NEW DAWN

Volume 3 | Number 1 | 2021

A bi-Annual Publication for Lusaka Conference





NEW DAWN MAGAZINE
Volume 3 | Number 1 | 2021

EDITORIAL TEAM

Editor:
Stanley M Chilembo

Editorial Assistants
Mwangala M'zumara
Lubinda Kashewe
Innocent Siachitoba

Editorial Consultants:
Pastor Goliath Naini
Elder Brian Hatyoka

Graphics Consultants
Big Three Media

Layout & Photos:
LC Media

Contributors:
LC Officers,
Departmental Directors,
LC Media Personnel
Pastor Gift Chisala
District Communicators
Adventist Institutions

© August, 2021

Contact Us:

The Editor
New Dawn Magazine
LUSAKA CONFERENCE
COMMUNICATION DEPARTMENT
Plot Number 9221, Corner Independence Avenue and Burma Road
P. O. BOX 37155, Lusaka
Telephone: +260 211 258 930
Mobile: +260 977 542 734
Email: ndmeditor@lusaka.adventist.org
https://lusakaconference.adventisthost.org

LC Media
Connect to Inspire

Contents

03 | The Making of a Missionary
04 | On your Marks! Get Set! I Will Go!
06 | From Counting Animals to Counting People
07 | Understanding ACMS
08 | Chief of Finances Reveals LC Competitive Advantage
09 | Church Financial Literacy & Accountability
10 | Shepherding the Flock
11 | Evangelism Amidst COVID 19 Pandemic
12 | Seven Focus Areas of Stewardship
13 | Infrastructure and Church Development
14 | And the Women Declared, I Will Go!
15 | Total Child Involvement
16 | Literature Evangelism

Lusaka Conference Launches an Online Bible School | 17
Reaching Out | 18
Lusaka Conference Youths Donate Goods worth K63,450.00 | 19
Touching Lives | 20
Mbayi Family Receive Donations | 21
250 Adventist Men attend AMO Rally | 22
Pathfinders Donate to Mooye Community | 23
Districts News | 24
Adventist Church Pledges Support to newly Elected President | 26
Seven Ordained to Gospel Ministry | 27
The Champion of Church Growth Sleeps | 28
Giving in Kind | 29
Understanding the Two Goats of the Day of Atonement | 30



LUSAKA CONFERENCE MISSION STATEMENT

OUR MISSION

To make disciples of Jesus Christ who live as His loving witness and proclaim to all people the everlasting Gospel of the Three Angels Messages in preparation for His soon Return (Matt. 28:18-20; Acts 1:8; Rev. 14:6-12).

OUR METHOD

Guided by the Bible and Holy Spirit, we pursue this mission through Christ-like living, communicating, discipling, teaching, healing and serving.

OUR VISION

In harmony with the Bible revelation, we see as the climax of God's plan the restoration of all His creation to full harmony with His perfect will and righteousness.

THE MAKING OF A Missionary



Pastor STANLEY M CHILEMBO
Publishing/Communications Director

ISAIAH Six is one chapter with profound meaning. From this passage, the Church has developed the "I Will Go" strategic focus to guide its approach to world missions in the next five years. Besides this, the passage informs us of how the LORD prepares His people for missionary work. With the understanding that the word "missionary" implies anyone who is sent to do any work of God; we can draw three concepts from the passage which I call "The Making of a Missionary." These three are:

1. DISCOVERING GOD

Isaiah, who, together with the people of Judah was devastated by the death of King Uzziah, had gone to the Temple, when he suddenly received a majestic vision. The LORD revealed Himself in full holiness. The prophet says, "In the year King Uzziah died, I saw also the LORD…"

In the process of making a missionary, it is important to see or discover the LORD. Moses had a similar experience; he saw the Lord in a burning bush (Exodus 3:2-4). Paul also encountered the Lord on the road to Damascus (Acts 9:3-6). John saw the Lord at Patmos (Revelation 1:9-11). No one can be an effective evangelist or missionary if they have not discovered God. Those who want to bring people to Christ must first come to him. The Samaritan woman invited people to Christ because she had been with Him. The evangelist to Decapolis did missionary works in the 10 cities because he had been with Christ. You will only be a social commentator on the pulpit or in songs if you have never discovered Christ in your life.

2. DISCOVERING SELF

When Isaiah saw the majestic vision of God's holiness, he was filled with fear and being overwhelmed by his own sinful nature, cried out, "It is all over! I am doomed, for I am a sinful man. I have filthy lips and I live among people with filthy lips…" (Verse 5). The prophet was struck with fear because of the impurity of his own sins and those of the people. Looking upon God and then upon himself, Isaiah realized his own nothingness in comparison with the Eternal One of Israel. He, who was pronouncing doom upon the people because of their sins, found himself in the presence of the holy God and became profoundly aware of his own imperfect character. The same thing which would happen to anyone who draws near to God.

As he confessed his sins, one seraphim touched his lips with a live coal from the altar. This was a representation of purification and refinement done by God through His divine grace. His sins were forgiven and character transformed. Before one takes up divine assignment as a missionary, there is need to discover self, surrender to God who alone has power to cleanse and transform.

3. READY TO GO

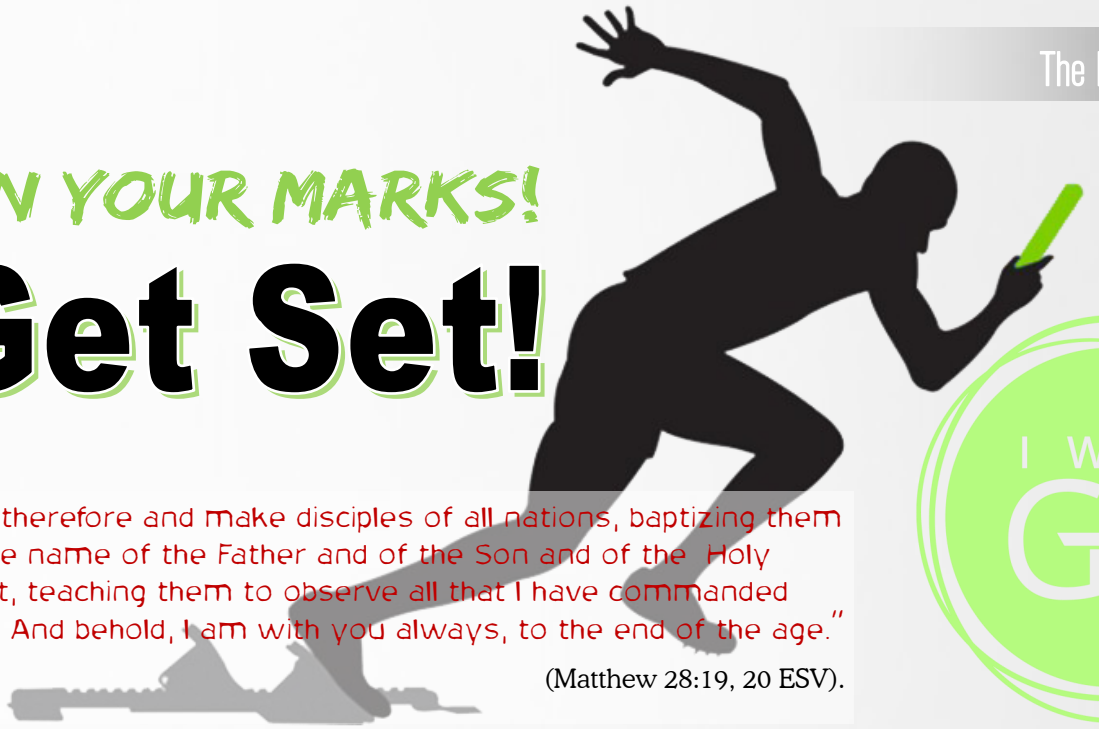
After the working of divine grace and transformation of his character, Isaiah hears the voice of the Lord calling, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for Us?" To the Lord's request for someone to go on a mission for Him, Isaiah issued one of the most famous statements in all the prophets: "Here am I; send me."

His response was to volunteer for service. Great missionaries are those who volunteer for service. Like Isaiah, they are willing to go wherever the Lord sends them. Great missionaries regard the Lord's call as a matter of urgency. Like Isaiah, their response is immediately. Having full Knowledge of the challenges his people had, Isaiah desired to share the experience he found in the LORD. He wanted his people saved from the corruption and impending judgment. Paul, in Romans 10:1, expressed similar desire by saying, "My heart's desire and prayed to God, is for Israel to be saved." Great missionaries have the burden for service in their hearts, they are ready to spend and be spent for mission.

The "Go to Grow" theme calls for missionaries who will respond like Isaiah. Who will be willing to go an extra mile in mission? Who will reciprocate their experiences in the Lord in other people's lives?

ON YOUR MARKS!

Get Set!



"Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

(Matthew 28:19, 20 ESV).



OUR Lord Jesus Christ already blew the Great Commission whistle about 2, 000 years ago. We have this assurance that cannot be missed that our Lord Jesus with all the authority given to Him will go with us wherever and whenever. In response, Lusaka Conference in unison says "GO to GROW!"

WHAT IS GO TO GROW?

Go to Grow is the Lusaka Conference mantra or theme which has been coined for two purposes:

1) *To ensure that Lusaka Conference embraces the World Church 2020 to 2025 "I Will Go" strategic direction and focus as well as continuing with the contextualised local theme of Growing God's Church. Therefore, I Will Go and Growing God's Church are captured in a slogan, "I Will Go, I Will Go, Go to Grow!"*
2) *To provide foundational ways of operationalising all the objectives contained in the I Will Go and Growing God's Church.*

It is becoming general knowledge now that in the modern day, one of the greatest challenges in trying to obtain the ideal is not necessarily failure on the part of coming up with the administrative policy statement or framework, but rather the failure on the part of implementation. In like manner, the Great Commission and mission directional statements can also remain as mere policy statements on the conceptual level if they are not accompanied by clear instruments for implementation.

For this reason, Go to Grow provides four emphasis areas which when embraced and executed by all the churches in Lusaka Conference will provide the platform for the operationalisation of both the world church strategic focus and the continuation of the local theme in order to achieve all the intended objectives. Go to Grow takes care of the objectives of Spiritual Growth, Mission, Leadership and Infrastructure Development.

The following are the four (4) areas of emphasis of the Go to Grow:

STRENGTHENING THE GRASSROOTS:

Strengthening the grassroots means that all church approaches and activities will be to ensure that the grassroots (individuals, families, local churches) are helped to grow and remain strong. Spiritually strong individuals make a strong family; strong families make a strong church, etc. Therefore the church in Lusaka Conference will be held as a lifestyle, and will be brought into the home. If for example a family has been made to fail to attend church on a particular Sabbath, their worship through tithes and offerings which had already been set aside for the Lord will still be collected and recorded and later submitted to their church.

REVIVING THE MISSIONARY SPIRIT:

This means that all churches will be helped to revive that spirit of the old church missionaries and pioneers who worked selflessly. A missionary is one who is willing to go and spend resources beyond the comfort of home sphere. Activities will include such examples as a stronger local church sponsoring a local missionary pioneer in a neighboring church, un-entered area or unreached people group.

ENCOURAGE PARTICIPATION:

This means that all churches will be helped to be deliberate on creating an environment and opportunity where all people who associate with the church whether baptised or not, have something to do in the life of the church. An example is that monitoring of involvement in evangelism and stewardship will be decentralised to departmental groupings, leadership groups' likes elders, church boards, Sabbath School study groups, and so on. While there are tasks that require baptism, election, or ordination, most of the activities in the life of the church do not require such segregations. Do activities such as literature distribution, door-to-door witnessing, and community service, returning tithes and giving of offerings, providing resources or actual building of the church require baptism, election or ordination? The answer is NO! Lusaka Conference calls for leadership that seeks to involve all children in serving their Creator.

COMMUNITY RELEVANCY:

This means that all church approaches and activities will be to ensure that the local churches are doing those things which benefit communities as they aim at preparing hearts to receive the Word of God. Churches will seek ways of making Christianity more practical in society. These activities will include community services for health, education, economic, self-sustenance, etc. The church in Lusaka Conference will not only attend to the spiritual needs of people but also to other felt needs. This will require human resource that is well equipped to serve the contemporary society.

Go to Grow is definitely not in vain. Like in the experience of the 72 in Luke 10:1 - 2, those who intentionally initiate the process of reaching out will indeed cause the church to grow even numerically as souls are added to the church. It is also exciting to note that the messengers will experience in the field the wonder working power of God as the kingdom of darkness is being demolished. This experience has a reciprocal effect to grow the faith of those who accept to go on God's mission.

Lusaka Conference! I Will Go, I Will Go, Go to Grow!



Pastor GOLIATH M NAINI
President, Lusaka Conference

"Those who intentionally initiate the process of reaching out will indeed cause the church to grow even numerically as souls are added to the church."

"I WILL GO" AT A GLANCE



"I WILL GO" involve all church members in reaching the world, inspiring and equipping them to use their God-given spiritual gifts in witness and service for Christ.

As a continuation of the Reach the World Strategic approach to world mission, I Will Go offers something for the whole Church from Local Churches, Missions, Conferences, Unions, Divisions, to the General Conference and Institutions. It is a tool to help the Church be more focused and effective in answering God's call for us to witness to unreached people around the world and performing critical tasks.

This strategic focus is rooted in the Great Commission found in Matthew 28:19-20 which calls Jesus' followers to go and make disciples of all nations.

I Will Go Strategic Plan will help the Church to be more effective in Mission, Spiritual Growth, and Leadership. Its value and impact will be determined as the Church works together as a world-wide team of brothers and sisters, under the power of the Holy Spirit.

As we trust God to fill us with the Holy Spirit, let us work together to share the gospel with the entire world. All of us have the opportunity to say "I Will Go!"



Pastor FRANCIS CHIBIYA
Executive Secretary

From counting Animals to counting People

By New Dawn Reporter

LUSAKA Conference of the Seventh - day Adventist Church (LC) has embarked on vigorous online up-loading of Church members' data into the computerized Adventist Church Management System (ACMS). The exercise which is being supervised by the Conference Executive Secretary Pastor Francis Chibiya has so far uploaded 20,169 members between January and June, 2021.

According to second quarter statistical reports, the Conference has uploaded 85,783 members out of its membership of 109,650 translating in growth of 75.44%. This achievement is due to a number of activities implemented by the Conference. Some of the major steps the Conference took include setting up an ACMS Committee at Conference level. This committee has four (4) members: 1 full time and 3 part time who assist local church clerks and data entry personnel on how to effectively work with this online system. Secondly, the Conference had dedicated the month of May and July as months of ACMS sensitization in all churches within its territory. The Executive Secretary and his Committee have trained data entry personnel in all the 24 districts of Lusaka Conference. They have also conducted 13 seminars for church clerks and elders in charge. Other activities done at local church level include: monthly roll calls, home visitations and forming of social media groups where members share some of the challenges they face in membership audit.

Pastor Francis Chibiya was appointed Executive Secretary during the Year End Executive Committee held at Mika Hotel in Kabulonga on December 7, 2020. Before this appointment he served as Lusaka Conference Stewardship Director.

During the two years he served as Stewardship Director, he went round the Conference training both members and leaders in building a culture of faithfulness and practical entrepreneurship skills. He was well known for counting animals and receiving other farm products which members were returning as tithes and offerings in kind.

GET REGISTERED!

BE A MEMBER NOT JUST A NUMBER

Is your name in the Adventist Church Management System (ACMS)?

Lusaka Conference of Seventh-day Adventists has intensified uploading of data of Church member onto the computerized Church membership system Adventist Church Management System

To upload your information you need to do the following:

- ≈ See the Church Clerk
- ≈ Check if your name is in the record books
- ≈ Get an ACMS form from your Church Clerk
- ≈ Fill in the ACMS form
- ≈ Return the ACMS form to the Church Clerk for the uploading of your information onto the ACMS

For more information about ACMS visit: www.sidadventist.org/acms/



Understanding ACMS

Adventist Church Management System

By Pastor Goliath Naini

ACMS stands for Adventist Church Management System, it serves among other things to transform the traditional way of keeping church membership records from books to online register.

THE Southern Zambia Union Conference has set December 31, 2021 as deadline for all churches in the Union to conclude the migration from manual registers to the online system. Come January 2022, the only official Church membership register will be on the online system. Lusaka Conference still has over 25,000 members who are yet to be uploaded.

Below are six (6) advantages for using the online register:

1) All processes concerning church membership status are done faster at the click of a button. For example, church transfer can be done within few days; statistical reporting will be on time as soon as the information is keyed in.

2) Church registers will have accurate records as the system will not allow double membership; the system right away detects the already existing names anywhere in the world

3) Member care and nurture will be improved as members will be easily contacted through the provided contact details, this way members will be brother's keepers (Genesis 4:9).

4) Because of reliable statistics, even the planning by the church for its members will be improved as decisions are going to be well informed.

5) The current challenge of missing members will be a thing of the past as the Adventist Church Management System (ACMS) deals with only members who are present.

6) An online register contains necessary details of each church member so that a member is not known by name only but also by what they can do in the church. For example, the detail of a member's profession or skill helps the church to know who to make use of for specific tasks. There will be a data base for all the skills found in that particular church, and these skills will have opportunity to be advertised and used for the benefit of the church and also the skill owners themselves.

How does ACMS help improve Member-church Relationship?

Church membership is a relationship existing between a member and the church of choice. Every good relationship thrives on the exercise of mutual trust and interparty confidence. Can you imagine God confiding in wicked human beings and entrusting them with the responsibility of proclaiming the gospel of salvation, the task which could have been perfectly done by holy angels! Ellen G White wrote, "I testify to my brethren and sisters that the church of Christ enfeebled and defective as it may be, is the only object on earth on which He bestows His supreme regard." God Himself exercises trust in His church. It is expected that God's people who love their God will not find it difficult to trust the church, the object of God's supreme regard. (Testimonies to Ministers and Gospel Workers, page 15)

Is it possible for some church members to have resistance against ACMS?

ACMS involves the migration from the use of church book registers to online church registers. Admittedly this carries with it some form of change in the way of doing things.

It is general knowledge that people naturally resist change. Therefore, it is not strange for Church members also to tend to move cautiously whenever they are confronted with change or some new development like technological migration.

Common expressions of skepticism about ACMS by church members

Just why is the church now changing from book registers to computer registers and online for that matter?

Why is the church now asking for personal details for these church registers, which detail were not asked for since the church began?

How secure is the ACMS from cybercrime activities?

Is this not a subtle way of introducing or making the church vulnerable to the schemes of the Beast of Bible prophecy (Mark of the Beast)?

Can ACMS be trusted?

ACMS is not a unique technological development the church community has ever adopted. Today emails have replaced paper letter writing for quick and easy way of doing things. This way the church has always endeavored to be abreast with technological advancement and usage.

Many of the institutions which society and the church community today have fully embraced include schools, hospitals, banks, airlines etc. also ask for the same personal details for the sake of obtaining and establishing reliable client identities. The Seventh-day Adventist church community has not expressed any skepticism or doubts in working with these institutions. Individual Adventist church members have been cooperative in adhering to these same requirements by these institutions without associating this development to the mark of the Beast.

Every international program subscribes to internationally accepted security standards failure to which such programs would not be allowed to operate. ACMS is such a program, observing high cyber security standards.

The teaching of the Mark of the Beast in prophecy follows a specific reliable path of studying the Bible which is not left to private interpretations or personal feelings. Therefore, it still remains that someone has to prove from scripture how the ACMS becomes the Mark of the Beast.

A point to remember again about the issue of confidence is that even Christianity was resisted at its introduction (Acts 5:33-40,) yet it was the right thing at the right time, praise God, it succeeded.

With advancement in technology and digital usage, it is prudent to move with time.



Elder DENNY MANGISHA
Chief Financial Officer

Chief of Finances

REVEALS THE LC COMPETITVE ADVANTAGE

By New Dawn Reporter

THE Chief Financial Officer, Elder Denny Mangisha, has revealed that the strength of Lusaka Conference lies in its People. He defined the membership in the Conference as a competitive advantage to achieve the Lord's mission and realise the organisation's dreams.

He explained that with the philosophy of stewardship and if everyone is doing something and doing it to the glory of the Lord, nothing will stop the Conference from achieving its purpose and goals. He hinted on three key elements which would aid the Conference to excel:

1) Commitment — He explained that when all members begin doing something and commit themselves to the Lord's enterprise great results will be recorded. He observed that the projects churches have can only be completed with full commitment from every individual.

2) Unity — unity of purpose increases the power of contribution exponentially. Each individual that recognises the shared vision of the organisation and strives towards it renders the goal that much more is attainable. When people come together and focus on the organisation's mission, it will be easier to meet the target.

3) Communication — communication helps to align workers to work with one another and to achieve the objectives of the organisation. Without communication, nothing can be done. It is key element in human behavior. As leaders we have wonderful dreams and plans but if we don't communicate, those aspirations will die in the leader's head. There is need to sell the dreams and plans to the followers. When the followers understand the leaders' vision and commit themselves to them and are united, nothing will stop us from reaching our intended goals.

With guidance of the Holy Spirit and the determination from the people, Lusaka Conference will continue to sail towards success.

Meanwhile, the Chief Financial Officer with the Accounts Team is training church treasurers and members on church financial policies. So far, 10 seminars have been conducted in Mission Districts of Lusaka Conference.

CHURCH FINANCIAL LITERACY AND ACCOUNTABILITY



BESH MWENDA MUSYUTILA
Church Elder - Maamba Central Church

Financial literacy is the ability to understand and effectively use various financial skills, including personal financial management, budgeting, and investing. The lack of these skills is called financial illiteracy.

NOTE that a strong foundation of financial literacy can help support various life goals, such as saving for education or retirement, using debt responsibly and running the church. Further, it is important to note that Church financial literacy is one of the crucial subjects in stewardship.

In the 21st century Church, people want to know how to manage their day to day finances better; how to choose financial products such as loans, how to deal with debt, how to save and invest for their retirement. Without practical financial literacy, Christians are likely to fall into predatory lenders and unscrupulous financial advisors, Ponzi and pyramid schemes which are becoming the order of the day. They are likely to make costly financial errors, which may not necessarily be a sin but may prevent them from accessing the promises of God regarding their finances. Here is how church-based financial literacy can transform the fortunes of the church.

EMPOWERING MEMBERS BY REDUCING FINANCIAL STRESS

Research has reviewed that the biggest source of stress for most people (51 per cent) is money. According to American financial literacy expert Dave Ramsey, whose personal finance Programmes is being taught in churches across America, 33 per cent of Christian marriages end in divorce, and money problems are the number one cause. Given the economic crises and the prevailing mistrust of the Government and financial service firms, the church is the place where people seek solace and guidance. It is therefore a trusted place of receiving information on their personal finance, which can go a long way in improving their capability in dealing with financial matters.

AN EFFECTIVE TOOL FOR OUTREACH

Money is one language the world understands and financial literacy in the church is clearly an effective tool of reaching out to the local community, the Church has a unique role in offering practical support and in promoting financial capability. Rejecting the view that the Bible has little to say about modern finance and economics, it is committed to equipping churches to support those in deep debt, encouraging savings and promoting good money management as part of a holistic service to communities.

IMPROVING GIVING

Financial Literacy improves peoples' ability to plan effectively and eliminate wasteful spending, leading to increased disposable income to give, save and use in paying down debt. The result of this is an even more prosperous church.

IMPROVING EMPLOYABILITY AND SKILL FOR LIFE

The Church has always played an important role in education. The COVID-19 has left thousands of Christians out of job, thus needing to improve their skills and employability. Financial literacy offers the Church an opportunity to impact the much needed skills that people need to succeed in the 21st Century's market-place. Additionally, given that a large proportion of people in Zambia today have not undergone any learning since they left school, the church is well positioned as a place where people can improve their knowledge and skills.

In conclusion, it is important to note that God takes primary responsibility to provide resources, but we have a secondary and important responsibility, too, thus the following responsibility for each steward.

RESPONSIBILITY: HONOR GOD

Deuteronomy 17:1 "Do not sacrifice to the Lord your God an ox or a sheep that has any defect or flaw in it, for that would be detestable to him."

Proverbs 3:9 "Honour the Lord with your wealth, with the first fruits of all your crops; 10 then your barns will be filled to overflowing, and your vats will brim over with new wine."

RESPONSIBILITY: PAY YOUR BILLS ASAP

1 Timothy 5:8 "If anyone does not provide for his relatives, and especially for his immediate family, he has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever."

Proverbs 3:27 "Do not withhold good from those who deserve it, when it is in your power to act. 28 Do not say to your neighbor, "Come back later; I'll give it Tomorrow" – when you now have it with you."

Hebrews 13:5 Keep your lives free from the love of money and be content with what you have, because God has said, "Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you.

RESPONSIBILITY: BUDGETING

Proverbs 27:23-24 "Be sure you know the condition of your flocks, give careful attention to your herds; for riches do not endure forever, and a crown is not secure for all generations."

RESPONSIBILITY: SAVING

Proverbs 22:3 "A prudent man sees danger and takes refuge, but the simple keep going and suffer for it."

Proverbs 30:24-25 "Four things on earth are small, yet they are extremely wise: Ants are creatures of little strength, yet they store up their food in the summer…"

Proverbs 13:11 "dishonest money dwindles away but he who gathers money little by little makes it grow."



SHEPHERDING THE FLOCK

The Pastor's/Elder's True Biblical Calling

Pastor MAYBIN SHANYINDE
Personal Ministries/Ministerial Director

IN this presentation, we have deliberately combined two titles: the pastor and the elder; because the word Shepherd is a definition of the work done by both Pastors and Elders. A pastor or an elder is not called to run programs for the masses, nor is he called to do it all and tries to please everyone.

God is the one who calls Pastors and Elders to ministry, and the specifications of their calling are clearly outlined in God's word. The only way pastors and elders can avoid pitfalls and remain steadfast in their life and ministry is to know what God has truly called them to do. And to do that, the apostle Peter exhorts elders and pastors to be shepherds — to care for God's people:

"Be shepherds of God's flock that is under your care, watching over them — not because you must, but because you are willing, as God wants you to be; not pursuing dishonest gain, but eager to serve; not lording it over those entrusted to you, but being examples to the flock. And when the Chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the crown of glory that will never fade away" (1 Peter 5:2-4, NIV).

Peter's exhortation to pastors and elders can be summarised in a single sentence:

"Be shepherds of God's flock under your care until the Chief Shepherd appears."

And in case you missed it, Peter is pretty clear about the who, what, when, and how of a pastor's or an elder's biblical calling.

What: *"Be shepherds of God's flock."*

Who: *The "flock that is under your care."*

How: *"Not because you must, but because you are willing, as God wants you to be; not pursuing dishonest gain, but eager to serve; not lording it over those entrusted to you, but being examples to the flock."*

When: *Until "the Chief Shepherd [Jesus Christ] appears" — returning for his flock placed in your care.*

A Pastor's or an Elder's true calling, then, is to shepherd the souls of God's people humbly, willingly, and eagerly, and to do all of this on behalf of the Chief Shepherd, Jesus Christ.

This has not changed from the time Peter wrote these words until today. Though our culture has changed and life is radically different today than it was in the first century, the basic responsibilities of pastoral ministry have not changed.

The Word of God is sufficient to provide us with an outline of a pastor's and an elder's divine calling and to instruct in how he should prioritise his daily schedule. God's word consistently highlights the priorities of faithful shepherds and affirms that these priorities revolve around the core calling — to "be shepherds of God's flock that is under your care."

God's word has the power to cut through the demands, pressures, and expectations that crush a pastor's spirit.

1 GUARD THE TRUTH. A pastor/elder must be committed to the word of God and the apostles' teachings and be willing to preach, teach, and defend them when they are contrary to the culture.

2 PREACH THE WORD. A pastor must faithfully preach the whole counsel of God's word, carefully explaining the meaning of the text and applying it to the lives of those under his care.

3 PRAY FOR THE FLOCK. A pastor should be an intercessor, bringing the needs of his church before God and modeling prayer both publicly and privately.

4 SET AN EXAMPLE. A pastor is an example to his flock and should always be aware that others are looking to him as a model. While a pastor should model righteous behavior, he must also model confession and repentance, acknowledging he is also a sinner and teaching his people how to apply the gospel to life.

5 VISIT THE SICK. Pastors should visit those who are sick and in need of care and encouragement, and they must train others in the congregation to help care for those in need.

6 COMFORT THE GRIEVING. In the face of death, a pastor should grieve with those who grieve and should sensitively remind those who are grieving of the hope and encouragement of the gospel. This involves preaching gospel—focused messages at funerals and graveside services.

7 CARE FOR WIDOWS. This much neglected biblical teaching calls for pastors to be responsible for the widows of the church and to find creative ways to model care for widows by involving their families and other members of the church in caring for these special women.

8 CONFRONT SIN. Pastors need to confront sin and lead the church in the exercise of discipline in the hope of repentance and restoration.

9 ENCOURAGE THE WEAKER SHEEP. Though we can be tempted to easily dismiss people who are slow to change, God calls pastors to model patience and persevering hope by working with those who are difficult, despairing, and challenging.

10 IDENTIFY AND TRAIN LEADERS. It is the primary responsibility of pastors to identify, train, and affirm leaders in the church. Every pastor should have a plan for doing this in his local church and should be actively seeking out the next generation of leaders.

We need to be biblically grounded in these pastoral imperatives before we can develop the practical tools to engage in these tasks.

Evangelism Amidst COVID 19 PANDEMIC



Evangelist TONGAI ZERO MUTEMELA
Lusaka Conference Lay Evangelism Chairperson

THE Seventh-day Adventist (SDA) Church has a mandate to preach the gospel about Jesus Christ and to warn the dying world about the impending doom. Central to this is the preaching of the Three Angels' Message (Revelation 14) so that everyone can hear the truth and make a choice before it's too late. To invite many to Christ while he is still found.

When we read in Isaiah 6:8, we find the prophet Isaiah responding to a question which the Lord asked; Also I heard the voice of the Lord, saying: "Whom shall I send, and who will go for Us?" Then I said, "Here am I! Send me."

The Evangelism Department of the Lusaka Conference has not been sitting dormant even amidst the COVID-19 crisis. We have undertaken various activities to make sure that the word of God is preached far and near.

We had an Evangelism seminar which was held under the theme, "I WILL GO" and it was held at Mwembeshi Secondary School from April 1- 5, 2021. The seminar attracted more than 250 Lay Preachers who were drawn from all the Districts in Lusaka Conference. All the classes namely Beginners, Intermediate, Advanced and Teacher of Teachers (TOT) were well represented and participants were equipped with the necessary knowledge and skills on how to evangelise and win souls for Christ. The seminar had facilitators like Pastor Maybin Shanyinde (Personal Ministries Director), Pastor Paul Mulendema, Pastor Gift Chisala, Pastor Shaft Muntanga, Pastor Baldwin Mulenga, Pastor Griffin Mumba and Evangelist Joseph Ngosa. The facilitators did their best to sharpen the skills of the Lay preachers. Pastor Francis Chibiya (Lusaka Conference Executive Secretary) and the Chief Financial Officer Elder Danny Mangisha graced the seminar.

To fulfil the great gospel commission as found in Matthew 28:18-20, the Evangelism Department also conducted Crusades in the month of May and at the end of these crusades, more than 2,000 souls gave themselves to the Lord. This brings the total number of people who were baptised to over 3,000 from January to May 2021.

It is important for every member especially in Lusaka Conference to embrace Evangelism and take it upon themselves to do a one-to-one personal evangelism. This must start with our friends and neighbours just like in the book of Acts 1:8 how Jesus Christ told the disciples that after they had received power when the Holy Spirit has come upon them, and they will be witness to Him in Jerusalem, and in all Judea, and Samaria and to the end of the earth.

Therefore, all of us must be involved in evangelism through Total Member Involvement (TMI), instead of looking only to Pastors and Lay Preachers to evangelise. Just like prophet Isaiah responded to God's call, every one of us must stand boldly and say, "I WILL GO!"

Just as a certain Proverb says; "It is odd for a dog to look unconcerned when a sheep is barking at a stranger," it is equally the responsibility of the Evangelism Department in Lusaka Conference to see to it that the gospel reaches every individual.

Therefore, we call upon everyone to join the bandwagon, lift up the gospel banner and like a watchman on the walls of Zion to spread the glad tidings about the soon coming of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

COVID-19 is the more reason why the gospel must be preached as opposed to being the excuse why the gospel cannot be preached.



Newly baptised Members being received by other Church members after a 2 weeks Crusade conducted by Ev. Alpha Musowegwa at Kola Church



Our current quinquennial slogan says, "I will go." The "I" includes every Seventh-day Adventist Christian. There are many ways in which we all can go in the Stewardship Ministries of our world Seventh-day Adventist church. In Lusaka Conference, we have adopted seven ways and called them our "Seven Focus Areas." We also have changed the "can" to "ought." These Focus Areas are discussed below:

7 FOCUS AREAS of Stewardship

Pastor KEITH CHUUMPU
Stewardship Director

1. Leader Faithfulness:

We, the leaders, all ought to be faithful in returning our tithes and offerings. We can only lead the church to where we ourselves are going.

2. Member Faithfulness:

We, the members, all ought to be faithful in returning our tithes and offerings. Doing so is a tester of our Christian convictions.

3. Pastoral Care and Spiritual Empowerment:

We, the members, all ought to be visited by our pastor, our elder, our deacon, or our deaconess at least once every quarter. This keeps us strong in our faith.

4. Stewardship Education:

We, the members, all ought to receive continuous stewardship education. This keeps us awake to God's call for mission.

5. Trust Fund Remittance:

We, the local church, all ought to send our conference, union, and General Conference funds to our local conference for onward transmission in mission. This keeps us mission oriented.

6. Accountability and Transparency:

We, the members, all ought to receive quarterly reports on how we have performed in returning our tithes and offerings, and on how the funds have been handled. This keeps us all accountable.

7. Evaluation:

We, the local church and conference, ought to quarterly evaluate ourselves regarding our progress towards each of our objectives. This keeps us on course.

Every quarter, we, the pastors and administrative elders, entrusted with the responsibility of shepherding the church, meet to evaluate our progress. For each district, we ask the following main questions per Focus Area:

Leader Faithfulness: What is the total number of us, leaders? How many of us, leaders, return our tithes and offerings?

Member Faithfulness: What is the total number of us, members? How many of us, members, return our tithes and offerings?

Pastoral Care and Spiritual Empowerment: What is the total number of us, members? How many of us, members, receive our visits from our shepherds?

Stewardship Education: What is the total number of our churches? How many of our churches conduct full stewardship months and weeks of emphasis?

Trust Fund Remittance: What is the total number of our churches? How many of our churches remit our trust funds on time?

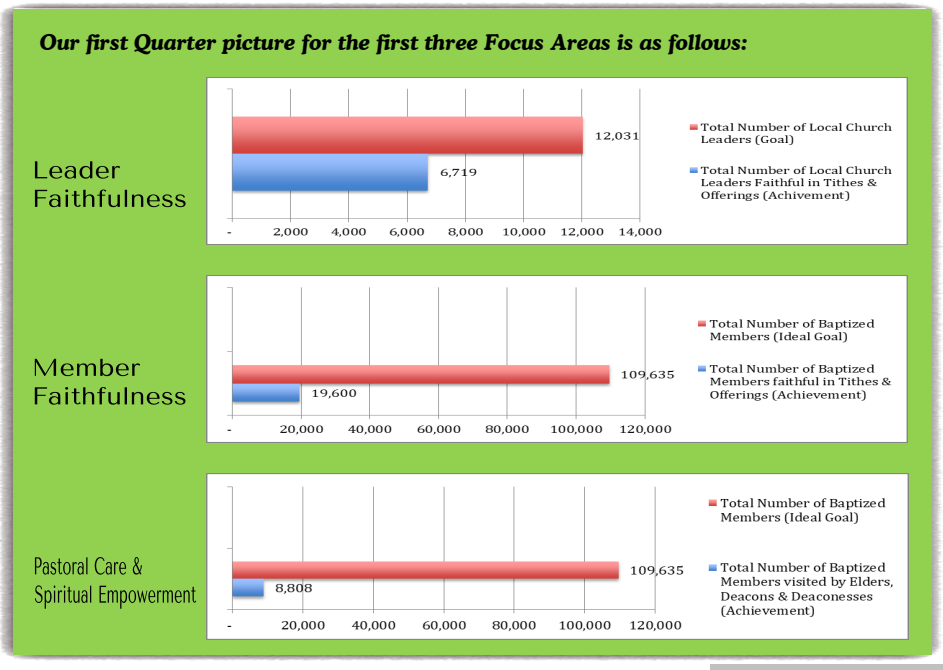
Accountability and transparency: What is the total number of our churches? How many of our churches receive quarterly financial reports?

Evaluation: What is the total number of our churches? How many of our churches conduct quarterly local and conference evaluations?

With our Lusaka Conference focus "Go to Grow", each person has a gap to fill in order for us to grow. We all have something we can do. I can do something. You can do something. We all can do something.

Together we can go. Together we can grow. Therefore, let us "Go to Grow!"

Our first Quarter picture for the first three Focus Areas is as follows:





Infrastructure and CHURCH DEVELOPMENT

By New Dawn Reporter

LUSAKA Conference has constructed a Mission house in Shibuyunji Mission District which has since been handed over and occupied by the District Pastor Best Mbozi. The house whose construction works started early 2020 was completed and handed over on 4th December, 2020 by the engineer Dr. Chabota Kaliba.

Kabwata Seventh-day Adventist Church has been granted a Church-district status by the Lusaka Conference Executive Committee. Sitting during the mid-year committee held at Sarovar Premier Hotel on June 14, 2021 the committee further assigned Pastor Evaristo Barry Mwiinga as the Church Pastor for Kabwata Church.

Meanwhile, Kabwata Mission District has been renamed as Ridgeway Mission District with Pastor Dumisani Muzungaire as District Pastor. Churches under the new Ridgeway Mission District include Burma, Evelyn Hone, Jacaranda, Landmarks and Ridgeway.

Other ministerial assignments are Pastor Billy Mukombo has been transferred to Makeni Villa Mission District. He took over from Pastor Mwiinga who has moved to Kabwata Church while Pastor Gift Chisala and Pastor Roy Shiyala have been moved to Sala and Nangoma Mission Districts respectively.



Front view of the newly constructed Mission house in Shibuyunji District





Lounge (on the left) and Master bedroom (on the right) of the new Shibuyunji Mission house



Old Shibuyunji Mission house which was demolished



In Picture: from left to right Pastor Evaristo B Mwiinga (Church Pastor for Kabwata Church) Elder Jack Sievu (First Elder); Elder Vincent Mufungulwa (center); Elder Francis Mundanya; and Pastor Dominic Mubanga. Pastor Mubanga was instrumental to the organization of district status of Kabwata Church.



Mrs. FLORENCE KAUNDA
Women & Children Ministries Director

And the WOMEN Declared I WILL GO!

LUSAKA Conference has embarked on a mission focused visionary journey for the period 2021-2025 under the motto "Go to Grow" which is a combination of the World Church's theme "I Will Go" and the LC mission focus of "Growing God's Church."

The women of Lusaka Conference have whole-heartedly embraced this theme by engaging in activities aimed at enhancing evangelism, spiritual growth and other missionary works. In April 2021, more than 150 Lusaka Conference women participated as volunteer evangelists during the Southern Indian Ocean Division (SID) Women's Ministries virtual evangelistic campaign. They committed themselves to virtually share the Gospel daily in the height of the COVID-19 pandemic. The women each created small groups of people which served as platforms for sharing devotions, Bible studies and testimonies. So far, these initiatives are yielding results as three people were baptised in Sala Mission District.

Apart from evangelism approach, Lusaka Conference Women have continued with trainings in the community on COVID-19 Food Security, Food Processing and Production. In March, 2021, the women managed to conduct two programmes on Tomato Food Processing as well as Mushroom Growing while in April, they had a field trip to Kadoko Veggies Farm in Chisamba where they learnt how to grow vegetables in their backyard as a cost saving measure.

Answering the call, "Whom shall I send and who will go for us?" The Women have jointly declared they are ready to go and proclaim the goodness of the Lord through their spiritual gifts and abilities as bestowed by the Holy Spirit.



Delegates at the SID Women Ministries Sabbath Worship at Lusaka's Showground





Women taking practical lessons on Tomato Processing



TOTAL CHILD Involvement

Every Child, a Disciple of JESUS

By Mrs. Florence Kaunda

IN Children's Ministries Department, the I WILL GO strategy is be implemented under the Total Child Involvement (TCI) initiative. We encourage churches to implement more inclusive programming where they will include children's programs and commemorate their special days in the church calendars/time management.

MISSION ACTIVITIES

Our children have been negatively affected with COVID-19 restrictions this year. For most part of the year, the kids have not been meeting for worship in churches. However, we praise God that some activities did take place under strict COVID-19 adherence and guidelines, prayer conferences; child preacher's training seminars and field trips to homes of vulnerable children were undertaken to equip the children in evangelism. Westwood district held Vocation Bible School where almost 200 children participated; about 50 of them were non Adventist children. We are hopeful our churches will continue engage the children in more missionary activities when the COVID -19 restrictions are lifted.

EMPOWERING THE GRASSROOTS

To empower our children leaders, they were equipped with the responsibilities of mentoring and teaching children. Leadership Certification training was conducted in a number of districts during the half year to June 2021. The training included, among other lessons, how to understand children's behaviors, how children develop, how they learn, how to protect children as well as giving a better understanding of the Grace Link curriculum which our church has adopted for children's Sabbath school lessons. Church leaders are encouraged to arrange for this training to improve the level of service delivery to the children.

ACTIVITIES THAT INCREASE THE CHURCH'S RELEVANCE IN THE COMMUNITY

On March 20, 202, we commemorated Global Children's day. On May 22, 2021, we commemorated a special day scheduled annually as a day of prayer for children at risk around the globe. These children at risk face abuse, neglect, trafficking to other countries, hurt and much more that disrupts their lives.

In the spirit of Total Child Involvement (TCI), the children in our churches were empowered to pray for the children at risk. As they prayed, they also focused on other ways of relieving the pain and suffering of the children in their communities. Many local churches prepared for this day by allowing children to donate clothes, shoes, toys, books and food items that were given to homes and shelters where the vulnerable children are found. Where physical meetings were possible, the children presented these gifts themselves, while observing strict COVID-19 health guidelines. It was a great way to demonstrate Total Child Involvement (TCI) in evangelism; outreach as well as helping the children realize that the church has an obligation to the community.

Let us support our children in their spiritual journey through nurturing them to have a personal relationship with Jesus. This support starts from home and consolidated by the church. God bless.





LITERATURE EVANGELISM

How you can get involved in literature evangelism

by Pastor Stanley Chilembo

LITERATURE evangelism is one ministry that has continued making headways in world evangelism. The Seventh-day Adventist Church has penetrated many nations through this ministry. Ellen White wrote "*The canvassing work should no longer be neglected. Many times I have been shown that there should be a more general interest in our canvassing work. The circulation of our literature is one very important means of placing before men and women the light that the Lord has committed to His church to be given to the world*" (Colporteur Ministry, page 16).

Someone may ask, how can I get involved in literature evangelism? You can get involved by:

Becoming a Literature Missionary. Not all of us will become Literature Evangelists (LE) but all of us can be Literature Missionaries. A literature missionary is one who decides to share the message of hope through literature distribution. Usually this is done by giving out Missionary Books of the year as well as other title. In the past 15 years, the Church has distributed more than 400 million copies of Missionary Books.

Value Literature Evangelists. Their work is spiritual. The books they place in homes have power to direct families to the cross. Countless stories abound of those who have come to a relationship with Jesus and His church by first reading a book sold by an LE. Furthermore, the fruit of their ministry is ongoing. Some respond immediately to what they read. In others, a spiritual seed is planted that matures over a period of years.

Recruit new Literature Evangelists. Ask your District Literature Evangelism Leader, your District Pastor, the Assistant Publishing Director or Conference Publishing Director to help you find and train a LE for your church. Not everyone is called to literature ministry and not everyone has the basic skills to meet the public. At your local Church, arrange for publishing promotions where you talk about literature ministry as a viable option to other selling ventures. There are many in our Churches who can do greater and better in literature ministry. Those whose spiritual maturity and innate skills make them potential LE candidates. Target such individuals and encourage them to consider that God might use their talents in literature ministry.

Refer friends, workmates, neighbors and Relatives to Literature Evangelists. Every day we contact individuals who would readily respond to an LE's visit. The success of literature sales by our Literature Evangelists demonstrates the public's interest. Our books and magazines are of the finest quality and easily attract the interest of those who see them. Don't hesitate to suggest to those you meet that you have a friend who can help them find meaningful spiritual answers. Offer to facilitate an appointment between your contacts and the LE. You will reap the results of your referrals by those who begin to attend your church.

Support Literature Evangelists. Literature Evangelists go through tough times to find someone to share the message of hope with. They walk long distances, sometimes without succeeding on their calls due to many circumstances. Offer them spiritual and social support by praying with them, encouraging them. There are some families who have gone an extra mile by providing accommodation and transport for LEs to travel to various appointments.

Start a Library at your Local Church and encourage your members to read. Far too many of our people lack spiritual reading materials in their homes. Promote acquisition of spiritual books. For example, Ellen White's Conflict of the Ages series should be in every Adventist home. As you prepare converts for baptism, teach them how to establish family worship. Instruct them to develop a personal spiritual library.

"*How beautiful on the mountains are the feet of those who bring Good News, who proclaim peace, who bring good tidings, who proclaim salvation, who say to Zion, Your God reigns!*" — Prophet Isaiah





LUSAKA CONFERENCE LAUNCHES AN ONLINE

DISCOVER BIBLE SCHOOL

AS 792 VOP CANDIDATES GRADUATE IN 13 CENTERS



LUSAKA Conference has launched an online Discover Bible School under the Voice of Prophecy (VOP) Bible Correspondence School. Speaking during the Elders Seminar at Mwembeshi Secondary School, Lusaka Conference President Pastor Goliath Naini revealed that time had come to spread the Gospel using every means. He said the Three Angels in Revelation 14 clearly show that the Gospel must be proclaimed with swiftness and using online platforms helps the Church to practically fulfill its mandate.

The online Discover Bible School provides three basic courses including Discover Bible with 26 lessons; Focus on Prophecy with 20 lessons and Kids Zone with 16 lessons. The School has since enrolled 218 students of which 186 have already completed their courses.

Meanwhile, 792 VOP candidates in 13 centres have graduated with diplomas in Discover Bible Course. The number of graduates according to centers are 33 at Apex Church (Kamwala Mission District); 148 at Shikaluma Church (Mutaba Mission District); 46 at Northlands Church (Estates Mission District); 38 at Jack Main Church (Kamulanga Mission District); 43 at Evelyn Hone Church (Kabwata Mission District); 138 at Chawama Main (Chawama Mission District); 110 at Kalundu Church (Shorthorn Mission District); 33 at Cornerstone Church (Kamulanga); 57 at Makeni Main Church (Makeni Mission District); 66 at Redemption Church (Kamulanga Mission District); 48 at Kaanza Church (Mukulaikwa Mission District) and 49 at ARU Industries a non-Adventist center being supervised by Evangelist Edwin Rose.



124 ATTEND

PROPHETIC GUIDANCE SEMINAR

Lusaka Conference Spirit of Prophecy Ministries conducted a Prophetic Guidance Seminar on 1st to 5th April, 2021 at Kamwala Main Seventh-day Adventist Church which was attended by 124 delegates among them were Literature Evangelists, Local Church SOP, VOP and Publishing leaders and elders in charge. The seminar was facilitated by Pastor Brian Sinyangwe, Pastor Kenfield Sindolo, Pastor Abinary Mukwakwa and Elder Maata Maata and was hosted by the Conference Spirit of Prophecy Director Pastor Stanley Chilembo.

Earlier the SID in collaboration with Ellen Whites conducted a virtual training of Spirit of Prophecy educators which ran for six months from July to December 2020. Lusaka Conference was represented by twelve (12) candidates, namely Pastor Stanley Chilembo, Pastor Abinary Mukwakwa, Pastor Brian Sinyangwe, Pastor Fines Hamatanga, Pastor Felix Kakwisa, Elder Maata Maata, Elder Vincent Mufungulwa, Elder Jonathan Mweetwa, Elder Hick Chiboola, Elder John Hikanyemu, Elder Clement Chiwele and Elder Jackson Mwesha.

36,000 MISSIONARY BOOKS

DURING 2021 WORLD IMPACT DAY



Maranatha Church Members ready for distribution of Missionary Books

MISSIONARY Books of the year are small pieces of literature the Seventh-day Adventist Church shares around the world usually done on World Impact Day held in April every year.

This year's World Impact Day was on 17th April 2021. Churches in Lusaka Conference distributed 36,000 "Hope Beyond Tomorrow," a Missionary Book for the year 2020 but was distributed this year due health restriction issues.



Elder Tamvelako of Maranatha shares copy of Hope Beyond Tomorrow with a marketeer



Pastor Fines Hamatanga shares copy of Missionary book with a Motorist



Elder Tamvelako of Maranatha shares copy of Hope Beyond Tomorrow with a marketeer



Pastor Fines Hamatanga shares copy of Missionary book with a Motorist



REACHING OUT

Pastor Mwendabai MWENDABAI
Youth/Education/Music Director

"And the King shall answer and say unto them, verily I say unto you, inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these brethren, ye have done it unto me" (Matthew 25:40, English Translation)

AS we were flagging off the construction of a modern house for a physically challenged youth in Chawama, a certain woman next door was moved by this act of Kindness. She called one of our youth and asked her that the following Sabbath she should pass through to take her to church. Her decision was arrived at when she saw how the church took care of those deemed to be the least in the community. Since that day, she made up her mind to join the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

The world today is not looking for eloquent preachers who articulate and construct their words so well. The world is looking for people who preach practical sermons of kindness, meeting the needs of the community and above all showing love to the dying world.

Paul say, "If I speak with tongues of men and of angels, but don't have love, I have sounding brass… if I have faith, so as to move mountains, but don't have love, I am nothing. If I dole out all my goods to feel the poor, and if I give my body to be burned, but don't have, it profits me nothing." 1 Chronicles 13:1 -3.

In our times, charity organisations have mash-roomed. All of them targeting the vulnerable in society. They allocate and spend millions of Kwachas on programs aimed at alleviating poverty, yet still; it is by helping the poor that they make more that they donate. Exploiting the poor in exchange for wealth, though not every organisation does that. As a Christian, what motivates you to give? Do you give in order to exploit the poor around you or giving in exchange for wealth or favor? If live is not at the center of giving, regardless of how much you have donated, it profits you nothing.

Love is one ingredient we must possess. Everything be done out of love, will go a long way. It is love that made that woman to join the church. Love will make you and the church relevant to society. Love is another attribute of God. The Bible says "God is love" 1 John 4:7-21.

It is for this reason that sinners gathered around Jesus for to listen to his teachings. He mingled with the unrighteous, invited them into Ministry, and fed them as he ministered. He was relevant to the community around him. He reached out with love to sick, the poor, and the sinners. It is for this reason that he won many to himself. Pharisees stood afar in bewilderment. They became jealous because of his amazing methods to evangelism.

Reach out dear friend as Jesus did. Though he was called a carpenter's son, he never looked down on himself. He knew he was more than a carpenter's son. He was a creator of those who called him names. Do you know how valuable you are in God's sight? Never look down on yourself. God can make you do wonderful exploits for Him.

There is a widow in your community that orphan on the streets, the blind, the lame, and the physically challenged and there is a sinner. Is your heart moved when you see all this? Jesus says, "The little things you did for the least, you have done it unto me".

I challenge you the youth of Lusaka Conference, to pick up your loins and gird yourselves. You are about to shake the community you are in with righteousness.

Who then will join me as we dismantle and end the suffering of this world through the grace and mercies of our Lord? Be a part of this great team whose rewards await them at the second coming of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.



LUSAKA CONFERENCE YOUTHS DONATE GOODS WORTH K63, 450



LUSAKA Conference (LC) Youths have donated assorted items valued at K63, 450.00 to vulnerable people within the communities of Lusaka Conference. This was done as part of their Global Youth Day (GYD21) celebration. This year's GYD was commemorated on March 20, under the theme **"Reaching Out, Colors, Culture and Communities."**

Lusaka Conference Youth Director Pastor Mwendabai Mwendabai praised the youths across the Conference who took part in the commemoration of Global Youth Day. He noted that the works of charity performed by youths deserve commendation adding that they should continue reaching out to members in communities who are in needy. He further added that reaching people in the community was not a one day event, saying that youths should continue identifying people who need and help them. "For doing so will be fulfilling the "Aim of Taking the Advent Message to all the World in their Generation," he said.

Global Youth Day is an annual event on the Adventist Youth Calendar and youths across the globe commemorate it by engaging in acts of charity. This year's Global Youth Day was celebrated by individual districts across the Conference. Youths donated assorted items such as food hampers, clothes, shoes and groceries valued at K 63,450.00. Other charitable works included construction of house of a vulnerable, repairing of wheelchairs, cleaning clinic surroundings, visiting the sick, door-to-door visitations, distribution of Missionary Books and hand wash sanitizers among others.

By Innocent Siachitoba
Lusaka Conference Youth Communication







Home Coming Sabbath bring 1959 Souls Home

HOME COMING SABBATH is a Sabbath that concludes the Youth Week of Prayer. This year's home coming Sabbath was on March 27, 2021 and several churches in Lusaka Conference concluded it on a high-note with 1,950 baptisms being recorded.

Speaking during interview Lusaka Conference Youth Director Pastor Mwendabai Mwendabai praised the youths for successfully conducting youth week of prayer meetings that led 1,959 souls to be baptised. He has further called on youths to ensure that the newly baptised people were taken care of by assigning guardians to nurture them. "It is pointless to baptise a big number and fail to take care of their spiritual needs," he said.

Meanwhile, Elder Joe Matongo advised youth leaders to come up with practical measures which will ensure that the newly baptised people were not lost. He said the newly baptised should quickly be involved in the life of the Church so that they don't lose focus of their baptism vows.





Touching Lives

The Seventh-day Adventist Church in Lusaka Conference is well known by its emphasis on community outreach. The Church believes that preaching the Good News of Jesus Christ must be accompanied with good deeds of service and compassionate ministry.

THE Church's impetus for community outreach is motivated by Christ's genuine love for people and His selfless efforts to their needs. Matthew 9:36 tells us that Jesus was moved with compassion when He saw the people harassed like sheep without a shepherd. To this effect the Church has continued devoting it's time to equip men and women to work as Christ's hands and feet by touching people's lives wherever they are.

Among the most renown programs the Church conducted in the past six months include the donation of food stuffs and groceries to the flood victims in Mumbwa District. The community service which was spearheaded by the Lutale Mission District Dorcas Society attracted Government officials who expressed happiness on the Church's gesture to serve the plight of the community.

Lusaka Conference (LC) Dorcas Society conducted Prison Ministries at Lusaka Central Correctional Facility where they donated food stuffs and groceries worth K24, 000.00 to inmates. On another hand, Chawama Mission District Dorcas identified 40 vulnerable families in the community whom they assisted with food stuffs, clothing and groceries. Speaking after the donations, Sr MilcahTakaniza, the LC Dorcas Society President explained that the Adventist Church believes in practical ministry.

The Kamwala/Kabwata Dorcas on the other hand conducted an evangelistic Rally at Nguzu Ground in Muchabi Mission District where 123 people were baptized. This elated the area traditional leader, Senior Chief Shakumbila who thanked the Adventist Church for taking the Gospel in his chiefdom. He further encouraged the Dorcas Society to continue with good works of reaching the vulnerable in the community.



Mumbwa District Commissioner speaking to Mumbwa flood victims During donation of food items and groceries by Lutale Mission District Dorcas Society.



Mr. Gracious Hamatala speaking to Flood Victims when they received donations.



Dorcas Workers pose for a photo at Chawama Church after a Needs Day Community Service.



MBAYI FAMILY RECEIVE SUPPORT

THERE is a popular saying that disability is not inability. Indeed people living with disabilities have the ability to do many things just like other citizens if such people are supported or empowered.

This brings to a rare story of the Mbayi family of Muchabi Area in Mumbwa District of Central Province whose living condition was brought to public domain by Lusaka Conference Media.

In the said story, it was reported that a 63 year old Monica Mbayi as well as her six children and five of her grand children were all living with disabilities. 12 members of the same family were living with disabilities even though one died. The Family has been living with this uncommon condition for a long time.

Ms Mbayi, a single mother, has raised all her five children and five grandchildren under difficult conditions.

Despite living with disability, Monica refused to use disability as an excuse to their success in life. This family has ventured is some farming activities near their home with the help of other people.

None of Monica's children are married but the second born in the family and the two ladies in the family are the only ones with children even though the fathers to these children abandoned them. Monica's grand-son Obert who is only nine years old has been instrumental in the family. He helps to draws water for the family.

As if that was not enough, most of them ended in grade two or three because of long distances in accessing primary education. However, a 22 year old Royd Mbayi is doing grade 10 at a nearby school although he failed to pay school fees in the first term. Royd appealed to well-wishers to help him clear the balance as he wants to complete grade twelve and achieve his dreams of becoming an accountant. Monica appealed to well-wishers to come to her aid by donating wheel chairs for the family, and also help them with food.

Monica Mbayi was among the 122 people who gave their lives to Christ and got baptized during the Kabwata/Kamwala Mission District Dorcas Rally held at Ngunzu ground in Muchabi Mission District.

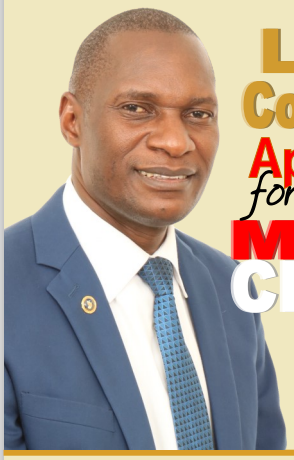
The story of the Mbayi family, who are living with disabilities, touched many. Beitcure Hospital has been touched by the Mbayi family's plight and has since offered to give the children free orthopedic surgery.

On the other hand, a 22 year old, Royd Mbayi was also offered a place at Kabulonga Boys Secondary School where he is learning currently.

Meanwhile, the Kabwata/Kamwala Mission Districts Dorcas Society has adopted Royd Mbayi and has since enrolled him at Kabulonga Boys Secondary School. And other well-wishers are also making plans to empower the two ladies in the Mbayi family.

It is only hoped that more people and other institutions will come to the aid of the Mbayi Family.

By Mwangala Simushi M'zumura



Lusaka Conference Appluaded for setting up a MEDIA CENTER

SOUTHERN ZAMBIA UNION CONFERENCE (SZBU) has eulogized Lusaka Conference (LC) for setting up a Media Center dubbed "Lusaka Conference Media" shortened as "LC Media."

Speaking at the close of the 4 days virtual Communication Seminar on 7th February, 2021, SZBU Communication Director Pastor Webster Silungwe has expressed happiness at the initiative by Lusaka Conference for coming up with the media ministry that has enhanced dissemination of information not only in the Conference but in the Union and entire nation. He stated that the Union will soon launch its media center. "I commend Lusaka Conference for the media center that is in place. The Union is in the process of opening a Media Centre that will incorporate personnel from each of the Conference and Fields", he said.

LC media is headed by Pastor Stanley Chilembo who is also Lusaka Conference Publishing and Communications Director.

Meanwhile, 121 Communication Leaders and Pastors in Lusaka Conference have participated in the Virtual Media Training organized by the Southern Zambia Union Communication Department. The seminar brought together 218 participants from around the Union. The lessons were presented by professional journalists and Lecturers from reputable Government and Private institutions. The participated and these include Use of Adventist Logo and Symbols, Journalism and Media Literacy, Data Collection and Interview Skills, Media Law and Ethics, Public Relations, Adventist Communication Policy in Zambia and presentations by Hope Channel Zambia.

The seminar which was held under the theme " Wired for Mission" was officially opened by SZBU President Dr. Harrington Akombwa who charged communicators to give wings to the Gospel in line with the Three Angels Messages of Revelation 14:6 - 12. The graduation was televised live on Hope Channel Zambia.

By *Innocent Siachitoba,*

250 Men Attend AMO RALLY

As Dr. Munyumbwe guides Adventists on Politics Involvement





Dr. Vanny Munyumbwe speaking during AMO Rally at Luili Campsite in Nangoma

By Stanley Chilembo

TWO hundred and fifty (250) Adventist Men have attended the 2021 Lusaka Conference Adventist Men's Organisation (AMO) Rally held at Luili Campsite in Nangoma Mission District. The meeting which ran from May 16-23, 2021 was organised under the theme, "I Will Go" and drew its attendants from all the 23 mission districts of Lusaka Conference.

Among the notable activities done during this meeting included community services such as door-to-door witnessing, distribution of clothes, groceries and food stuffs to local people as well as repairing of a classroom block at Matala Primary School. The meeting was crowned with baptism as 22 people were baptised.

2021 AMO rally has been described as most outstanding as it was attended by high profile leaders at Conference and Union levels. Among the top leaders present at this year's rally were the Southern Zambia Union President Dr. Harrington Akombwa, and the Executive Secretary Dr. Vanny Munymbwe while at Conference level, the President Pastor Goliath Naini, Executive Secretary Pastor Francis Chibiya and Chief Financial Officer Elder Denny Mangisha.

Speaking during interview, LC Personal Ministries Director Pastor Maybin Shanyinde expressed happiness on the support from the Church officers at Union and Conference levels. Saying the gesture has encouraged the AMO to keep running on God's mission.

Meanwhile Dr Munyumbwe has guided the Church on political involvement. Speaking during presentation at AMO Rally, Pastor Munyumbwe said the Adventist Church is guided by the Bible and Ellen White's Writings on politics as well as policies adopted by the governing body. He explained that each church member is free to exercise his or her democratic rights to vote prayerfully for right candidates during elections. He further called on Church members seeking political office to be prayerful, honest and maintain the moral standards befitting the Adventism and Christianity.



ELDER CHARLES HABWANDA MOURNED



By Joseph Chilimina

SEVERAL Adventists in Lusaka Conference gathered at the Habwanda's house to pay their last respect to late Elder Charles Habwanda of Makeni Main Seventh-day Adventist Church who died on Friday May 21, 2021 at the Adventist Men's Organisation (AMO) Rally held at Luili Campsite in Nangoma Mission District.

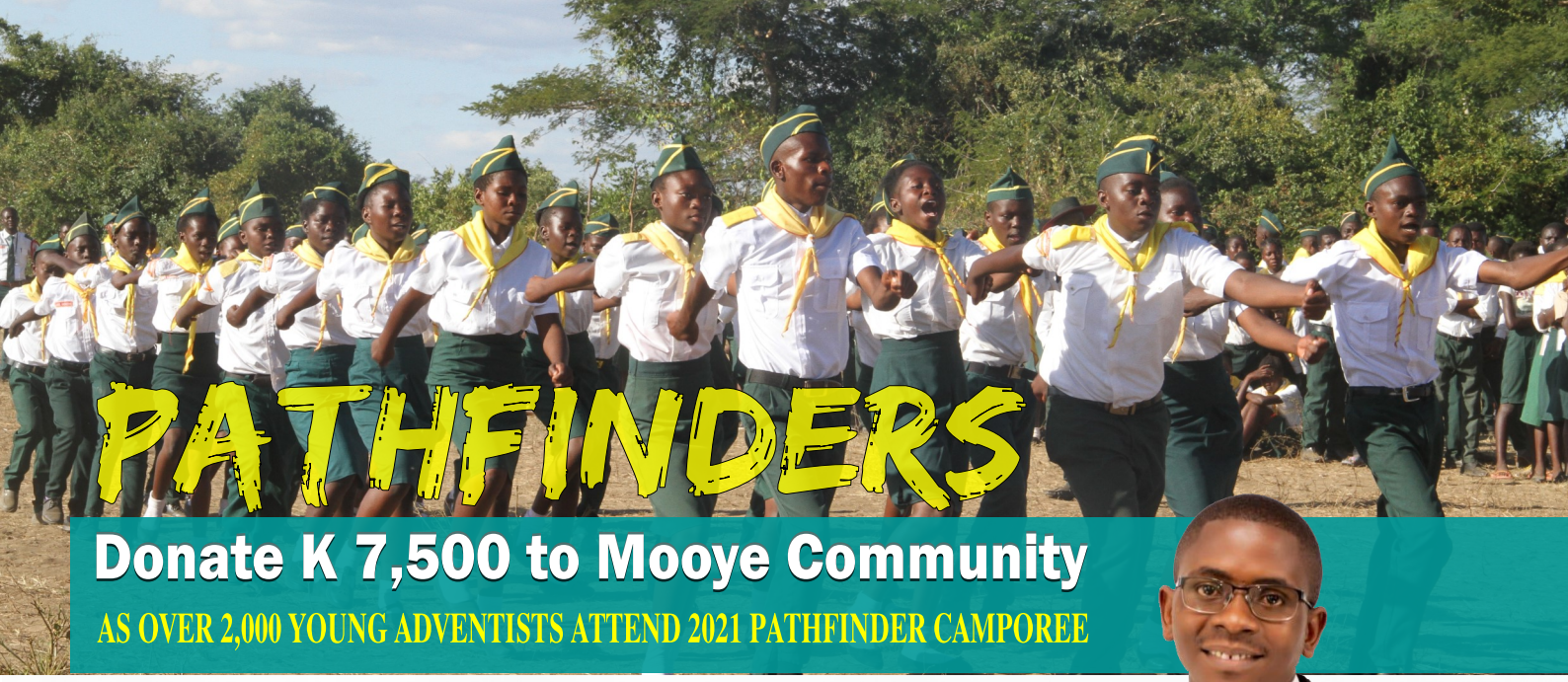
Elder Habwanda was among Sabbath School volunteers who were rehearsing for the Sabbath program on Friday night, when he suddenly collapsed. He was immediately rushed to Nangoma hospital where he was pronounced died. This shocked the campers as they had seen him participate in almost all activities done during the camping.

Speaking to hundreds of Adventist Men at campsite, Southern Zambia Union Conference President Dr. Harrington Akombwa encouraged them to remain strong and continue with God's work. Reading from Isaiah 57:1, 2, he explained that good people die so that they are spared from the evils.

Lusaka Conference President Pastor Goliath Naini described the death of Elder Habwanda as shocking yet comporting knowing that he died right in camp when everyone was in the worship mood.

Meanwhile, Lusaka Conference Personal Ministries Director Pastor Maybin Shanyinde described Elder Habwanda as dedicated and committed servant of God who contributed positively to the Adventist Men Organisation.

Elder Habwanda was the current AMO leader at Makeni Main Church, previously he served in different church portfolios. He was an ordained elder and invested as Master Guide. He was put to rest at his farm in Lubombo, Mazabuka district of Southern Province.



PATHFINDERS

Donate K 7,500 to Mooye Community

AS OVER 2,000 YOUNG ADVENTISTS ATTEND 2021 PATHFINDER CAMPOREE



Amon MUKUPA
Youth Communication Department

LUSAKA Conference held its first ever Pathfinder Camporee in Chipamalesa area of Nangoma Mission District in Chief Shakumbila's area of Mumbwa District, in Central Province from 2nd to 8th may, 2021. The camporee was attended by youths from 21 out of the 23 districts in the Conference was organized under the theme "Believe His Words" and the preacher was Evangelist Muchimba Nyambe from Chilanga Mission District.

The Camporee participants engaged in a variety of obstacle activities such as: Commando crawl, Crocodile crawl, River crossing, Step in, Step out, Zigzag walk, Wall climbing, Team work, Dram filling, Step up, Trench, skidding, field and track events as well as basic lessons in mechanics, gardening, plumbing, pipe fitting, power electrical. The event was crowned with baptism of 8 people.

Lusaka Conference Youth Director Pastor Mwendabai Mwendabai noted with thanks the participation of youths from rural districts. In his encouraging message, explained that the lessons and obstacle activities were beneficial to pathfinders and that they would appreciate them later in life.

And Lusaka Conference Youth Chairperson Elder Joe Matongo was thrilled to see the turn out of the Pathfinders. He said, despite the economic hurdles and noting that the kids were to be in school the following day after the Camporee, the young people turned in large numbers.

Meanwhile, the camporee was visited by several Church leaders including: Pastors Gift Chisala who by then was the hosting Pastor of Nangoma Mission District, Pastor Davis Kayaya of Keezwa, Pastor Brain Sinyangwe of Chilanga, Pastor Fines Haamatanga of Makeni, Pastor Bristol Habunga of Muchabi, and Pastor Everisto Barry Mwiinga by then he was still pastoring Makeni Villa. The camp was also visited by Conference officials including Lusaka Conference President, Pastor Goliath Naini and Shepherdess Naini, the Executive Secretary Pastor Francis Chibiya and the Publishing/Communication Director, Pastor Stanley Chilembo.

Speaking on Sabbath after touring the obstacle courses, Pastor Naini commended the Youth leadership on the training skills they offer to young Adventists. "I am impressed with your desire and determination to completing the courses. These courses you are undergoing are important and good preparation for lifelong service," he said.

The Camporee also received a donation of K15, 000 from the United Party for National Development (UPND) President Mr. Hakainde Hichilema. Mr. Hichilema's contribution saw districts get 3 bags of 25kg Maize meal and 1 goat each to help in the feeding of the campers. Mr. Hichilema is a Master Guide who was invested in December 2020 together with his wife.

The camporee was climax with a community service to Myooye community as Pathfinders donated K3, 000.00 towards purchase of mattresses at Myooye Clinic Maternity Ward and contributed K4, 500.00 to three local congregations towards construction of church buildings.

Pathfinder Camporee is an event organized by Seventh-day Adventists to prepares young Adventists spiritually and impart leadership and developmental skills.



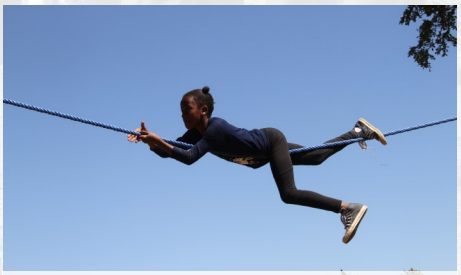
Commandor Crawling



Trench Crossing



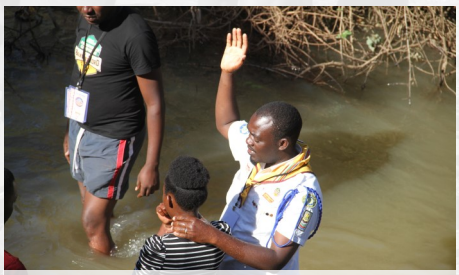
Obstacle challenges



River Crossing



LC Youth Director attempts on river crossing



Pastor Mwendabai baptizing a Pathfinder



KAFUE ESTATES ADVENTIST YOUTHS CONDUCT EVANGELISM ON THE TRAIN



By Timothy Mumba Zinduna

ADVENTIST YOUTHS from Kafue Estates Seventh-day Adventist Church conducted evangelism on the train from Kafue to Livingstone on 12th to 15th June, 2021. The program which was dubbed Sabbath on the train attracted 16 young Adventists who spent 16 hours on train interacting with other passengers.

During this period they shared the Word of God, prayed for passengers and distributed Hope Beyond Tomorrow, a missionary book of the year. They managed to minister to 600 passengers in 11 wagons and 35 crew members in the canteen and drivers wagon. Upon arrival in Livingstone, they were joined by Youths from Dambwa North Seventh-day Adventist Church at Victoria Falls were they had an interactive program and shared lessons on spirituality, friendship and home management.

135 BAPTIZED AS MORIAH CHURCH TO HAVE A NEW MODERN STRUCTURE

By Stanley Chilembo

THE PRIMARY mission of every Christian Church is to spread the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ to all the world. Those who believe and chose to Him as their Lord and Savior are baptized and became part of the body of Christ that is waiting for His Soon Return. To fulfill this mission Seventh-day Adventists conduct evangelistic meetings where Bible based preaching is done.

Moriah Seventh-day Adventist Church in Shibuyunji Mission District conducted an evangelistic campaign where 135 people were baptized. The crusade which ran for 14 days from 11th April to 24th April, 2021 was organized under the theme "Back to the Bible, Jesus is the Answer" and main speaker was Evangelist Moses Chombela.

Moriah Church which had 326 members before the massive baptism was overwhelmed with numbers. This prompted local leaders to think of expanding the size of the Church structure to accommodate new members.

As it is common among spirit-filled believers, Elder Sanford Mwiinga donated land and decided to put up a new church structure valued at K250, 000.00.

On 20th May, 2021 Lusaka Conference President Pastor Goliath Naini in the company of Church Development Director Pastor Keith Chuumpu officiated the ground breaking ceremony for new Moriah Congregation which was witnessed by several members.



Pastor GM Naini, Pastor K Chuumpu, Elder Mwiinga and Ev. Moses Chombela leading Moriah Church members during Ground breaking ceremony of new Church structure.



JOHN LAING COUPLES Renew their Marriage Vows



By Mwangala Simushi M'zumara

JOHN LAING Mission District Family Ministries held a one day Couple's Retreat at Pazuri Park in Chongwe District. During this intimate seminar 25 couples renewed their marriage vows in a quest to strengthen their marriages.

Speaking during his presentation, John Laing Mission District Pastor, John Chisala, said marriage was an important institution under a family setup hence it was important for couples to renew their marriage vows. Pastor Chisala said couples needed to come closer to God as well as strengthen, nourish and new their marriages.

The Retreat was held under the theme "Marriage a show piece of Heaven.'

And Elder Darlington Kachamba who was the main facilitator, said Retreats increase intimacy and communication among spouses. He explained that Christian couples were also able to learn from other Godly relationships and become unified in their passion for God during such gatherings.

One of the Couples who participated in this retreat, Mr and Mrs Miti said they learnt a lot from the Retreat. "The Retreat will help to save many marriages which are at the verge of separation. As a couple, we will never be same again," the couple said.

Facilitators during the Retreat did not leave any stone unturned through their various Presentations.



KAMWALA MISSION DISTRICT HOLD A ONE DAY YOUTH ALIVE

By Edward Phiri

YOUTH ALIVE is a program designed to build resilience among teens and young adults by equipping them to make healthy choices. Kamwala Mission District held a one day Youth Alive program at Kamwala Main Seventh-day Adventist on 6th June, 2021. The meeting brought together 121 young Adventists from churches within the district.

Among the presentations taught include Abstinence from Substance Abuse, Body Hygiene, Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIs) and Career Guidance. Speaking during his presentation, Dr. Whyson Munga, a gynaecologist at the University Teaching Hospital, advised the youths to maintain their status as Christians as they wait for the Second Coming of Jesus Christ. He appealed to the youths to remain sober at all times and refrain from abusing substances that might harm their bodies and affect their spiritual life. And Phelile Zindaba Mwape, a final year medical student at the University of Zambia explained on the importance of maintaining personal hygiene. While Dr. Naledi Chunga emphasized on the need for Youths to abstain from premarital sex saying it does not only put them at risk of getting unplanned pregnancies and STIs but also affects their spiritual life.



Meanwhile, Ministry of Labour and Social Security Senior Productivity and Quality Improvement Officer, Ms.Yvonne Kamenga Nawila lectured the youths on Career Guidance. She encouraged the youths to be passionate about the career they want to pursue in life.

And Kamwla Mission District Pastor Kenfield Sindolo urged the youths to work hard so that they may achieve their goals. He also guided the young people on how church wedding are organized.



Pledges Support to Newly Elected President

As President Hakainde Hichilema calls on Couples to Support each other

By New Dawn Reporters

NEWLY elected President of the Republic of Zambia, Mr. Hakainde Hichilema has urged couples in the country to be faithful with each other to sustain their marriages.

Mr Hichilema, a member of the Chilanga Seventh-day Adventist Church, said there was need for couples to support each other. He said being a husband did not make a man superior over his wife, as the two were partners.

He was speaking in Lusaka at his residence shortly after he was declared as President–Elect of Republic of Zambia after emerging victorious during the August 12, 2021 General Elections.

"I want to thank my beloved wife, Mutinta, who has always been on my side in good and difficult times. I encourage couples support each other. Even girl friend and boy friend, please support each other, you will see the value of that later in year in your life," Mr. Hichilema said.

Mr. Hakainde Hichilema together with his wife were recently invested as Master Guides by the Lusaka Conference Youth Department at John Howard Adventist Church.

Mr. Hichilema has called for love, unity, tolerance and forgiveness among Zambians in the country.

Mr Hichilema said he was not going into office to arrest people who arrested him but offer a selfless service as a servant of the people.

"I know many Zambians were arrested, beaten and teargassed by the police over the last seven years when I was in the opposition. I was also arrested but I am not bitter. Follow my example and show magnanimity," he said.

He noted that the election period invokes anger while others say things that should never be said about another human being.

"I think you know what I am talking about. You understand people who sang the song of ethnic hatred throughout their campaigns but yet in their home town they lost to us who they demonized. Now is the time to forgive such people for they did not know what they were doing. Now is the time to show them the better side of life and perception of other humans. I guess if they are normal they will learn a lesson going forward that divisiveness will get you punished by the voters," Mr. Hichilema said.

Meanwhile, the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Zambia has pledged to support the newly elected Government under the United Party for National Development (UPND) to improve the lives of citizens in the country.

Southern Zambia Union Conference President Dr. Harrington Akombwa and Northern Zambia Union President Pastor Samuel Sinyangwe reaffirmed the commitment of the Adventist Church to support the Government of the day in just and righteous causes.

Dr. Akombwa and Pastor Sinyangwe said this recently in their congratulatory message to Mr. Hichilema on his election as the Seventh President of the Republic of Zambia and Hon. Mutale Nalumango on her election as Vice President.

The two Church Leaders also said Mr. Hichilema's victory message of hope, peace, unity, freedom, justice for all, upholding of rule of law and opportunity for all resonated with the aspirations of citizens across this great country.

Mr. Hichilema's Government should count on our prayers and support as he assume the duties of the President and Commander in Chief of our beloved nation, Zambia," Dr. Akombwa and Pastor Sinyangwe said.

The Seventh-day Adventist Church has for many years been supplementing Government efforts to promote moral values, provide health services, education, spiritual guidance and other much needed services to the Zambian population.



Mr. Hichilema during Master Guide Investiture Ceremony at John Howard Seventh-day Adventist Church



Mrs. Mutinta Hichilema at a Dorcas Rally

SEVEN ORDAINED in the last 18 Months



Lusaka Conference of Seventh-day Adventists Ministerial Association has in the past eighteen (18) months commissioned seven Pastors to Gospel Ministry. Five (5) of these were ordained between July and September, 2020.

These are Pastor/Elder Denny Mangisha, the Chief Financial Officer who was commissioned on 1st August, 2020 at Makeni Main Church, others are Pastor Mwendabai Mwendabai, the Youth Director ordained on 4th July, 2020 at Kamwala Main Church; Pastor Perthias Musonda of Estates Mission District ordained on 25th July, 2020 at Estates Central; Pastor Dumisani Muzungaire of Ridgeway Mission District ordained on 4th August, 2020 at Kabwata Main Church and Pastor Paul Mulendema who by then was serving in Makeni Mission District, was ordained on 20th September, 2020.

Earlier the Ministerial association ordained Pastor Kenfield Sindolo on 19th December, 2019 at Chilanga Church and Pastor Stanley Chilembo, the Publishing Director was ordained on 20th March, 2021.

This development means that Lusaka Conference now has twenty-three (23) commissioned workers including Pastor Dominic Mubanga who is serving as Chaplain in Zambia Army.



Elder Denny Mangisha making a response to the homily during his Commissioning at Makeni Main Church.



Pastor Dumisani Muzungaire with shepherdess being introduced to congregants.
Photo by: Edward Phiri



Pastor Stanley Chilembo displaying Ordination Certificate.

Photo by: Benson Nyoni



Pastor Paul Mulendema with shepherdess



Pastor Perthias Musonda with sherpherdess listening to the homily during Ordination service
Photo by: Jemimah Moonga



Pastor Kenfield Sindolo with shepherdess pose for a phot after ordination service at Chilanga Main Church



Pastor Mwendabai Mwendabai with shepherdess pose for photo after ordination service
Photo by: Joseph Chilimina



The Late Dr. Edwin Shimunzhila
Former Lusaka Conference President

The Champion of CHURCH GROWTH SLEEPS

As Seventh-day Adventists mourn Dr. Edwin Shimunzhila

by Lubinda Kashewe

FORMER Lusaka Conference President Dr. Edwin Shimunzhila has slept in the Lord. Dr. Shimunzhila who was hospitalized at Levy Mwanawasa Teaching Hospital after a short illness died on 16th June, 2021 and was put to rest on 20th June, 2021 at Lusaka's Leopards Hill Memorial Park.

Dr. Shimunzhila was appointed Lusaka Conference President on 4th December, 2012 after the realignment of Central Zambia Conference. He was re-elected on the same position during the Lusaka Conference Second Session held at Government Complex on 14th December, 2016. He led the Conference to another realignment that saw the birth of Woodlands Conference on 14th January, 2019. He retired from active church leadership in August, 2020.

Dr. Shimunzhila will be remembered for his strong leadership and commitment to Church Growth. He was passionate for ministry, groomed other leaders both young and old at every Church level. During his term as President and under the theme "Growing God's Church," the Conference grew in four major areas including Spirituality, Evangelism, Human Resource and Infrastructure Development.

Meanwhile several Church leaders have described the death of Dr. Shuminzhila as a great loss to the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

Rusangu University Vice Chancellor Dr. Pardon Mwansa said Dr Shimunzhila's death came as a great shock to Rusangu University students that he taught. Dr Mwansa counseled the family to mourn with hope in the resurrection adding that the church was deeply mourning with them.

And Midlands West Zambia Conference President Pastor Gabriel Mulambwa noted that Dr Shimunzhila's contribution to the church was enormous and worth emulating and stressed that it will continue to inspire many.

Yuka Adventist Hospital (YAH) Chaplain Pastor Shaudi Mungandi said Dr Shimunzhila was renowned for his passion for the work of God and that his ministry impacted on many people.

Woodlands Conference President Dr Daniel Chuunga also eulogized the late Dr Shimunzhila noting that he served the church faithfully for 40 years and stressed that his demise was devastating because he was a senior minister. He said he was greatly inspired by Dr Shimunzhila's strict time management in all his dealings.

Dr. Shimunzhila was baptized in the Seventh-day Adventist Church in 1967 and entered Denominational service on 1st January, 1980 as a Literature Evangelist in Namwala under South Zambia Field (SZF).

From 1981 to 1982 he was at Rusangu Ministerial Seminary for his Ministerial Training and proceeded to lead as a District Pastor for Livingstone Mission District under South Zambia Field from 1983 to 1984.

In 1985, he served as Sabbath School and Personal Ministries Director for South Zambia Field (SZF) and from 1986 to 1990 he was the Zambia Union Youth Ministries Director.

He was ordained on 8th March, 1989 and in 1991 he served as Zambia Union Sabbath School & Personal Ministries Director.

From 1993 to 1995 he went to Solusi College for his B.A. in Theology and from 1996 to 1998 he served as Education and Youth Director for Central Zambia Conference.

From 1999 to 2001 he was the Executive Secretary for Central Zambia Conference and from 2002 to March 2004 he served as District Pastor within Central Zambia Conference.

From April to September of 2004, Dr Shimunzhila was the Zambia Union Youth, Sabbath School and Personal Ministries Director and from October 2004 to April 2005, he served as District Pastor in Central Zambia Conference.

He later went to the United States of America (USA) in April 2005 to September 2012 for Doctoral studies at Andrews University.

After his studies, he came back to Central Zambia Conference (CZC) where he served as district Pastor from October to December 2012 and on 4th December, 2012, Central Zambia Conference gave birth to a new Conference called Lusaka Conference and Dr. Edwin Shimunzhila became the President of this new Conference, the position he held up to August, 2020 when he went into retirement after an industrious 40 years of service to the church.





GIVING IN KIND

RETURNING of Tithes and Offerings to the LORD is an expression of an individual believer's faith that affirms God as the provider and supplier of all our needs. Giving is part of Stewardship of the things that God has freely given to us and is a vital part of our spiritual development and maturity.

Giving can either be in form of money, livestock or farm produce based on how the LORD has blessed. Many believers in Lusaka Conference have continued demonstrating their faith by returning tithes and offerings in kind. A move which elated Conference Executive Secretary Pastor Francis Chibiya who during his two years as Stewardship Director went round the Conference receiving tithes in kind from members.

Among the notable families that have given in kind include Pastor Nawa Mufaya of Mukulaikwa Mission District who gave two (2) cattle for tithe and offering while the Mr. Charles Munjile and family of Moono Mission District at Lubanze Company in Shatimba Village gave 2 cattle, 2 goats, 6 chickens, 32 bags of 50kgs Maize.

In Lutale Mission District Mr. Danford Simunjika of Ng'anzo Church gave 20 cattle for tithe and offering while Mr. Cosmas Maimbwe of Shimakata Company gave 8 cattle for tithe and offerings. Many other familes in most rural areas of the Conference like Shibuyunji, Mutaba, Nalubanda, Keezwa, Muchabi, Sala, and Estates whose names were not captured also participated in giving to the Lord in kind.



Mr. Danford Simunjika and Family



Mr. Charles Munjile and Family



Part of Livestock given as Tithe and offering in kind



Members in Moono Mission District pose for a photo with their offerings in kind

THE DAY OF ATONEMENT AND THE TWO GOATS

By Pastor Gift Chisala

> "Then he is to take the two goats and present them before the Lord at the entrance to the tent of meeting. He is to cast lots for the two goats — one lot for the Lord and the other for the scapegoat. Aaron shall bring the goat whose lot falls to the Lord and sacrifice it for a sin offering. But the goat chosen by lot as the scapegoat shall be presented alive before the Lord to be used for making atonement by sending it into the wilderness as a scapegoat" **(Leviticus 16:7 - 10).**

THE Day of Atonement was distinctive to the other feasts and was a day of fasting for the people of Israel (Lev. 23:29); it was not a festival. It was a ceremonial Sabbath during which no work was to be done (v 28). During this day the high priest performed the yearly service on behalf of the Israelites. That day, the sanctuary was cleansed from all the sins, transgressions, and impurities of the people of God (Lev 16:16, 21, 30). It was a day of judgment in Israel. The Day of Atonement generally refers to the way the life, death and resurrection of Jesus has forever changed the human situation. The Atonement is the heart of the Christian Story that tells of the restoration and redemption of the human family. Join me in this short Study.

Understanding the Two Goats:

a. <u>The Lord's Goat</u>

In Leviticus sixteen, the central service focused around the Day of Atonement around the two goats. These two goats were spotless and, when the ceremony started, Aaron, the high priest cast lots: one for the Lord and one for Azazel. Now when the lot fell on Lord's goat, it was picked and sacrificed and its blood was taken into the Most Holy Place and sprinkled on the mercy seat and before it (This was pointing to Jesus Christ's blood which was shed on the cross. The cross of Christ does play a vital part on the Day of Atonement). After the high priest had done that, and had reconciled the sanctuary in terms of the blood of Christ, he came out and laid his hands on the live goat. One of the biggest problems that God faces before He can eradicate sin is the issue of responsibility. Legally, when you deal with sin, which is "the transgression of the law," it involves: i) *Guilt; ii) Punishment; and iii) Responsibility*.

In regard to responsibility we ask, "Who then is responsible for sin, is it God or Satan?" This is one of the issues that was not completely dealt with on the cross and that is to be dealt with on the Day of Atonement. God is sovereign ruler and this stands out as a clear teaching of the Bible. That means, nothing happens in the universe without His permission or His consent. He is the Lord and He is the one that created all things. Nothing happens without Him and that's what it means to be sovereign. Because God is sovereign, He must assume the blame for what happens in His kingdom.

Let's take for example, when Adam sinned God came up to Adam and said, "Why did you eat of the forbidden fruit?" Adam did not deny the sin, he admitted it, but never took the blame for it, He passed the blame onto Eve and, ultimately, to God. "This woman that you gave me...." Genesis 3:12:

Well you see, when God first gave Eve to Adam as wife, he said this, Genesis 2:23:

"This is now bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; she shall be called 'woman,' for she was taken out of man."

He was excited with Eve, but, after he sinned, he forgot the excitement. He said, "This woman that You gave me." He was putting the blame on God and God never argued with Adam. He assumed it. Then God went to Eve and said, "What about you? Who do you blame?" She answered "The serpent that You created." Genesis 3:13:

God created the serpent not as we know it is now, but a beautiful creature, He did not go to the serpent and say, "Who do you blame?" because God knew Satan always blamed Him too. God had assumed the blame all along.

If God doesn't clear His name on this issue, then sin can never come to an end and be eradicated. There will always be questions in the minds of His creation. That is why, in the judgment, God will not only vindicate the saints, but He will clear His name and cleanse the sanctuary of the blame. So, on the Day of Atonement, the Lord's goat takes



Pastor GIFT CHISALA
District Pastor– Sala Mission District

our punishment and guilt but not the responsibility. Responsibility for sin must ultimately go to Satan.

b. Azazel

Leviticus 16:20 - 22 reads, *"When Aaron has finished making atonement for the Most Holy Place, the tent of meeting and the altar, he shall bring forward the live goat. He is to lay both hands on the head of the live goat and confess over it all the wickedness and rebellion of the Israelites — all their sins — and put them on the goat's head. He shall send the goat away into the wilderness in the care of someone appointed for the task. The goat will carry on itself all their sins to a remote place; and the man shall release it in the wilderness."*

In the Hebrew Bible there are twelve words for the definition of sin and let's put them into three categories:

"Iniquity" has to do with what we are by nature (the Hebrew word simply means "bent" and has to do with our innate sinfulness);

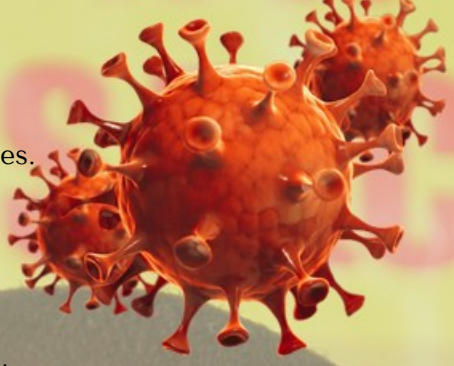
"Sin" is "missing the mark," that is, missing the mark innocently; and

"Transgression" is our willful disobedience.

The sins, the iniquities, and the transgressions are placed upon the live goat in the Day of Atonement. He is to lay both hands on the head of the live goat and confess over it all the wickedness and rebellion of the Israelites all their sins and put them on the goat's head. He shall send the goat away into the wilderness in the care of someone appointed for the task. The goat will carry on itself all their sins to a remote place; and the man shall release it in the wilderness. The 'someone' here "appointed for the task" speaks of Jesus Christ who will send this live goat into the wilderness.

The priest comes out of the tent and places his hands on the live goat, confesses the sins of Israel (the believers), and the live goat is sent into the wilderness. For one thousand years Satan will bear all the sins he has committed and caused us to commit, carrying the responsibility with him. Then will creation understand that God is not responsible for sin and is justified and the saints vindicated

As believers let us pray and confess our sins that they may be taken up beforehand into the sanctuary above that they may be blotted out. Let us make wise choices and bear the responsibility of our actions and rectify them. Confess, repent and forgive. Let us make firm decided positions for the cause of God, we are living in the anti-typical day of Atonement it's not time to blame or pass on the blame like our first parents did, lets vigorously pray testifying of Gods cause, each member bringing in one soul and pointing them to the cross that may confess and repent and be found ready and blameless when Christ stands up and says it is done, may the Lord bless His Church even as we move forward. Don't blame but bring one.



THE COVID-19 pandemic has had a major effect on our lives. Many of us are facing challenges that can be stressful, overwhelming, and cause strong emotions in adults and children. Public health actions, such as social distancing, are necessary to reduce the spread of COVID-19, but they can make us feel isolated and lonely and can increase stress and anxiety. Learning to cope with stress in a healthy way will make you, the people you care about, and those around you become more resilient.

Mental Health IN THE FACE OF COVID PANDEMIC

*Retrieved from **Centers for Disease Control and Prevention,** (cdc.gov/mentalhealth/index.html) July 22, 2021*

Stress if not handled properly can cause mental problems such as feelings of fear, anger, sadness, worry, numbness, or frustration, changes in appetite, difficulty in concentration and making decisions, nightmares and worsening chronic health conditions. While it is natural to feel stressed, anxiety, grief and worry during the COVID-19 pandemic, learning stress management can help yourself, others, and your community. Below are some tips:

1) Take breaks from Watching, Reading, or Listening to News stories including those on social media. Its good to be informed but hearing about the pandemic constantly can be upsetting. Consider limiting news to just a couple times a day and disconnecting from phones, TVs and computer screens for a while.

2) Take advantage of isolation times to build yourself mentally by reading spiritual books and other constructive materials, meditation, and stretching out.

3) Eat healthy and well balanced meals. Proper nutrition and hydration are vital. People who eat a well-balanced diet tend to be healthier with strong immune system and lower risk of chronic illnesses and infectious diseases. Try to eat a variety of fresh and unprocessed foods every day to get the vitamins, minerals, dietary fibre, protein, and antioxidants your body needs. Drink enough water. Avoid sugar, fat and salt to significantly lower the risk of overweight, obesity, heart diseases, stroke, diabetes and certain types of cancer.

4) Develop a program for regular exercises. It is clear that physical activities can make you feel better, function better, and sleep better. Even one session of moderate-to-vigorous physical activity reduces anxiety. Being physically active also fosters normal growth and development, improves overall health, and can reduce the risk of various chronic diseases.

5) Get plenty of sleep. Good sleep habits can help you get a good night sleep. Some habits that can improve your sleep health include: going to bed at the same time each night and get up at the same time each morning even on weekends; make sure your bedroom is quiet, dark, relaxing, and at a comfortable temperature; remove electronic devices such as TVs, computers and smartphones from the bedroom; avoid large meals, caffeine, and alcohol before bedtime.

6) Continue with preventive measures such as getting vaccinations, cancer screenings and other as recommended by your healthcare providers.

7) Connect with Others. Talk with people you trust about your concerns and how you are feeling.

8) Connect with your community especially your faith based organization. While social distancing measures are in place, try connecting online, through social media, or by phone and mails to reach out to your fellow believers.

ONLINE BIBLE COURSE

with DISCOVER BIBLE SCHOOL



- ≈ *Discover the Secrets to Happy Life*
- ≈ *Find Answers why People are Suffering*
- ≈ *Know more about the future of this world*
- ≈ *Develop an intimate relationship with God*



To Register visit our school website at:
Lusaka Conference Discover Bible School
www.bibleschools.com/Lusaka

Lusaka Conference
Voice of Prophecy Bible Correspondence School
Plot Number 9221, Corner Independence Avenue and Burma Road
P. O. Box 37155, Lusaka | +260 977 542 734 | Email: info@lusaka.adventist.org
www.bibleschools.com/Lusaka

The Voice of Prophecy