

Zimbabwe Church Development Ministries

Stephen Chikwati, Director



Congratulations for crossing over into **2012!!!** I hope I find you well and not affected by this thing we call "January disease" here. This is getting broke after overspending during the festive season. We pray that 2012 will be a year filled with success.



It has become tradition to have **VBS** programs at **Matara Church of Christ**. This time around we had 64 participating kids, four teachers, and several helpers. On September 11 we handed VBS certificates to all participating kids and teachers. In 2012 we intend to give certificates to VBS helpers also as a way of encouraging them for their participation.

On the same day we gave out VBS certificates I also preached about "Being a Role Model." We ended the service of the day with **12 baptisms** in the pond just outside the church and we praise the Lord for that.

We still continue to participate in the infrastructural development of churches. On the 17th of September I traveled a little over 200 km on a dusty, dirty, and bumpy road to deliver some building materials for a minister's house at **Matedzi Church of Christ** in the resettlement areas. It took the larger portion of my day from 5:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. I only had two bananas for lunch, as there was nowhere to buy food.

On September 20 and 21 we hosted **Dr. Walt Chamberlain** from Madras, Oregon, who delivered lessons to 16 ministers from Mashoko Area Churches. We all appreciated his address on the current challenges that churches are facing. Angella did all the catering services.



From October 13 to 16 I took some men from our area to **Matopos** outside Bulawayo city to attend our Men's Fellowship Conference. I was privileged to be one of the speakers on the theme, "Standing at the Crossroads: Going back to the original church" (Jeremiah 6:16). While there we had a chance to visit Matopos Hills where Cecil John Rhodes was buried. I actually sat on his grave for a photograph. It was a great time of fellowship. Even monkeys joined the fellowship.

I was privileged to be an invited guest at **Mukanga Secondary School's Speech and Prize Giving Ceremony** in October to inspire the candidates who were about to write national examinations. My relationship with Mukanga goes back several years. I once taught there soon after completing my first degree with the University of Zimbabwe. Since then I have gone back there to preach, set up the Preachers' Club, and have baptized several students there lately.



We continue to record several baptisms of students and others here at Mashoko and several outlying areas. On Christmas day I had the honor of **baptizing** my own **son, Takunda** Stephen.



On the 23rd of October we bid farewell to a group of candidates who were members of the Preachers' Club. We held a **PC graduation** and **Christmas party** for them. We invited Mrs. Bungu and our Elder Mr. Maziva to hand them some certificates, Bibles, and small gifts. We also invited several adults who gave the students advice, inspiration, and encouragement. Our prayer is that they will continue to "preach the Word" as they were doing here.

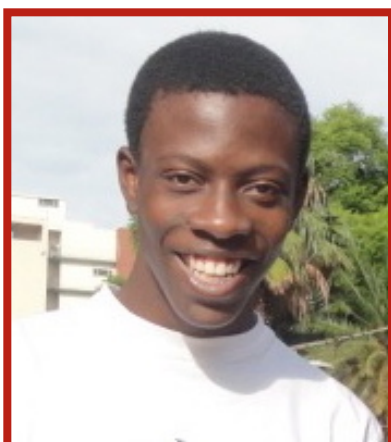
Our revivals in the resettlement areas are doing very well. In October we went to **Duruuyu** where one of the ZCDM preachers is stationed for a two-day **revival**. Despite a sudden change of weather we had a resounding turn up. As we drove out into the villages inviting people my team kept on swelling that I ended up with eight men on the roof of the car. We spent the whole night preaching and teaching and we also showed "The Passion of the Christ." On the second day we had three people repenting for the first time. They asked us to come again.





Just before schools closed late in November we started a **Mashoko High School Choir Ministry**. I took a group of 35 students to Chiromo Church of Christ to minister through choral music. Of course once we got there we were given the opportunity to conduct the whole service. It was a lot of fun.

As usual **Christmas** here was full of **activities**. We attended services at Mashoko and Matara churches. The highlight of the day was Takunda's baptism after which we just spent the day relaxing at home with family. We didn't know we were going to be mourning the passing on of my cousin, Goodluck Chikwati, on New Year's Day.



Earlier last year we communicated that we were looking for a school for our son **Takudzwa**. We are glad to let you know that he got a place at **Lincoln Christian University** in Illinois and has started lessons this spring. He is still gripped with some culture shock. This is his first time to fly, and to be away from home and parents. Please help him to acclimatize.

As we look ahead this first quarter of 2012 we have the following already lined up:
Welcoming new students to the Preachers' Club
Two Preachers' Club outreaches
One revival in the resettlement areas
Attending the Preachers' Summit in Harare from February 26 to March 1
National Youth Conference at Easter where I expect to teach youth advisers

Praises

Good health
Takudzwa is now in school
Successful revivals
Several ministry opportunities
Several baptisms over the past few months

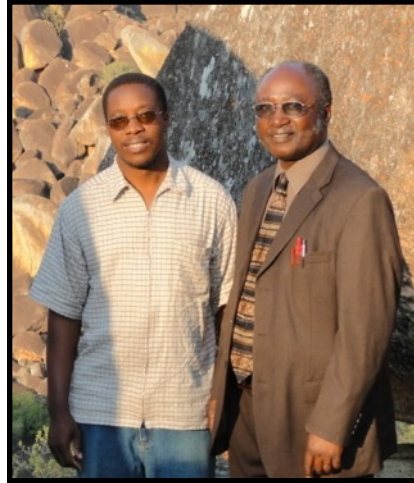
Prayer needs

Ministers' provisions
Supplies for Angella's Closet
Audiovisual projector
Vehicle repairs

We thank God for you, for your faithful love, prayers, partnership, and support,
and for continuing to participate in kingdom building.
We could not be doing what we are doing without you.

Stephen Chikwati
Director of Ministries
Zimbabwe Church Development Ministries (ZCDM)
chikwati@mweb.co.zw
Mashoko Christian Hospital
P. Bag 530 N
Nyika, Zimbabwe

Forwarding Agent
Shirley Beegle
shirl68bee@aol.com
Northern Hills Christian Church
9470 Winton Road
Cincinnati, OH 45231
U.S.A



Stephen and Dr. Bungu

