

# CONTACT



**Pumped up!**

*See pages 3-5*

**CAM International**, founded in 1915 by William Burton and James Salter, ministers in DR Congo, Zambia, Ethiopia, Mozambique and the African diaspora.



# CONTENTS

SEPTEMBER – OCTOBER 2026 ISSUE 1023



**03**

## PRACTICAL PROVISION

Gordon McKillip shares how a dedicated supply network works behind the scenes to keep Nyangombe running

**06**

## A BRAND-NEW WATER SYSTEM: A NINE-WEEK PROJECT

From planning to construction to finishing touches: How the work proceeded in Chimoio, Mozambique

**08**

## SEASONS OF REST

Chris and Robin emphasise the importance of taking proper rests.



**10**

## VISIT TO ZAMBIA AND ETHIOPIA

Dave Garrard tells of his plans to visit Africa in August and September, and how you can pray for him as he travels

**11**

## WATER: A GLOBAL CHALLENGE

Paul Stables discusses the difficulties inherent in accessing drinking water and what is being done to resolve them

**12**

## EVANGELISM THROUGH HARDSHIP

Daniel Habtey considers how the Lord can turn trying times into opportunities, and shares his plans to travel to Ethiopia



**14**

## THE CIRCLE OF MISSION

Kym Delpont on the ecosystem of Mission, and how everyone has a part to play in it.

### Editor: Paul Stables

CAM International Charity no. 1153577

**Address:** 10 Lockside Office Park,  
Lockside Road, Preston, PR2 2YS

**Tel:** 01772 717830

**Email:** [admin@caminternational.org.uk](mailto:admin@caminternational.org.uk)

[www.caminternational.org.uk](http://www.caminternational.org.uk)

**Operations Manager:** Kym Delpont

**Office Manager:** Sharon James

**Admin Assistant:** Rajan Joseph

**Design:** [beatroot.media](http://beatroot.media)

**Printed by:** Yeomans

CONTACT is supplied free on request from the Preston office. It is funded by donations, not subscriptions (See page 16).



## COVER PHOTO

### PUMPED UP!

Many essential items come to Nyangombe via shipping container, like the recent delivery of a new borehole pump to fill tanks with drinking water. (See pages 3-5)

All tools were used to assist with editing, clarity, and protecting the identity of individuals where appropriate.





# PRACTICAL PROVISION

by Gordon McKillop

**B**ehind every life impacted by the Lord at Nyangombe is often a hidden lifeline of practical support. For the past 25 years, friends and supporters have enabled us to serve the local population by sending, or sometimes financing, items which allow us to serve better and operate more efficiently.

## Supplied for ministry

A dedicated procurement network, helped by Medical Missionary News (MMN) who send goods by container to Zambia, allows our campus, where we welcome many hundreds of visitors every year, to function with increased efficiency in all areas. River water is pumped for showers and washing clothes, and 24-hour hydro-electricity is generated on site. Electrical wiring, water piping, borehole pumps which fill tanks with drinking water, and a multitude of other items all came in containers to Zambia.

Every year, we are enabled to host large numbers of people who gather for Bible schools, ladies' conferences, youth and children's camps. Whether it is a visitor hearing the Gospel for the very first time, or a believer being more deeply rooted in their love for the Lord Jesus, our supporters are there, behind the scenes, bearing up Nyangombe with prayer and with what is needed to function well in this remote area of Africa.



▲ (top) A shipping container arriving (above) 1.3 tonnes of tools from Tools With A Mission, which came via container



▲ Many gather for the clinic vaccination programme

## A healing touch

Medicines from the UK are a lifeline for thousands of patients, prescribed entirely free of charge as a tangible expression of God's love. In moments of sickness, when patients are confronted with their own mortality, many wonder what drives the clinic staff in mission stations to serve with such deep compassion.

A partnership with MMN enabled the successful treatment of village-wide scabies outbreaks using a simple remedy. By compounding fine sulphur powder into petroleum jelly, the programme created an affordable, highly effective antiparasitic balm that brought complete relief from intense itching to entire families. This intervention by MMN in supplying 40 gallons (210 litres) of petroleum jelly highlights the impact of collaborative, resource-appropriate healthcare as we seek to demonstrate God's love and care in underprivileged communities.

## Opening the door

During a recent visit to Chitokoloki Mission Hospital, I saw a man sat in the corridor, exhausted but hopeful. He had walked 125 miles from Angola just to see the mission doctor, Dr. David McAdam. When asked why he travelled so far while so ill, his answer captured the essence of 'mission': *'The people here show patients love*

*and respect. That is why I have come here!'* In these moments of profound vulnerability, medical care opens the door to something deeper. The staff do not just heal the body; willing and dedicated Christians use these encounters to share the Gospel, pointing weary hearts beyond physical medicine to the ultimate source of healing, the Lord Jesus.

## An overwhelming loss

We recently gathered to sympathise with a family who had just lost their widowed daughter. She was taken too soon, leaving behind five little ones, all under the age of twelve. In the face of such overwhelming loss, it was heavy on our minds and hearts how these children would find their way.

Stepping forward into the gap was their grandmother, a remarkable woman in her sixties whose life is a living testament to faith and devotion. Before this day, her heart and home were already full; she was already raising twelve orphaned grandchildren left behind by her late children and by family friends.

Watching her at the funeral was a moment none of us will forget. With open arms and a spirit anchored in her Christian faith, this dear lady gathered her five newest grieving grandchildren into her small house. Just like that, her family grew to seventeen children, all under the age of fifteen.

Though her faith is boundless, the practical worries of feeding, clothing, and sheltering seventeen growing children are a heavy burden for one pair of shoulders. Yet, exactly when the road seemed steepest, a beautiful reminder arrived to show her she is never truly alone.

## Wonderful provision

A shipment had travelled all the way from churches across the UK and arrived safely at Nyangombe. Inside were answers to unspoken prayers. Bundles of quality clothing and sturdy shoes were unpacked, instantly lifting a massive weight of worry from the grandmother's heart as she saw her grandchildren dressed nicely and ready for the days ahead.

Even better, the shipment included soft blankets and protective mosquito nets. As the crisp, colder nights settle in over Nyangombe, this incredible grandmother can rest a little easier at night. She can look across her small house and know that every single one of her seventeen grandchildren is safely tucked up, wrapped in warm blankets.

## Practical love

Today, as I write, over 100 widows have gathered alongside their village caregivers to receive quality blankets for this cold season. As faithful believers, these caregivers provide holistic support, managing not only the health and wellbeing of the widows and orphans but also acting as trusted counsellors and confidants.

During today's gathering, a Gospel message will be clearly presented. The urgency of this outreach is felt deeply each quarter; sadly, during every three-month interval, some of the women pass away.

Whether through medicines, clean water, clothing, blankets or countless other practical gifts, the material resources provided by Nyangombe supporters serve as a practical demonstration of God's love behind the scenes.



▲ (top and above) Widows receiving blankets for the cold season



▲ Packing up the blankets, ready for the long walk home



# A BRAND-NEW WATER SYSTEM: A NINE-WEEK PROJECT

by Wanderley and Rosaria da Silva

*Compiled of excerpts from NEWSLINK.*

**I**n our weekly newsletter, we have the privilege of regularly hearing from CAM missionaries and joining with them in prayer through the hardships and victories each week brings. We also get to see projects unfold - through planning, logistics, construction, all the way to completion. One such recent project was the installation of a new water system at the Baruk centre in Chimoio, Mozambique. A need was identified, plans were made and acted upon, and the system was constructed and made operational - all within nine weeks!

## Week One

We are having difficulties with our water supply, meaning we have not had running water for some time now. This has been very challenging for us, as we have 336 children across the schools who need water daily, along with 160 adults attending literacy courses. Without consistent access to running water, we are limited in the activities and courses we can run.

On 20 April, a team began preparing to drill a new well to address the shortage and help prevent a similar situation from arising in the future. However, although the drilling equipment has been ready and waiting at the site for almost a week, work has not started as there is currently a diesel shortage in Chimoio. At least 500 litres will be needed to complete the work. We are praying that we will soon be able to buy the diesel we need so we can have running water again.



▲ Ready to drill the borehole



▲ Foundations for the water tower

## Weeks Two & Three

Praise the Lord! We were able to procure the necessary diesel, and the drilling work for the borehole went ahead and has been completed. We are now in the process of sourcing the remaining components needed, including a pump, to get the system up and running.

We praise God for His provision, as having this new water source at the Baruk centre will help to mitigate future shortages.

## Weeks Four & Five

We are continuing to work on the new well system and have started the construction of a water tower which will be able to hold a 5,000-litre tank. We've already completed the foundation and are now constructing the concrete pillars which will serve as necessary infrastructure to hold up the tank.

## Week Six & Seven

We are continuing work on the tower for the water tank, where we are now in the final stage of covering the walls while we wait to remove the shoring from the slab. We are already using water from the new borehole to fill our reservoir. Water shortages should soon be behind us!

Construction of the water tower has been completed. This week, we will purchase and install the tank itself.

## Week Eight

We have successfully purchased and installed a 5,000-litre water tank to store water from the newly drilled borehole. The system tests went well, and the tank is already full!

We are now planning to paint the completed water tower so that it matches the rest of the centre.

## Week Nine - Praise God!

As of today, 22 June, we have fully completed the water system at the Baruk centre. We have finished painting the water tower and, most importantly, the water shortage has been resolved.

We are very grateful to God for all that He has done in us and through us. Praise God, we now have water in abundance!



▲ The concrete beams being erected



▲ Putting on the finishing touches – ready for the tank



▲ The tank in place – just a bit further to go!



▲ The finished tower

# SEASONS OF REST



by Chris & Robin Kretschman

Preparing for baptisms in the Aegean Sea ▲

**I**n July, we were blessed with the opportunity to step away from the routines of ministry and join our sending church as they gathered their 'sent ones' from around the world for a retreat in Greece. It was a precious time to rest, renew, and be revived in God's presence. Through worship, prayer, Bible study, and fellowship with fellow missionaries and our global mission team, we were reminded that the most important work we can do is to sit quietly before our Saviour and listen for His voice.

## Productive rest

In the busyness of ministry, it is easy to measure productivity by how much we accomplish. Yet Scripture reminds us that true fruitfulness begins not with activity but with abiding in Christ. Jesus Himself often withdrew to lonely places to pray, demonstrating that time spent with the Father is never wasted. What may

appear unproductive to the world is often where God accomplishes His deepest work within us. It is vital to our spiritual health.

This kind of Sabbath rest is more than taking a break. It is an intentional act of trust—setting aside time to remember who God is, to reflect on His faithfulness, and to realign our hearts with His purposes. It creates space to lay down burdens, celebrate God's blessings, and be encouraged alongside others who share the same calling. Most importantly, it renews our understanding of the incredible privilege we have been given: the ministry of reconciliation.

## An 'appeal'ing message!

Paul reminds us that God has reconciled us to Himself through Christ and has entrusted us with the message of reconciliation. We are Christ's ambassadors, carrying His invitation to a world

in need of hope. What an incredible privilege that the Creator of the universe chooses to make His appeal through ordinary people like us!

*'All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation: that God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting people's sins against them. And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation. We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us.'* – 2 Corinthians 5:18-20

# Prepared to serve

As we returned to Zambia, our hearts were refreshed and our vision renewed. We are grateful for this opportunity to pause, worship, and listen, knowing that seasons of rest prepare us for faithful service. Thank you for praying, giving, and standing with us. Your partnership makes it possible for us to continue proclaiming the life-changing message of Jesus Christ—that through Him, people can be reconciled to God and experience the joy of new life in Him as a child of God.

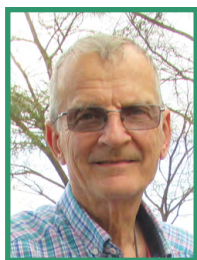


▲ A quiet place to read God's word and hear from Him

**"He makes me lie down  
in green pastures, he  
leads me beside quiet  
waters, he refreshes  
my soul. He guides me  
along the right paths for  
his name's sake."**  
*Psalm 23:2-3*



▲ Worshipping in song with other children of God



# VISIT TO ZAMBIA AND ETHIOPIA

by Dave Garrard

It is true that the majority of the world's population now lives in urban centres, where there are many opportunities for churches to hold training sessions for leaders and where visitors are keen to visit. However, there are still many rural areas where people gather to worship and attempt to reach their local communities, yet they are often neglected when it comes to outside ministry.

CAM International seeks to keep in close contact with its partners in the nations where we serve together, so that we can better understand and support our friends in those places. For this reason, I have been asked to visit Zambia and Ethiopia, where CAM has enjoyed valued partnerships for many years.

## Zambia

I am planning to be in Zambia from 19 August until 14 September. First, I will visit the north-western province, where I will attend a conference and teach church leaders in areas where I have not previously visited. I expect to spend several days at a time in villages, having opportunities to get to know local leaders and to share God's Word on subjects applicable to their daily lives.

The teaching will include topics such as servant leadership and the work of the Holy Spirit in countering the fears arising from witchcraft, which continues to have a great hold over many people groups in that part of the world.

I will then spend a week in Kitwe teaching at Lubuto Nsofu's Bible college. I have left the last part of my time in Zambia open so that, should the Lord lead in a specific way, I will have the opportunity to fit that in.

## Ethiopia

From 14-18 September, I plan to fly to Addis Ababa to meet with our partners in Ethiopia and visit several ministry centres. For this portion of the trip, I will be joined once again by Daniel Habtey, so that he can continue to get a deeper understanding of the work in the areas where CAM International partners with church planters.

Please pray for the Lord's leading and guidance throughout this trip, including the long flights from Canada to Africa and back.





# WATER: A GLOBAL CHALLENGE



by Paul Stables

Loch Lomond, Scotland ▲

**I**n this issue of CONTACT, we hear from Gordon McKillop and especially the da Silvas about water systems. In both cases, boreholes and pumps are used to access fresh, drinkable water to be stored in tanks for later use, and we praise God for the success of these projects.

## A global issue

Access to safe drinking water is limited in many developing countries around the world. While water covers a massive 71% of the world's surface area, less than 1% is safe to drink, and of that, more than two-thirds is inaccessible due to being locked up in glaciers, snow and ice. Additionally, large quantities of freshwater are used for industrial purposes, the runoff from which can contaminate what would otherwise be drinkable supplies in rivers and lakes. An example of this occurred in Zambia not long ago, where toxic metals from mining were accidentally released into a river which supplies water to tens of thousands of people.

Groundwater supplies, accessed through wells and boreholes, can be a good solution. However, these are not always available or accessible, and for many people the nearest supply of drinkable water is miles away and can only be reached on foot. Our brothers and sisters in Africa are particularly vulnerable in this regard and are disproportionately affected by industrial contamination and ecological changes.

## A global response

Around the world, researchers are developing new methods and technologies for water purification, which are becoming more affordable, sustainable and effective each year. As a researcher myself, I have had the opportunity to observe and to contribute to several such projects and can say that many exciting projects are underway in the UK and further afield.

As a mission, we support projects like those featured earlier in this issue, which can change the lives of those in the affected communities. Please remember to pray for projects such as these, and for the researchers who work tirelessly to improve access to safe drinking water.



▲ Scientists sampling water from a lake in Finland



# EVANGELISM THROUGH HARDSHIP

by Daniel Habtey

Persecution stands as one of the darkest yet most powerful themes throughout Biblical history. From the trial of Joseph in Egypt and the fiery test of Daniel's friends in Babylon, to the repeated arrests and trials in the Book of Acts, suffering has often accompanied faith. Yet, throughout Scripture, a remarkable pattern emerges: God consistently turns moments of hardship into catalysts for evangelism and the expansion of His kingdom.

One of the best examples is found in Acts 11:19–21:

*'Now those who had been scattered by the persecution that broke out when Stephen was killed travelled as far as Phoenicia, Cyprus and Antioch, spreading the word only among Jews. Some of them, however, men from Cyprus and Cyrene, went to Antioch and began to speak to the Greeks also, telling them the good news about the Lord Jesus. The Lord's hand was with them, and a great number of people believed and turned to the Lord.'*

I love the phrase, *'The Lord's hand was with them.'* It reminds us that no matter how severe the opposition, when God's hand rests upon a situation, He can turn it around for good. This echoes Joseph's famous declaration to his brothers in Genesis 50:20: *'You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good.'*

Today, many believers around the world face similar trials; many Eritreans are enduring immense hardship. Christian leaders have been imprisoned for more than 20 years without access to a fair legal system or contact with their families, and hundreds of thousands of believers have been persecuted and scattered across the globe. Yet, just as in the days of the early Church, my prayer

remains steadfast: that God's hand would rest upon this situation, turning present suffering into a dynamic movement for His glory and a blessing to many.

## A vast diaspora

The Eritrean diaspora represents one of the most significant contemporary migration crises in the world today. Some scholars even suggest that more Eritreans now live outside the country than within its borders. While that remains a striking claim, the rapid growth of Eritrean communities across Western nations and neighbouring East African countries is undeniable.

A major catalyst for this movement came during the brief period when borders opened between Ethiopia and Eritrea following a peace agreement. Countless Eritreans seized the opportunity to cross into Ethiopia, choosing never to return. Today, Ethiopia alone hosts more than 200,000 Eritrean refugees, while Uganda supports an even larger population.

While some have managed to build successful lives, many others live under immense physical, emotional and spiritual strain. Yet, within this suffering lies a vital opportunity. Times of severe hardship often cause people to search for deeper hope. For mission organisations and churches, this presents an opportunity to offer both practical care and spiritual refuge.

## A great opportunity

Over the past six years, I have engaged with people outside the traditional walls of the church far more than I did in my previous thirty years

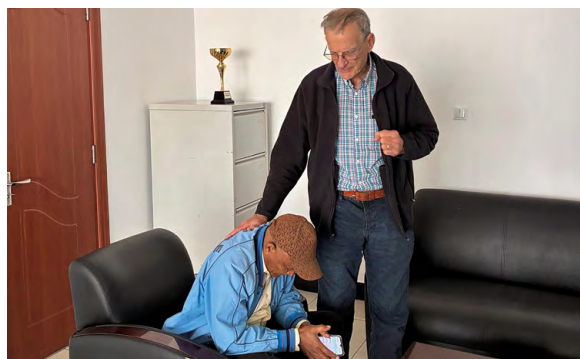


of full-time ministry. Community organisers, political activists, and representatives from organisations such as Human Rights Watch have approached me, seeking help with leadership training, conflict resolution, trauma counselling, and inspiring the next generation of young adults. I firmly believe this represents a remarkable open door from God - one that requires wisdom, prayer and strategic support.

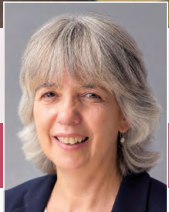
To respond to this opportunity, Dave Garrard and I will travel to Ethiopia in mid-September to hear how the work is going in the areas where CAM partners with church planters.

In Addis Ababa alone, there are around 25 Eritrean churches. As you can imagine, the spiritual and practical needs among them are vast. During my visit, I hope to explore how we can best serve and equip these congregations through leadership development with a focus on missions, church planting, evangelism among unreached people groups, and mentoring young adults to become the next generation of Christian leaders.

Our prayer is that, once again, the Lord's hand will be with them, bringing hope out of hardship and many people to faith in Christ.



▲ (from top to bottom) Meeting together; Dave and Daniel; Praying with a church planter; Daniel preaching



# THE CIRCLE OF MISSION

by Kym Delport

Smiling faces ▲

**W**hen we think of mission, we often picture a missionary arriving in a new country, a newly completed building, a community gathering, or a life transformed by the love of Christ. But these visible moments are only part of the story. Behind them is a remarkable network of prayer, generosity and partnership connecting people across nations, cultures and circumstances.

Mission rarely begins with a project. It begins with a call.

## Hearing the call

God places a burden on someone's heart to serve. It may be to teach, plant churches, support vulnerable families, train leaders or provide practical care. Whatever the calling, few missionaries can simply pack their bags and go. Before the journey begins, they invite others to become part of the vision.

Some respond by praying. Others give financially. Churches offer encouragement. Friends share the vision with others. One missionary may eventually serve overseas, but the ministry is already becoming a shared work involving many people. As support grows, the missionary can

take those first steps into a new community. Relationships begin. Trust is built. Local churches, pastors and community leaders become partners rather than recipients. They bring understanding, wisdom and experience that no outsider could ever possess. Together, they seek God's direction and opportunities to serve.

Over time, small beginnings often lead to something much greater.

## A real team effort

A training course equips local believers to lead. A hydro-electric project provides power to a rural hospital while opening doors for conversations about faith. A children's school programme creates a safe place where families experience Christian love in practical ways. A Bible study grows into a new church. A medical clinic, literacy class or computer room becomes a place where hope is shared alongside practical help. None of these ministries belongs to one person. Every project represents the faithfulness of many people, each playing a different role.

There are those who pray faithfully, often without ever meeting the people they support.



▲ Gathered in worship

There are donors whose gifts provide the resources needed for ministry to continue. There are volunteers who offer practical skills. There are local believers who serve their own communities with dedication and compassion. There are missionaries who encourage, equip and work alongside them. Each person is responding to God's invitation to participate in His mission.

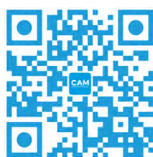
As the work develops, stories begin to emerge.

## Reaching out

Through CONTACT magazine, supporters read about church planters leading people to Christ, online leadership courses equipping diaspora leaders, and medical ministries bringing health and hope to individuals and communities. Photographs capture smiling faces, completed buildings or people gathered in worship. These updates do more than report progress – they remind supporters that their partnership is bearing fruit. For many, these stories are an encouragement in themselves. They see evidence that God is at work, often in places they may never visit. Their faith is strengthened, their prayers become more specific, and many are inspired to continue giving. Others are prompted to become involved for the first time.



▲ (from top) Practical training; Computer training



Account Postage GB  
AC03669430001

2



IF UNDELIVERED, PLEASE RETURN TO **CAM INTERNATIONAL**  
10 LOCKSIDE OFFICE PARK, LOCKSIDE ROAD, PRESTON, PR2 2YS

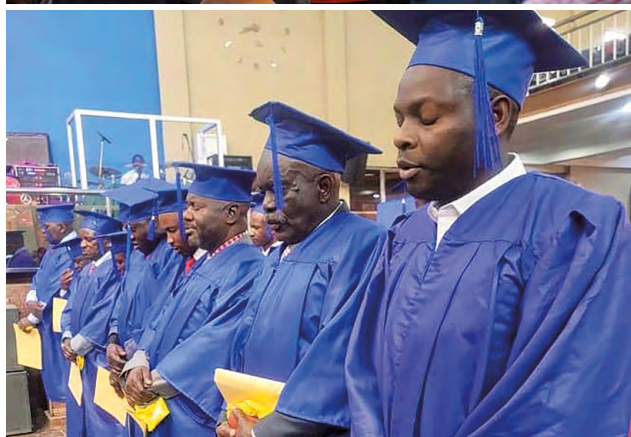
## The circle continues

As local Christians grow in confidence and leadership, they too begin serving others, sharing the gospel and discipling new believers. What began with one person's obedience becomes a movement involving many people across many places. This is one of the beautiful characteristics of Christian mission. No one stands at the centre except Christ Himself. Every person has a part to play.

Scripture reminds us that God gives seed to the sower, and through mission we see this truth lived out repeatedly. As God provides, His people respond with generosity. That generosity enables ministry. Ministry changes lives. Changed lives become witnesses to God's grace, inspiring others to join the work.

It is a circle not driven by obligation, but by a grateful response to God, who first gave everything for us.

And so, the story continues, as God calls people from all walks of life to play their part in His mission – each one a vital link in the circle of mission.



▲ (from top) Responding to the Gospel; Equipping believers to lead

*If God is stirring your heart to take the next step in mission – through prayer, giving, serving, or going – we would be glad to help you explore the next steps.*

## PDF version

Please note that the **Contact Magazine** is also available as a PDF version. This may be useful for those who travel, or who would benefit from enlarging the print on the computer. If so, please send an email to the CAM office and we will put your name on the PDF mailing list.

## DONATIONS

Please make cheques payable to **CAM International** and send to:  
10 Lockside Office Park, Lockside Road, Preston, PR2 2YS

**BACS details** for CAM International bank account: Acc No **65874844**; Sort code **08-92-99**.

To use a bank card, phone 01772 717830 • Standing order/Gift Aid forms are available from the office.

**NEWSLINK:** To receive our weekly email of news and prayer requests, email [admin@caminternational.org.uk](mailto:admin@caminternational.org.uk)