



Newsletter | September 2020

**“For this God is our God for ever and ever, he will be our guide even to the end”
Psalm 48 v18**

Greetings to you all. I hope this letter finds you well and adjusting to the new normal! Sad to say that even here in Zambia we have been affected by covid-19. Thankfully the numbers are small compared to many nations, with a current total of 12,097 cases and 288 deaths. We saw a peak in early August, but it seems that now the numbers are dropping again. It all came very close to home when Evans caught the virus and had to isolate from us. We thank God that he recovered quickly and neither the children nor I developed any symptoms. Praise the Lord!



Mukomba Family

Unfortunately much of our Mwana work has stopped due to the crisis. Mwana Mission is unlikely to restart until next year, especially as social distancing is very difficult. We had some of our volunteers and a local tailor produce over 1600 face masks which we distributed in the communities where we work. You can watch the reports from Chazanga and Kalingalinga on our blog on mwanaministries.org/blog. In Chipata the crowd became so large and unruly that we had to abandon the distribution as we were putting ourselves and the children in more danger.

Alongside the face mask distribution we have been regularly distributing soap amongst our volunteers, the churches we work with and some of the local schools. Currently only examination classes are open, which is grade 7, 9 and 12. Three of our Mwana Action children are attending school in preparation for exams this year: Bongani Moyo (Grade 9), Kenneth Mwansa (Grade 9), Adeola Maponga (Grade 12 - A levels).



Face Mask Distribution in Kalingalinga



Soap Distribution at Twin Palm Christian School, Ngombe

Back in May it became apparent that Sunday schools were not reopening and many children were sitting at home without any form of bible lessons. The Holy Spirit has led us to film and produce a weekly online Sunday school, following the format of our book God's Talk Time. Each lesson is lead by Pastor Pundo (a puppet) and includes a memory verse, a segment from Tommy Time, object lessons or stories by Pastor Pundo, a dance with Bingo and our animated Four Steps to Victory song. The programme is between 20-25mins long. We post the worksheets that accompany each lesson and help the parents to recreate a Sunday school lesson at home. Watch [here](#).



Teacher Amos Phiri checking temperatures



Pastor Pundo with Rabson and Felix on set

Pastor Pundo is our new old puppet!! He is new because he has never been used before, but he is old because he was made back in 2012. He has stayed in a box all this time, waiting for the right role, waiting for such a time as this!! He is perfect as a presenter as his hands are able to do almost anything, which makes him very real. For him to really capture the attention of the viewers he needed a good voice! Thankfully our good friend Amos has done a fantastic job. You may remember that we supported Amos in teacher training from 2010 to 2012. He is now working in a government school in Chongwe which is 30km outside Lusaka. He has moved his family there and is doing really well. It is very rewarding seeing that our help to educate one person can support a whole family for life and not just his family but even his extended family.

The online Sunday school is showing each week on our Facebook page 'God's Talk Time'. We have 2,500 followers, mostly Zambian, but also many of you our Mwana supporters have helped our online presence!! With Facebook advertising we can have up to 14,000 views per episode! Unfortunately with data bundles being expensive, its only those that can afford who watch. We are looking at getting the Sunday school class onto a TV station, as this is really the best way to reach more children. One thing is for sure, this is the time to preach the gospel. Many children, youths, adults and old people are living without the saving knowledge of Jesus, Mwana Ministries is committed to reaching out to many with the good news of Jesus Christ.



Pastor Pundo presenting the God's Talk Time Show

Our home church here in Lusaka has also been running online services since the lockdown at the end of March. Evans has been very instigative in the filming and editing of the online worship. It has been quite a hectic routine with filming worship and filming God's Talk Time, then editing worship and editing God's Talk Time all for Saturday deadlines to allow enough time to upload onto the net!! Normally our church meets in a cinema and only this week the cinema has reopened, so we are hopeful that our church will start meeting again very soon, however the online Sunday school will continue for some time, as in many churches children are not allowed to attend.



Classroom in construction



Climbing Frame in construction

Finally I want to update you on a personal project that Evans and I are working on. Kimberly and Daniel are now three years old and their schooling has been of some concern since they were born due to the fact that school systems in Zambia are very outdated and the good international schools are so expensive that only few expats can afford. The Lord has led us to look at how we can effectively homeschool without taking us away from the work of Mwana. After much research, prayer and discussion with teacher friends we have embarked on starting a micro-school. We aim at having only 10 children of 3 and 4 years old and following those same children through to the end of primary. By using a home schooling curriculum the children become independent learners where the curriculum/books become the teachers. We are in the process of building a small classroom for the school. Due to the favourable weather that Zambia enjoys we are leaving it open, with no windows and doors, just the roof to go on top. We are thankful to the Lord for timely gifts that have come in to help us to do this. He really knows all that we need, even before we ask. If you are interested to know more about the school I can send you a vision document that I have written. We will be updating you on the progress of the school, but be assured we will not be distracted from preaching the gospel!

Finally we say thank you to all our supporters for the love, prayers and financial support you have given us over the years. May God richly bless you.

Love

Janey, Evans, Daniel and Kimberly

Praise Points

- Mukomba family enjoying living in the White House.
- Funds available to build classroom and climbing frame
- God's Talk Time online reaching many children with good news of Jesus Christ.
- Tommy Time Four waiting to be broadcast.
- Mukomba family healthy.

Prayer Points

- Broadcasting contracts for Tommy Time.
- Reduction in cases of Covid-19 and opening of schools.
- Funds for building the studio and offices.
- Tommy Time Five filming and song writing.
- God's leading with future teams in 2020.
- The right children to join the school with Kimberly and Daniel