
 - Mt. Lebanon: Submitted GEP article for newsletter
- TNC 20th anniversary, 2026
 - Debbie Little leading planning team ... will need others to join
 - Tentative date: April 2026; location to be determined
- TNC Social: June 8, 2-5 pm, hosted by Kevin and Linda Riley (details to come)
- Leah Swineford at Nyadire: Story on website and in newsletter

Next Zoom call meeting: Monday, March 24, 6:30 pm