



Newsletter

The Nyadire Connection (TNC), based in Pittsburgh, PA, is a faith-based non-profit volunteer organization that seeks to support and sustain the United Methodist Mission in Nyadire, Zimbabwe.

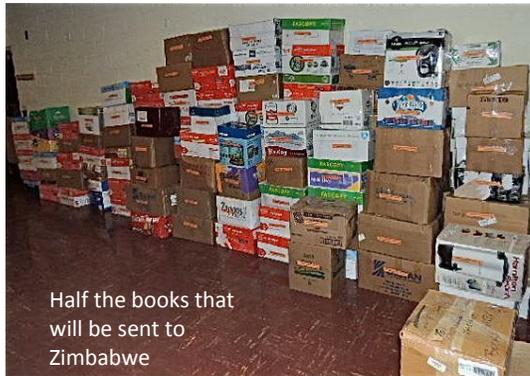
ON THE MOVE

Jessi Mazzoni and **Natalie Geer** braved a rainy cold day and icy water of the Ohio River to do the **Pittsburgh Polar Bear Plunge** on Dec. 1. The two collegians **raised \$40,084** to help the rebuilding of the rural Nyahuku Clinic. They produced a video and came up with ingenious awards through **INDIEGOGO** for the donations they received online. **WAY TO GO, GIRLS!**

For Pgh.Post-Gazette story, view [click here](#).



Jessi & Natalie



Half the books that will be sent to Zimbabwe

Books for Zimbabwe. In response to Ann and Morris Taber's volunteer program invitation, **TNC** spearheaded a book drive to collect children's books for eight school libraries in the **Mutare Region**. Coordinated by **Joan Bowser of Delmont UMC**, **30,000 books** were collected from schools, libraries, churches, reading programs, and individuals. Volunteers collected, sorted, and filled **375 cartons** which were loaded into a rented truck and driven to Ypsilanti, MI by TNC member, **Chuck Billerbeck**. **\$10 per carton** was also raised for an **IMAGINE NO MALARIA** challenge grant. **\$3,150 - WOW!**

Coordinated by TNC members **Kathy Surma** and **Linda Ambroso**, 54 volunteers gathered to understand the issue of "empowerment pads." The women, ages 5 to 87 (and 2 men!) traced patterns on fabric for reusable sanitary napkins and cut the fabric and strips that hold the liner and absorbent material inside. The group also donated and prepared elements of kits that will be delivered to girls and women will hand-sew the final product themselves. These efforts will ensure these girls do not miss school for lack of protection. [Great article in the local newspaper!](#)

Kathleen Amant & Holly Schulz



Thanks to Noel Slater, Mt. Lebanon UMC member, for the **new TNC website that was launched 11/20/14**. View the crisp, streamlined site with new features and easily found information at www.nyadire.org

The Nyadire Connection depends upon your donations, but funds are now quite low. General funds are used for specific items such as providing drugs for Nyadire's hospital, Christmas Cards for the staff, etc., but also to respond when Nyadire declares something to be urgent & high priority. Our website provides more description - www.nyadire.org. If you can help, please make checks payable to "The Nyadire Connection" and mail to: Christ UMC, 44 Highland Rd., Bethel Park, PA 15102 - Attn.: The Nyadire Connection.



NEWSMAKERS

Midwife Graduation Ceremony was held on Nov. 28. An announcement was made at the ceremony about the **Nurse Honorarium of \$1,000** by a TNC member in honor of the excellent nursing care received by her mother during a recent illness. A **solar water heater** will be installed for the student showers.

The rural **Nyamhara High School** expressed their gratitude for the gift of funds from a TNC member to build a **strong-room** (where the O-Level exams for secondary school students may be secured) and the completion of the **roof of the new secondary school**.

The **Upper St. Clair/Bethel Park Rotary Club** will award TNC a **bonus** for selling the **most tickets (456)** to their Barbeque Dinner thanks to the leadership of **Mary Kay Miller and Stellar Seller, Phil Himmler**. **Phil's Chicken Dance** persuaded many potential buyers.



Need note cards? **Marie Hunt** has created cards with **photos of Zim children and scenery**. Eight cards for \$10. Contact **Marie** - emptynest05@comcast.net

807 "O level textbooks" have been purchased by TNC since 2011 – a great help to those O level students.

This is the last time you will receive the TNC NEWSLETTER on this distribution list. THE NEXT NEWSLETTER will come to you on MAIL CHIMP.

IF YOU HAVEN'T SIGNED UP FOR MAIL CHIMP, you may do so: <http://eepurl.com/1F6RL>.

**Want to read what it's like to be in Nyadire?
On the mission trip to Victoria Falls? Read a first-hand account.
Click- [God will guide your footsteps but you must move your feet.](#)**

Drew Harvey's October Trip had a full agenda that included meetings with mission department heads and staff members of UMCOR and ZACH (facilitates shipment of containers), visits to Chikwizo and Nyahuku clinics, rural schools, and the farm. He carried over **letters** and small gifts to children at the HOH, many **letters to friends and sponsored children**, and **packets of seeds** that will be distributed to needy families. **Drew** also carried over **200 Christmas cards with \$20** enclosed and designated for mission workers, who gratefully received them.

Creative Hands Group of St. Paul's UMC raised \$3,420 at their booth of handmade items at the church's Mission Mall. In October the group raised **\$300 for Jessi and Natalie's Clinic Project at the Craft Sale.**

Kim Rhoton, Director of Christian Ed. at Mt. Lebanon UMC announced that **\$1168** was raised for the **"Brick by Brick" campaign** to refurbish the clinics. **Nyahuku** will be the next clinic to be done. It will have to be demolished before a new building is erected. Villagers have already made **540,000 bricks.**



PASTOR PARTNERSHIP SPONSORSHIPS

TNC is working to share Christ's love in the rural pastors' communities and with congregation members through the pastoral support ministry. Many of the pastors serving have made great personal sacrifice to answer God's call to ministry. In an effort to show appreciation and to offer encouragement, The Nyadire Connection pairs each pastor with a sponsor, who shares \$20 a month to supplement the pastor's meager salary. In addition, the pastor, family and work being done are lifted in prayer, and relationship is developed via various forms of communication. We ask that you prayerfully consider becoming a sponsor as part of a one-year commitment. This small token is deeply appreciated and makes a powerful difference for a brother or sister in Christ. Please become a part of this life-changing ministry. Contact Lois Swestyn - lois@swestyn.com



Emmanuel with
Tatenda

Home of Hope



Welcome to our newest little girl!

Her name is Tatenda which means "Thank you!" in Shona. Each team in 2014 got to meet Tatenda and to see her growth and adjustment and sparkle!

Tatenda came to the Home of Hope early in 2014 at the age of three. Very malnourished and underdeveloped, the mothers and aunties of the Home of Hope confessed that they were not sure if she would make it.

She is now used to having many mothers, daddies, aunties, and brothers and sisters, who care for her, hold her, and giggle when she giggles. Her language skills are slowly developing and she now calls everyone by name. The hope is that she will be able to attend the crèche (pre-school) starting in January.

She is now 4 years old, although she is tiny enough to be a 2-year old. When she was measured and weighed at the end of July, she was 9.9 kg (about 22 lbs.), almost double the weight of when she arrived. Everyone celebrated!



Jackie
Schaeffers
ZIM VIM July 2014



More Blessing
HOH Auntie



SPRING GARAGE SALE: Save your "stuff" for a garage sale to be held in April 2015 to fundraise for the HOH! More info later!

Alice, Tafadzwa, and Beauty will be going to **high school** in January. HOH highschoolers now total 11!. Extra donations towards school fees and high school uniforms are welcome!



On the bus to
Victoria Falls

Please send an extra prayer for the HOH children who have been **reintegrated** in homes of relatives recently identified as willing to have them. Upon visiting each of them, the common thread was, "Life is hard."

A heart-felt thank you to all who donated toward the safari to **Victoria Falls**. Words from the children....
Tsungi: This was a trip that we would not have had in our lifetime!

Godknows: It was grand!

Kuda: I was the flying fox over the Zambezi River!

All the children: Thank you, Pastor Austin! We love you!



Walking along Victoria Falls with
Precious (HOH child) and Virginia (HOH

If you'd like a **presentation** at your church or group regarding the HOH, School Sponsorships, or any aspect of TNC, let us know!

Home of Hope Outreach News



School Sponsorships

School Visits After two long years (2013 were elections), we visited ALL of the schools and have a complete update of the rosters!

Career Days How do you plan career days in five rural schools in a country where unemployment is sky-high? You leave it up to Emmanuel Chiimba and his knowledge of his people and the needs “his” children, and then watch it unfold. Four dynamic speakers were chosen: Nicodemus Bhandira, teacher at Nyadire High School, Rev. Naradzai Matonga, chaplain of Nyadire Hospital and Schools, Rev. Forbes Matonga, Pastor of Nyadire Mission, and Emmanuel Chiimba, administrator of the Home of Hope and the Outreach School Sponsorship Program.

Nicodemus spoke on the **IMPORTANCE OF EDUCATION** and how it is the most powerful tool to change the world. Education helps you: reach your dreams, not to be fooled by others, make informed decisions, and to know your fundamental rights. Education leads to your career, develops healthy surroundings, and reduces poverty. He reminded them of the investment that the government, families, and sponsors are making in their education. Dropping out of school results in unemployment, being a single parent, stealing for food, going to prison, teenage pregnancy, and substance abuse. The students nodded in agreement and took notes furiously.

Rev. Nyaradzai Matonga spoke about **SPIRITUAL AND MORAL INTEGRITY**. She challenged the students to determine who they are as individuals, to determine their principles and to stand strong for what is right and wrong. Her many real life examples were met with a show of hands and sometimes awkward giggles. Who am I and why am I here?

Rev. Forbes Matonga led a very interactive session on **CAREER GUIDANCE**. What do you want to be? Who do you NOT want to be? Do you know someone who is a (fill-in-the-career)? He had the students repeat, “I can be anything!” “Choice!” “My brain is not inferior to any other brain.” He gave them many examples of how the human mind can achieve unimaginable things. He talked about Mr. Snake in the story of Adam and Eve instilling doubt. He told the students to fulfill the gifts given to them by God by making good choices.

Emmanuel Chiimba dove right into the topic of **CHILD ABUSE AND SEXUAL ABUSE**. The students were riveted on him as he spoke about how abuse can be physical or emotional, and that both can hurt. He spoke about parental duties and societal duties. He encouraged them emphatically to speak out against or about sexual abuse. He and teachers are point people in the reporting of abuse.

Bible School Lessons The kids love Bible School. At each school (primary and secondary), we started with a paper-folding and tearing activity that revealed the shape of the cross. The theme was “God will guide your footsteps, but you must move your feet!” Songs and Bible verses and coloring were enjoyed by all!



Headmasters' Notes There is great gratitude for all the support and love shown by TNC. Without this support, these children would not be in school. This support also allows the schools to be the institutions that they strive to be: **EDUCATORS FOR ALL.**

A big thank you for the gift of soccer balls!



LETTERS You may always send a letter via air mail to your child:

Name of Child
School
c/o Emmanuel Chiimba-Adm. HOH
Nyadire UM Mission
Box 50
Mutoko
ZIMBABWE