Evangelical Bible College of Malawi (EBCoM)

31 Oct - 6 Nov

The coronavirus pandemic has severely affected the 2020-21 academic year at EBCoM. Nonetheless they are currently on track to complete all their courses in November.

SUN 31	Give thanks to God that men and women in Malawi and northern Mozambique are hearing and answering God's call to go into ministry.
MON 1	Please pray for sound judgement, discernment and wisdom for Principal Gift Mphongolo as he leads the Bible College.
TUE 2	Thank God for the 45 full-time and 24 part-time (extension) students that **zm** supported at EBCoM in the last academic year.
WED 3	Praise God that a newly planted ZEC church at Nkando in Mulanje District has given students plenty of opportunity to practice evangelism.
THU 4	Pray for fruitful relationships to be built between students and their tutors, encouraging personal discipleship as well as academic development.
FRI 5	Thank God for the eight women completing the wives' course this month. Pray that they will be thoroughly equipped to help their husbands.
SAT 6	EBCoM's graduation service is being held today. Pray that the graduating students from the last two academic years will be blessed and inspired.

Children for Christ Ministry (CFCM)

7 - 13 November

CFCM staff Elevate Mizinga, Joseph Jeke and Lackson Makawa are ready to engage with children wherever they go. Elevate is shown above, surrounded by children at Nsanje.

SUN 7	Thank God that over 300 Sunday school teachers and Bible club leaders have been trained by CFCM so far this year.
MON 8	Thank God for the team of voluntary trainers around Malawi, praying that they will be find openings for training in their areas.
TUE 9	Thank God for CFCM's opportunity to partner with Aquaid Lifeline to train orphanage staff in how to promote the spiritual life of children.
WED 10	Pray that the orphanage staff trained by CFCM will also have special love and understanding for children who have suffered abuse.
THU 11	CFCM Bible clubs have been disrupted by school closures and restrictions over the last 2 years. Pray that next year they will all be running again.
FRI 12	Thank God for the success of a small pig-rearing business CFCM has established to help with their vehicle expenses.
SAT 13	As the CFCM team plan for 2022, pray that God will guide them and will enable them to run their full programme.

zambesi mission in Malawi

14 - 20 November

***zm** owns two small houses in Blantyre in southern Malawi. Today they house **zm's** office: it is run by our team of Malawian workers, led by Field Director Simon Chikwana.*

SUN 14	Thank God that **zm's** bookset conferences went ahead in Mzuzu, Nkhotokota and Zalewa earlier this year.
MON 15	Please pray that all the pastors and leaders who attended the bookset conferences will have been refreshed, strengthened and inspired.
TUE 16	Thank God for the range of books in Chichewa and English that each participant received. Pray that they will be useful in their ministry.
WED 17	Thank God for journeying mercies for Field Director Simon Chikwana, who has travelled many miles in his work for **zm** this year.
THU 18	Thank God that the third wave of COVID-19 was not too severe, but pray that more would take up the offer of vaccination.
FRI 19	As the rainy season begins, pray that people will be able to plant their crops at the right time, and that they will look to the Lord for His harvest.
SAT 20	Thank God for protecting our staff team in the Malawi Office - Simon Chikwana, Rose Chirwa, Mercy Carlos and the guards and domestic staff.

Prayer Focus
The vital importance of the rainy season

During November most Malawians have prepared their fields for the coming rainy season. The country takes on a dry dusty brown colour. The soil has been cleared and formed into ridges and furrows using primitive hoes. Every family member has been involved. When the first consistent rains start, everyone will mobilise to sow their seeds.

Why is the harvest so important? 80% of Malawi's population lives in rural areas. The majority are subsistence farmers who face extreme poverty. Their lives depend on their crops for survival. Because there is just one growing season each year, the need for steady consistent rains is paramount. Yet, in recent years, climate change has had a devastating impact. Torrential rain has caused flooding, whilst at the opposite extreme, prolonged drought midway through the growing season has caused once promising crops to wither and die.

Please pray for good rains throughout the coming growing season - it usually lasts from December until March. Pray for a plentiful harvest, so that widespread hunger is avoided. Please also pray for Christian organisations who are encouraging farmers to adopt alternative methods to improve crop resilience. These involve inter-cropping and mulching to reduce the need for fertilizer, as well as reverting to more drought resistant crops such as cassava, millet and plantain.

River of Life Evangelical Church (RoLEC)

21 - 27 November

RoLEC is a small group of evangelical churches founded in 1999. Its leader Pastor Mvula Mvula was determined to establish an uncompromisingly gospel-focussed church.

SUN 21	Give thanks for the godly leadership of Pastor Mvula Mvula, and for his commitment to see that in every way Christ is preached (Phil. 1: 18).
MON 22	In many areas, ROLEC congregations do not have a church building to meet in. Pray that God would provide the resources for this work.
TUE 23	Thank God that many Sunday school teachers in Mozambique have received training. Pray that their ministry among children will be fruitful.
WED 24	Pray that Sunday school teachers in RoLEC churches in Malawi and Mozambique will love the Lord and also love the children they teach.
THU 25	Thank God for Pastor Mvula's desire to give all RoLEC pastors the training that they often lack. Pray for him as he tirelessly teaches them.
FRI 26	Please pray for the RoLEC Mission School. Pray that the church would be able to fully support godly teachers and administrators.
SAT 27	Give thanks for the partnership in the Gospel between RoLEC and **zm**, and pray that God will be glorified in everything.

Zambezi Evangelical Church (ZEC) Malawi

28 Nov - 4 Dec

ZEC pastors and church delegates gathered together at Mitsidi in August for their Synod meeting. COVID restrictions forced it to be shortened and held outside in tents.

SUN 28	Thank God that ZEC were able to hold the postponed Synod meetings in August, and that the pastors attending enjoyed good fellowship.
MON 29	Pray for wisdom for the leadership of ZEC under General Secretary James Baisson Phiri, in the face of big financial challenges and great need.
TUE 30	Thank God for Pastor Robert Gideon, who is temporarily acting as Deputy General Secretary while Willard Muwalo recovers from a stroke.
WED 1	ZEC have unveiled a new strategic plan. Pray that, as they implement their plan, their focus will remain on the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ.
THU 2	Give thanks for hard-working church members who mould bricks and build their church walls, and for the church roofs that **zm** has supplied.
FRI 3	Synolia, wife of Pastor Connex Ijalasi and long-term friend of **zm** has needed hospital treatment recently. Please pray for a full recovery.
SAT 4	Pray that the Children's Department will be enabled to complete their training programme for Sunday school teachers this year.

5 - 11 December

ZEC Health and Rural Development

ZEC runs five health centres at Ntonda, Nthorowa, Mitsidi, Matanda and Muluma. Here one of ZEC's "ambassadors for Christ" unpacks the PPE that is so vitally needed at present.

SUN 5	Thank God for Pastor Synoden Mulamba who has moved to Ntonda to take up the role of Administrator of the health centre.
MON 6	Pray that God would equip Pastor Mulamba for this role, and that the clinic will continue to bring healing and hope to the surrounding community.
TUE 7	Give thanks for the development of the facilities at Muluma, and that **zm** has been able to start building a second duplex staff house.
WED 8	Thank God for all ZEC healthcare workers who reach out in word and in action to those in need.
THU 9	Pray for the situation at Matanda Health Centre. It had been operating for two months without water because its borehole pump had broken.
FRI 10	Thank God for the rural development schemes such as fishponds and beekeeping, which are helping feed communities and improve health.
SAT 11	Pray that ZEC members will recognize their responsibility to demonstrate God's love and transform their communities.

12 - 18 December

ZEC Orphan Daycare Centres (ODCs)

***zm** has been helping ZEC's three ODCs to become self-sustaining. The Tender Shoots project has seen the construction of a new maize mill at Nthorowa (see above).*

SUN 12	Thank God that He defends the cause of the fatherless (Deut. 10: 18) and uses His people to do this.
MON 13	Thank God for volunteers from local ZEC churches who help with preparing food, caring for the children and giving Bible teaching.
TUE 14	"It is not the will of the Father who is in heaven that one of these little ones should perish". Pray for the salvation of each child at the ODCs.
WED 15	Pray that the children will take their education seriously, thereby giving themselves the best chance of finding work when they are older.
THU 16	Thank God that the ODCs give an opportunity to reach out to children from Muslim background, bearing witness to the love of God for everyone.
FRI 17	Give thanks that, after many months of prayer and patience, ESCoM has finally provided the electrical supply to the maize mill at Chifunga.
SAT 18	Pray for the two millers being trained up to run the mill at Chifunga, so that it can be profitable and support the children at the ODC.

19 - 25 December

ZEC Malawi - Mission and Ministry

Over 600 Zambezi Evangelical Church congregations will be celebrating Christmas with great joy this week. This colourful choir greet Christmas morning at Limbe ZEC.

SUN 19	Give thanks for each of the five Regional Superintendents: Isaac Mpanga, Henry Muhiye, Austin Njobvu, Laston Musisi and Samuel Chiyambeni.
MON 20	Pray that the superintendents will experience God's sufficient grace, and that His power will be made perfect in weakness (2 Cor. 12: 9)
TUE 21	Thank God for Mark Kayenda's ministry as pastor at Ntonda ZEC. Please pray for a replacement to be identified as Mark moves to Kolokoti ZEC.
WED 22	Thank God that evangelists are active around the country and new churches continue to be established in rural areas.
THU 23	Pray for the churchplant at Chikangawa. It now has no pastor, the church building is collapsing and members are moving to other churches.
FRI 24	Pray that ZEC will appoint the right man to go to Chikangawa and restart the churchplanting work there. It is located near Mzuzu in north Malawi.
SAT 25	Let us unite with our brothers and sisters in churches in Malawi as we joyfully celebrate and remember the birth of the Lord Jesus Christ.

ZEC Malawi - FoY and Chiyanjano

26 Dec - 1 Jan

Women of the Chiyanjano (Women's Fellowship) have to complete training to become members. These ladies have recently joined the Chiyanjano at Mlambuzi ZEC, Lilongwe.

SUN 26	Give thanks for the women in ZEC churches, as they study God's Word together and live as salt and light in their communities.
MON 27	Thank God for the work that has gone into producing a new Chiyanjano handbook and training manual.
TUE 28	Thank God for the Chiyanjano Conference that was held in the far northern town of Karonga in October; and for the Word that was preached.
WED 29	Thank God for the 67 ladies who belong to Mlambuzi Chiyanjano. Pray that they will grow in unity and in their commitment to God.
THU 30	COVID has forced the Fellowship of Youth (FoY) National Conference to be postponed three times. Pray for their leaders in uncertain times.
FRI 31	Please pray for the resources needed to properly equip the FoY office at Mitsidi.
SAT 1	Thank God for those who diligently teach the young people God's Word, and urge them to stand firm in today's challenges of life.

Zambezi Evangelical Church - Mozambique

2 - 8 January

ZEC in Mozambique started in 1902 when mission workers from Malawi planted the first church. It was registered as an autonomous national denomination in 2017.

SUN 2	Praise God for 120 years of ZEC ministry in Mozambique and for every new church that has been established over those years.
MON 3	Praise God that at the end of September the Mozambican government allowed churches to reopen.
TUE 4	Please pray for ZEC Chairman Joao Thupilifa and his deputy Benjamin Savanthenga, who have guided the church through a difficult period.
WED 5	Give thanks for the church members who have remained faithful to God's Word, despite months without fellowship or teaching.
THU 6	Please pray for the seven ZEC churches located in the area around Beira, whose members are facing many challenges, including hunger.
FRI 7	Thank God for General Secretary Bulawayo and the Synod team, and for their initiative to support the church through cultivating cash crops.
SAT 8	The lengthy lockdown has made it difficult to raise funds for this project. Pray that ZEC's churches will provide the necessary support.

ZEC Mozambique - Mission & Ministry

9 - 15 January

Pastor Joachim and Florinda Lihama are churchplanting at Molumbo ZEC in north eastern Mozambique. Joachim is also the Regional Superintendent for that area.

SUN 9	Give thanks that Regional Superintendents Jamieson Midiasi and Joachim Lihama are equipped with a spirit of encouragement.
MON 10	Please pray that they will help pastors to apply their hearts to instruction and their ears to words of knowledge (Proverbs 23: 12)
TUE 11	Praise God for church growth in north eastern Mozambique. The number of ZEC churches has grown from 26 to 33 in the past three years.
WED 12	Thank God for the 27 believers now worshipping at Milange ZEC, and for their sacrificial giving towards a church building.
THU 13	Please pray that Moatize ZEC, under Pastor Steven Jose, will soon be able to replace their temporary structure with a church building.
FRI 14	Please pray for Pastor Mario Mphaliwa at Chitsulo ZEC, as he revives and replants this church.
SAT 15	Give thanks that the village chief has granted them land, so that they can start using a temporary wooden building for worship services.

ZEC Mozambique - FoY and Chiyanjano

16 - 22 January

*Leaders of the Chiyanjano in Mozambique were among the women who travelled to Ntcheu in Malawi last May to attend leadership training organised by **zm**.*

SUN 16 Thank God that leaders used their time during lockdown to grow spiritually, to develop their vision and consider how to work better together.

MON 17 Thank God for the women who continued to meet in small groups during lockdown. Pray that those who were apprehensive about meeting will rejoin.

TUE 18 Give thanks for the women who attend Chiyanjano groups, praying that they would be rooted and established in love and unity.

WED 19 Pray for Ruth Smart and Odetta Joao as they lead the organisation. Pray that they will be able to discern what is best for the women.

THU 20 Praise God that the FoY groups are now able to meet again. Pray that the youth will be enthusiastic to worship and study the Bible.

FRI 21 Pray that the young people will not have developed ungodly behaviours, after many months without teaching or discipleship.

SAT 22 Thank God for Francisco Khumayo's leadership of the FoY, and for his efforts to stay connected with FoY groups spread throughout the country.

zambesi mission (zm) in the UK

23 - 29 January

One of the benefits to emerge during the pandemic has been the unexpected blessing of having our Malawian team join our online Executive committee and staff meetings.

SUN 23 Give thanks for the unity that exists on **zm's** Executive committee, even though some have not yet met everyone else in person.

MON 24 Praise God for contacts made and renewed at the conventions during summer 2021. Give thanks for a generous donation for Bibles.

TUE 25 As most churches in the UK are now returning to normality, thank God for the renewed opportunities to visit churches.

WED 26 Thank God for the appointment of Johana Steel as Honorary Representative in Scotland. Pray that she would quickly get to grips with the role.

THU 27 Pray that **zm's** supporters in Scotland will be blessed by Johana's visits.

FRI 28 Please pray for Ruth Folayan, close to many hearts in the UK and Malawi, who has undergone chemotherapy. May God strengthen her family.

SAT 29 **zm's** Field Director Simon Chikwana's visit to the UK is long overdue. Pray that we can now develop tentative plans for a visit in 2022.

Cover Photo:

Our cover photo shows a girl from Chitakale Primary School near Blantyre telling others the good news about Jesus using the "Wordless Book". She was one of a group from Children For Christ Ministry's Bible club at the school who were preparing to visit Queen's Hospital. When they reached the hospital they prayed with over 40 children and told them about God's love.

CFCM said: "the children from Chitakale learnt a lot that day about how they can show God's love to others. They don't have much themselves. Some of them have no other clothes than the school uniforms they were wearing. But by giving their time and showing care, they brought joy and blessing to many sick children.

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