

Cecilia Mumbi - Newsletter

SUSTAINED BY GOD THROUGH YOUR PRAYERS

Greetings to you in the blessed name of our Lord and saviour, Jesus Christ.

How are you doing? How have you been? I hope and pray that you are doing well and the Lord

How am I doing?

It has been a while since I gave an update on how I am doing and how ministry is going on. My heart has been troubled, friendships have crumbled, ministry has been taxing BUT **GOD REMAINS GOD**, sovereign, good and faithful. I am deeply grateful that there is still so much more to be grateful for every day and your prayers have really kept me going.

Ministry Highlights

I am continually grateful to God that though the ministry comes with countless challenges, there remains so much beauty and fulfilment in serving God. I am thankful for your continued partnership and support. Your prayer, emotional and financial support has not been in vain; I can testify that I have been sustained by the support you render, may our sovereign Lord bless you and keep you and reward you according to His perfect will.

Lately I have been all over the place as far as ministry is concerned, however, in this newsletter, I will



give a few snippets of what I have been up to in the mission field.

In November 2021, we had taken a ministry trip to the Copperbelt in the company of our National Director. While there, we had planned to attend the Proclamation Institute conference, visit a few associates and do a few ZAFES promotions in the local churches during their Sunday services.

I had a privilege of attending the annual conference in November at Proclamation Institute Zambia where I graduated from in 2016. In the picture on the left I posed with Pastor Conrad Mbewe (on the left) who was one of the main expositors during the conference; and

Rev. Mukonda on the right who was my lecturer in Pastoral counselling and ethics during my time at PIZ. During the conference, I was able to interact with my former lecturers, former classmates and workmates, and others.

We were given a platform at People's Church in Copperbelt, Ndola, to share about what ZAFES is, our aims, vision and mission and what we do. I shared to the church on these highlighted pointers and it was so heart-warming to see many individuals raise their hands when I asked how many were part of ZAFES during their university days. We had set up a ZAFES table, where we had the ZAFES daily nuggets and branded T-shirts on sale. After the service, we had an overwhelming response, many associates came to the table and were able to capture them for our database to keep them close and updated with what ZAFES is doing and the need for them to be involved especially in reaching out to students on campus.



In the picture above is the resident Bishop and his wife, with the ZAFES team at People's church in Ndola after the service.

In December, we were invited as ZAFES to attend a training that was organised and hosted by Go Live Dare, an organisation working towards gospel advancement among the young people in our nation. The training was quite enlightening especially on the subject of creative ways to reach out to our current generation that is exposed to many things with the gospel of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus. Some of the subjects covered during the training were; spiritual leadership, multiplying disciples and Biblical stewardship. Furthermore, I was involved in the organisation of the Children and Youth leaders conference that was held on 12th February, 2022 in partnership with ZAFES, Go Live Dare and One

Hope. Participating in the organisation of this event presented a great opportunity for partnerships between ZAFES, Go Live Dare and One Hope because we are on the same mission field, and are targeting similar age groups.



In agreement with what Tim Keller has to say about teenagers in the picture on the left, “teenagers have more information about God than they have experience of Him. Get them in places where they can rely on God”. This is true because as we all know, there is a growth in the number of religious people. So, they are able to say something about God, yet their hearts are from Him, some go to church and hear about God but no relationship with Him.

Hence, there is a great need for us to continue spreading the gospel to the young people especially while they are on campus in order that they can be agents of change in their societies. We are striving by all means possible to encourage students to invest in quite time, they can start with the daily nugget which could help

them to develop a habit of reading the scriptures on a daily basis; to preserve their faith, and to grow in their knowledge of God. This will also enable them to give an answer in all seasons to defend their faith and to share the gospel to the unbelieving.



In this picture is myself, the One Hope director and the Anglican Children's worker at the training.



At the end of the first quarter every year, we plan to have ZAFES regional conferences in every province. However, due to few individuals serving as staff and very limited resources to enable us to go to far places, it remains a challenge to hold these conferences in other provinces. WE are grateful to God that we are still able to have them in a few provinces. This year, we planned to have regional conferences on the Copperbelt, Lusaka, North-western, Central and Southern province. So far, three conferences have been held successfully in Copperbelt, Lusaka and Central provinces. I was able to travel to the Copperbelt one where I had an opportunity of interacting with students and also sharing with the conference delegates (students) on who we

are as ZAFES. The conference was held under theme, *“Here I am, send me” – Isaiah 6:8*. Furthermore, there has been a challenge of students conducting ZAFES fellowships on campus as they would a church service, hence, we are encouraging them to have more Growth Groups where they can study the Bible with their fellow students in smaller groups and pray together. In addition to this, we are striving to see every student leader and member of ZAFES trained with the necessary Bible handling skills such as the inductive bible study training which most of us have undergone. **[the picture above was taken at the Copperbelt regional conference with the students and on my left is an associate].**



During the conference, I had a session with the students discussing two topics; **life on campus** and **relationships** alongside an associate. The two topics caught the interest and attention of the students because they quite apply to where they are at right now. From our discussions, I noted that the need for the gospel on campus is great and urgent. Students have huge challenges. It is a great testimony to go

onto campus as a Christian student and leave campus a Christian because there are many vices that they come into contact with and have to overcome, of course, through the enabling power of the Holy Spirit. In the quest to supplement on staff efforts of being present on campus to guide students, disciple and mentor them, we are working towards reviving associate (ZAFES alumni) branches in all corners of Zambia.



Lusaka associates branch

Luanshya associates' branch

April marks the end of the first term for most schools. This past April, I had a privilege of serving at the Scripture Union regional camp which was held under the theme “signed and sealed”. My task was to ensure that all the meals were in place on time and the campers had enough to eat. Also, I was entrusted with the monies for food and miscellaneous expenses. My time at the camp was nothing short of beautiful and joyful because I had amazing opportunities to share God’s word to the young ones on one on one interactions, render counsel on various matters varying from personal, spiritual, and academics. The backgrounds and stories of some of the boys and girls moved me to tears often but also encouraged me in more ways than one. It was the Lord’s doing that I was part of the camp.



This picture, though not clear, depicts how warm and happy my heart was in serving and interacting with these beautiful souls.

Early April, a few of us were invited to attend a three days Leaders training which was organised by Go Live Dare in conjunction with SIM (Serving in Mission). The training was a continuation to the one highlighted above. At the end of the training there was a presentation of certificates as seen in the picture below.



While serving in ZAFES, I have also been actively involved at my local church in Lusaka, serving in the Children's church as one of the Sunday school teachers I teach once a month and sometimes would be engaged in lesson preparation for the kids. The picture below shows the class I teach which is called *Ebenezer class* and it's a big one as seen in the picture with not less than forty (40) children every Sunday. At the far back are the teachers that teach this class too. I have loved my time teaching these handful cute little humans who are so deeply loved by God and by us. Their weekly stories each time I stand to teach them brightens my smile, and all I have to say is thank you Lord for the opportunity to serve and faithfully teach your word to children.



“Ebenezers Class”
Tabernacle of David Assembly Children’s Church

Recently I was assigned to lead the teenager's life group and core-lead with someone in Campus Ministry department. Pray for wisdom as I and the entire youth leadership executive lead the youth ministry to His glory.

Challenges

Despite the many challenges being faced, finances have remained the biggest restraining factor because we need money for operations, data, airtime to follow up on students and other stakeholders, transport to the office and to the campuses. Most of the times I use personal money to carry out these tasks but that's not a sustainable option because my monthly income is not much to sustain me for a whole month as an individual.

I am thankful to God that He has continued to use me in this mission field and entrust me with various responsibilities. Challenges are many but your prayers are not in vain. Look how far I have come and I am still going on and on. In my previous newsletter I had requested for prayer on some big decisions that I needed to make; I wanted to quit working with ZAFES so I could find something else to do because life was just so hard from all angles but I have seen and continue to see the steadfast of love of God in my life and His hand throughout. It is just right to say it's been God from day one.

Prayer requests

- Thank God for everything He is doing in and through ZAFES and for every ministry opportunity for us.
- Thank God for each individual that has partnered with me through prayer or giving financially.
- Thank God for the successful conferences, trainings, and ZAFES promotion Sundays that were held.
- Thank God for the gift of good health amidst challenges and uncertainties.
- Pray for God's providence for ZAFES as a ministry and its staff.
- This month-end of May, God willing, I will travel to Nigeria to attend a two months capacity building training organised by the Nigeria Fellowship of Evangelical Students (NIFES). My flights and accommodation will be catered for by IFES. Please keep me and the success of this program in prayer. Also, pray for the Lord's providence. If you need more information on the training, feel free to contact me.
- Please pray that God should raise more partners for the ministry, it's not easy.
- Pray for me – I need wisdom, guidance, clear vision, healing, strength for every day, hope, peace and joy.

Would you please consider partnering with me?

Once again, I would like to say a big thank you for your partnership in the advancement of the gospel. I have truly been sustained by God and your support is what really has kept me going. Please keep praying for me as I pray for you too.

I will be glad to hear from you, (even when my newsletter takes long to come again). I will be grateful. May God bless you and reward you accordingly. Keep the faith.

Please let me know how I can be praying for you.