

The Chabadza Connection: The Zimbabwe UMC mission News!

The United Methodist Church

Volume 7

September 2007

A chip off the Old Block: Bishop Ralph E Dodge's Son Preaches at Stream view UMC (Chikanga)

Dr Edward Dodge preached at Stream view UMC in Chikanga on the 8th of July 2007. In his opening remarks the son of Bishop Dodge chronicled how he remembered coming to Zimbabwe Then Rhodesia in 1945 at the age of 12 with his father who was a missionary. He chronicled how they used to drive for weeks from Angola to Rhodesia to attend the Annual conference.

Bishop Dodge served in the Then Southern Rhodesia as a Bishop of Mozambique Angola and Zimbabwe from 1956 to 1968. Bishop Dodge was known for his quest for human development, freedom and social justice. Edward in his sermon urged Zimbabweans to remain steadfast in prayer and to trust in God. "The lord will always save his people" said Dr Edward. There is no situation that is endless, no pit is bottomless, the lord will save the Zimbabweans just as he did to the Israelites. He talked about the challenges faced by people during the days of Rhodesian. He remembered very well how his Father ended up being deported by the Smith regime in the 1960s for championing social justice, and this reminds us of Amos in the hands of Priest Amaziah. As a medical practitioner Edward talked about the impotents of the heart and how science has proved that there is a special place in the heart where joy is generated it is this joy that enhances and prolongs life. He emphasised that trusting in God brings spiritual joy.

Dr Edward Dodge came to Zimbabwe with a team of Volunteers in mission from Kansas Conference. The team came to start the building of the Zimunya Skills training centre located outside Zimunya town in the Mutare District of the United Methodist Church. The team came being led by Rev Kennedy Farai Mukwindidza a Zimbabwean Pastor serving in the USA.



Dr Edward Dodge: Bishop Dodge's son pictured after preaching at Stream view UMC in Chikanga Mutare,

The Zimunya skills centre when completed will help many school leavers with survival skills. The centre already have a tractor that was shipped from the USA with a plough, disk and harrow, There will be a building that will be built and named after Bishop Dodge in honour of the great ministry and work he gave to the people of Zimbabwe. Bishop Dodge is now over 100 years, Edward has remained an assistant to his father. It was exciting for Edward that the Pastors (Rev Tafadzwa Mabambe pastor in charge and Rev Lloyd Nyarota the Area projects coordinator) who were at stream view on the day he preached were ordained by Bishop Dodge after his retirement when he returned to Zimbabwe to celebrate 100 years of United Methodism in Zimbabwe.

North Alabama Conference Comes to explore Chabadza Possibilities in Zimbabwe

A group of Seven Conference leaders and staff from The North Alabama Annual conference came to Zimbabwe to explore opportunities to be in The Chabadza mission and ministry with the Zimbabwe Episcopal area. The group arrived in Zimbabwe on the 26th of July and left on the 8th of August 2007. The team was being led by Rev Dale Cohen the Director of Connectional ministries in the Conference and Rev Thomas Muhomba a Zimbabwean Pastor serving in USA. This was a unique trip in that they travelled all the way from the USA to come and see, listen and discuss opportunities and possibilities of partnerships. The critical questions they always asked was "What can we do together" The group Visited different churches and mission centres within the Area. The first port of call was Nyahuku where many were touched by the needs of the people there. Some of the team members are planning to come back to Nyahuku to do mission work. Under the guidance of the Zimbabwe Area Projects and Communications Coordinator (Rev Lloyd Nyarota) The team Visited Murewa mission, Harare central District where they all had an experience of Harvest thanks giving In Zimbabwe. They also visited Harare West and Harare East districts. The team held meetings with the Bishop and Conference staff in Harare. The highlight of the trip was the engagement of Dale and Anne in Victoria falls one of the seven wonders of the world in a African style engagement ceremony on August 2, 2007

Inside this issue:

Fairfield Home breeds Evangelist 2

Women's Conference 2

Holston Visits Hilltop 2

Conventions a success 3

Marange west Circuit 4

The chabadza connection 5

Dindi Clinic Challenges 6

Millsap's College Students save at Fairfield

Two students from the Millsap's college in Mississippi spend one month at Fairfield orphanage helping the director of the home in the out reach programme. Ashley Hewitt and Natalie Walden took the challenge to come to Zimbabwe and save God in a unique way. Their trip in Zimbabwe ended by Visiting the Victoria falls where they bungi jumped on the World's deepest Natural Bungi jumping sport. We expect more students next winter from Millsap's college in the development of the Chabadza Covenant between the Mississippi Conference and Zimbabwe Episcopal Area.

Former Fairfield Child becomes a great Evangelist

Pastor Getrude Sekai Makombore was born in 1955 at Biriiri. Getrude's mother died after giving birth to Getrude and baby Getrude never tested breast milk because her mother was mentally disturbed whilst giving birth she actually wanted to kill her new baby Getrude. Like Moses Getrude stayed her first six weeks in the reeds in the river bank as her grandmother was trying to protect her from the mentally disturbed mother so that she could not hear the crying baby. The grandmother wanted both mother and child to survive but the mother died after six weeks of delivery and Getrude was taken to the Old Mutare orphanage (Fairfield Home) which was then the baby fold. Getrude stayed at the orphanage for two and half years and then her Aunt who was the next of kin came to take her home in Mutare city.

In 1975 Getrude was married to Steven Makombore and they were blessed with five children three girls and two boys. Their first child died at the age 10 in 1985 and in 1987 Getrude's husband died and was left with two girls and two boys to look after. Her kids were in grades four, two and one with the youngest being five and half months old. Getrude taught her kids to Love God and always gave them spiritual guidance. These challenges have mad Getrude to grow spiritually and depend on God in her life. In 2000 She responded to the call and joined the ministry as a lay minister. She served as a District Evangelist in chipinge/Chimanamani District for three years, Getrude have also served as Pastor in charge in two circuits. Where ever Getrude serves she motivates people to work hard and build sanctuaries. At Gudyanga she mobilised her members to mould bricks and they managed to build a sanctuary which now needs roofing she is presently at Muzokomba where she has managed to mobilise the Church to mould bricks and now they need support to be able to build a parsonage. Getrude have a heart for Orphans she is currently taking care of seventeen orphans whom she pays school fees for from her merger pastoral salary. Getrude greatly needs assistance to support her ministry. Getrude is currently a student in the Zimbabwe east annual conference Course of study programme doing her third year. God is great always!



Pastor Getrude Sekai Makombore: Pastoring in Buhera. She is a great singer and Evangelist in her district of Chipinge Chimanamani

Zimbabwe East United Methodist Women (RRW) held their Conference (Dumba) at old Mutare

It was a tight schedule for Mrs Greta Nhwatiwa the Bishop's wife during the moth of August. In two weeks she attend four women's Revival conventions which were held at Clare mission near Nyazura in makoni Buhera District of the UMC and Mupandawanda growth Point in Gutu in Masvingo District of the UMC on the 15th to 19th of August 2007. She chaired both Conventions she started at Clare on Wednesday and joined Mupandawana on Friday afternoon. Then on the 22 to 26th August 2007 there was Bindura in Harare west District and Nyambeya Mutambara in Chipinge Chimanamani District. These conversions were attend by a total of over 17000 mainly women.

Soon after completing the Nyambeya Convention by Tuesday the 28th she was on the Road to Bulawayo for the Zimbabwe West Women's annual conference popularly known as madumba. On the 31st she was at Old Mutare for the Zimbabwe East RRW Dumba. This was attended by conference leaders to support the ministry of Women in the Conference. The conference lay leader Mr Shepard Machuma and his vice Mr Victor Mudede were present ; the United Methodist Church Men (Wabvuwi) Conference chairperson Mr Nornman Chesa was present to share ideas with the Women; **continues to page 3** ,

From now on all the Women's conferences will be held at Old Mutare which is closer to Chin'ando. The place of prayer where all women would like to go on a pilgrimage of faith in their life time.

A Team Of 14 From Holston Conference Visit Ishe Anesu home at Hilltop Mutare

On the 31st of August 2007 there was a big gathering of children at Hilltop United Methodist Church's Ishe Anesu children's centre. This was the conclusion of a week long Bible school conducted by a team of 14 people who travelled from Holston Conference. The Holston conference has a long relationship with Ishe anesu. They helped to put up the building were ishe anesu is today. There are plans to build houses for the children's home that will take the model of Old Mutare's Fairfield home. The land has been purchased and plans for the houses are already in place.

The Week long Vocational Bible school concluded with about 1500 children gathered at hilltop centre. Looking at these children one will be convinced that the camp ministry in Zimbabwe has great potential to help develop and nature many children socially and spiritually. The development of Mufusire camp will provide and fill the gap in the children's ministry in Zimbabwe. Mufusire is a United Methodist Church Zimbabwe East conference plot. Where we plans to develop a vocational bible camp along the lines of US United Methodist Church summer camp. The projects office is inviting all who have a heart for children's ministry to join hands with us to fulfil this dream. If you have a heart for Children's ministry and need to be involved to develop a camp conduct Rev Nyarota, Projects coordinator Zimbabwe UMC at ltnyarota@yahoo.com



Part of 1500 children at ishe anesu for the bible school "Would provide a camp for them and change their lives"

United Methodist Women's Convention a Success

Up to 9 000 members of the united Methodist Church converged on Nyambeya camp ground in chimanimani for the church's for the Church's Ruwadzano Rwemadzimai South Convention.

The convention, which started on Wednesday the 22nd of August, ended on Sunday the 26th of August 2007 with the church's top leadership attending. The minister of water Resources and infrastructure development, Engineer Munacho Mutazo, who also helped in the construction of the building at Nyambeya Camp ground, attended the Convention.

In an interview, The united Methodist Church Area Projects and Communications co-coordinator, Rev Lloyd Nyarota said the convention was an imported event in the calendar of the Church.

"The women's convention is an important event in the church's Calendar. Every women looks forward to these conventions. Originally, they used to be held for 10 days. A lot of miracles take place, the sick are healed and demons are cast out. The conventions are a climax of a spiritual journey for the church and are also a time for spiritual renewal" he said.

Rev Nyarota said up to 9 000 Church members attended the convention at Nyambeya. Approximately 9000 members attended this year's gathering. This is almost the same number of people, who attended a similar gathering at Clare in Makoni the previous week" he said

UMC Bishop Dr Eben K Nhiwatiwa, called on Church members to remain steadfast before God, he said Church members should not be complacent, because "those who were first shall be last" "But the good part is that it is not said all those who were first will be last. Let us remain steadfast before the Lord and we will be saved" He said **Post reporter: Story adopted from The manica post 31 August- 6 September 2007**



The Bishop Eben Kanukai Nhiwatiwa Resident Bishop Zimbabwe Episcopal Area

ZEAC Women held Dumba at Old Mutare

From page 2

The COM director Rev Stephen Mukata , The Projects and communications coordinator Rev Lloyd Nyarota were present together with more than 10 Pastors from around the conference. The Women resolved that they will now always meet at old Mutare; this decision complements the history of Ruwadzano in relation to Chin'ando the spiritual place. The President in her opening address thanked all the Women for their special support in the ministry. She highlighted that the attendances at the revival Conventions was a miracle given the economic situation we are going through as a country. She urged the women to take Rumuko (The sunrise prayer session) seriously. All women of the united Methodist Church should strive to work up early in the morning for prayer. She shared her plans to start visiting the girl children in United Methodist Mission schools to have time to talk and share as well as pray with them, this will be Mrs Nhiwatiwa's programme in 2008, the idea is to catch them young. It was also discussed that there is a prayer sport at Africa University that needed to be revived. Some suggested that it will be good to gather at Africa University in the Women's Uniforms so that some of the girls at the university will be inspired to become Madzimai eRuwadzano RRW members.

"Some of the Africa University students may admire and aspire to become RRW members if they see us in our Uniforms so we should be there and pray with them to inspire them "

Marange West Circuit of the U. M. Church Zimbabwe East Conference

Marange West Circuit is one of the fourteen circuits in Marange District of the UMC led by Rev Elisha Kabungaidze as the District Superintendent and Pastor Kenneth Gondo is the Pastor in charge. This circuit is located along the Save river which is on the western side of the district.

The circuit have five local churches Mafarikwa were the parsonage is and the only congregation with a church building; Then Chirozva which is located 30 kilometres away; Chikuni 17km then Zvipiripiri 15km and Makute is 5 kilometres. Pastor Gondo have no means of transport to travel in this circuit he covers most of these distances on foot and at time he cycles when he can borrow a bicycle from his parishioners.

Some of the challenges Pastor Gondo faces are people dying with malaria. In 2006 18 adults and 21 Children died of malaria. Also people loose their cattle from anthrax and people die after eating the meat of the dead cattle about 12 people were treated of the disease in 2006.

Drought is also a challenge since there will be food shortages in the area, Pastor Gondo said many people are starving in the area since it is a drought prone area. The healthy centre staff indicated that Children between 1-59 months are under weight and the healthy centre have no source of clean water. Given these circumstances in the area the church is not able to raise money to build their sanctuaries, even the Mafarikwa church though it is roofed it still need to be completed , Chikuni has been at Gable level for over fifteen years now, the other three congregations meet in classrooms and under trees they have been allocated the grounds to built churches for seven years but they can not raise the money to start the projects. **Written by Kenneth. Gondo**

The United Methodist Church

The United Methodist Church
Zimbabwe Episcopal Area
No 9-2nd street
P.O. Box 666, Mutare ; Zimbabwe

Phone: +263-912-891800
Fax: +263-20-65714
Email: ltnyarota@yahoo.com

"In Partnership to achieve Discipleship,
Church Development and Christian Unity"



**The United Methodist Church
Zimbabwe Area**

**Visit the web for
more stories [www.
chabadza.org](http://www.chabadza.org)**

The chabadza connection: The Zimbabwe UMC Mission News!

This is a Newsletter of the Zimbabwe United Methodist Church. The name is drawn from the mission concept being promoted by the Resident Bishop, Dr Eben K Nhwatiwa. Since 2004 when Bishop Nhwatiwa was elected into the Episcopal office he took the church in Zimbabwe into a new dispensation of doing mission work. He developed a concept from the Shona word Chabadza, which means let us work together. This is a word used by people working in the fields, when a friend or passer by is passing they would call for a "Chabadza" meaning stop by and help us, or I will stop by and help you. The concept is now being used in Zimbabwe United Methodist Church for mission and ministry. The Bishop has taught the church in Zimbabwe to work hard always. He has taught the Church to develop itself. We will tell our story to friends, Partners and even passers by. The Bishop always remarks "They will see us working, when friends come they see us in the mission and ministry field of our Lord Jesus Christ, we will share our stories, ministry and mission opportunities, then they can stop by and join us as we do our work"

They will see us feeding the hungry, taking care of orphans, building our churches and parsonages we will call for Chabadza. This is why this publication is called the Chabadza connection it is here to share our stories, share needs, challenges, we invite friends to partner us in the spirit of Chabadza. If you or your church is called by God to do mission or special ministry call the Chabadza connection office or send an e-mail to: ltnyarota@yahoo.com

Dindi Community United Methodist Church Clinic

This is a clinic that was Built by the Community United Methodist Church in Crofton Maryland ,USA. Currently the Clinic have a staff compliment of 5 workers . Mr Charles Chipuroiro a Registered General Nurse heads the clinic with Ms Eurita Magara another trained Nurse helping him. They have two nurse aids Memory Chikwizo and Mrs Nestai Chitiyo. Henry Zanze is the General hand st the Clinic.

In May 2006 Dindi Clinic launched the HIV/AIDS Prevention of Mother to child transmission (PMTCT) . All Nurses are trained in HIV testing and counselling

From January to June 2007 the Dindi united Methodist Church clinic tested 60 mothers and 12 were positive and received Neverapine. The Clinic is conducting Health education, Voluntary testing and Counselling. In the same period the tested 60 people and 35 were positive and 25 were negative.

The clinic is monitoring 968 children under five years for baby clinic were they check their growth; weight and healthy records. The antenatal department is monitoring about 279 pregnant women. The clinic will receive 10 bales of the nothing but nets mosquito nets. The challenge they are facing is to hire a truck to carry the nets from Mutare to Dindi Clinic.

Other challenges and constraints faced by the Clinic in its healthy delivery programmes are Shortage of Staff houses they need houses for two nurses. There is also need for piped clean water at the clinic.; the clinic needs to be fenced to protect their flowers and gardens from stray animals.

Drugs are at times a challenge at the clinic some patience come to the clinic but at times they go without receiving treatment because of shortage of drugs. They also need Food to feed the patients they at times admit in the wards. The clinic can have a maximum of 15 patients admitted at a time for monitoring and then transfer to Mutawatawa Hospital for serous cases. The clinic does not have an ambulance so they depend on the hospital ambulance to come and carry patients to the hospital. There is also need for a waiting mothers shelter. This will provide accommodation for pregnant women who will be due for delivery and they stay far away from the clinic, when their time gets closer to deliver they come to stay at the clinic for easy monitoring and agent reaction when the baby is due. The shelter can be a dormitory or a flat let that can accommodate two people in a room. Currently the Dindi clinic was now uses electricity generated by solar panels, this was a multi million dollar project funded by Crofton Community UMC, Maryland, USA.



**Dindi Staff From Left Rev Mo-
rais Qussico of GBGM, Mrs
Eurita Magara; Mrs Netsai
chitiyo; Mr Charles chipuroiro
and Rev Nyamakope**