Zambezi Evangelical Church (ZEC) Malawi

29 Jan - 4 Feb

In an emotional service last October Pastor Willard Muwalo retired from ministry after suffering a stroke in 2021. Willard had been involved in leadership in ZEC for many years.

SUN 29 Give thanks to God for Willard Muwalo's years of faithful service. Pray for peace and strength for him and his wife Esther in retirement.

MON 30 Pray for Pastor Henry Muhiye, who has left his role as Regional Superintendent to replace Willard as pastor of Limbe ZEC in Blantyre.

TUE 31 Praise God for the strong evangelical witness of ZEC churches throughout Malawi, especially in very rural locations.

WED 1 ZEC Synod elections will be held in August. Pray that God will give spiritual guidance to everyone involved so that Christlike leaders are appointed.

THU 2 Praise God that many young men and women from ZEC are being prepared for gospel ministry at the Evangelical Bible College of Malawi.

FRI 3 Thank God that tools obtained by **zm** from Tools with a Mission are being used to train young men and women in a range of vocational skills.

SAT 4 Many pastors, particularly in rural areas, struggle to afford their children's secondary school fees. Give thanks that **zm** is able to support them.

Prayer Focus
Pastors' Children's Education

Most of **zm's** partners' churches are located in rural parts of Malawi and Mozambique. Since these countries are amongst the most economically disadvantaged in the world, the majority of Christians live in extreme poverty. Pastors from the Zambezi Evangelical Church (ZEC) and the River of Life Evangelical Church (RoLEC) really need a strong sense of calling into ministry. They certainly wouldn't do it because they were "greedy for money" (1 Peter 5: 2). The giving that they receive from their congregations to sustain themselves and their families is usually barely enough to survive.

Whilst primary school education is free in Malawi, secondary schooling is not and its cost varies enormously. Local government-run Community Day Secondary Schools are generally affordable, charging a nominal fee of about £20 per term for each student. District level government schools demand fees of £50 per term or more. But there are so few places available, that only those with the very top grades are selected. This pushes more students towards private education where fees are much higher. Last year **zm** sponsored over 60 pastors' children to study at a range of secondary schools. This programme is part of **zm's** aim to support pastors in their gospel-preaching, disciple-making ministry, wherever God calls them. Please pray that God would continue to provide the resources needed to support this important ministry.

ZEC Malawi - Mission and Ministry

5 - 11 February

Enoch and Esther Mang'anya (with daughter Tadala) were long-term churchplanters at Chitipa ZEC in the far north of Malawi. Today Enoch is pastor at Maliya ZEC in Blantyre.

SUN 5 Thank God for the commitment of men and women who have a vision and a calling to be churchplanters within ZEC.

MON 6 Thank God for the ministry of Enock Mang'anya at Maliya ZEC, praying that the Word of God will dwell in him richly (Colossians 3: 16).

TUE 7 Thank God for former EBCoM student Steven John who is leading the church and proclaiming the gospel at Mombezi ZEC.

WED 8 Thank God that recently planted Bvumbwe ZEC has been steadily growing under the leadership of former EBCoM student Davie Norman.

THU 9 Pray that God will richly bless Rodrick Stafford Chambwinja's ministry at Luchenza ZEC. He has just completed his part-time diploma at EBCoM.

FRI 10 Pray that plans to plant new ZEC churches in the central region will be realised, so that more lives will be transformed by the gospel.

SAT 11 Pray that all ZEC pastors would fix their eyes on Jesus and not deviate from the truth, as they seek to make disciples of all nations.

ZEC Orphan Daycare Centres (ODCs)

12 - 18 February

The cost of caring for the children at Nthorowa ODC is now fully supported by ZEC's income generating schemes - a maize mill, rice mill and arable and livestock farming.

SUN 12	Thank God for the many children who have benefited from the ODCs over the years, receiving meals, education and Bible teaching.
MON 13	Praise God for the guardians who work hand in hand with the ODC management to ensure that the children are cared for appropriately.
TUE 14	Pray for reliable rains this season, so that there will be plenty of food available to feed the children for many months.
WED 15	Pray that a new transformer will quickly become available at Chifunga, so that its maize mill would be able to operate and generate income again.
THU 16	Praise God that, from January, ZEC have been sustaining their own ministry at Nthorowa ODC without support from **zm**.
FRI 17	Pray that the ODC children will be encouraged to work hard at school. Only seven across all three ODCs have progressed to secondary school.
SAT 18	Pray that ZEC, with **zm's** help, would be able to develop a viable income generating scheme to sustain the ODC at Ntonda.

ZEC Health and Rural Development

19 - 25 February

zm *supports students to study nursing, so that they can serve God at ZEC's health centres. Regina Kampira graduated in September and is now working at Muluma.*

SUN 19	Give thanks that Regina Kampira successfully completed her three year nursing course. May she shine for the Lord at Muluma Health Centre.
MON 20	Malawi has been suffering a serious cholera outbreak in recent months. Pray for protection for all ZEC's healthcare workers.
TUE 21	Pray that anti-cholera vaccines will be available for those at risk; pray also for enough medicine and intravenous drips to treat patients.
WED 22	Malawi's government has imposed a recruitment embargo, resulting in staff shortages at ZEC's health centres. Pray for this to be resolved.
THU 23	Thank God for the impressive new maternity unit at ZEC's Matanda Health Centre, and the effect it has had on safe deliveries in that community.
FRI 24	Pray that Mr Msulira, the accountant at Nthorowa, will make a full recovery from serious illness caused by undiagnosed diabetes.
SAT 25	Pray for Mrs Mphamba from Tsabola ZEC who was greatly distressed after the goat she received through **zm** subsequently died.

ZEC Malawi - FoY and Chiyanjano

26 Feb - 4 Mar

Half of Malawi's population is 18 or under, so young people play a vital role in the life of ZEC churches. ZEC's Fellowship of Youth marks its 40th anniversary this year.

SUN 26	Praise God for 40 years of Fellowship of Youth in Malawi - this will be celebrated in August this year.
MON 27	Thank God for FoY Coordinator, Ps Jimmy Chaona, and pray that he will have the means to visit FoY groups around the country.
TUE 28	Thank God for the initiative of creating a handbook for FoY, to help direct and guide local leaders in how best to run their groups.
WED 1	Pray that capable men and women will be available to write the FoY handbook; pray also that ZEC would have the resources to publish it.
THU 2	Pray that those who came to Christ during last year's regional Chiyanjano and FoY conferences would become grounded in the faith.
FRI 3	Thank God for the strength of local Chiyanjano groups and the support they provide to those in need, both inside and outside the church.
SAT 4	Pray that God would give spiritual wisdom, insight and direction to the national leadership of ZEC's Chiyanjano as they serve Him faithfully.

Children for Christ Ministry (CFCM)

zambesi mission in Malawi

Evangelical Bible College of Malawi (EBCoM)

5 - 11 March

CFCM was founded 20 years ago. Elevate Mizinga, pictured teaching the children at Mitsidi Primary School Bible Club, has been one of CFCM's workers right from the start.

SUN 5	Praise God for the thousands of children who have come to faith through CFCM's ministry since it started in 2003.
MON 6	Thank God for the refresher course for volunteer trainers that took place last November, which brought real encouragement to all participants.
TUE 7	Pray that there would be plenty of opportunities to give the volunteer CFCM trainers more experience in training during 2023.
WED 8	Praise God that the safeguarding training CFCM gives at seminars is proving timely and useful to teachers and pastors.
THU 9	Thank God for Pastor Tembo, CFCM trainer in Rumphi. He has established many Bible clubs and trained many teachers single-handedly.
FRI 10	Give thanks for the gifts of maize, soap and school materials that were distributed to vulnerable Bible club children at Christmas.
SAT 11	Pray for preparations for this year's Easter 5-day club which will be held in Phalombe between 10th and 14th April.

12 - 18 March

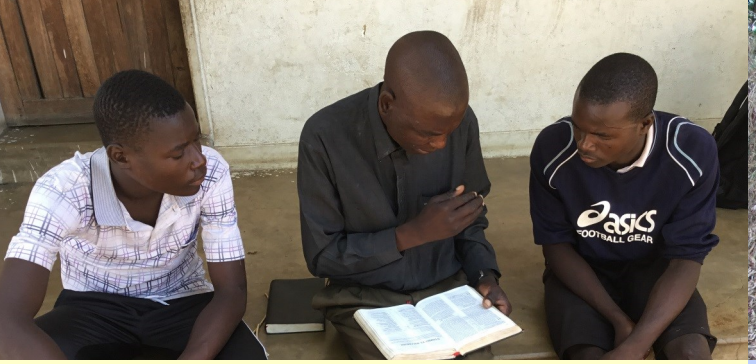
zm has a team of 'missionaries' based in Blantyre in Malawi. Some are shown above (L-R): Owen Yolamu, Jack Sathula, Rose Chirwa, Simon Chikwana and Dorothy Kaipa.

SUN 12	Thank God that guards Jack Sathula and Grayson Domoya have been able to continue working for **zm** beyond their normal retirement age.
MON 13	Thank God for the safeguarding training **zm** was able to facilitate in December for staff from EBCoM and ZEC's ODC's and health centres.
TUE 14	Pray that each of these groups will be able to finalise their safeguarding policies, to guide them as they work with vulnerable children and adults.
WED 15	Thank God that the rains started well this season, allowing farmers to plant their crops. Pray for a successful harvest.
THU 16	Chemical-based fertilisers were unaffordable last year. Pray for **zm's** attempts to introduce our partners to more sustainable alternatives.
FRI 17	Pray for wisdom as **zm** explores the possibility of linking our Malawian partners with church and community transformation programmes.
SAT 18	Pray for the witness of Christians in Malawi amidst the corruption, inflation and lawlessness that seem to be getting worse.

19 - 25 March

*Bright Wowo, one of the visually impaired students that **zm** sponsored to study at EBCoM, receives his Certificate in Biblical Studies at November's graduation ceremony.*

SUN 19	Thank God for the 48 **zm**-sponsored students who are studying at EBCoM this year.
MON 20	Pray for EBCoM's governing Council as they oversee the management of the college. 2023 is likely to be a much tougher year than 2022.
TUE 21	Pray for wisdom for Principal Mphongolo as he prepares the college's strategic plan and ensures that EBCoM meets the needs of the churches.
WED 22	Pray for greater engagement and financial commitment from the church denominations who use EBCoM to prepare their students for ministry.
THU 23	Praise God that the two rental houses **zm** helped to build have brought in a steady income for EBCoM since they were completed in 2021.
FRI 24	Thank God that the students' wives have a special course at the college to help prepare them for being partners in ministry.
SAT 25	Pray that the practical experience students receive during their church placements will give them a good grounding for their future ministry.



River of Life Evangelical Church (RoLEC)

26 Mar - 1 Apr

Dines Chitekwe (centre) has been a churchplanting pastor at Mbululu RoLEC for the last four years. The Lord has used his patient gospel ministry to lead many people to Christ.

SUN 26	Praise God for Mvula Mvula and his wife Esther, asking God's blessing on all their family. Mvula Mvula has stepped down as leader of RoLEC.
MON 27	Pray for Gift Mthinta as he prepares for a greater leadership role in RoLEC. Pray for wisdom as he considers doing further theological training.
TUE 28	Praise God for the growth of the Mbululu church under the leadership of Pastor Dines Chitekwe. He has been supported by **zm** since 2018.
WED 29	Praise God for the open air outreach that takes place outside Chirimba RoLEC every month. Chirimba is a bustling suburb in Blantyre.
THU 30	Pray that those who teach the children and youth in RoLEC churches will set godly examples, and that their teaching will bear much fruit.
FRI 31	Thank God for RoLEC churches across the border in Mozambique, praying that the influence of the gospel will be apparent in those areas.
SAT 1	Give thanks for the Christian witness at RoLEC's secondary school at Chirimba, for the completed building work and for their good exam results.

Zambezi Evangelical Church - Mozambique

2 - 8 April

Paul Mayeso, shown above when studying at EBCoM, is pastor of the remote and inaccessible Chindiwo ZEC in north east Mozambique. Very sadly his wife died in November.

SUN 2	Pray that God would comfort and sustain Pastor Paul Mayeso as he continues to minister at Chindiwo ZEC after his wife's death.
MON 3	**zm** is supporting a Chiyanjano cloth production project to help ZEC with their finances. Pray that it would sell well and generate a healthy income.
TUE 4	Pray for integrity, perseverance and godliness for General Secretary Zakariya Bulawayo and deputy David Waite as they lead ZEC in Mozambique.
WED 5	Thank God for the faithfulness of churchplanters in remote areas of Mozambique, who take refuge in God the Rock (Psalm 19: 2).
THU 6	Thank God for the subsidised Bibles in Chichewa that have made such a big difference to the spiritual growth of ZEC in Mozambique.
FRI 7	Give thanks that ZEC's registration as a national denomination has led groups of churches to join ZEC to comply with legislation in Mozambique.
SAT 8	Pray for wisdom in knowing when to allow new churches to join ZEC. It can lead to an increased administrative burden that ZEC can not sustain.

ZEC Mozambique - Mission & Ministry

9 - 15 April

Most ZEC churches in Mozambique are in rural Chichewa-speaking areas. Rafael Waissone studied at a Portuguese-speaking Bible college to prepare himself for urban ministry.

SUN 9	Rafael Waissone recently completed his diploma at the Seminário Unido de Ricatla in Maputo. Pray that God would direct his future ministry.
MON 10	Pray for safety and provision for Regional Superintendents Jamieson Midiasi and Joachim Lihama as they visit pastors and churches.
TUE 11	Give thanks for the long term impact of the gospel-preaching, disciple-making training that many ZEC pastors received at EBCoM.
WED 12	Pray for God to uphold churchplanters Steven Jose, Mario Mphaliwa, Joshua Misomali, John Faustino and Alfred Seven.
THU 13	Give thanks for the godly influence that ZEC members have in their communities, as they live out their faith and witness to their neighbours.
FRI 14	Pray that all ZEC's pastors in Mozambique will fear God and execute their duties faithfully and diligently.
SAT 15	Pray that pastors will live lives of integrity, that align with ZEC's recently agreed code of conduct and, more importantly, with the will of God.

ZEC Mozambique - FoY and Chiyanjano

16 - 22 April

In most ZEC churches the Fellowship of Youth (FoY) and the Chiyanjano (Women's Fellowship) groups are full of spiritual life. Here the FoY choir at Nkangwe ZEC worships the Lord.

SUN 16	Praise God for the Fellowship of Youth conferences held in Mponyera last June and Ntachi last October.
MON 17	Pray that the young people who were challenged and transformed by the teaching of the Word at these conferences will now be well discipled.
TUE 18	Thank God for the FoY leaders who lead by example, demonstrating to the young people what a life dedicated to Christ should look like.
WED 19	Pray that the national leader of FoY, Francis Khumayo, will experience God lighting up the way ahead as he plans this year's programme.
THU 20	Thank God for the encouragement of September's Chiyanjano conference at Kasoeka near Tsangano; pray for long-lasting impact.
FRI 21	Thank God for Chiyanjano leader Ruth Smart and her deputy Odetta Joao, as they look to God to help them lead and teach the women.
SAT 22	Pray that, whatever their circumstances, the Chiyanjano women will welcome the message with joy given by the Holy Spirit (1 Thess. 1: 7).

zambesi mission (zm) in the UK

23 - 29 April

*CFCM trained nearly 400 Sunday school teachers in 2022, including those on Likoma Island pictured above. Many of these were funded through **zm's** Gift Scheme.*

SUN 23	Thank God for the office staff and volunteers at the **zm** office in York, who contribute enormously to the smooth running of the mission.
MON 24	Pray that more supporting churches would invite their local honorary representative to update and encourage them about the Lord's work overseas.
TUE 25	Praise God for the individuals and churches whose faithful support has helped sustain the work of **zm's** partners over many years.
WED 26	Pray that God will guide the trustees and Executive committee as they consider how to adapt the mission to changing circumstances.
THU 27	Thank God that **zm** is planning to host visitors from Malawi in June. Pray for the preparations being made for their itinerary.
FRI 28	Praise God for a wonderful response to **zm's** gift scheme in 2022. 475 different gifts were ordered including Bibles, bicycles and beehives.
SAT 29	As the cost of living crisis continues to bite, pray that God would sustain **zm's** ministry, so that we can continue to support our partners.

Cover Photo:

Yankho Makwinja is shown enjoying her lunch of nsima, beans and greens. She attends the Zambezi Evangelical Church's Orphan Daycare Centre at Nthorowa in eastern Malawi.

zm has supported ZEC's ODCs at Ntonda, Nthorowa and Chifunga since they opened during the HIV/AIDs epidemic in the 1990s. Thankfully, largely due to the introduction of free anti-retroviral medication in Malawi, there are far fewer orphans today. Nonetheless every child who comes to each ODC lives in extreme poverty. **zm** has been helping ZEC with income generating projects at each location. This means that the local church can look after the children themselves, without having to depend on overseas well-wishers. In this way ZEC can show Christ's love through their care for children like Yankho.

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