

This is the first of **zambesi mission's** flood relief bulletins. Its aim is to give an update on the needs of our church partners in Malawi and Mozambique, and **zambesi mission's** response.

**zambesi mission (zm)** works exclusively through partner organisations in Malawi. It does not therefore have its own infrastructure or independent organisation spread throughout Malawi. However, **zm** does have a staff team in Malawi that represents the mission and administers all aspects of our relationships with our church partners. This team is headed up by our Field Director Simon Chikwana. It also works with two main church partners, the Zambezi Evangelical Church (ZEC) and the River of Life Evangelical Church (RoLE). Both church organisations have many congregations in Malawi which have been badly affected by the torrential rain and subsequent flooding. **zm's** efforts are focussed on an immediate response to the most urgent needs and establishing the full extent of the problem within our church partners and their communities.

Early reports from ZEC are that at Namiwawa ZEC alone there are 16 families (comprising over 70 people) whose fields and houses have been destroyed. At Nsanje and Chikwawa ZEC churches a further 200 families are said to have been displaced. We have heard from Ps Mvula Mvula of the River of Life Evangelical Church that one of their churches in Salima district has completely collapsed, thankfully without causing any injuries. But Ps Mvula wrote that *"the gardens of the people have been washed away"*.

Simon Chikwana wrote earlier today, *"the people who have lost both their food and fields will need continuous supply of food. The flooded and washed away fields cannot be re-planted until next planting season. This is another worst part of floods. For now we will respond to the immediate problems: today we are taking some food (maize flour, beans and salt) and soap to Namiwawa ZEC; and tomorrow we will rush to Mulanje ZEC. From there we will plan to supply something to Bangula, Nsanje and Ndamera"*.

**Prayer points:**

- Please pray for Simon Chikwana as he travels with the church leaders to gather information, distribute urgent relief (food and soap) and pull together an accurate assessment of the needs.
- Please pray for faith and wisdom for **zm** as we work out how we can support the many, given the limited resources that are apparently available.
- Please pray that our God, Jehovah Jireh, the God who provides, would provide for the needy in Malawi; recognising that He might wish to use each one of us to help.
- Please pray that our partner churches would be able to show the love of Jesus at this time – that they would be salt and light to those in need in their communities.

If anyone would like any further information please contact Richard Brassington at the office on 01904 674748 or via [office@zambesimission.org](mailto:office@zambesimission.org). Or alternatively contact Mike Beresford, **zm's** Mission Director, via 01904 634288 or [m.beresford@zambesimission.org](mailto:m.beresford@zambesimission.org).

Yours in Christ

