

*Revealing Jesus through*  
**EDUCATION, HUMANITARIAN SERVICE & CHRISTIAN LEADERSHIP**

### Drought Brings Hunger

April is normally harvest month in Zambia. Farmers are usually harvesting crops and storing grain for the coming months.



But this year farmers are walking through dusty fields of dried up stalks of maize and wondering how they will feed their families.

Zambia's rainy season begins in November and ends in April. During these months, fields are plowed, seed is sown, the rains come, and the maize grows. Most families depend on the maize crops for daily food and as a source of cash for other necessities. But this season the rains did not come. Southern Zambia recorded the lowest seasonal rainfall in 46 years. This year there is little or nothing to eat and nothing to sell for cash.

Namwianga leaders are already hearing reports of hunger and desperation. Two men traveled 65 miles from Simalundu to the mission to seek help for their drought-stricken community.

They presented a list of more than 600 families who need food relief. They reported that villagers are surviving by eating inji, a wild tree fruit. The villagers climb the trees early in the morning to pick the half-inch long fruit. One woman fell out of a tree and broke her back. A pregnant woman fell from a tree, landing on her stomach. She was rushed to the nearest hospital, but her unborn baby died.



Namwianga leaders are mobilizing resources to assist families and communities. Relief efforts will include purchasing and delivering food to needy communities, providing fresh water, and promoting the use of drip irrigation for sustainable gardening.

The severity of this drought means that relief efforts will be long-term and costly. You can ease the suffering of hungry and desperate Zambians by donating generously. Give online at [zambiamission.org/hunger](http://zambiamission.org/hunger), by texting GIVE to **325-313-3160** and selecting HUNGER, or by using the enclosed envelope.

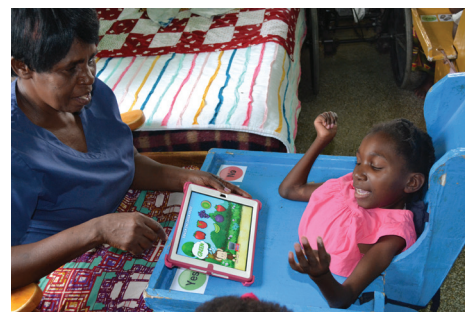
### INSIDE



**Namwianga Welcomes New Doctor**



**Food Relief**



**Technology Helps Haven Children**

# Namwianga Welcomes New Doctor

Dr. Stephen Chanda joined the staff of Namwianga Zonal Health Center in January and is the first native Zambian medical doctor to serve at the center.

NZHC Clinic Administrator Shepherd Mbumwae appreciates Chanda's impact: "Dr. Chanda has improved the overall patient care at NZHC." Patients get "a complete package of treatment when they come," Mbumwae said. Because Chanda can treat many complicated cases on-site, those cases no longer have to be referred to larger hospitals. Mbumwae noted that as word about the addition of Chanda has spread in the area, patient numbers at NZHC have increased. Staff and patients have responded



warmly to Chanda's presence at NZHC. Staff members describe him as "humble, sociable, hardworking, and experienced." Patients are pleased with his demeanor and his excellent care, saying that he treats them with dignity.

Chanda has training in several specialized areas, including surgery. NZHC has the first surgical theater in Kalomo District, and Chanda and his NZHC team now perform surgeries that had not been available in Kalomo. He called the center's

new operating room "one of the best, if not the best, in the country."

His first experience with Namwianga Mission was in 2015 when he served on the Zambia Medical Mission team. He immediately impressed his American and Zambian co-workers with his personal and professional skills. Zambia Medical Mission co-director Ellie Hamby said Dr. Chanda "treated the patients with compassion, concern, and love." ZMM Nurse Allison Geisler was delighted to hear that Chanda had joined the NZHC staff: "I am grateful for all I was able to learn from him during the 2018 medical mission, and I am so pleased to see this partnership come together."



Chanda sees NZHC as having "a very big role in Kalomo [District] as it is the only facility with such a dedicated, hard-working and, above all, God-fearing staff." He believes NZHC can be a model for other health institutions, inspiring them to "treat not only the body but the mind and soul as well."

After graduating from high school in Lusaka, the capital city of Zambia, Chanda received his medical training in Russia where he met his wife Zabolina. The Chandas have four children.

## It's A Matter Of Degrees

Exciting and challenging times are ahead for George Benson Christian College.



Currently GBCC offers a three-year education diploma that qualifies graduates to teach in Zambia's secondary schools, grades 7-12. However, the government of Zambia now wants all teachers in grades 10-12 to have four-year degrees. Eventually degrees will be required.

To meet this requirement, GBCC will begin offering full degrees in education. The diploma program will continue along with the degree offering.

Moving to degree status will require improvements in the college's infrastructure, advanced degrees for faculty, and expenses for curriculum development, government-required licenses, and other fees. In January Zambia Mission Fund initiated "It's a Matter of Degrees," a project to raise \$55,000 to cover the expenses of moving to degree status. If you would like to help cover these costs, please donate on our website, [www.zambiamission.org/degree](http://www.zambiamission.org/degree), text GIVE to (325) 313-3160 and choose DEGREE, or use the enclosed envelope.

# Technology Helps Haven Children

Ten-year-old Busi loves her daily iPad time. Shown here with Auntie Patience, her Haven care-giver, Busi uses the iPad to learn vocabulary, colors, shapes, body



parts, and other basic concepts. Because Busi has limited verbal ability and significant mobility challenges, she also uses the iPad to communicate by tapping pictures on the iPad screen to respond to those around her and express her needs and feelings.

Dr. Jeff Adams, Systems Coordinator for the Arkansas Department of Education, worked at The Haven as

part of the Harding in Zambia speech pathology program in 2018. He explored options to help Busi and other Haven children develop communication skills. At his recommendation, The Haven's medical advocate Meagan Hawley asked for and received iPads from generous donors.

Then Hawley and Dr. Adams installed apps that are designed to help Haven children who have special needs. They were even able to program the apps to use Tonga, Busi's native language. Simon, who is blind, also benefits from iPad usage. He listens to music and uses apps that teach him environmental sounds. Hawley called the iPad technology "an extremely useful tool" for the children.

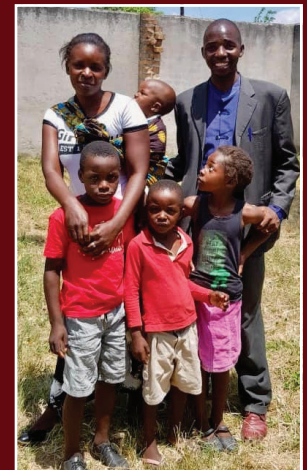
## New Congregation

"We want to begin a congregation in Batoka. Could you send us a George Benson Christian College graduate to help us?"



That was the plea from community leaders in Batoka, a town 60 miles east of Namwianga Mission. Sponsored student Kemmy Siamalyo answered the plea after completing his college coursework in December. He, his wife, and their four children moved to Batoka January 19, and within two weeks the Batoka Church of Christ held its first worship service.

Siamalyo went door to door inviting community members. The fledgling congregation already has an average attendance of 35 each Sunday. They meet in a classroom at Batoka Academy where Siamalyo teaches. That room is already too small, and the congregation is hoping to construct a church building soon.



Siamalyo learned ministry and church planting during his time as a sponsored student at George Benson Christian College. Other current students are in need of sponsors so that they, too, can someday work with congregations as they support themselves by teaching. Find out more at [www.zambiamission.org/sponsorastudent](http://www.zambiamission.org/sponsorastudent)

## New Option For Donating

Supporters now can give to Zambia Mission Fund using their cell phones. The text-to-give option is a new feature that donors have found simple and easy to use. To securely donate by phone, text

GIVE to **(325) 313-3160**. A menu of options will appear to help you direct your gift. You then will be prompted to enter your debit or credit card information.

# Food Relief

Nixon Siamungande, a member of Namwianga Mission's Evangelism and Spiritual Growth (ESG) team, has been receiving pleas for help from drought-stricken communities about the "terrible hunger situation they are going through." Siamungande and other members of the ESG organized a food relief effort for the community of Katubya, 65 miles from Namwianga, in March. Bags of mealie meal — ground maize that is the staple of Zambian diets — were loaded onto a flatbed truck for transport to the distribution site. Siamungande led a worship service with the gathered families reminding them that the food they received was given in the name of Jesus.

The plight and the determination of one woman and her grandson touched Siamungande. Gole

Namuwele (shown here with Siamungande) is 100 years old. When she learned there would be a food distribution on Saturday, March 2, she and her grandson set out from their village a day early to be sure they would be there in time. The grandson pushed Gole on a bicycle for hours to reach the Katubya food distribution site. They slept Friday night in the Katubya church building.



Siamungande reported that those who received the food were very grateful. He added that the need for more food assistance is great. "People have no hope for any harvest," he said.



TWITTER - @Zambia\_Mission



INSTAGRAM - Zambiamissionfund



FACEBOOK - Zambia Mission Fund

facebook.com/ZambiaMission

Find us on:  **facebook**



Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Permit #10  
79604

Zambia Christian College Inc., dba Zambia Mission Fund  
The Kalomo Reporter  
PO BOX 3393  
ABILENE TX 79604-3393  
RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED