

PARTNERPLAN

Keith & Ida Waddell - Zambia October 2024

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Dear Family and Friends

Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. Let each of you look not only to their own interests, but also to the interests of others.

Philippians 2:3-4

It is almost three months since we returned from furlough. There has been a regular increase in the number of hours of power cuts to the country. We returned to 12 hours daily, this was increased to 17 hours in August and now 21 hours on a rotational basis is the norm. Zesco's bid to introduce inflationary and frankly unaffordable emergency tariffs to pay for imported electricity was thankfully rejected by the Energy Regulation Board. The loadshedding has been caused mainly by insufficient generation capacity due to reduced water levels in the major reservoirs following low rainfall patterns in recent past years. This year has been particularly bad because of the El Nino drought.

It is also attributed to an increase in demand which has been growing at about 150 to 200 megawatts per annum. Present daily demand stands at 2400mw rising to an estimated 23000mw by 2050. 85% reliance on hydro power is unsustainable even with expansion, so the Government wishes to reverse the percentages with 85% coming from renewables, mainly solar and the remaining 15% from hydro and coal. This is a fairly long-term objective so in the mean-time people are being encouraged to use Calor gas, solar hot water geysers, solar panels with inverters and LED lights. The Government is importing off-peak electricity at the moment which means domestic consumers often get their three hours of power in the middle of the night!

This term is examination term for Zambian school children and students. Ellie is sitting her IGCSE O Levels and should finish in November. She is looking forward to the Leavers' Dinner and the Prom later in Lusaka. Others busy writing at the moment are Roy at Dental School, Poniso doing a Masters in Public Health and Twambo and Paul Salvador both with Critical Care Nursing. In the new year, Cleo, Muhau and Pumulo will begin studies in Public Administration and Theatre Nursing respectively.



The US Surgical Team arrived in mid-September and managed an amazing 61 operations; 15 of these were major goitres, others were hernias and fibroids and the Physicians saw over 275 people. As usual Peggy Schrieber brought her team of volunteers who included the return of Jen as the Physician. Prior to the operations Ida and the team put in the suction machine with copper piping to the theatre, maternity, ICU, Casualty and 6 bed in the general wards have suction.

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Work still remains to be done on accessories to this system. The suction machine was kindly donated by the Czech Republic. The oxygen machine was also serviced and is working. It is wonderful to have a constant supply to beds and theatre and other critical areas in the hospital. The Copper piping and accessories were donated by Houston and St Marks Churches.

This year we had visits from 3 Mission Teams who were old friends and supportive partners of the life and work here. We had Rev John Cook's Team from Shandon, Columbia, in South Carolina. They hope to send an Eye Team in the New Year. A Team from IPC Birmingham with Rev John Seamon also came to look at projects and see where they could help. A visit too, from Aiken, led by Steve and Jenny Jahn also took place. They too, did the rounds of the Mission and made a list of needs that were identified to them. They too, will revert once priorities are determined. We also

enjoyed this quarter, the company of Isabel, a Brazilian volunteer with CMMB. She was working on WASH activities in the community and was able to involve Ellie in the field work and with statistics and data collection. This was for work-experience which Chengelo School had asked us to organise for Ellie in the holidays. We had a visit from John and Kerry, old Australian acquaintances, involved in the OVC.

We have three major builds on the go, at the moment, The Nutrition Centre is underway, the ground for the Hands Around the World-funded One Stop Centre for GBV has been cleared and about to be pegged out, while we are presently forming 8" Blocks for the Student's Hostel, another project funded by the Beit Trust. We are still to hear from the Constituency Development Fund about our long out-standing application for a Family Maternity Shelter.



On Sunday, 25 August the Church bade farewell to Rev Sydney Sichilima as Synod Bishop, who has over the years become a family friend. He was replaced by Rev Festus Chulu, former Muchinga Presbytery Bishop, whom we got to know well while visiting Mwenzo and Lubwa for School and Hospital Board Meetings. The General Secretary Rev Chipasha Musaba was inducted for his Second Term at St Peter's Kabwe on 15 September 2024.

On 13 August the New Senior Chief HRH Anang'anga Imwiko moved from the Mafulo outside Mwandu, where he had been residing for the month previously, to the Palace just before his coronation. The Coronation took place over the weekend from 16-18th August. The Chief has come from Lukulu and Mitete Districts, where he was in charge for 22 years. It was a colourful, joyous and tradition-filled event, attended by the people of Mwandu, Sesheke and Mulobezi, the Churches, Government and of course the Barotse Royal Establishment.



Giving our present to the Chief Senior Chief Anananga Imwiko

On a sadder note we learned in early August of the death of David Moffat from Mkushi. He was a founding Trustee of Chengelo School and our Home Group Elder during our time of service at Chengelo. A successful farmer, he was first and foremost a faithful servant of the Lord. He and Christine were friends to Mum and Dad and kindly offered us hospitality when on the school-run with Catriona and Ellie. He will be lovingly remembered.

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Another unexpected shock to us was the passing of Sambayi, the beloved resident and son of Kandiana on 30 August. He collapsed and was found unconscious and was admitted to the hospital, where he quietly passed away the same day. We will miss his cheerfulness, his smile and giggle. He had a good voice and sang well too.

Again, we are thankful for the many ways in which you support the work here, whether it is direct help to the hospital, baby clothes, Formula for Life, scholarships, sheltered workshop, Kandiana, the schools or medicines or treatment, your help allows us to answer the knock at the door and bless the lives of many people. This quarter Muyandekwa's prosthetic leg was fixed, Grandmother to Thabo, who was blind with cataracts can now see, a child with sickle-cell disease has the correct medicine. It was so helpful as well, to have the two crates from the East Neuk, full of useful and much needed ECG machines, medical consumables and materials, just in time for the surgeries. Our thanks to Christine and her team.

As the cost of living continues to rise, inflation is now at almost 16%, both employed and unemployed Zambians are struggling economically. The PAYE threshold was not raised in the recent Budget, which disappointed many. Social Cash Transfers do support the vulnerable with a small sum monthly, but formal workers in lower paid jobs, are struggling too, to make ends meet. We pray that any future Government relief should be more inclusive to help address food insecurity and helping more people avoid even greater inequality and together build a more just society where everyone enjoys the fullness of life.

With our love
Keith, Ida & Mubita



Chimile Junior – Sickle Cell Disease



Muyundekwa with her repaired Leg.