

All Saints

Mission update action by Sue Russell .

Having made my yearly visit to Nasio Kenya again in October 2018 as a trustee with responsibilities of obtaining all photo updates and organising the children to write letters or draw pictures for sponsors I have slowly been processing the information that I returned with ready for distribution to sponsors along with the latest newsletter ready for February. I also led a group of 7 lower six students from Cokethorpe school on a visit to the projects.

While there the group prepared and served lunch to children at both centres. They took part in a jiggers clinic at a local school for 105 pupils and parents, did community work by sweeping the market area, muddied the canteen, painted the child officers interview room with a jungle scene, visited the local, newly opened government polytechnic centre as well as interacting with the Children.



I took over in my suitcase more pants for teenagers, sanitary wear, red jumpers and Mummy bags. These contained treats for new Mummies who had given birth in our new Medical Centre. They had a toothbrush, a fish & chips set of clothes for the baby donated by Milton Methodist Church knitters and the WI at Wootton as well as a most valued terry nappy. While there 7 babies were born, including twin boys.



It was heartening to hear that Spirulina had reduced malnourished for our children, their guardians and the wider community as doctors from the centre can prescribe capsules at a cost of 10 KSH per capsule (7p).

With jiggers still prevalent in this rural area a new project is planned for this year for all to have access to shoes. We have a prototype denim shoe sewn onto a car tyre.

2018 CELEBRATING A WONDERFUL YEAR – TOP TEN HIGHLIGHT

2018 was a fantastic year for the Nasio Trust! We celebrated so many achievements marking more steady progress towards breaking the cycle of poverty in Kenya and beyond. There are so many things we could list, but here are our top-ten highlights...

- Our first orphan graduated from university with a teaching degree Japheth.
- 400 students received school uniforms.
- 20 Nasio Trust guardians completed adult education.
- We built 4 houses for families.
- 360 reusable sanitary towels were distributed.
- We treated more than 700 people with jiggers
- 8,740 patients were treated at the Nasio Medical Centre
- 65 malnourished children were regularly given Spirulina to strengthen their immune systems.
- 226 babies safely delivered – also at the Nasio Medical Centre
- Over 400 children supported at our Early Childhood Development Centres.



Grove

Grove have contributed to two projects that Yotam has been overseeing during 2018. The main project has been the continued development of the Preachers Training Campus.

Following my appeal for funds for the campus at the March 2018 Circuit meeting, £300 was raised and sent out last August and which helped pay for the roofing. The exterior of the building has largely been completed but funds are still needed to frame the windows, make doors, plaster the walls and install electricity and water supplies.

On going funds are need to subsidise the transport costs of the candidates and to pay for the costs of running the courses including providing food.

Teaching has been underway since the Autumn. Yotam's son, Geoffrey, who has completed a Diploma in Christian Studies at college in Zimbabwe, is running the courses. They also use the premises for Church services.

Yotam has sent an update report giving the state of play at the end of March (overleaf). I have been invited to officially open the Campus on behalf of Grove MC and the Circuit in September 2020.

The other project is a replacement for the Truck that Grove helped to buy in 2014. The Truck was 20 years old when he brought it and after 4 years hard service on unforgiving African roads it became uneconomical to repair in the Autumn. However it revolutionised the lives of Christian Church and of the local Community. The congregations from the different tows and villages were able to visit each other and the Truck also played a vital role in meeting community needs.

Funds have come in from sponsored bike rides, coffee mornings, a very generous private donation and a direct donation from the Church - with over £1000 raised and a target of another £1000 by August 2020 when Yotam plans to buy the Truck.



The old Truck

Katie and Alex King continue their support for Project Ecuador. They began their support in 2015 and have sent £900 so far and £200 in 2018 through a coffee morning.

Project Ecuador is a Scottish charity that is run by Andrea Gardener although Andrea is now based in Shetland. The Project sponsors the education of 120 children in Ecuador - providing £12 a month per child.

The Project also meets the children's medical needs. Girls are taught to sew and bake and the products made are sold.

Funds are needed to expand the programme.

Peachcroft

Peachcroft continue to support Lesotho-Durham Link and Mission Aviation Fellowship but there have been no visits in 2018. They are reviewing the projects they support.

Preacher training facility, Mzuzu - the “Campus” Report on leader’s teacher training, March 2019

Yotam K. C. Theu, Leader of Christian Church, Malawi

Here are photos of our Bible teachings that we had for leaders here in Mzuzu.



You can see leaders. We all thanked you and all who helped us to have this Campus for our Bible lessons. God is doing miracles to us. Kindly continue to think of us and pray for us. Many leaders are willing to come and attend these teachings in future. Amen.

The main problems that we found here my Brother many times concern transport fares for leaders. They are coming from far places and nearly all of them are not working. May GOD help you to help us further in this situation ?

We are also touched that the time may come when all doors will have door facilities and windows so that we may be safe to sleep here during our lessons. If possible we will also be very glad if we can have water and electricity in our campus. We also want to have a Baptismal dam being dug just inside our campus, Lord willing.

Any donations will be gratefully received. Please send a cheque payable to “Grove Methodist Church” and indicate “Campus project” to GMC Treasurer. . Mark Sandels, Overseas Mission Secretary.

Childrey

Childrey have funding Joyce Theu's (that is Yotam's niece) Secondary School education since March 2015.

Joyce took her final exams in 2018 but unfortunately did not get the grades to allow her to do a course in Tourism and has had to retake the last two years at school.

Childrey has very generously agreed to pay for the retake and also to pay for the Tourism course which will take a year and costs £550. They have been able to use a Trust Fund dedicated to education provision.



Joyce (18 years) is the daughter of Yotam's brother James who died. She lives with her Aunt in Blantyre,

Didcot

Elizabeth Wood reports

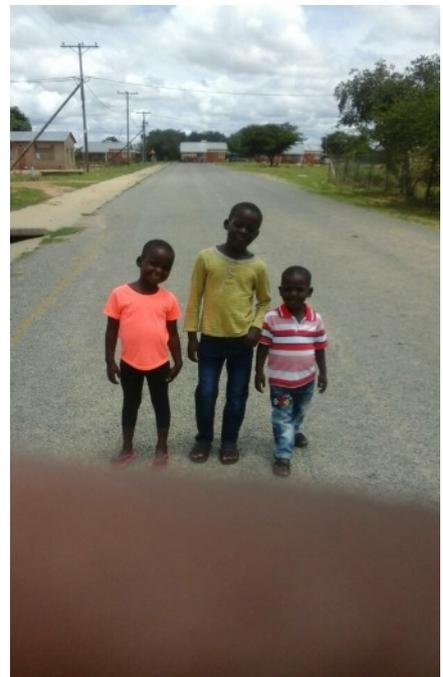
Didcot continue to maintain strong links with the Bushmead community in Zimbabwe and work to support both the community and local school through prayer, finance (offering funding to individual children for their education and to the school as a whole) and goods (mostly homemade jumpers, teddy bears and blankets).

Although it has been a difficult year in Zimbabwe we were delighted to hear that everyone in Bushmead is safe and well, seven out of the nine pupils who took their national exams (think GCSE) this year passed with Grades A & B and three young people brought home medals from the national school running competitions.

These are all pictures from this year:



Bushmead



Two Takudzwa
Tafadzwa & Ernest



The classroom



School competition
winners

Wantage

Wantage supported two young men who visited South America to do community work (Overseas Mission Report 2017/18).

For 2018/19, Gordon Skidmore reports

Our principal work with the overseas work of the church has been focused on our partnership with All We Can which is now in its second year.

In the year 2017/18 we sent £3460 and to date in 2018/19 we have sent some £1675

The focus of their campaign for this year, is "Let your light shine" which enables communities to be transformed through the use of solar irrigation systems, with a particular focus on Malawi.

During our Harvest service we heard about this amazing work and among other things, were introduced to Shanu and his young family and how 'All We Can' are transforming their lives and the lives of so many others.

This last month, Matthew Forsyth was able to share with us in worship once more as we celebrated the transformative work of 'All We Can' and the ways in which they bring hope, and change to some of the poorest communities in the world. The floods in Malawi in the past few weeks has brought added urgency to the work being done with our partners.

Trinity

In last years report, Malcolm,Newton told us about the Toilet Twinning project at Trinity.

Ruth Dams reports on 2018/19 activity

Trinity relates to Mission work in both the Methodist and URC Churches. Through URC's "Commitment for Life" programme, we support projects to improve the lives of people in Zimbabwe, a very impoverished country. The projects supported help people to grow more food by water conservation and more efficient agricultural methods. They also set up village banks from which people can take loans with which to start up small businesses, so enabling them to pay for items such as their children's school fees.

The church supports financially the URC Council for World Mission and the Methodist World Mission and Mission in Britain funds. A small proportion of this money is raised through Mission boxes.

The collections for our Christmas services were for Action for Children and for the Porch and Soup Kitchen in Oxford. Each week, food items are collected for the Soup Kitchen at which two members of the congregation are helpers. During the year, we have also supported Christian Aid and All we Can.

Wallingford

Last year, Philip Burns reported on his visit to Kenya to the Karibuni Children's organisation.

Libby Bolton reports this year...

I mentioned in my earlier reply, no overseas visits were made on behalf of Wallingford Methodist church in the last year.

Regular fundraising events have continued and have resulted in donations as follows:

All We Can	£378
Karibuni Children	£420
Medicins Sans Frontiers	£875
Total	£1,673

We didn't make a church donation to Christian Aid but a collection was made in town.

Milton

Last year, Milton reported that they had supported a Charity "Ray of Vision" based in Harare and had sent some money.

This year they continued their support and sent £400. They received a letter of thanks

Milton also sent Christmas Shoe boxes via the Link Charity to Romania.