

## Diane Cusick

Location: **Lusaka, ZAMBIA**

Mission: **Early childhood education**



*'So do not fear for I am with you; do not be dismayed for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.'*  
Isaiah 41:10

It's hard to believe how things can suddenly change overnight! My last prayer letter was talking about road trips. In the middle of June which is the cold season here, suddenly Covid-19 cases started to rise rapidly. On 16 June we were told schools were closing, restaurants were closing, churches limited to one hour and funeral numbers restricted... and now I am back working from home again! As I write, hospitals are full of Covid-19 patients, not only in Lusaka, but across the country. Many prominent people have passed away in the last couple of weeks and many more are sick in hospital. Oxygen is in short supply and Zambia is in crisis.

On top of this, the founding President of the nation of Zambia, Kenneth Kaunda, also passed away on 17 June aged 97 years and so we have a period of national mourning for 21 days. He was an inspiration, not only to Zambians, but to the Southern Africa region. A funeral has been organised with only family members and visiting dignitaries from our neighbours being invited.

I am hoping to get a second dose of the vaccine next week for which I am grateful. Zambia is receiving another 100,000 doses of the Oxford Astrazeneca Covid-19 vaccine this week and have managed to procure four million doses of Johnson and Johnson vaccine to arrive in September. We hope that this will really happen.

I am currently writing a manual for trainers to use when training people to roll out our child safeguarding policy. I am thankful for things to do while staying home! Plans for July and August in Early Childhood are therefore on hold just now!

Thank you for your continued support. Keep updated with my life and work by checking my blog... [www.dianecusick.blogspot.com](http://www.dianecusick.blogspot.com)



### Prayer points

- Pray for the nation of Zambia in this current health crisis. Pray that people will take Covid-19 seriously and try to protect themselves and others by wearing face masks and social distancing. Pray for the leadership of CCAP Synod of Zambia as they endeavour to guide our people.
- Pray for the Presidential elections that will be held in August 2021 in Zambia. Pray for peace as campaign rallies have been suspended due to the period of mourning.
- Pray for our teachers and children who were just suddenly told to stop school. Pray for their safety from the virus too.
- Pray for Diane to keep healthy and safe during this time.