



Mambilima Newsletter - June 2020

Dear friends,

Here is an update of the Lords work at Mambilima Zambia.

We had prepared to be there in May and June, but the corona virus changed all our plans. At Mambilima they have prepared for the virus, but it has not reached there yet. There are cases in the town of Mansa 60 miles away.

The schools will return this week with only certain classes. Most of the children are at home in the villages. Both the primary and the high school were on lockdown, however this week grades 9, 10, 11, and 12, have returned. The schools have had to do deep cleaning prior to the children returning.

The hospital has hand washing facilities at the entrance, shielding Perspex masks and barrier gowns are ready should they be needed. Disposable gloves are worn. We pray that it will not reach us, but the administrator, Mr Mbita, and his staff are prepared.

The new building at the high school has been hindered but has started again, they have reached the stage of painting. We are so grateful for the gifts given which have allowed us to do repair work to properties and also transport during this time.

The folks are busy harvesting crops right now, and the harvest is good. Normally at this time the people are in their fields, and even sleep there in makeshift shelters. They make time for prayers, and meet together in small groups at this time. The evangelists are involved, helping their wives with the harvest.

We have received the following letter from our deputy head, who is also an elder in the assembly, Mr Manda Chibwe...

“Good evening.

Well due to the Covid-19, some spiritual activities have not been done in a usual way. From the time the government suspended gatherings, we have not been gathering as assembly. But we encouraged worshipping from homes while others did meet in neighbourhoods since numbers were few.

Assistance to the needy continued even during the 'lock down' periods.

About a month ago the government eased some of the restrictions and we were allowed to gather in smaller numbers, following the health rules of masking up, maintaining social distance and restricting numbers.

It is not three weeks since we started.

The church has bought enough hand wash facilities and sanitizers. The church further procured face masks to give the majority Christians who can't afford. Therefore, we are still preaching the word of God.

As elders we have continued home visits to the brethren who are in need e.g. the elderly and the sick.

We also provide material support where possible.

We are not likely to hold the general conference due to huge numbers that we can not contain easily. But we held a center meeting for elders where our main area of concern was how to maintain the collapsed wall due to the floods.

If not attended to, the pillars holding the shelter may collapse any time. We hope we will mobilize something and do the required maintenance.

With breaking of bread, we will start possibly next week after acquiring small individual cup as sharing during.

We implore you to continue praying for us in order to develop.

May God richly bless you.

Manda”

Wishing you God’s richest blessing in these difficult days.

Robert and Margaret.