

TNC Meeting Minutes -Dec 28, 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
6. Orphans - MB Zollars
 - HOH; HOHO
7. Fund Development - Debbie Little
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10. TNC Organization / Misc - D Harvey

Next TNC Meeting - Monday, Jan 25 - again via ZOOM

TNC Meeting Minutes

Dec 28, 2020 - remote meeting via ZOOM

I. General

- A. Zimbabwe reported 9950 COVID cases and 276 deaths a month ago at our last TNC meeting. Cases have increased to 11246 and deaths to 307 as of 12/26. The COVID lockdown that began March 30 continues.
- B. South Africa is experiencing a rapid increase of the new COVID variant with cases now exceeding 1 million. There is great concern of spread to neighboring countries and Dr Larry reports that cases are increasing strongly in Harare and Bulawayo.
- C. Most parts of the country have started planting given the recent improvements in rainfall. Supply of maize grain on the formal markets remained critically low,
- D. The Zimbabwe Episcopal Area announced the 2021 appointments. The individuals and leaders for Nyadire were mostly reappointed.
- E. Tragically, Mrs Martha Nyamayro (HR person at Nyadire hospital) and her 3 daughters were killed on Dec 22 in an auto accident close to Harare. Her husband subsequently died on Christmas Day. A school age son survived but remains in the hospital. Burial at Nyadire was Dec 26.

II. Health -

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

- 1. No shipments to Zimbabwe are currently planned, but hopefully we can schedule something for mid 2021.
- 2. Weed Whacker cord to be included, as well as GEP materials, sewing machines, medical supplies, blankets/caps from St Paul's, eyeglasses, and various books.

3. BBF awaits a response from the UMC General Board of Global Ministries about the shipment of 2 containers to the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Global Health has a program to rebuild health clinics and BBF hopes to provide several containers of furnishings and supplies.

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

1. Several bags of eyeglasses are now at CUMC, and also with D Harvey, D. Little, MB Zollars & Marie Hunt. Don Z will coordinate a collection time and deliver them to Mission Vision.
2. Don Z and Dr. Larry plan to bring the team together for advanced training, followed by conducting an eyeglass clinic at Nyadire, and perhaps one of the Rural Health Clinics. This will be after the COVID lockdown subsides and the team is able to safely travel.
3. Dr. Larry will offer a new Nyadire-based cadre or nurse to be involved in future training and local leadership of the Eyeglasses program.
4. Don will update the training material and then send to Nyadire or Harare for printing (via email, flash drive or other). Key team members (Head Nurse Primrose, Nurse Paul Chibanda & Driver Artwell) will conduct the training and certification, under Don's remote leadership.
5. Depending on travel possibilities, Don, and perhaps his wife Judy, hope to return to Nyadire with a VIM team in June, late July or August.
6. Thanks to all who collect Eyeglasses for the program, and also those interested in helping Mission Vision clean and process the eyeglasses.
7. Recommended - "End of The Spear", a book and video by Steve Saint

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

1. Program currently active at the Waiting Mother's Homes. Many other aspects are somewhat on hold due to COVID lockdown restrictions.

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

1. After Nyadire's confirmation, TNC will transfer \$3000 to company PCD for medicine procurement for use at Nyadire in the first quarter, 2021.

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

1. Mashambanhaka Clinic

- a) Phase 1 work at Mashambanhaka is complete at a cost of about \$113000 which is ~\$2000 under budget. This phase provided a new OPD / Maternity Building, MCH Waiting Area and the new Duplex Two Bedroomed House"
- b) TNC received a \$25000 grant from the United Methodist Foundation of Western Pa and an additional \$25000 was awarded as a Challenge Grant.
- c) A "Virtual Fundraising Event" webinar was held on Dec 2 as the primary effort to raise \$25K and therefore receive the additional \$25K matching grant. Our story was told using videos of eight individuals from Zimbabwe which are edited together with videos from Rev T. Parkinson, D. Harvey, and R. Duckworth. Debbie Little was the "live host". Matt Cosgrove of Dutilh UMC did an excellent job of editing and linking the videos into a common story. The event was attended by 55 people and was very successful. Funds continue to arrive, but we exceeded the \$25K target and the Western Pa UMC Foundation has awarded the matching \$25K.
- d) Considering the initial \$25K grant and available TNC funds, Phase 2.1 and 2.2 totaling \$50000 was initiated and is active. This work will complete the Duplex House, will construct much of the new Quadruple House, complete the Mother's Waiting House, provide the new Waste Management Pit and the elevated Water Storage Tanks.
- e) The cost estimate of Phase 2, which completes the project, is \$158987. Considering funds recently raised, and the \$47,611 al-

ready sent for phase 2, TNC needs to raise less than \$20000 to complete the rebuild on Mashambanhaka.

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

1. Hannah Mafunda has received a grant for improvements of the 3 UMC hospitals. Plans for Nyadire include:
 - a) Blood bank fridge, ordinary fridge, centrifuge machine, water bath, rocker, viral load machine
 - b) Operating Theatre bed, Operating Theatre light, Anesthetic machine, Diathermy machine, Suction machine (double bottle), 2 Operating Theatre trolleys, 3 incubators, DDA cupboards, Resuscitator, Defibrillator, ECG monitor
 - c) Infrastructure upgrades to the operating theater, kitchen & incinerator. Nyadire will provide bricks, river/pit sand, & river stones.
 - d) New kitchen equipment and laundry machines

III. Education and VIM Trips (Molly Michaels)

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

1. Quotations from 2 Zimbabwe companies for supply of a BioGas Cooking System for the Primary School were received and reviewed. The decision is to place the order with the company of Blessing Jonga and Lewis Makurumure. However, the digester contract will not be formalized until a test is completed at Nyadire to demonstrate the amount of cow waste that can be collected as feed for the digester.
2. Based on previous collection trials, there is only enough cow waste available to feed a digester sized to cook 1/3 of the total meals required. However, this number can be greatly improved by bringing all cattle together in one place, installing a concrete floor in the corral, improving the collection system, and other methods. A message was sent to Nyadire asking them to design & conduct a 2 week trial demonstrating the amount of cow waste that can reliably be collected. Rev Mukundu

has responded that waste may also be collected from the communities so that a full size digester can be installed. After the trial demonstrates how much waste can be collected, the digester size will be set and the purchase order finalized.

3. Schedule for completion of the BioGas Primary School Cooking System is Aug 2021.

B. Sister Rut Scholarships (Molly Michael)

1. John Sperry has engaged with us in building an agricultural aspect of the Scholarship Program. Precious Muripo is the first potential candidate. She aspires to attend a college with a strong agricultural program. A scholarship specific to Agriculture could be created and opened up to more students. More discussion needed.
2. Beauty (HOH/Tabudirira) on attachment at Mutoko Luxury Lodges (hospitality).
3. Winnet (HOH/Tabudirira) is doing her attachment with a seamstress in Mutoko.
4. Godknows (HOH/Tabudirira) is awaiting results of his trade exams. He has embarked on a venture of establishing a food stand in Mutoko.
5. Tinashe Mapfumbidze(MSU) is staying in Gweru.
6. Tsungirai Makoni's attachment in Harare has resumed. She has sent a log of her community service.
7. Champion Mujuru (University of Zimbabwe) has been tasked with doing interviews (assignment from UZ) with his local hospital: Nyadire Hospital.
8. Lovemore Mbozvi's program of Mining Engineering is totally online. Exams are done. The next semester is starting in December. He is currently searching for a company for his attachment.
9. Bernard Madyauta has begun his next semester at the University of Great Zimbabwe.
10. Fungai Chigumbura has completed his exams, and is beginning his first semester of his second year.

11. Maryleen Dandira (Nyadire Teachers College) has returned to her teaching practice at Nyamhara Primary.
12. Lorraine Kapembeza: Africa University, Accounting;
13. Ruth Makoni: HOHO/O-Levels/A-Levels: Catholic University, Business Management and Information Technology.
14. Takunda Pedzai: Midland States University, Human Resources Management.
15. Raymond Chimbwanda: HOHO/O-levels/A-levels: University of Zimbabwe; Financial Economics and Trade.
16. Stephen Chadamoyo: O-levels/A-Levels: University of Zimbabwe, (tuition only); Physiotherapy.
17. On hold:
 - a) Panashe Mafemera: O-levels/A-levels: University of Zimbabwe, Sociology, Market Research Analyst (tuition only) - waiting for next semester (January 2021?)
 - b) Angeline Mujuru (Campion's sister): O-levels: Tabudirira Vocational Centre, Hotel and Catering, beginning in January 2021
 - c) Lorraine Chipembere (Fradreck's daughter): O-levels: Tabudirira Vocational Centre, Hotel and Catering, beginning in January 2021

C. Hearing Innovation (Molly Michael & Tendayi Mushapaidze)

1. Molly Michael is working to support Simbarashe for a Masters in Special Education.

D. VIM Trips - Molly Michael & Rev Mukundu

1. There is a fair amount of interest for travel summer of 2021 but all depends on COVID and possible restrictions. Molly Michael does plan to lead a team, but this will not be promoted until the travel possibilities are understood.

IV. Orphans - (MB Zollars & Emmanuel Chiimba)

A. Overall:

1. Several schools under our programs have reported that students had returned to a modified schedule. All candidates (grade 7, form 4, and form 6) attended 5 days a week. The younger grades attended two days a week. The 2020 school year concluded the week before Christmas and the new school year of 2021 will begin shortly after New Year's. It is expected that some students will need to repeat a grade level due to the disruptions of the past year.

B. HOHO - Marie Hunt & E. Chiimba

1. During lockdown: ON HOLD: work on the roof at Manhembra Primary School. Rev. Mukundu has agreed to get an update.
2. During lockdown: ON HOLD: pricing, purchasing, and distributing of the backpacks and school supplies in Zimbabwe.
3. Estimated funds for Term 1 - 2021 will be sent soon. Exact numbers of students may not be available until well into February.
4. More photos of the Outreach Schools in action have been shared and posted on TNC's Facebook page, highlighting Nyadire, Nyakabau, and Manhembra.
5. Outreach Committee for HOHO Schools
 - a) Chairperson: Noreen Chitengu (Manhembra Primary)
 - b) Vice Chair: Tawanda Muswe (Rudawiro Primary)
 - c) Secretary: Esnath Zimbira (Nyadire Primary)
 - d) Treasurer: Nicodemus Bandira (Nyadire High School)
 - e) Finance Secretary: Fiona Chiroroma (Nyakabau Primary)

C. HOH - Debbie Soles & E. Chiimba

1. A December 2020 Update for the sponsors was sent out.
2. Precious Muripo is currently staying with Elina Nyabote, in a sort of foster situation. Social Welfare is supposed to be looking for Precious' family.

3. Emmanuel would like us to consider Lindarose for support for graduate work. He feels that she has great commitment and energy for the Home of Hope.
4. The United Methodist Church of Finland has contacted us regarding some funds to go to a playground.
5. 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. A "Virtual Fund Raiser" webinar was held on Dec 2 and was viewed by about 55 people. The 1 hour program included Rev Tom Parkinson of Dutilh UMC, D. Little, D. Harvey, R. Duckworth and 8 individuals from Zimbabwe. Matt Cosgrove of Dutilh UMC was invaluable as he edited and organized the videos. The objective was to raise \$25,000 for the Mashambanhaka Clinic rebuild in order to receive matching funds of \$25000 from a challenge grant by the UM Foundation, and we raised considerably more than the target.

1. We advised the Wester PA UMC Foundation on Dec 10 that we met the target and they have now awarded the additional \$25,000.
2. The webinar video can be viewed at:

https://dentons.zoom.us/rec/share/nK7r6D_8G-7AEJw1xVK8PKvxEML3_Ria-O2fkcuP7OgCIVYT7340TPOE_eZiXevdg.xUvUpvnj9tSPVKq9

VI. Promotion / Communication - (Tim Wesley)

- A. Follow-up communications from Dec. 2 fundraiser for clinics
- B. Next newsletter: January

C. New feature: program leader profiles

D. Website - Send updates to Tim

E. Article in the United Methodist News Service about "Keeping Water Flowing at Church Missions", including TNC's work at Nyadire:

<https://www.umnews.org/en/news/keeping-water-flowing-at-churchmissions>

VII. Finance - (Richard Dickey)

A. As of 11/30/2020, TNC had \$110,922 in restricted funds and \$70,351 in unrestricted. Preliminary, not final, results for 12/31/2020 has \$162,564 in restricted accounts and \$61,607 in unrestricted.

B. \$3100 coming from St Paul's for Mashambanhaka.

C. Funds recently transferred

1. Dec 28 - \$8200 transferred to the new Hunger Account for Jan food distribution. Receipt confirmed with a \$30 banking fee withheld
2. Dec 18 - \$200 sent as a trial to the new account established for food purchase. Receipt confirmed
3. Dec 14 - \$6200 to Hamadziripi Nyakudanga for completion of Interim Payment Certificate No 5 of the Mashambanhaka Rebuild
4. Dec 7 - \$2200 sent via World Remit to C. Kuwana to connect small bore-hole to mission reservoir
5. Nov 27 - \$600 sent via World Remit to C. Kuwana (phone/computer)
6. Nov 24 - \$8100 sent via World Remit for December Food Distribution
7. Nov 23 - \$700 to HOH account for HOHO, scholarship exam fees, medical needs)

D. Although the annual budget is not yet approved, CUMC Outreach has proposed line items for "Nyadire Medical Support" and "Rural Clinic Support"

VIII. TNC Organization / Miscellaneous - (Drew Harvey)

A. HUNGER CRISIS

1. Food shortages and hunger continue and our food distribution program will continue until at least April. Recent rains bring promise of upcoming better harvests. Working with the Nyadire Social Committee, TNC has now sent \$68,800 for food distribution in June, July, August, September, Oct., Nov., Dec., & Jan. (8 months) Funds have been sent and the Jan food will be distributed the first week of Jan. A "minimum food bundle" of mealie meal, cooking oil, sugar, and beans helps provide food for a family of five for one month and cost \$20/bundle. 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. Supporters continue to respond generously to TNC's Hunger Fund appeal letter sent on Sept 9. Approximately \$8200 is sent each month and the Social Committee then purchases and distributes the food.
3. A "Foreign Currency Account" has now been set up and TNC will use this to transfer funds for food purchases rather than World Remit.
4. The Finnish UMC advised they have collected \$3000 from the country's free churches for Hunger which they will send to TNC for inclusion in our food purchase funds transfers.
5. Christ UMC dedicates its Thanksgiving offering to hunger related programs. A video for the congregation was made which included Christopher Kuwana speaking from Nyadire. This portion of the video is shown on the link between 1:12 and 5:00. https://www.christumc.net/content.cfm?id=213&download_id=1643 Total proceeds are split among 3 organizations and TNC Hunger will receive \$2000.
6. As of Dec 28, the hunger fund has \$24,157 with expectations of receiving an additional \$3000 from UMC Finland and \$2000 from CUMC which brings this total to \$29,157.

7. We will advise the Nyadire Social Committee of remaining funds and ask for their recommendation for how the program should end.

B. Nyadire Water Situation

1. Nyadire and much of Zimbabwe is now receiving excellent rains almost every day which has replenished aquifers, rivers, and enabled effective planting.
 2. The second HOH borehole was drilled to 92 meters, later flushed to improve production, connected to ZESA, and connected to the HOH. We are considering placing Solar on this borehole to minimize ZESA expense and to make pumping possible when ZESA is not available.
 3. Jimmy Vanderschuur funded a new 1.5hp motor to add a pump to a borehole that was not in service. TNC then sent \$2200 to purchase 50mm pipe and bury it in trenches to connect this pump to the mission reservoir. This additional amount of water has made water generally available throughout the mission.
- C. Scott Sanford provided information to E. Chiimba on grain storage bags that can prevent insect infestation of stored grains. Emmanuel needs 300 bags and is checking the price. Bags are sold out of Malawi.
- D. Christmas Connection - Nyadire Christmas cards for 2020 are stored with JM Simmons at CUMC. However, we may not be able to transport the cards to Nyadire until team travel this summer. Marie Hunt updated the domestic list of TNC supporters and sent out 75 Christmas Cards from TNC. Card were donated by the CUMC card ministry.
- E. "Stitching Together" at St Pauls' UMC has replaced "Creative Hands" which was led by Barb Greway for many years. They are discussing how to continue their support to TNC with the baby blankets/caps, the Lenten Calendar, and possible financial support.

1. Barb Greway will organize a Lenten Calendar around Rural Health Clinic Support. The calendar will be used at St Pauls' but also made available to all TNC Network Churches.

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 thru Jan - Food bundles distributed to 407 Nyadire families
- Sept 9 - Appeal letter sent out asking for donations to Hunger
- Mid Sept - Phase 1 of Mashambanhaka Clinic complete
- Sept 28 - TNC receives \$25000 grant & \$25000 challenge grant for Mashambanhaka Clinic from UM Foundation of Western Pa
- Nov 30 - TNC Meeting via ZOOM
- Jan thru April, 2021 - Monthly food distribution at Nyadire
- Dec 1 - Western Pa UMC Partnership Meeting. MBZ attended
- Dec 2 - Virtual Fund Raising Event for Mashambanhaka Clinic
- Dec 28 - TNC meeting
- early January - Monthly food distribution at Nyadire
- Jan 25 - TNC meeting
- Aug 2021 - installation of BioGas Digester at Nyadire Primary

TNC Summary 2020

General / Overall Mission

- Situation in Zimbabwe very challenging throughout 2020 - perhaps the worst year since TNC began in 2006. Extraordinary inflation, 90% unemployment, country wide food shortages and hunger, COVID lockdown since Mar 30, school outage, drought and water shortage.
- Very productive visit by E. Chiimba to Pittsburgh in Nov/Dec 2019
- Created Nyadire Social Committee and HOHO school outreach committees
- Fish Farming evaluated and considered not financially viable at this time
- HUNGER - Major priority became Hunger - extremely generous response to appeal enabling monthly distribution of food bundles to 410 families. Program began in June and is expected to continue at \$8000/month thru April, 2021
- WATER - Due to drought & electrical outages, water shortages became a major problem. Added Solar to 2 major mission boreholes and connected a smaller borehole to mission reservoir. Added Solar to 1st HOH borehole & drilled a 2nd new HOH borehole
- TNC's "network" of churches continues to grow with commitment and effectiveness

Health

- 2 containers arrived March, filled with very specifically chosen items
- CLINICS - Completed Dindi and Phase 1 of Mashambanhaka. Dutilh UMC raised major funds by dedicating a percentage of their capital campaign to Mashambanhaka. Very successful Dec 2 "Cash for Clinics Webinar" raised funds and work begun on Phase 2. More than 90% of total funds required (\$274K) to rebuild Mashambanhaka raised.
- Sent ~\$15K for drug purchases. Continued funding stipend for Nyadire Doctor
- Many GEP kits and sewing machines sent via container; Classes held at several clinics & schools. Although somewhat "paused" due to COVID, the GEP program has gained ac-

ceptance and is effectively providing reusable sanitary products for many girls & women

- Also somewhat "paused", the eyeglass program has a trained team in Zimbabwe prepared to conduct clinics and distribute large numbers of eyeglasses.

Education / VIM Trips

- Excellent Nyadire visit Feb 5-21 by MB Zollars, S. McKnight, D. Welty; Other VIM trips planned for 2020 cancelled due to COVID
- EWB - solar street lights continue to work very well. BioGas cooking system for primary school now defined and should be implemented by Aug 2021
- Scholarships enabling ~ 20 students to continue tertiary education. Due to exchange rates, school fees were relatively low.
- Continued support of ~ 20 HI students

Orphans

- Continued support to HOH - providing perhaps 75% of monthly operating budget (about \$45000 for 2020)
- Continue keeping ~ 425 students in school thru HOHO sponsors Approximately \$50,000 was sent in 2020 for HOHO fees and HI fees.
- Funded purchase of materials enabling HOHO schools to safely reopen after COVID lockdown

Fund Development / Communication

- "Go Fund Me" page created for Mashambanhaka. Very successful "Cash for Clinics Webinar" held Dec 2
- Four excellent newsletters distributed. Website improved. Brochures updated. Several effective articles featuring TNC in the Post Gazette, UMC newsletters, & others.