

6 Phakamisa, S Africa

<http://www.phakamisa.org/>

Thokozani Poswa spent a couple of weeks goodwill visit to UK in Derbyshire/Lincolnshire area, spending Saturday 11th May with us here in the Cornerstone Coffee Shop. Phakamisa is thriving but as always, funding is a huge problem. She is appealing for regular monthly giving, say £10 or £20 a month to help the learning teachers and the preschool children have a better start in life. They have so little. If you were able to help, do see Richard or Anne who would help you set it up. Your prayers are valued so much.

7 Jonathan and Isabel Hill, Zimbabwe

<http://www.isabeljonathan.org/>

Please continue to pray for us that God can use us effectively. Pray for the education of children currently dropping out of school because of financial reasons. Pray for protection for children against abuse of all forms, protection against diseases, exploitation and violence.

I haven't been able to make further contact with Jonathan and Isabel so please continue to pray for some of the items from last time:

(8) Pray for our **leaders** to rule with fairness and not to put their personal ambitions above the needs of the people.

Pray for a stable **financial system**. Prices in the shops have gone up dramatically in recent months.

(9) In times like these, orphaned and vulnerable children get exploited because of their innocence. Pray for their protection.

Pray for the Zimbabwe Council of Churches to have the courage to intervene in what is happening in the country which oppresses the citizens.

(0) Pray for the health system. There is a continuing shortage of essential drugs and often hard cash (in US dollars) is demanded by the pharmacies for medicines. Now doctors have gone on strike.

Pray for the **feeding scheme** that we are operating at Thekwane Primary School. Isabel is glad that she can make a difference.

Now **Stephen** has his master's degree pray for his job hunting.

Richard Odell, World Mission Secretary, June 2019 richard@richardodell.co.uk

Mission Matters for Prayer

"I call on you, my God, for you will answer me; turn your ear to me and hear my prayer" Ps. 17.

Please continue to pray for issues in past editions as God leads you. Please also use the Methodist Prayer Handbook. Thanks to those who contributed items. You may also find the Spirit prompts you to pray for a partner in a way not mentioned here, do so! Numbers help select an item to pray for, eg pray for "2" on 2nd, 12th, 22nd of the month See [websites](#) for further information.

1 Christian Aid

<http://www.christianaid.org.uk/resources/churches/prayer/prayer-diary.aspx>

- Christian Aid week this year is highlighting the risk of childbirth in Sierra Leone:
- Pray for the mothers giving birth in Sierra Leone. Pray for the safe delivery of their babies.
- Pray for our partners in Sierra Leone. Pray that they can continue their work improving health services and empowering communities.
- Pray that the Chancellor of the Exchequer can influence the International Monetary Fund to write off Sierra Leone's debts from fighting the Ebola crisis in 2014.
- Pray for the young girls for whom education is a key to their future.
- Give thanks to supporters and churches across the UK and Ireland who give generously and volunteer their time to bring new life and hope to some of the world's poorest people.

2 Mambabu, Kailahun District, Sierra Leone.

We thank God for the Mambabu programme - for its life-changing projects and for the new hope and confidence fostered in the community. In particular, after several more weeks of gruelling excavation work in Gbandoma, we celebrate with the villagers that the workers have been able to break through the obstructing layer of rock, enabling the well to be dug to the required depth.

We thank God for the productive discussions in March and pray for His blessing on the initiatives that have been planned – for the construction of new

sanitation facilities, for the installation of solar panels on the community centre roof and for continued support for young people, particularly those about to leave school and those preparing to sit the West African Senior School Certificate Examination (WASSCE).

Lastly, we hold before God all those who make their living from the land as subsistence farmers. We remember them in their search for land for growing new plantations and for their planning of new agricultural projects. We pray for everyone in the villages for whom the daily grind is tough and relentless, asking that through the Mambabu programme there may be further opportunities for growth and development and that people may be enabled to lead fulfilling and productive lives.

3 Open the Book

<https://www.biblesociety.org.uk/get-involved/open-the-book/>

We give thanks for:-

- Open the Book which began in Bedford 20 years ago
- the opportunities to visit Ashbourne Primary and Ilam as well as Hilltop school

We pray for:-

- Open the Book staff within Bible Society
- the 16,800 storytellers going into schools
- the 3,099 schools visited by them
- more volunteers countrywide as requests from schools increase beyond the number of trained storytellers
- our new team members, John & Elizabeth, Joyce, Cathy, Diane, Liz, Becky, and Kay
- Cliff, our ever helpful prop maker
- our longstanding team members; Joy and Arthur, Sandra, Helen, Cherry, David and Margaret
- children and staff who have not yet heard of Jesus' love for them

4 Patna Partnership, N India

<http://www.ashbournechurchestogether.org.uk/patna.html>

Pray for:-

The triennial Diocesan Council. This will be Bishop Marandih's last one. The Diocesan Council is the decision making body of the Diocese and is also where the various officers are elected. It meets every three years.

The devastation caused by the latest cyclone. The latest cyclone hit mainly Odisha and West Bengal but also the fringes of the Patna diocese.

The recent national election results gave a second victory for the pro-Hindu BJP party – pray for our Christian brothers and sisters under persecution.

Pray that this will be honestly done and the result accepted with good grace.

5 ACE Youth Trust

<http://www.aceyouth.org.uk/>

We continue to thank God for the work of ACE and that young lives are being changed through the care and support of ACE volunteers and staff. We pray for God's continued blessing upon this work.

We thank God for the dedication and enthusiasm of all who work with ACE committing their skills, experience and time to help the disadvantaged young people of our community and we pray that God will continue to call, inspire and equip such people in this service. We thank God too for the generosity of those who contribute much-needed funds to enable the work to continue.

We also pray for the young people themselves – holding before God all those struggling with loneliness, bullying, disability, mental illness; those in trouble at school or with the police, those with no loving home or family support, those in despair who see no future, those overstretched by their circumstances. "Father God, bless our young people, we pray, and use us to show them your love."