

Diane Cusick

Location: **Lusaka, ZAMBIA**

Mission: **Early childhood education**



'Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding: in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.'

Proverbs 3:5-6

Schools opened at last on 12 February and I was able to visit both Livingstone and Mazabuka Early Childhood Development (ECD) centre just after opening. In both centres we have lost two teachers, one has been employed by the Government and the other has found a job that pays more! This means we have to look for new teachers to recruit. In both centres we have teachers who are not trained, but we cannot operate without having one teacher with a Diploma in Early Childhood Education. However, despite this we have large numbers of children coming to both centres.

In Mazabuka, where there are no child friendly toilets, the new minister is busy planning to build a toilet block. Plans are being drawn up for this. Already money was raised in Ireland for this so I hope they will be started soon.



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Zambia is now facing a period of drought – we had rains in January and then suddenly they stopped and for the past 7 weeks we have had no rain. This is affecting the maize harvest which is the staple food of Zambia – it is not looking good for food security in 2024.

While we make plans, sometimes they are not God's plans. I went for a CT scan a few days ago to see if all was well with my pancreas. Unfortunately, I will require some medical treatment as the scan showed some abnormalities. This has been a bit of a shock and something I was not expecting.

Thank you for your continued support. Keep updated with my life and work by checking my blog...www.dianecusick.blogspot.com



Please pray:

- Give thanks that schools have opened after a long break due to cholera and that new teachers will be found for both ECD centres.
- Pray that rains may come before it is too late for the major crops in the country to be harvested.
- Pray for Diane as she comes to terms with needing medical attention, and pray for the medical team to be available. Pray for that she will know God's peace during this time.