



Report from Rev. Pardon Chingovo

Dear friends of the Miners' Mission

"Ebenezer" (1.Sam.7,12), "Hitherto the Lord has helped us". Great and wonderful things are being experienced here in the Zimbabwe mining areas. People are coming to faith in Jesus Christ, receive healing and financial help through the various projects being funded by IMM Switzerland. What a great God we have to serve! God is at work here!

Thank you Lord for all the encouragements I have witnessed during my recent visits to the mine areas. It is particularly encouraging to see mine workers taking part in the churches. They rejoiced when I visited them. I was able to strengthen them in their faith and service for the Lord. – All the pastors in the mine communities are doing good work in the Lord's Kingdom. By the grace of God in the last few months we have seen over 35 people take a decision to accept Jesus Christ into their lives.



Hospital visiting is for us a special area of need and prayer. I thank God, in particular that following my visits to the Kwekwe hospital six patients have turned to Jesus Christ as Saviour. A very ill young man who accepted Jesus as Lord has since died, but now he is in His presence!

Grandmother with 3 HIV positive grandchildren. She is grateful for your help. 5 patients could leave the hospital so now I have visited them at home. Two of them have received medication but they lack proper food supplies. Please pray for funds to purchase really good nutritional food for them.

The congregation in Torwood are so grateful that with your support a *new roof for their church services* and other fellowship meetings has been provided. The old shelter was totally destroyed during a storm earlier in the year! Thank you!



The need for a *"Road Runner" chicken raising project in Rutendo* has been realised, again due to your generous support. By purchasing the chicks, widows are now able to pay for food and school fees for their children. A widow said to me: "We felt disadvantaged because we were so poor; we had no money to pay for the school attendance fees, which meant that our children were unable to attend school.

But when we received the money to start this project our lives changed. Now our children are able to go back to school and we are able to put food on the table. So many thanks go to you for this help! God bless you!" Mrs. Zhou had tears in her eyes as she told me. She cares for 8 orphan children as the parents died from AIDS. This dear lady has such a difficult task and is so thankful for your prayers.

Just as Jesus proclaimed the Kingdom of God and accepted the sick and healed them, so you have taken part in our troubles and sent us money, so that sick people, including myself and my wife, could purchase medication, and when necessary could make visits to the doctor. *Mrs. Phiri*, who was suffering troubles with her leg and heart, told me: "I had no father, just my mother but no other relatives. I lost my son to AIDS in 2011. We came here from Malawi. I cannot thank you enough, knowing that people in Switzerland sent money to me so that I can visit the doctor. I have received medicine for my heart condition, which would have been beyond my capacity to afford, but IMM in Switzerland came to my aid. Now I am feeling much better, because I now I have "relations" who help me. Had the friends in Switzerland not helped me I would have died already. Thank you Rev. Chingovo for your great help that I have received from you. I look after my 5 grandchildren, and they are very happy I am so much better."



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"Goat rearing Project". This is a very significant project and again thank you that with your help it can be realised! The enclosure for the animals is now ready. We have purchased some goats and now we await their arrival here. A young man is ready to care and protect the animals. Again this project to raise goats which takes place near Kwekwe will be another means of funding the lives of widows and orphans in the area.



The church building in Mkotosi is now in its final phase of construction thanks to the help of IMM Switzerland. I spoke to a miner who is a member of the Mkotosi fellowship. He told me: "I am so happy to see this building. If we had not had the support of IMM our services would still have to take place under the shade of trees. Thank you IMM Switzerland for your help! We still pray for the provision of the roofing but even without the roof we are now meeting in the church building" said *Mr. Charles Matambo*.

The *"Land Project" in West Nicholson*, that was suggested by supporters of IMM. Pastor Chikudo has overseen this and so it has already been launched and mine workers are so thankful for this project. They are planting various types of vegetables on the plot, particularly the staple crop of maize. At the same time it has been possible to set up a *chicken rearing project*. These are both of great assistance to miners' families without income and need widows. Again praise God for this practical support!

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The motorbike accident I suffered in 1998 in Harare, which affected my teeth, a virus has developed over the years which

totally ruined my teeth. I was in need of help. The dentist could see no other solution than to remove all of them. With your kind help I have new dentures for which I am so grateful. My wife Anna, suffers from arthritis particularly in this cold weather. Please pray for her healing. Thank you so much!

We want to say again and again thank you for helping us reach out to the many living in the mining areas who are suffering from hunger and ill health. They are being helped and see good things returning to their lives and give God the praise! May the Lord bless you!

Pardon Chingovo

Extracts of reports from Rev. Dereck Marijeki,
Rev. Elias Katiyo, Ev. Tafadzwa Chikudo and
Rev. Kelvin Chipangura

Rev. Dereck Marijeki, Shurugwi

2018 has brought many worries to people here in Zimbabwe due to the elections as no-one knows if these will take place in peace. But the Christians are however trusting God for a good outcome.

Due to the serious car accident last year my wife is still struggling, so that she is still needing doctor's attention and medication. But God miraculously saved her life.

Our *Sunday church service*, which takes place at 10.30 starts with a preceding Bible Study session. Both take place under the blessing of God. Our weekly program of meetings, one of which is a Christian course I lead for married couples. The central emphasis of the course is how to provide a good understanding for both the husband and the wife in their marriage and how to build the whole family into a Christian home.

In the two Shurugwi *hospitals*, a general hospital and a maternity hospital, I undertake the role of pastoral and spiritual counsellor. My discussions with the patients is an opportunity to witness to the love of the Lord Jesus Christ, pray them and provide all the help I can.

The „*Widow and Orphan aid*“ program – I would like to thank IMM Switzerland so much for their support! The sad lives of many are encouraged. Orphans, unable to afford schooling are able to return to school with happy hearts. They now have hope for their future. Here are some testimonies:

„My name is *Thomas Matumbure*. I do not know what to say. I am 14 years old. My life seemed dead and I had no future. When Rev. Marijeki came and told me, that dear friends in Switzerland had sent the money for my school fees, I frankly cried out loud with joy. Thank you so much. May God bless you!“

„My Name is *Misha Ngwenya*. To lose your father is a heavy blow to bear. All your future plans are lost. There are lots of other orphan girls to experience the same, that I have known. May I thank you from the bottom of my heart for the payment of my school fees and for the help in purchasing food. In this way you have shown love to a girl whose father lost his life in a mine accident, so that she could go back to school and food to eat. May my God bless you.“
The situation of these orphan children is not always easy for me as a pastor. But it was so wonderful to see the light in the face of this young girl.

„My name is *Mike*. I thank God and am so grateful to you for the payment of school fees and for money for the provision of food for me and my younger brother *Luckmore*. Our lives are now so much better. May God bless you“

House visits are an important part of my ministry. Following up people who have given their lives to Jesus Christ strengthens their commitment is particularly important. The Gospel outreach to the *prostitutes* is far from easy. But again and again there are women ready to give their lives over to Jesus Christ and renounce their old ways and start their walk with the Lord. We pray that they may find other occupations. *Already a chicken raising program is up and running for some of them – a second similar project would be of great help!*

Thank you so much for your support and prayers. Please keep praying for us.

Dereck Marijeki

Rev. Elias Katiyo, Mashava, Mkotosi, Zvishavane

I greet you all in the Name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. Here is some news as to how the Lord is building His kingdom here in Zimbabwe.

I visited a *family in the Bufura region*. An elderly lady with whom I came into conversation was willing to give her life to the Lord Jesus. Her 4 grandchildren were in her home with her. I was interested that they too were willing to put their trust in Jesus. Their grandmother told me that both the parents of the children were dead. I asked her how she managed in her difficult situation? It made me very sad as the lady told me that there were days when their poverty meant that there was no food to put on the table. All I could do was pray with them. The children pleaded with me that I should pray that they could go to school.

Visits to the clinic, near where I live have meant that I have been able to preach the Gospel and 3 ladies have given their lives to Jesus. There is a huge need in our hospitals and clinics. Lack of medicines means that many patients do not receive the medication they need.

In the *primary school in Mkotosi* I have the opportunity to tell the young children Bible stories and tell them of Jesus' love and care for them. 11 school children have come up to tell me that they have given their lives to Jesus. The head teacher is a Christian. Again and again he has invited me to come into school to tell the children the Gospel story. I noticed that three of the children did not have school uniforms. Two of them are orphans and the third is the child of a broken marriage. It is the usual story – no money for school uniforms and school material. Please pray for this critical situation.

It is also a joy to bring hope to people. I visited *Mr. Musiiwa*. He has big health problems. His general condition means that he has heart troubles. An operation would help but his poverty means that he cannot seek any help. We cannot do more than pray.

In the *hospital at Zvishavane* I pray with lots of patients. An old man gave his life to Christ. He told me with joy in his voice: „When I die, God will welcome me into His Kingdom.“
I had the possibility to pray with the staff of the hospital. I encouraged them to continue to support their patients during

this difficult time which is affecting them particularly hard. I told them: „God is no man’s debtor and He will reward you.“

I have visited the *chicken raising project*, that is being run by a number of previous prostitutes. What a joy to witness the results and the way it has changed their lives, put food on the table and provided for the school fees for their children. We need your prayers so that other prostitutes find their way to Jesus, because they can witness themselves the change that God has brought into the lives of those now following Christ. To God be all the praise!

We are so thankful for the massive help the IMM in Switzerland in funding the *building of our church*. The roofing sheets are purchased and ready. The roofing rafters are still needed. The cost is about USD 4000 to complete the job. We pray that the Lord will provide in His time.

Elias Katiyo

Evangelist Tafadzwa Chikudo, West Nicholson, Gwanda

Greetings to all in the Name of the Lord Jesus Christ

We rejoice that God is working by His grace here in Gwanda und West Nicholson.

Praise God that during the *evangelistic outreach in Gwanda* with Rev. Katiyo 18 people came to faith in Jesus Christ. Most of these new believers are now coming to our services. They are asking me for Bibles, so that they can follow the Bible Studies that take place every Sunday before the service starts. It is a very good thing for each believer to have their own Bible. On Tuesday evening we meet together for prayer.

The *Hospital in Gwanda* offers me many openings to preach the Gospel in both the male and female wards. It was a particular joy to lead a man to Christ on one day. He told me how he was involved in a terrible accident and only just escaped with his life. Five of his friends died. When I made an appeal to follow Christ in the ward that day he raised his hand saying: „God has saved my life and I must give Him my life.“ We thank God for this man, who now belongs to Jesus.

A visit *Gwanda prison* brought opportunity to speak to a man, who confessed to having dealt with his family members brutally. He confessed his sins and I had the joy of pointing him to follow Christ the Great Redeemer of sinners.

With my hearty greetings

Tafadzwa Chikudo

Rev. Kelvin Chipangura, Kadoma

It is a great privilege and responsibility, to be able reach unhindered all kinds of people with the Gospel of Jesus Christ here in Kadoma and the surrounding area - in the business parks, areas where there is industry and mines, on the streets, open places and in beer halls, in old peoples homes, hospitals, prisons, youth hostels. I am amazed to see how people are willing to listen to me and are touched by God’s Word, and decide to trust their life to Jesus Christ. I am even more amazed how God reaches people and saves them from their life of sin. Yes, God does wonders through His Word preached in so many places. Praise to this Almighty God!

In my last report I told you about *Sekuru Mashasha*. Now he has died, but he is with His Lord. At the funeral, that I held, two women put their faith in the Lord Jesus Christ.

I got to speak with *Prudence und Proud Shumba*, who are 15 year old twins. They are orphans and do not go to school. No-one pays for their school fees and they have hardly anything to eat. No relatives take care of them. But the Good News of Jesus Christ warmed their hearts and they were willing to receive Jesus into their lives. They were only five years old when their parents died. They were able to find accomodation and a new home with another lady, but when they were 10 years old this lady also died. Now they were alone. I prayed with them and assured them that one day they will experience how God will lift them out of their need.

During my door-to-door visits I met *Albert Matikiti*. He is married and has three children. He was a heavy smoker and said: „If I am smoking, I can get very angry and then I can hit out at people. I have even hit my wife.“ I told him about the releasing power of the Gospel. I prayed for him. He made a clear decision to let Jesus Christ into his life. His life is totally turned round and now he loves Jesus!

I met a young man in the *hospital*. His name is *Anashe Muronde*. He had scalded himself with boiling water and needed hospital treatment. I prayed for his healing and quickly all the wounds were healed. He surrendered his life to Jesus Christ. I read the Bible with him and he is learning fast and his faith is deepening more and more.

During one of my *prison visits* I witnessed to a young woman, who had been sentenced for 7 years for killing her husband with a knife, because she had found him living with another woman. She was ready to start a new life with Jesus. As her time in prison was shortly due to come to an end, she was terrified that the relatives of her husband would threaten her when she was released from jail. So I went and visited the relatives and was able to speak with them. As a result there was forgiveness and reconciliation between this young woman and the relatives of her late husband.

That was the doing of God! I praise God that this woman, who is now released from prison and has her liberty, is growing in her faith. God is good!

God is working wonders in the lives of *street children*. A while ago I reported on four street kids who had decided to follow Jesus. They belonged to a group who were actively against me. But God gave me the wisdom to build up a trust with these children. In particular 4 street boys took part in a meeting for simple prayer and also come to the Bible Study. They now pray for their old mates. Before the boys were frightened, but now God has completely changed their lives. Frankly, their turned around lives are a proof to me of the greatness of our God.

The *Kadoma chicken Projekt* is going very well. The widows who run this are very thankful, that as a result of this project being set up, they can put food on the table. There is no more arguing with the children because of the lack of food. I am so encouraged that these women meet together and take time to pray for this project, pray for their families and for all their needs. This group now represent a strong, spiritually-minded prayer group. These ladies have experienced how God answers prayer. Praise God for His goodness!

We all thank you so much for the great and valuable support that we receive from you! It is truly a wonderful experience! May God bless you richly. I can assure you that we pray for you.

Kelvin Chipangura

Dear friends of the Miners' Mission

The elections in Zimbabwe are due to take place in July. The elections are for the State President as well as both houses of the Parliament. Last January the State President, Emmerson Mnangagwa invited referees from the EU, UNO and the Commonwealth to observe the elections.

There is now a new hope among the approx. 15 million inhabitants of the country. May we continue in prayer, so that elections are carried out fairly and peacefully and the a government emerges that works for the good of its people.

One good piece of news - we reported that the Bible Company in Harare offered us Bibles with a price of USD 17.-- each. Following some negotiations the Bible Company has agreed to a price of USD 10.—each. We are very grateful for this. It was possible for us to spend USD 1400.—to purchase Bibles. The prayers of those requesting Bibles have now been answered! Prisoners in the Zvishavane jail, who asked for a Bible, should have received one by now. They treasure holding God's Word in their own hands. May the Lord bless the reading of His Word.

It is amazing how in recent times we have been able to respond to the many varied projects and that the finances have come in to us in a wonderful way to meet the needs. You will read in the reports the numerous references to projects in the various mining areas and what a difference their resulting effect has produced in the lives of needy people. We see here something of God's strategy to improve the lives of suffering folk. Thank you so much for your exceptional help that so many projects could be realised!

The fact that makes us particularly joyful is that through the faithful preaching of the Gospel by the evangelists, people discover their lives renewed and spiritually quickened. The evangelists are very thankful, when we stand by them in regular prayer! Thank you so much dear Mission friends, for all the help that your prayers and gifts are bringing in these days!

Greetings to you all,

Kurt Feurer

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