

In Prayer

November 2016 - January 2017

“Carry each other’s burdens and in this way you will fulfil the law of Christ” Galatians 6:2 (NIV).

p means please pray... **t** means give thanks...

November Evangelical Bible College of Malawi (EBCoM)

Principal Ps Robert Masikamu, Council Chairman Ps Paul Muotcha

- 1 **Tu p** Ps Robert Masikamu, his wife Cipo and their two children as they settle in to a new home.
- 2 **We t** Myles, now working with the new Principal on finalising the college’s 5-year strategic plan.
- 3 **Th p** Ps Paul Muotcha and the EBCoM Council as they wrestle to discern a viable way forward.



EBCoM Council
Chairman Paul
Muotcha

- 4 **Fr p** as college leaders prioritise the changes necessary to comply with the Malawi National Council for Higher Learning.
- 5 **Sa t** council members and friends of the college, working to develop good relationships with local churches.
- 6 **Su p** the college Fund Development Manager, looking for ways to help the college become less dependent on external funding.

- 21 **Sa t** Myles has been able to develop and pilot the course ‘Preach the Word’, which will now be used more widely within ZEC.
- 22 **Su t** Mhairi MacBean’s recent visit to Malawi, working with Echoes of Grace to put on a seminar for all who lead worship in local churches.
- 23 **Mo p** Echoes of Grace, as they train and God equips them to share the Gospel through music.
- 24 **Tu t** three churches were roofed this year. **p** the other 25 or more that are waiting.
- 25 **We t** 3500 bibles have been distributed in 2016.
- 26 **Th t** 325 people attended Bookset Conferences at Ntcheu and Mangochi. **t** the role these conferences play in the training of rural leaders.

Children for Christ Ministry (CFCM)

Elevate Mzinga, Joseph Jeke, Robert Gideon (Treasurer)

- 27 **Fr p** Joseph and Elevate are fully stretched in organising and leading CFCM training and special events. **p** wisdom in appointing a much-needed administrator to support them.
- 28 **Sa t** 120 teachers were trained at CFCM seminars in Mchinji, Phalombe, Khombwe and Muona. **p** that they will establish weekly Bible Clubs in their own schools.
- 29 **Su p** Malawian volunteers to help meet the needs of so many children, thirsty for God’s Word.

Mozambique & Malawi

- 30 **Mo p** food shortages continue in both countries. Many Mozambicans are in camps in Malawi.
- 31 **Tu p** for peace in Mozambique. The opposition group RENAMO has increased armed attacks in the north, creating real fear and uncertainty.

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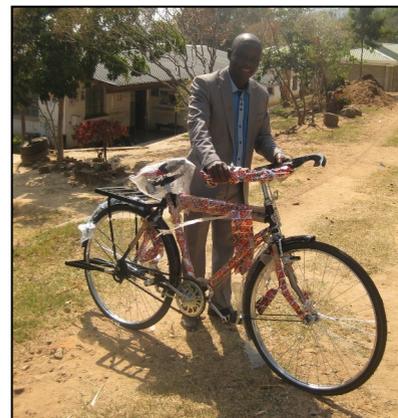
January

- 10 **Tu p** leaders to be able to visit and encourage Joshua Misomali, churchplanter at Milange ZEC.
- Chiyanjano (Women’s Fellowship) in Mozambique Fellowship of Youth (FoY) in Mozambique**
- 11 **We t** faithful discipleship and clear teaching of God’s Word in both these groups.
 - 12 **Th p** ongoing witness in their communities.
 - 13 **Fr t** Chiyanjano and FoY leaders, keeping local groups encouraged and connected together.

zambesi mission (zm) in Malawi

Simon Chikwana (Field Director), Rose Chirwa (Projects Officer), Mercy Carlos (Field Administrator) and Myles and Ruth MacBean (Church Development Partners)

- 14 **Sa t** Simon’s UK visit with ZEC synod leaders was a great encouragement to UK churches.
- 15 **Su p** as Simon reflects on his visit, the Lord would show him new ways to cultivate fresh ‘partnerships in the Gospel’ with UK churches.
- 16 **Mo t** Rose and Mercy covering all the work of the office in Simon’s absence.
- 17 **Tu p** Rose, Mercy and the team as they plan food relief distribution for the most vulnerable.
- 18 **We t** all **zm** staff and families are in good health and strength.
- 19 **Th t** 32 pastors have been provided with bicycles: every pastor who needs one has one.



A ZEC pastor receiving his new bicycle

- 20 **Fr p** Ruth’s work with CFCM, which continues to open up opportunities as fast as they manage to satisfy requests for ‘more Bible Club training’.

- 26 **Mo t** Pastor Mvula Mvula’s godly leadership and example in serving others.
- 27 **Tu p** each church leader will follow this example and grow in their love for the Lord.
- 28 **We p** Justice Chiphwanya, with responsibility for the large and growing congregation at Chirimba.
- 29 **Th t** Peter Mlera and his enthusiasm for children’s ministry at Cape Maclear.
- 30 **Fr p** Joseph Pius leading the church at Nsanje, Lower Shire, where flood and drought hit hardest.
- 31 **Sa p** ‘all church leaders to love the Lord and church members to know their Bibles better’.

Zambezi Evangelical Church (ZEC) Mozambique

Chairman Ps Dinos Lokati and his deputy Ps Estavao Dzumani; General Secretary James Hamilton and his deputy Innocent Moffat; Ernest Sakwiya - Treasurer

January

- 1 **Su t** these synod leaders, working hard to support pastors in their ministries.
- 2 **Mo p** all church leaders seeking to encourage members during these unsettling times - with political unrest and food shortages.
- 3 **Tu p** the idea of a joint Malawi/Mozambique synod would take hold: there is much that Malawi leaders could do for their Mozambican brothers.
- 4 **We p** again for national registration of ZEC in Mozambique to be finalised.
- 5 **Th t** the witness of believers from ZEC and other churches in the Luwani refugee camp at Neno, Malawi.
- 6 **Fr t** that 8 bicycles, 800 bibles and one church roof were provided this year.

ZEC Mozambique Regional Superintendents and Churchplanting

Ps Christavo Chambwinja - West; Ps Raphael Waissone - East.

- 7 **Sa t** the leadership recognised the need for regional superintendents and acted accordingly.
- 8 **Su p** Ps Chambwinja and Ps Waissone as they visit and encourage churches. In Mozambique churches are often inaccessible and far apart.
- 9 **Mo p** practicalities as the synod office supports the superintendents financially and spiritually.

November

- 7 Mo** t Mercy Mkwezalamba, equipping wives to support and share in their husbands' ministries.
- 8 Tu** p the tutors supporting Mercy. There will be a very large number of wives at the college this year.
- 9 We** p members of staff would enjoy a period of stability after a number of recent major changes.
- 10 Th** t students, committed to understanding God's Word and sharing it faithfully with others.
- 11 Fr** p Myles MacBean, as he teaches on a part-time basis at the college: that he would inspire men and women for the preaching of God's Word.
- 12 Sa** t as Ruth continues to teach music; and for the opportunities that arise to take some students beyond 'simply playing an instrument'.

Zambezi Evangelical Church (ZEC) Malawi

Chairman Ps Joe Tsokalida and his deputy Ps Gerald Malindah; General Secretary Ps Luckwell Mtima and his deputy Ps Willard Muwalo

- 13 Su** t 250 delegates attended ZEC's Synod in August, giving their support to the renewed ZEC vision - 'Discipling Nations for Christ'.



Pastor Joe Tsokalida, Chair of ZEC, officiates at the ZEC Synod at Mitsidi in August

- 14 Mo** p as ZEC 'renews its partnership with the Holy Spirit to grow mature disciples and servant leaders.'
- 15 Tu** t 14 new 'team leaders' have already begun work on 16 ZEC 'programmes', designed to tackle the spiritual and material challenges of Malawi.
- 16 We** p these may be rolled out effectively to supportive and enthusiastic church fellowships.

November

- 17 Th** t Ps Tsokolida and Ps Mtima were able to share these things as they met **zm** supporters and churches on their recent visit to the UK.



Pastors Joe Tsokalida (L) and Luckwell Mtima (R) with Simon Chikwana in the Lake District

- 18 Fr** p also for Ps Malindah and Ps Muwalo as they play their part in moving the church forward.
- 19 Sa** t many churches are beginning to appreciate the importance of income-generating activities.
- 20 Su** p as the Income Generation Co-ordinator and General Secretary prioritise projects together.
- 21 Mo** p as Synod Leaders look for ways to centrally fund transport, pastors' salaries and even pensions
- 22 Tu** p as local churches see the benefit of support from the Synod Office, they would find ways to contribute to the costs.
- 23 We** p more pastors would prioritise children's ministry in their churches and encourage more Sunday school teachers to attend training.

ZEC Regional Superintendents and Churchplanting

Ps Duncan Ng'oma - North (Mzuzu); Ps Henry Muhiye - Central (Ntcheu); Ps Isaac Mpanga - South (Blantyre).

- 24 Th** t each of these men, visiting pastors and helping deliver courses like 'Preach the Word' and the synod's 'Curriculum for Elders'.
- 25 Fr** p they would see more believers grounded in the knowledge and application of God's Word.
- 26 Sa** p the work of the church development pastors: no longer supported by **zm**, they are now dependent on support from their own churches.

- 27 Su** p Letphant Frank and his church, Karonga ZEC. Floods washed homes away, but the people said 'at least the rice harvest will be good'!
- 28 Mo** t Enock and Esther Mang'anya leading the church at Chitipa and learning Chitumbuka to help with their pastoral ministry.
- 29 Tu** p Ps Kutsimbwe and Choma ZEC, Mzuzu: in need of encouragement after a poor potato harvest.

Fellowship of Youth (FoY) , Malawi

Gift Mphongolo, FoY Co-ordinator

- 30 We** p Gift as he works to bring a united sense of purpose to FoY groups all over the country.

December

- 1 Th** t young people who have such a delight and enthusiasm for God's Word.
- 2 Fr** p with guidance from their leaders, the Word would be a light for their paths (Ps 119:105).

Chiyanjano (Women's Fellowship) in Malawi

Millie Jumbe, Chairlady; Mrs Fatchi, Secretary

- 3 Sa** t so many women take up the opportunities to learn more of God's Word.
- 4 Su** p Chiyanjano leaders would disciple others for the work of leadership.
- 5 Mo** t their day to day witness within their communities.

ZEC Orphan Daycare Centres (ODCs)

At Chifunga, Nthorowa and Ntonda

- 6 Tu** t at Nthorowa the ODC is running well.
- 7 We** t for those who cook for, teach and care for the children at each ODC.
- 8 Th** p ODC leaders would persevere with plans to make each of the centres self-sustaining. EBCoM Council meets.

ZEC Health & Rural Development

Ntonda Rural Hospital, plus Health Centres at Matanda, Mitsidi, Muluma and Nthorowa.

- 9 Fr** t electricity has finally been connected at Ntonda - the staff said "babies are no longer delivered by torchlight"! p this would prove more reliable than the previous solar lighting.
- 10 Sa** p staff at all centres to show the love of Jesus in the midst of challenging circumstances.

December

- 11 Su** p as the poor rice harvest around Nthorowa has affected people's ability to pay for medicine.
- 12 Mo** t construction of the new maternity wing at Matanda Health Centre has commenced.
- 13 Tu** t bee-keeping projects have now been established at Muluma and Machinga ZEC.
- 14 We** t an increasing number of hives are being populated. p healthy bees and good honey.

zambesi mission (zm) in the UK

Mike Beresford (Mission Director), Trevor Matthews (Chair of Trustees and Executive Committee)

- 15 Th** t Simon Chikwana's visit with ZEC leaders from Malawi went well and was a great encouragement to UK churches and supporters.
- 16 Fr** p this will give UK supporters a long-lasting stimulus to develop inter-dependent partnerships.
- 17 Sa** t Trevor Matthews and the **zm** executive, working hard to help the mission develop two-way Gospel partnerships with our African partners.
- 18 Su** p Janet Brown as she joins the executive. t Andrew Shirley as he steps down.
- 19 Mo** p Mike Beresford, Mike Berry and Dave Brown as they endeavour to keep in touch with supporting churches in southern England.
- 20 Tu** t Stephen Williams continues to develop links with churches in north-west England.
- 21 We** p Ralph Gunn as he continues to visit supporters, mainly in central Scotland. He could use some help in the north of Scotland.
- 22 Th** p None of **zm**'s Hon. Reps are getting any younger! Ask the Lord for others to take over.
- 23 Fr** t the mission's wide range of volunteers who contribute so wonderfully and are a real blessing.

River of Life Evangelical Church (RoLEC)

Leader Ps Mvula Mvula - 40 churches; now 12 pastors

- 24 Sa** p as people prepare for Christmas, that they may be drawn into the homes of believers and hear the good news of the birth of Christ.
- 25 Su** t **CHRISTMAS DAY** - "For to us a child is born, to us a Son is given" (Isaiah 9:6a - NIV) Celebrate with our brothers and sisters in Christ in Malawi and Mozambique.