

## TNC Minutes March 21,2022

### Opening Prayer

### Communications Tim Wesley

- Promoting June/July mission trip with conference, Zimbabwe Partnership and network churches
- Updating website and Facebook
- Website now "secure" If anyone is getting a message from security software that the website is unsafe, please report this to Tim Wesley at [timwesley61@zoominternet.net](mailto:timwesley61@zoominternet.net) or reply to Sandy McKnight's email
- Sharing "opportunities to serve" with key audiences
- Working with team to prepare for Dutilh's sponsorship focus
- Beginning work on next newsletter (May)
- Please submit leadership profile

### Accounting Karen Cahall

March payments to date:

- \$12,750 to Nyadire HOH from Scholarship (\$160 for Teachers College), HOH (\$11590 for Outreach Schools and Bank fees), and HOHO (\$1000 for goat project)
- \$10,686 to Brother's Brother Foundation for the container storage and demurrage fees
- \$695 for half payment for repair of chemical analyzer
  
- Total: \$24,131

Christmas Cards To Nyadire and year end thank you cards for supporters: Marie Hunt

### Faith Geer Memorial Eyeglasses Program Don Ziegler, Dr. Larry Tanyanyiwa & Zimbabwean Clinic Technicians

- Natalie Geer announced as interim leader. She expressed her gratitude for the program being named after her mother, Faith Geer. The search for a permanent leader will continue, as Natalie has many other commitments.
- Don is stepping down as program leader but will continue to provide valuable training to new leadership and prepare for future eyeglasses clinics.
- The team in Zimbabwe has been informed of potential new leader.

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- Don expressed his thanks to Drew and others for the opportunity to serve in promoting better eye health and vision in Zimbabwe. A debt of gratitude is owed Don for his hard work in establishing and running this program. Thanks, Don!
- Funds Available: Dr Larry has confirmed that \$850 (in US dollars) remains at Nyadire for future Eyeglasses Clinics. There are \$2,115 in the vision account with TNC, for a total currently available funds of \$2,965. VBX, the Vacation Bible Experience, has awarded their July offerings of approximately \$750 to the program. An additional \$250 will be necessary to carry out the next clinic. A second clinic should be held in 2022, requiring an additional \$4,000.
- Don to share with Natalie the contact info for someone at VBX
- Next eyeglasses clinic will be held based on the availability of Nurse Paul Chibanda. A nurse trained in the eyeglasses clinic process must attend clinics at the request of Dr. Larry for reasons of liability. Nurse Paul will likely not be available until after the June/July VIM team based on his current workload at Nyahuku rural medical clinic.
- St. Paul's Eyeglasses Processing – Team at St. Paul's continues to do an outstanding job under the leadership of Kathy Belcastro with both the cleaning and processing of eyeglasses using the lens meter. Future transportation and disposition of eyeglasses will be coordinated by Terry Snider of Mission Vision and Nick Kokales of the Oakmont Lions Club.
- Lens meter System for CUMU – Marie Hunt is working with Terry Snider of Mission Vision.
- Brothers Brother Foundation's Role in Eyeglasses Inventory: BBF will accept and store eyeglasses for Mission Vision and TNC future use. Deliveries and pickups at BBF should be coordinated through Terry Snider.
- Lions Club Role in Eyeglasses – The Secretary of Oakmont Lions Club (of which Don Ziegler is a member), is coordinating the cleaning of used donated eyeglasses collected by the Lions Club. Nick Kokales, the Secretary, is coordinating the cleaning and collection of eyeglasses for District 14B (42 Lions Clubs), the district which is lead currently by Maryanne Belles. Maryanne was formerly an active TNC member at Baldwin UMC with Molly Michael. We also

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have a team of 5 lead by Nick & Don that focus on the Lions eyeglasses program.

- Dr. Christopher (Chris) Kumora has introduced himself to TNC via email and expressed interest in helping with the program. He is an optometrist living in UMP district (Mashonaland East / Murewah) "specifically Katiyo just before Mutawatawa". Dr. Kumora has been in private practice and public health for 25 years and is involved with various optometrical associations and the Lions Club, Harare, West. Dr. Larry says this could be a person helpful to the eyeglasses program. Molly Michael plans to be in touch with him to arrange for him to meet the June VIM team and Dr. Larry.

### Clinics Ralph Duckworth, Austern Chepiri, Hannah Mafunda

- Sent a list of questions and comments regarding the Chindenga Clinic budget and cost estimates to the Conference Center Team in Harare
- Submitted a grant request to the United Methodist Foundation of PA. We should hear in June whether or not we will receive a grant.
- Received an individual donation of \$10,000 for the clinic.

### Hearing Innovation Molly Michael & Tendayi Mushapaidze

- Events
  - A Boarding Kit donation will be facilitated through BCUMC in May. A group through Paradise UMC may also assist (connection is through GEP with Bonnie Lawson).
  - Sponsorship Event will be facilitate at Dutilh in May and BCUMC in August
- Updates:
  - HI received their computer cart from Computer Reach. Simbarashe sent photos of the students exploring their new technology.
  - Simbarashe has purchased 24 chicks for his broiler project through his Master's studies. The university encouraged learners to find sponsors for a kickstart community project which will sustain an educational type purpose. Proceeds will be channeled towards needs for the HI unit such as uniforms/materials.
- Goals
  - Conduct another ENT clinic at Nyadire as well as hearing testing
  - Network in the Pittsburgh area to establish relationships and connections with local groups that provide resources for persons with hearing needs or the Deaf community

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- 2022 Field/day trip with the HI Students
- Visit the Beatrice Vocational Center which is a government sponsored vocational unit which trains adults with a disability in a course of their choosing. This would be a great tertiary opportunity for the HI Students/Scholarship Program.
- Visit Emerald Hill.
- Follow up on the students who leveled out from the HI Program and determine how TNC can continue to assist if needed
- Evaluate how the Solar Powered Hearing aids have held up long term. Encourage the school to host a workshop for students & parents. Possibly get more for 2023? Research support networks.
- Evaluate the way TNC supports the HI Unit at Nyadire financially. Explore options.

### Mutoko Special Education Program Molly Michael & Joseph Muzondo

- This is an outreach sponsorship program which serves students with varying disabilities such as an intellectual disability. The sponsorship cost will be \$50 annually.
- A publication has been created for this program. It is a lower cost option compared to the HI program
- Molly to visit Mutoko primary and meet with Joseph during the summer 2022 trip. School supplies will be delivered.

### Volunteers in Mission Molly Michael & Reverend Mukundu

- Molly will lead a 3 week late June/early July 2022 team to Nyadire, Zimbabwe. Many people are uncertain, but interested (about 10 people not including STEM - mostly returning volunteers).
- Tentative dates: June 16 - July 7 (some volunteers may travel for 2 weeks)
  - An optional weekend safari will be planned
  - Project Planning sessions will unfold as the team develops
  - Molly is putting together a donation list so the team can start to ask for and collect donations - waiting to hear back about needs at the clinics.
    - Hand knitted caps donated by Diane Morris
    - "Dress A Girl" dresses & britches
    - Molly's school has donated supplies for teachers & students
    - Mary Kay Miller, an HI Sponsor, is collected Hearing Aids
- Molly has been in contact with Pastor Tom regarding next steps to forming another VIM Team at Dutilh

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- If you are interested in leading or co-leading a future team, please let me know.
  - Upcoming VIM Leader Trainings (<https://www.wpaumc.org/VIMTraining>):
    - April 16, 2022 Virtual

### Hospital / Pharmacy Mark LaRosa & Dr. Larry Tanyanyiwa

- **Prioritization:**

Dr. Larry provided a prioritization of the Hospital related projects. #1 is most urgent

1. Chemical Analyzer Repairs \$1390
2. Mortuary Repairs \$1660
3. School of Nursing Ceiling Repairs \$ 9973
4. Vehicle Repairs TBD
5. Solar Power Battery Repairs TBD

- For review and consideration Mark also received from Hannah Mafunda, a copy of the "Report on the Update of General and Medical Equipment at the Nyadire Mission Hospital prepared by Engineer Director Tawanda Mushiri (Consultant Biomedical Engineering) as of 5/21/29 (May 29, 2021)." This will be considered for projects.

- **Chemical Analyzer:**

The Funds were sent to Rapid Healthcare to start repairs on the Chemical Analyzer. ½ of the estimate was sent on 3/16, and the balance will be sent upon completion.

- **Biomedical Engineer and University Students:**

According to Hannah Mafunda, they are currently working with a consultant from one of the major universities in Zimbabwe. He is a Biomedical Engineer and is consulting for the Episcopal Area Health Board. He has been introduced to the three hospitals and he is aware of all the equipment that needs to be repaired at the three hospitals. In addition, they have agreed to include students from the university to help him on these projects, as well as any other work that the hospital executives deem necessary.

He will train the hospital maintenance teams to carry out repairs as well as the installation of the equipment that the health board is procuring under our current HSS grant for the three hospitals.

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- Nursing School:

Hannah Mafunda reports that negotiations with contractors regarding the ceiling repairs has resulted in a major setback with one of the contractors who was doing the kitchen renovations. His performance is unsatisfactory, and a different contractor is being considered to finish the kitchen. A different contractor may be needed to do the ceiling work.

- Solar Panels: No update

- Vehicle for Mobile Clinics: No update

- Other:

The quarterly pharmaceutical funding of \$3000 through PCD will be due in April. Dr. Larry's quarterly stipend of \$2250 is also due end of the 1st quarter.

### HOH, HOHO, Scholarship Program Mary Beth Zollars, Emmanuel Chiimba HOH

- May opportunity to offer sponsorships at Dutilh UMC May 8 and May 15, 2022.
- UMW will be hosting a golf outing in September 2022. 50% of the proceeds will benefit the HOH (perhaps \$5,000- 10,000 contribution).
- Upper St. Clair/ Bethel Park Rotary has granted \$5,000 of funds raised from their 2021 fall chicken dinner fund raiser. \*\* Night of giving presentation to be made by Mary Beth Zollars and possibly other TNC members.
- ZIM-Partnership meeting was canceled due to lack of participation. Rescheduled meeting was just an introduction of new participants. Ralph Duckworth was in attendance to introduce himself and present the case for funding for the clinics. Next meeting: Thursday, April 21, 6:30pm.
- Rev. Godfrey Gomunyu is pastor in charge. Rev. Jongpin Nyakusendwa is chaplain. D.S. is Rev. Heather J. Zisengwe. The first two are in need of laptops. One is already being donated. A second one could be purchased through ComputerReach.

### Home Of Hope Outreach (HOHO)

- Tinashe Chiimba and Lindarose Chibinge responsible for pricing, purchasing, and distribution of backpacks and school supplies in Zimbabwe.
- School fees have been sent for Term 1.
- Outreach Committee:
  - Chairperson: Noreen Chitengu (Manhemba Primary)
  - Vice Chair: Tawanda Muswe (Rudawiro Primary)

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Secretary: Esnath Zimbira (Nyadire Primary)  
Treasurer: Nicodemus Bandira (Nyadire High School)  
Finance Secretary: Fiona Chiroroma (Nyakabau Primary)

- All secondary schools and Nyadire PS and Nyadie HI have received their Pop-Up Classrooms. Thanks have been abundant. S.Y.STEM and Rev. Mukundu are researching options for reliable Wi-Fi.

### HOH

- March/April funds have been sent, along with funds for formula for the orphaned babies and donation from Christ Kids.
- Emmanuel is scouting a good source for the purchase of goats (donation from Christ Kids.)
- The HOH Rummage Sale will not take place this year.
- We are awaiting news of the 3 HOH children that were re-integrated, whether they are enrolled in school, and whether they can be added to the HOHO program.
- Two new children have been welcomed into the HOH Family. Patrick Kagonzo, 8 years old, grade 2, and a girl who is healing from wounds, who might be H-I.

### SISTER RUT SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM:

#### BIG ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Tsungirai Makoni has finished her final semester at the University of Zimbabwe in Actuarial Science!!!! Congratulations to Tsungie and all of her hard work. She is currently looking for a job and is preparing to take the first of several board exams to make her more employable in her field. Graduation has not yet been set.
- Maryleen Dandira (Nyadire Teachers College) passed her exams and is awaiting graduation. Congratulations to Maryleen! We recognize all the hard work and passion for educating children.

Laptops sent via the container have been distributed.

Rutendo Mupfawa, accepted at the University of Zimbabwe, Honours Program for Accounting and Finance; 1.2 student

Blessing Mabii, accepted at Midland States University, Business Studies, 1.2; began September 2021.

Tinashe Mapfumbidze, (MSU) 3.1 student; decided on an attachment in Gweru; Business Management

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Campion Mujuru (University of Zimbabwe; medicine; 3.1 student) doing his clinicals.

Lovemore Mbozvi on attachment with Mashava Mines near Gweru. He is studying Mining Engineering. He is a 4.2 student. His program is 5 years.

Bernard Madyauta University of Great Zimbabwe, 3:1 student; doing attachment at the Harare City Council.

Fungai Chigumbura MSU, Human Resource Management, 3:1 student, found attachment at the Ministry of Agriculture.

Lorraine Kapembeza: Africa University, Accounting. 2:2 student.

Ruth Makoni: HOHO/O-Levels/A-Levels: Catholic University, Business Management and Information Technology; 2:2 student.

Takunda Pedzai: Midland States University, Human Resources Management; 1:2 student.

Raymond Chimbwanda: HOHO/O-levels/A-levels: University of Zimbabwe; Financial Economics and Trade; 1:2 student.

Stephen Chadamoyo: O-levels/A-Levels: University of Zimbabwe, (tuition only); Physiotherapy; 1:2 student.

Panashe Mafemera: O-levels/A-levels: Bindura University, Peace and Governance (tuition only) – 1:1 student.

Nyasha Given Katema: (HOH) O-levels/A-levels: Zimbabwe Institute for Legal Studies. The school offers a variety of certificates and degrees, leading to careers from paralegal to lawyer. Nyasha will proceed from year to year, based on his interest, needs, and success. 1:2 student.

### WORK/STUDY:

Lindarose Chibinge: Lindarose is enrolled in Social Work at Midland States University for a master's degree specializing in Children's Rights and Protection. She is completing her second semester (out of 3). She has agreed to work at the HOH throughout her studies.

On hold:

Josphat Nyatoro (HOHO): O-levels: changed intention to pursuing 3 more O-level subjects in order to attend Harare Polytechnic. His scholarship will be re-visited a year from now.

Candidate: Praise Mushamba, provisionally accepted for January 2022 intake, but have no update.

### TABUDIRIRA VOCATIONAL CENTRE CANDIDATES:

Leeroy Nyamukapa (O-levels Nyadire High School); Tabudirira Vocational Centre, Building Studies, began September 2021



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Angeline Mujuru (Campion's sister) (HOHO): O-levels: Tabudirira Vocational Centre, Hotel and Catering, in last term before attachment

Lorraine Chipembere (Fradreck's daughter) (HOHO): O-levels: Tabudirira Vocational Centre, Hotel and Catering, in last term before attachment

Tinotenda Kadyautumbe (HOH): O-levels: Tabudirira Vocational Centre, Hotel and Catering, in last term before attachment

New Applicant:

Yeukai Gwati (HOHO) has applied for a scholarship to attend Tabudirira Vocational Centre in Hotel and Catering.

### AGRICULTURAL SCHOLARSHIP:

John Sperry (VIM) has engaged with us in building an agricultural aspect of the Scholarship Program.

Elvis Mtandwa has begun his training at Tabudirira Vocational Centre in agriculture. Scholarship funds have been sent.

Tinashe Katsuro has been accepted for an Agricultural Scholarship. He is looking forward to starting his studies in August 2022.

Rodney Matonga (Rev. Forbes and Nyaradzai's son) is a leading candidate for an agricultural scholarship. He seeks financial assistance in completing his diploma at Blackfordby Agricultural Institute in Agribusiness and Farm Management.

Precious Muripo (HOH) has been accepted into the Prison Officer Training Program.

### Container Shipments - Drew Harvey / Rev L. Mukundu

- The container arrived at Nyadire on Feb 16, 2022 and all items have now been distributed. No reports of damage or items missing.
- Transit time for this container was about 8 months from departure in Pittsburgh until arrival at Nyadire, which is approximately 4 months longer than normal. The container was held at the port awaiting customs clearance for about 5 months and incurred \$26,173 in storage and demurrage fees.
- Brother's Brother Foundation was able to negotiate this fee down to \$20, 686 and after much discussion, BBF offered to pay \$10,000 of the fee. TNC has paid the remainder of \$10,686.

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- TNC has sent a message to Rev Alan Gurupira, and await a response, asking for a description of why this delay occurred and what can be done to avoid such extravagant charges on future shipments.
- We have received numerous photos and videos showing examples of receipt of material and expressing great appreciation.
- At this point, TNC is not planning to organize future container shipments to Nyadire.
- Brother's Brother Foundation is now aggressively working on providing medical and humanitarian support to Ukraine. Working in partnership with Allegheny Health Network, the Pittsburgh Technology Council, Giant Eagle and others, they are shipping supplies into Ukraine and neighboring countries. Several TNC network churches are encouraging donations to BBF. BBF also presented at a St Paul's "Working For Justice" ZOOM call describing their Ukraine campaign objectives and specifically what they are doing with donated funds.
- It may be time for this program to be declared dormant and request that Hannah Mafunda work directly with BBF to send supplies to all three area hospitals.

### Engineers Without Borders - CMU Drew Harvey / Rev L. Mukundu

- The students of the EWB CMU chapter meet Wednesday evenings, with about 10 students in attendance. Students are responding to questions & comments from EWB National relative to the "Pre Implementation Report" that was submitted in December. Once this report is approved and finalized, work can proceed to place the purchase order for the bio-gas digester.
- Bio-gas digester to be installed in June or July, but this depends on obtaining eventual approvals from EWB National.
- Students expect the installation to be managed "remotely", meaning that no students would physically be in Zimbabwe to oversee installation. CMU is not allowing international student travel due to COVID concerns. However, the students are filing an "exception request" and if approved, two or three students might travel.
- The hope is for digester installation and student travel to occur in late June so that they could join the TNC team in Nyadire.
- Based on the amount of waste available, the Bio-Gas digester is expected to produce enough gas to cook ~ 38% of the required daily meals at the primary school. TNC and Scott Sanford are investigating a "high efficiency stove" sized to cook the remaining meals. This stove design could reduce wood consumption by about half of what is used with the current open fire system

### GEP Bonnie Lawson, Charity Horiro

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- Container contents distributed to the seven primary schools. Representatives traveled to Nyadire to collect the items that included "Master Kits". Each primary school received the materials for making kits. This involves cutting fabric and PUL and assembling the other items into a plastic zipper bag. Soap and sewing machine needles that were purchased in Zimbabwe were distributed. Sewing machines and other supplies were also collected by the representatives.
- The team at Nyadire Waiting mothers received their "Master Kits". They worked together to produce 233 complete kits that will be distributed to the Waiting Mothers clinics. The treadle sewing machine will be taken to Dendera.
- The team leaders provided photos of the distribution events and kit making process. Great team effort! You can find more information on our Facebook page.
- PUL (Polyurethane Fabric) sourcing: A USA manufactured material available in 50 yards bolts has been identified as a potential source. To date, efforts to obtain the specifications to facilitate order from a manufacturer in China have not been successful.
- Upon receipt of local school and clinic stock taking of GEP Kit components, a forward-looking plan will be developed. No spending is anticipated this month.
- Program fundraising is transitioning from in-kind donations (sewing parties/ kit preparations) and craft sales (limited opportunities) to cash / online appeals.

### InReach Debbie Little

- Email sent to Rev. Roncolato at Stone UMC in Meadville PA, in an attempt to get an opportunity to speak either at the church or at Allegheny College to engage congregants/ students. No response.
- Spoke with Rev. Koi-Koi of Warren UMC. He is aware that folks at Warren are interested in getting involved with TNC. He will identify a main point of contact for TNC there. Ralph also has a contact, "Jay." Follow up required.
- Ralph Duckworth to present a short children's message at St. Paul's 10:30 service this Sunday, March 27, around the theme of the Brick by Brick Lenten calendars that St. Paul's has distributed. Ralph will also provide a

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congregational mission moment presentation on Chindenga clinic and with perhaps additional information on the Eyeglasses Program and TNC's need for leadership (eyeglasses and VIM)

- Working with Karen Cahall to perfect payment method for donations/ sponsorships, especially for the Dutilh presentations in early May.

### Micro Loans

- Many thanks to Louanne Baily for investigating the potential to restart a micro loan program/ personal and business financial training program at Nyadire.
- It has been decided that now is not the time to re-start the program, for the following reasons:
  - a. Lack of leadership at TNC, Pittsburgh
  - b. Concerns of toxic charity - how do we provide funding in a way that leads to self-sustainability and rather than reliance on donations for financial investment?
  - c. Costs of the program at a time when we are starting a new clinic building project and have other, established, programs to fund
  - d. Concern that funds will not be repaid. While some borrowers in the previous micro loan program created business opportunities and repaid loans, others simply did not repay or only partially repaid loans.
- Follow-up: Are there still funds on account at Nyadire from the previous micro lending program?