



## Keith and Lyn Scott

Diocese of Northern Zambia

Easter 2019



CMSI Link Letter

### Dear Friends...

We have been back in Zambia for two months now but it seems like it was ages ago that we were enjoying living beside the sea in Donaghadee, Co. Down. Our home assignment was very busy but also very rewarding as we got to visit family, friends and most of our link churches. If we didn't see you then be sure that you will be high on the list to visit next time we are back in Ireland.

The current students are now in their fourth and final year. They are all working on retaking modules from Northwest university in South Africa that they have failed in previous years. As such the staff are working with small tutorial groups which is less demanding and more fun. However this will all change in August when we select a new intake of students for our own degree programme. That will entail much planning, preparation and teaching. The



Keith getting to grips with power tools

Adjusting back, even though we have done it before in the past, was surprisingly difficult. We probably became too comfortable with the availability, access and choice of things in the West and to be honest people did spoil us which increased our waistlines too! Now we are back to a more frugal and austere lifestyle which is no bad thing. Food prices have increased along with most other commodities. The economy in Zambia is not very healthy and as everywhere, the poor suffer most. Unemployment is very high and conditions can be very trying. Two of our seminary support workers have lost their jobs through lack of funds which means the other three have more to do.



Lyn helping students with computer work

group of students we have are working hard to achieve their goal of securing a good theology degree in order to be ordained for the priesthood in the Zambian Anglican church. Please pray that they will continue to have that motivation and look forward to success and completion in November.

As you will know from recent news the cyclone that devastated the coast of Mozambique has impacted on three countries that border Zambia. Two of these are in the central African province of our Archbishop Albert Chama. He is very concerned, naturally, that we, in the Anglican church in Zambia and the world wide church, pray and support our brothers and sisters in Malawi, Mozambique and Zimbabwe in whatever way we can.

Although most areas of this country were not affected by the cyclone directly there will undoubtedly be repercussions. People will be moving across borders in search of food aid and shelter, which also enables the easy transmission of diseases. Added to this there is already a major drought in southern province which is putting a strain on food supplies nationally and this is still the rainy season. Because there has been less rainfall in the south of the country, the dams are below normal capacity which means there may be power shortages nationally affecting us all. So, quite a lot to pray for and reflect on. Praise God that He has this situation in His hands.



This year will bring visitors from Ireland that we are looking forward to. Notably, Reverend Dr. Maurice Elliott from the Church of Ireland Theological Institute in May and a team in July that will visit Northern diocese and stay on our campus. More of that next time.

I am writing this from our office (that used to be Hannah's bedroom), and looking out at our gorgeous hibiscus bushes, which are now the size

of small trees and bloom every day. The sun is dazzling and just yesterday I was delighted to see two orange-breasted sunbirds right outside the window in the bush, a rare sight. Despite all the awful things happening in the world at any given time we can give thanks for all the beauty and goodness that we encounter every day and thank God for His blessing, especially at this time of Easter, when He gave us His Son.

Thank you so much for your thoughts and prayers, we depend on them, a Happy Easter to you,

Keith and Lyn

Archbishop Chama sent this message to CMS Ireland:

*"Greetings, Thank you for the message of solidarity with us in the Province of Central Africa. The situation is very bad especially in Manicaland, Southern Malawi and in the eastern part of Zambia. We need to stand together with those have lost the beloved ones. Certainly the affected people need emergency help like temporary shelter, food and medical kits. They will need assistance for some time too before they can come to terms with the situation.*

*Any help will be highly appreciated for our brothers and sisters. Thank you once more for your prayers and solidarity.*

*Archbishop Albert Chama"*

Please pray for Archbishop Albert and his team as they work via local churches to bring comfort and assistance to those in need. If you wish to donate to help fund shelters, food aid and medical kits CMS Ireland will pass these on through Archbishop Chama to support local churches in the affected areas.

You can keep up to date with the Scotts - and read their news and views - by visiting their blog on the CMSI website. To support the Scotts financially, please visit the CMSI website or contact the offices.

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