

Diane Cusick

Location: **Lusaka, ZAMBIA**

Mission: **Early childhood education**



*'Praise the Lord, my soul; all my inmost being,
praise his holy name.'
Psalm 103:1*

September took me on a trip to Southern province to visit three Early Childhood Development (ECD) centres. We praise God for the number of children attending our ECD centres – with one of them having almost 60 children. I continue to encourage the teachers and to try and get the ECD committees to do their job so that the centres will run smoothly, and children can have fun as they play at the centres. I also encourage our parish ministers to support the centres as best they can and give spiritual guidance to the teachers.

I met with the Synod Executive to see how we can progress with ECD in Zambia Synod. There were a number of good suggestions, so we need spend much time in prayer to see which is the right direction to move in.

October is another busy month with our GAC (General Administrative Committee) beginning on 19 October, after the National Day of Prayer in Zambia. This year it will be in Ndola, in the Copperbelt province of Zambia. I will be presenting a report on Early Childhood Development at this meeting and also assisting the Synod with presentations on strategic planning and human resource policy.

Temperatures have risen in Zambia and we are now in the midst of the hottest time of the year. It is very dry and dusty as I travel, but its actually my favourite time of year, with lots of vibrant blossom giving colour in the dry and brown land.



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OCTOBER 2021

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Photo: Children at one the Synod's ECD centres.

Prayer points

- Pray for the ECD centres in Livingstone, Monze and Mazabuka – for the children not only to have fun through play, but to learn that Jesus loves and cares for them too. Pray that parents will also pay the school fees (about £7 per term) as we struggle to pay teachers.
- Give thanks that Covid-19 numbers are still at a reasonable rate which means life can go on pretty much as normal.
- Pray for CCAP Synod of Zambia as they begin to prepare for their bi-annual GAC (General Administrative Committee) meeting which will be held in October in Ndola. Pray for wisdom for the church leaders and they make plans for the coming year.
- Pray for Diane to keep healthy and safe during this time.