



ALL ONE IN CHRIST

THE UNITED CHURCH OF ZAMBIA

SYNOD

PANORAMA

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NEWSLETTER



About Us:

The United Church of Zambia Synod Panorama is a monthly Synod Communications newsletter. The newsletter is aimed at giving highlights of Church activities at all levels. A radio magazine program by the same name has been devised on the United Voice Radio Station every Sunday at 21:05hrs. For further comments and contributions, you may contact us on the following:

MISSION

The United Church of Zambia Panorama is committed to contribute to the Church mission of spreading the Good News of Salvation to the Zambian people and all nations in fulfilment of Christ's mission to the world.

VISION

The total Salvation of humanity, with spiritual restoration and physical well-being fully reconcile in Christ the only Saviour.

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SYNOD PANORAMA

Foreword



We are delighted and celebrate the faithfulness of the Lord for the overwhelmingly positive response by our audience after the first publication of our first issue of the United Church of Zambia Synod Panorama, the monthly online newsletter aimed at sharing updates on church activities with our diverse publics

After the 31st Synod meeting which was held in Kabwe in July, 2022, Synod Management and the Presbyteries have spent much of their time implementing the decisions of the 31st Synod.

The previous month was punctuated with conferences for the Men's Christian Fellowship and Women's Christian Fellowship, and Synod Music festival. These events recorded overwhelming turnout of participants from across the country, a clear indication of dedication and the Church's unity in diversity. The role played by both the clergy and laity in ensuring the success of these events cannot go without commendation.

It is our prayer and hope that the panorama will continue to give our audience an opportunity to engage and appreciate the mission of the Church in its entirety.

Finally, we pray for the success of God's mission in all the United Church of Zambia Congregations in the ten Presbyteries. We pray for the Church in Muchinga, Eastern and Western Presbyteries as they seek to appoint Presbytery Bishops.

May God bless us all!

Rev. Chipasha Musaba
General Secretary
United Church of Zambia Synod

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ALTERNATIVE INCOME SOURCES IN TIMES OF CRISES



Rev. Chipasha Musaba (l) with former UCZ General Secretary, Re. Dr Peggy Mulambya Kabonde

At the close of the Golden Jubilee celebrations at Nkana Stadium in Kitwe in 2015, former United Church of Zambia General Secretary, Rev. Dr. Peggy Mulambya Kabonde in her speech said the United Church of Zambia had fared well in its evangelic work for the past 50 years. Her remarks came in the backdrop of the momentous numerical and spiritual growth the Church has been recording. The growth the United Church of Zambia has recorded over the years is coupled with massive infrastructure development that has taken place over the years. The Rev. Dr. Kabonde in her speech also called for the Church to devote its energy towards strategic investment for the next 50 years to ensure that the Church was financially autonomous. Today, one shining example of such strategic investments is the construction and completion of the Synod complex.

The United Church of Zambia, like other denominations, has not been spared by the financial blues during the times of crisis. For example, 2017 and 2018 Cholera

broke out in some parts of the country, resulting into restrictions in public gatherings. Sad enough, a number of lives were lost while income level in the Congregation went very low. The same sad scenario occurred during the Covid 19 pandemic. Churches closed doors from public gatherings as part of the measures to contain the spread of the pandemic. Such periods of pandemics, among other similar experiences, have left the Church with the need to begin to invest in non-traditional sources of income. For this reason, the United Church of Zambia General secretary hit the nail squarely on its head when he said to the 31st Synod meeting that ‘the Covid-19 pandemic taught us lessons that compelled the church to rethink its way of doing mission.’ One cannot agree more also with the Reverend Musaba when he said “it is now clear, though a well-known fact that it was not feasible for the Church to accomplish the Mission of Christ by relying on offerings and donations from the members only.” for sure, the church needs alternative sources of revenue to sustain its mission especially in times of crises.

Against such a background, the United Church of Zambia Synod Executive in November 2021 approved an Investment Policy. The policy was formulated with help from a team of experts who are members of the UCZ to help the Church to respond to a proactive mobilization of resources for present and future mission engagements. The policy is ready for execution. It has been rolled out in all presbyteries.

SYNOD PANORAMA



**Rev. Chipasha Musaba
General Secretary, the
United Church of Zambia**

CHIPEMBI GIRLS' ORGANIC FARMING THRIVES



Chipembi Girls' Secondary School has entered into partnership with Choppies supermarket to supply cabbages to the chain store. School Head Teacher Albert Chituka said the agreement will see the school supply 4000 heads of cabbage to Choppies on a weekly basis.

He explained that even though the school has managed to supply the first consignment, there is need for it to increase its production capacity if it is to meet the demand.

Mr. Chituka said this will be done by increasing the cabbage hectareage so that it meets the contract obligations.

“We have signed an agreement with Choppies to supply 4000 heads of cabbage per week and we managed to supply this in less than four days,” he said

Mr. Chituka explained that the expansion of the school's market portfolio is a clear indication that market players have the confidence in the school's production unit. He said when the school started the production unit, its focus was on providing dietary needs to the pupils but the project has since grown with the produce penetrating the

markets within Lusaka Province.

And Mr. Chituka has disclosed that the school is committed in ensuring that it successfully delivers the implementation of the regenerative agriculture system.

He said the regenerative agriculture system comprises three strategic business units namely poultry, livestock rearing and farming.

The head teacher hinted that all the agriculture produce is organically grown and urged other farmers across the country to emulate the practice.

He said organic farming is beneficial to both the environment and the health of people.

“Organic farming helps plants return nutrients to the soil as well as help maintain the natural social habitants,” he said.

Chipembi Girls Secondary School of the United Church of Zambia is rearing 1000 chickens, 83 beef animals and variety of agriculture produce.

UCZ TRINITY LUSAKA TO CONSTRUCT NEW CHURCH

The United Church of Zambia Trinity Congregation in Lusaka Central consistory has embarked on a construction of a double storey Church building at a cost of 6million kwacha.

Trinity Congregation Minister in charge, Rev. Emmanuel Bwalya said the construction of the building has been necessitated by the growth of church membership and will take a period of close to two years to be completed from September 2022.

“We are ready to start the construction work. The old building could only accommodate about 400 members but the new structure will accommodate 2000 members,” he said.

Reverend Bwalya said the wings of the of the old structure and the Manse will be demolished to pave way for the construction of the new building. ‘The remaining part of old structure which has been in existence since 1930 will be preserved as part of the national heritage,’ he added.

And the United Church of Zambia General Secretary, Reverend Chipasha Musaba, in his ground breaking homily titled ‘Reaffirming the place of divine encounter’ drawn from Ezra 3:7-13, encouraged the Church Members to utilise the construction



Synod Bishop and other leaders fonfer during the Ground Breaking Ceremony



Mr Cephas Katongo, Rev. Chipasha Mubaba and other lay leaders

project as a divine opportunity for them to connect themselves to God.

Speaking during the same event, Guest of Honour, Mr. Cephas Katongo who is also board chairman for the United Church of Zambia Chimwenwe Radio station urged Christians to be committed to the construction project despite the tough economy.

“Important to believe that we are blessed. Christians are blessed in order to be a blessing to others

including the church. God will not give you a task without tools. God will always be with us but He will not do things for us. We have to be committed ourselves “

He said Christians should embrace Evangelism, numerical growth, spiritual growth and infrastructure development as integral parts of Church growth.



LUAPULA PRESBYTERY BUYS A BOAT

The United Church Zambia Luapula Presbytery has procured a 16- seater boat at a cost of fifty-five thousand Kwacha. The boat was launched in Samfya and Lunga on 15th September and 17th September, 2022 respectively.

Luapula Presbytery Bishop, Rev Darius Chitalu has disclosed that the money was raised through a fundraising service during the Men's Christian Fellowship National Conference held at Mansa College of Education in August ,2022.

"We have managed to buy a boat through the money that was raised during the MCF here in Mansa," he said

Rev.Chitalu said the boat is exclusively for business purposes which is in line with the United Church of Zambia policy to venture into investment.

He revealed that the initiative by the presbytery to venture into entrepreneurship will also help improve the welfare of the Church as well as fulfill the purpose of taking Jesus Christ closer to the people.

"We plan on running the water transport business as independent as possible from the church so we can realize profits from it" he said.

Meanwhile, Rev.Chitalu says plans are underway by the Luapula presbytery to construct boarding houses at Mbereshi Nursing School so as the help raise money for the Church.



1015 WOMEN BLOUSED



One thousand and fifteen women from the United Church of Zambia (UCZ) across the country were on 14th August 2022 bloused following the successful hosting of the Women's Christian Fellowship National Conference by the North Western Presbytery.

The conference which was held at Solwezi Technical secondary school from 11 to 14th August 2022 attracted over 5000 participants from ten presbyteries across the country.

United Church of Zambia General Secretary Rev Chipasha Musaba conducted the church service.

And in delivering his sermon, titled *"Called for a time such as this"* drawn from Exodus 2:1- 9 and John 5:1- 9, Rev. Musaba said the Church has the responsibility to push people towards salvation.

He observed that the Church has relaxed in its duty of preaching salvation to the lost souls and he reminded them of doing so.

Rev.Musaba also urged the women who were bloused to take the step of being a WCF member as a serious duty to God's work.

"Time has come for the Church to realize the call to make a difference in a time like this," he said.

And the United Church of Zambia (UCZ)Synod Bishop Rev.Sydney Sichilima said the conference was an opportunity for the women to reflect on their spiritual lives and get closer to God.

Bishop Sichilima said the world has lost the fear for God and reminded the crowd to use the opportunity to promote oneness in Christ.



He also expressed happiness that the conference had embraced all tribes, further calling on the church to celebrate the spirit of oneness.

In officiating the event, North Western Province Minister Robert Lihefu called on the women to remain steadfast in the fight against Gender Based Violence.

In a speech read on his behalf by Solwezi Mayor Remmy Kalepa, Mr. Lihefu said the government is aware of the increasing number of GBVs cases recorded in homes and institutions.

He said the government is committed to ensuring that it eliminates all forms of violence through the implementation of policies such as the Anti-GBV Act.

Mr. Lihefu also advised the women to take advantage of the availability of the Constituency Development Fund (CDF) in order to improve their wellbeing.

The UCZ Women Christian Fellowship National Conference was held from Thursday 11th August to Sunday 14th August, 2022 under the theme ‘Called for such a time as this (Esther 4:14)’.



GOVERNMENT URGES CHURCH TO CURB SOCIAL VICES

Luapula Province Minister
Hon. Derricky Chilundika

Luapula Province Minister Derricky Chilundika has expressed concern over the increase in the number of people abusing alcohol and other toxic substances.

Mr. Chilundika said the fight against drug abuse remains critical for both the government and the Church.

He said this when he officiated at the opening of the United Church of Zambia (UCZ) Men's Christian Fellowship National Conference which was held at Mansa College of Education.

Mr. Chilundika said the abuse of drugs has the potential to corrupt morals of individuals and said the government is working with the Church in sensitizing church members on the dangers of consuming such toxic substances.

"I want to implore the men gathered here to take a leading role in this campaign against drug abuse and Gender Based Violence," he said.

And the Luapula Province Minister said the rise in the number of GBV cases from 4,152 recorded in the first quarter of 2021 to 6,915 in the same period of 2022 is worrying.

He said while there are a low number of men being reported as GBV victims, most of the reported perpetrators of the vice are male.

"The rise in the number of GBV cases raises concern for the government and our hope is that we work with men

like you and help the public on the need to curb the vice," he said.

"Government is working with the Church in sensitizing church members on the dangers of abusing alcohol and other toxic substances" he said.

Mr. Chilundika has also commended the United Church of Zambia (UCZ) for its commitment towards the call of serving humanity through its various developmental projects dotted across the country.

Meanwhile, United Church of Zambia (UCZ) General Secretary, Reverend Chipasha Musaba in his welcoming remarks reminded the Church to take a leading role in making a difference in society.

Rev. Musaba said making a difference can be attained through the participation of Christians in church activities and other progressive initiatives.

He reminded the men at the conference to be agents of change in different spheres of life after attending the conference.

This year's United Church of Zambia (UCZ) Men's Christian Fellowship National Conference was hosted by Luapula Presbytery under the theme **"Making a Difference"** derived from the book of 1st Corinthians 2:1-5.

UCZ OBSERVES HEALTH SUNDAY



The United Church of Zambia (UCZ) on 18th September commemorated Health Sunday in all the congregations throughout the ten presbyteries.

Health Sunday is one of the initiatives on the Synod calendar aimed at sensitizing Congregants on different health issues and appealing to the general church membership to generously contribute towards the refurbishment and maintenance of all UCZ health infrastructure across the country.

The United Church of Zambia Synod Health Secretary Gina Oliver has thanked congregants for their response to the call of giving towards this noble cause over the years. *“I want to assure you that this will be used to fulfil outstanding commitments and to develop future necessary work at our hospitals and clinics,”* she said.

Mrs. Oliver has however emphasized the need for UCZ congregations around the country to provide greater input to ensure the church hospitals and clinics are maintained and developed.

She said in order to improve efficiency in these facilities, the Church has formed Local Health Committees who provide support and help towards the running of the facilities.

Mrs. Oliver has since thanked partners and donors from around the world for their continued support with the Church’s calling to care for the sick.

“We are so grateful to partners like government and the Churches Health Association of Zambia (CHAZ) for providing lots of support and equipment to assist churches with running health facilities. From time-to-time church leaders meet to support the work of CHAZ,” she said.

And Mrs. Oliver said the Church is committed to ensuring that it sends monthly grants to all the nine health facilities. The United Church of Zambia is running two hospitals and seven clinics across the country , namely, Mbereshi Mission Hospital, Mwandi Mission Hospital, Arthur Wina Memorial Hospital and Njase Health Centre. Others are: Masuku Health Centre, Lubwa Health Centre, Chipembi Health Centre and Jagaimo Health Centre.

BEST LANGUAGE PUPILS TO BAG AWARDS



The United Church of Zambia communications department has introduced awards for the best performing students in Languages in some selected United Church of Zambia Schools.

The purpose of the award is to encourage learners to work hard and consider taking up a career in Public relations, Media and Communications.

According to the department report to the 31st Synod meeting, the name of the award which will be implemented in term three of 2022 school calendars is

called ‘Keith Waddell award for the best performing pupils in languages and will be presented to one deserving grade 12 pupil per school, once in a year.

“The School Administration in the mentioned institutions will identify outstanding students and submit the name to the United Church of Zambia Synod through the Education Secretary. The award will come with a package of K500.00 per school for one deserving Grade 12, annually. It will run for an initial period of five years, from 2022 -2026, subject to periodic reviews,” the report indicates.





The report also reveals that the department further intends to launch Press Clubs in the United Church of Zambia Schools to provide mentorship to the students who wish to take up a career in Public Relations, Media, Communications and related disciplines.

“For the schools where the proposed clubs are already operational, the school administration can advise how the same could be reinforced further” the report states.

On the other hand, the members of Press Clubs will be mentored to develop practical designing, communication and public relations skills. The learners will also be afforded an opportunity to visit and show case their skills by featuring their works on various media platforms,,” states the report in part.

Among the schools which will benefit from the opening of press clubs and presentation of awards include Mable Shaw Girls’ Secondary School. Njase Girls’ Secondary School., Kafue Boys’ Secondary School, Sefula Secondary School. Lubwa Secondary School, Kanchidu Secondary School and Mwenzo Girls’ Secondary School. Others are Chipembi Girls’ Secondary Schools,

Nambala Secondary School Masuku Secondary School and Mwandi Secondary School.

Keith Wadell has been serving as a Mission Partner in Zambia for many years in the area of education. He served as a School Teacher at Mwandi and is the current outgoing Education Secretary for the United Church of Zambia Synod. He is known for his excellent education administration skills, good record keeping and timely provision of reports whenever required to do so. During his tour of duty, he also helped to further stakeholder engagement with the United Church of Zambia Synod through the Education Department. He is also an avid writer, whose skills the Church utilized through the writing of news release and Loyal Address letter during Synod meetings. The naming of the award after him is one way of honoring his contribution to the Education Department and keeping alive his contributions to the church and community.

THREE PRESBYTERIES TO HOLD ELECTIONS



Rev. Festus Chulu - Muchinga
Presbytery Bishop



**Rev. Martha Chisha Kapambwe
Siame** - Eastern Presbytery
Bishop



Rev. Roy Kanchele - Western
Presbytery Bishop

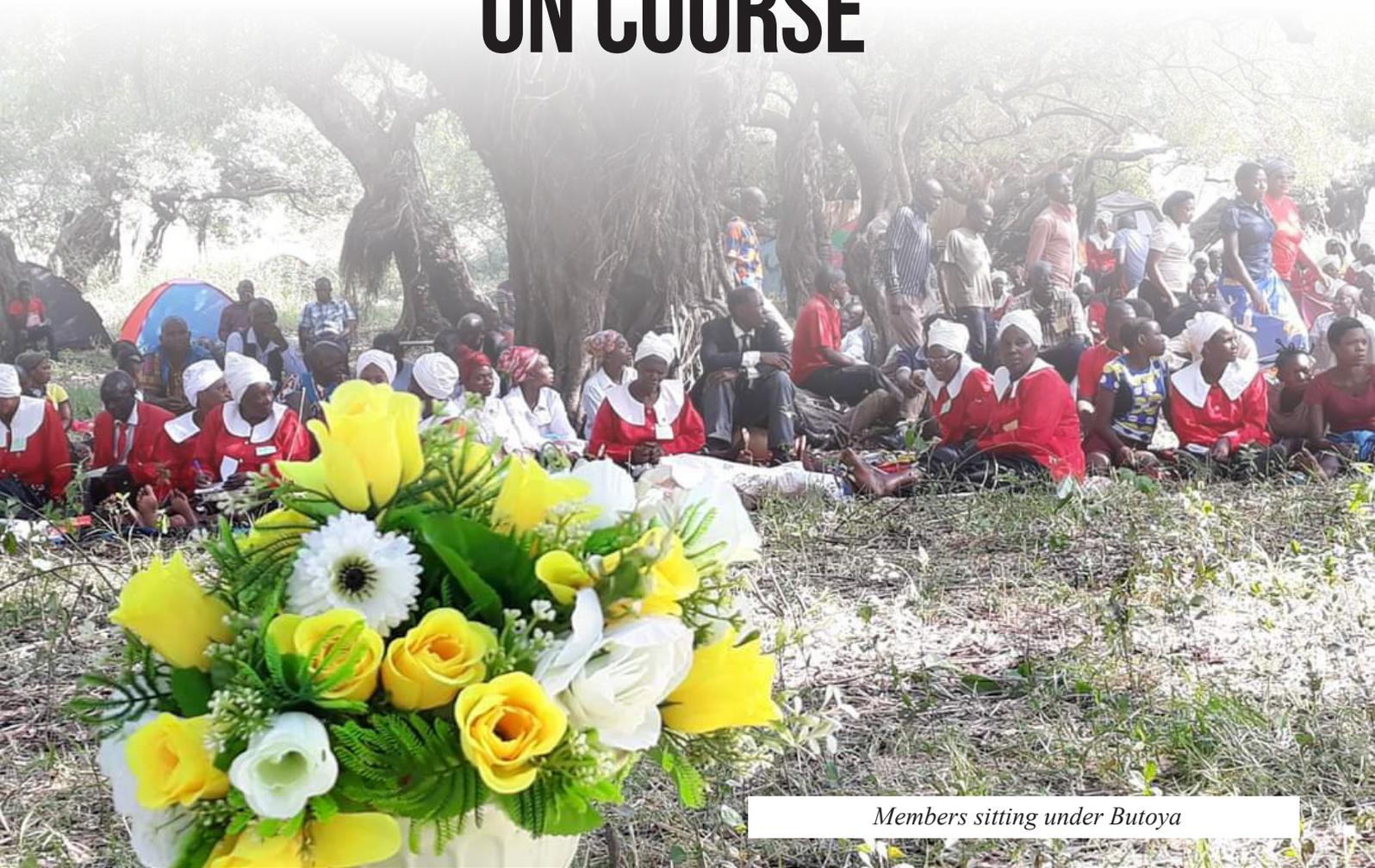
The United Church of Zambia Eastern, Muchinga and Western Presbyteries are on 24th September, 2022 scheduled to conduct elections for the position of their respective Presbytery Bishops in Mpika and Mongu, respectively.

On the one hand, Eastern Presbytery Bishop Rev. Marha Kapambwe Siame completes her four-year term of office in December 2022.

On the other hand, Muchinga Presbytery Bishop Reverend Festus Chulu and his Counterpart, Rev. Bishop Roy Kanchele of North Western Presbyteries will be completing their first term of four years in December, 2022.

Muchinga and Western Presbyteries will hold their elections on 24th September, 2022 while Eastern Presbytery will hold on 8th October, 2022 in Lundazi.

2022 BUTOYA CONFERENCE ON COURSE



Members sitting under Butoya

Every after four years, the United Church of Zambia Western Presbytery looks forward to one, among many great events: Butoya. Butoya is a Presbytery Conference which is open to every member of the United Church of Zambia in Western Presbytery. People travel from distant and nearby places to participate in this soul refreshing moment.

The name Butoya comes from ‘matoya’ which in Silozi refers to the evergreen trees that are natural habitat around the conference site, a few kilometers west of Mongu, on the Barotse plains.

In history, the area is marked as the place where the first Bi-plane landed in Western Zambia in 1928. A sandy patch just at the entrance of the woody area is the first

helipad in Western Province.

Butoya’s place in history does not end there. It was also the docking place for large boats bringing goods from Livingstone using the Zambezi River. Evidence of this is available to-date.

To the outsiders Butoya is just one part on the banks of the Zambezi River, but to the Lozi people, the area is revered as one that provided a landing space for a flying machine that is able to carry people.

Musicians even composed songs praising this place and over the years, thousands have come to marvel and admire the spot, especially the vegetation. Many stories have been told about the occupants of



*Rev. Rodwell Chomba,
former Lusaka Presbytery
Bishop Ministering during
the 2018 Butoya Conference*

that first aircraft. Some say, they were United Nations officials. Others believe they were Missionaries coming to set camp or scout for more places for Evangelism. And yet others believe that it was an inaugural flight to ascertain whether it is possible to land a plane on the Barotse Plains. The first aircraft was from Livingstone.

But one would ask why the United Church of Zambia, Western Presbytery adopted this area for their conferences.

The choice of Matoya as venue for spiritual retreat is historical. Bible study, being an important part of the early church's syllabus, the Church of Barotse that was operating in the area at the time had annually gathered around September/October at this sandy patch that

later became the first heliport for such reflections. Besides, the youths across the province would gather at Butoya for a week long of Bible Study and recreational activities such as tag of war, beach volleyball, wrestling and other sporting activities.

Later the Church leadership, realized that recreation and Bible Study is not only important to the youth but to their parents too. So at a Missionary Conference held at Sefula Mission in 1923, a decision was arrived at, that all Church members be meeting annually at the Butoya. This information is contained in, "The Spread of the Gospel in Barotseland" a chronological history of the Church, from 1885 to the time of the Union in 1965.

This was the birth of Butoya annual conference, that was later changed to bi-annually and now every four years. Prior to the Conference, the Presbytery Council meets to elect the Bishop. The Bishop is unveiled to the general membership at a colourful Sunday Service at Butoya.

The last Butoya conference was held from the 10th to 15th October 2018. The event witnessed Reverend Bishop Roy Kanchele take charge of the Western Presbytery office as Bishop from Rev Lubinda Manyando.

The 2022 Butoya conference will be held from Wednesday 19th October to Sunday the 25th, under the theme, "Unity in Seeking the Kingdom of the Lord" drawn from the Gospel of St. Mathew: 6:33.

The preparations for 2022 Butoya are on course. Assessments towards hosting of Butoya have been communicated to all Congregations. In 2023, the Conference will clock One hundred years from its inception.



*Praise Team from Lukulu during 2018 Butoya
Conference*



Board Members of Maamba Enterprise with other Church Leaders

SOWING SEEDS OF HOPE: THE STORY BEHIND MAAMBA BUS ENTERPRISE

Many see the Rosa Minibuses branded ‘Maamba UCZ’, but few know the story behind the transport business. When the Conversation about investment has reached an apex, one would think of Maamba Bus enterprise, a shining example of what it means to sow seeds of hope for the future. The business venture which started in 2013 has over the years been diversified from bus buses into other ventures such tuck-shop operation where facilities like, Zanaco Express Banking, Airtel, MTN and Kazang banking including groceries are offered.

Recently, the enterprise suffered a huge set back when one of its buses, No.6 was involved in a fatal road traffic accident and some lives were lost.

However, like a proverbial phoenix bird, the enterprise is slowly coming back into business with plans to expand

the business further. Maamba St. Marks Congregation Minister -in-charge, Rev.Bonnie Nyangu says, among the plans the enterprise has put in place include expanding the diversification of the business into real estate, develop the existing farmland and finance construction of a new state of the art church infrastructure.

But how did the idea of coming up with transport business come up? The idea for Maamba Consistory to purchase the first bus did not come overnight. The idea was mooted in 2013 during the leadership of Rev.Weston Simwinga who served as Maamba Consistory Chairperson.

The idea came about because the Consistory used to face transport challenges for members to attend church functions.

“Initially, members wanted the Congregation to buy a light truck for transporting members during retreat

and conferences as a response to ongoing transport challenges. Transporters used to over charge and disappoint us when it comes to picking up members before and after retreats. Our retreats were done in the outskirts of town," Rev. Simwinga explains.

From the initial idea of having transport meant to service Church members, a business opportunity was seen. At that time, few reliable bus transporters were servicing the Maamba Lusaka route. For this reason, the matter received overwhelming support when it was tabled during the annual meeting of the Congregation.

"It was not much a challenge because members wanted the Congregation to have their own transport but when the idea of buying a bus came we had to subject the matter into voting during the Congregation Annual General meeting and members of the Annual general meeting voted in favour of buying a bus and not a light truck," recalls Rev.Simwinga.

Although the number of hands that supported the idea to buy a Motor vehicle were many, the realization of the dream was farfetched. For the following one year, few members generously stretched their arms to contribute towards the buying the bus. Although the congregation raised less than K500 from that year's fundraising, the leadership did not give up the dream. It was time for the Church leadership to summon heavens and change the strategy.

"After personal reflection and Prayers, I told the executive members that I would like to identify members to work with me in the fundraising committee. I managed to identify 10 members and responsibilities were shared. I further identified possibly fundraising ventures such, Chitenge Sunday, Sections fundraising competition, Group fundraising competition (groups were made within the congregation and targets were given as well), Chitenge wear thanksgivings fundraising, among others," he narrates

The first Rosa Bus was purchased out of the total fundraising proceeds on 23rd May 2012, 2015. When the first Rosa Minibus Bus was bought from South Africa, it was packed at Church on Saturday un noticed and was unveiled to the general Church members on a Sunday.

"We made sure that it was a secret with the fundraising committee and the Congregation Executive because we wanted it to be a surprise to the Congregation. Again, our timing was that it should be brought at church on Saturday so that people could see it on Sunday. When it arrived, People could not believe it," Rev. Simwinga remembers

To be Continued in the next issue.....



REV. GEORGINA MUKUPA'S DESIRE OF AGES



The United Church of Zambia recently inducted Rev. Georgina Mukupa as the first ever female Minister to be Chaplain at Kafue Boys Secondary School.

Reverend Georgina Mukupa, as a young child, always desired to become a catholic 'Nun'.

Upon completion of Secondary School in 1999, she was admitted at the United Church of Zambia theological training and obtained a Bachelor of Theology in conjunction with the University of Western Cape in South Africa.

Reverend Mukupa says her family and many ministers played an important role for her becoming a minister of word and sacrament in the United Church of Zambia (UCZ).

In an interview, she shares how she was the youngest student in a class of 23 Ministerial Students at only 22

years old. Immediately after being licensed in November, 2004, her first station was Nambe Congregation, Kabwe in central Presbytery.

“Despite my age, I was allowed to train and obtained my Bachelor in Theology after three years and later sent to Nambe congregation under the Central Presbytery as Minister in Charge.

She served as Minister in Charge at Nambe Congregation from 2005 to 2009 before being transferred to go and serve as Minister in Charge at St Luke Congregation in Kabwe South Consistory, the station she served until 2015 when she was transferred to serve as Minister- In-Charge of St. Peter's Congregation

In 2015 Reverend Mukupa also served as Acting Bishop in Central Presbytery, a position she held for a year.

She describes the role as huge and demanding but continues to thank her role models for encouraging her to



Rev. G. Mukupa and her son.

remain committed and dedicated to the service of God.

Reverend Mukupa served in Central Presbytery for a total period fifteen years before going to serve as partner in Mission in the Uniting Presbyterian Church in Southern Africa(UPCSA) in South Africa for three years.

While in South Africa, she worked as Chairperson for Mahwereleng Uniting Presbyterian Church in Southern Africa (MUPCSA) in Mokopane town, Limpopo Presbytery.

Meanwhile, Reverend Mukupa also served as Chairperson for a feeding project for orphans and vulnerable children.

“I played a key role in resource mobilization to ensure that orphans and the vulnerable had continued support” she disclosed.

Reverend Georgina Mukupa was on July,31st inducted as Kafue Boys Secondary School Chaplain after returning to Zambia from South Africa and will also serve as Kasaka Congregation and Bainbridge Congregation Minister in Charge. She took over from Reverend Mwimba Chikalipa who served as chaplain at the same school from January 2017 to last December.

Reverend Mukupa hopes that being the first female chaplain of the school, she will help shape the spiritual life of pupils at Kafue Boys Secondary School as well as those of the congregants.

REV. MKANDAWIRE INDUCTED AS **CWM** **SECRETARY**

The reverend Damon Mkanawire was on 18 th September 2022 inducted as Mission and Ecology Secretary with the Council for World Mission.

The Commissioning service which was officiated by the United Church of Zambia Synod Bishop, Reverend Sydney Sichilima took place ta Nchanga Congregation in Chingola Consistory, Copper belt Presbytery.

Prior to his appointment, he served as hospital administrator at the United Church of Zambia Mbereshi Hospital in Luapula Presbytery.



Rev. Damon Mkandawire speaking



Rev. Damon Mkandawire with the spouse

WCC ELECTS NEW LEADERS



The World Council of Churches (WCC) Central Committee has elected Bishop Dr Heinrich Bedford-Strohm of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Bavaria as its new moderator.

The central committee has also elected two Moderators: Rev. Merlyn Hyde Riley, Jamaica Baptist Union; and H.E. Archbishop Dr Vicken Aykazian, Armenian Apostolic Church, Mother See of Holy Etchmiadzin.

Reverend Riley is acting General Secretary of the Jamaica Baptist Union and a graduate of the Bossey Ecumenical Institute.

Dr. Aykazian on the other hand is known for his ecumenical work for both global and Armenian causes, including the recognition of Armenian genocide, the preservation of Armenian monuments, and statements of solidarity with Armenia and Artsakh.

Bishop Dr .Bedford-Strohm, as

moderator, will serve as the chief governance officer of the WCC, and will have primary responsibility for assuring the coherence of the work of the central committee and of the executive committee, as well as for assuring that the ethos of consensus characterizes all aspects of the governance of WCC.

The moderator has primary responsibility for chairing sessions of the central committee and of the executive committee, sharing this role with the vice-moderators.

Together, the moderator, vice moderators, and acting general secretary comprise the leadership of the central committee.

The 2022 General assembly took place from 31st August to 8th September, 2022 in Karlsruhe, Germany at the joint invitation of the Evangelical Church in Germany (EKD), the Protestant Church in Baden, the Council of Churches in Germany, the Union of Protestant Churches in Alsace and Lorraine (UEPAL), and

the Protestant Church in Switzerland.

The WCC Assembly is the highest governing body of the World Council of Churches (WCC), and normally meets every eight years. It is the only time when the entire fellowship of member churches comes together in one place for prayer and celebration.

The Assembly is also a special time in the lives of member churches, ecumenical partners, and other churches, as it brings together more than 4000 participants, from all over the world. It is a unique opportunity for the churches to deepen their commitment to visible unity and common witness.

Former United Church of Zambia General Secretary, Rev. Harris Silishebo Silishebo, a youth from the Copperbelt Presbytery, Lukundo Nalwenga and Dr .Kaulule from Lusaka Presbytery, were part of the delegation from Zambia who participated in the WCC General Assembly.



AACC HOLDS 4TH SYMPOSIUM

Rev. T.N Matimba

The All Africa Conference of Churches (AACC), Conference Des Eglises de Toute L’Afrique (CETA) through its Department of Theology, Interfaith Relations and Ecclesial Leadership Development held its 4th theological Symposium to address current theological trends in Africa.

The symposium which was held from 19th September 2022 to 23rd September, 2022 in Nairobi, Kenya at The Desmond Tutu Hotel and Conference Centre was part of the ecumenical body’s commitment to promote proper theology that is contextual and relevant to the life of people in the African context.

Realising that correct and sound doctrine is crucial to salvation and growth in spiritual maturity, the AACC has been holding annual theological symposiums since October 2019 during which critical areas of misleading theologies are identified and addresses.

Since 2019, a series of symposiums have taken place annually addressing thematic areas of Complexities of Theologies of Wealth and Prosperity (on 23rd -27th November 2020) and Controversies about Theologies of Health and Healing (on 22nd -24th November 2021),

respectively.

This year, the ecumenical body held the 4th symposium under the theme: Addressing Contextual Theologies of Power and Authority in African Churches.

This year’s annual symposium is underpinned by AACC’s agenda of accompanying the African Churches in promoting relevant contextual theologies in the continent, to engage with churches in theological conversations that promote life with dignity, by engaging church leaders, scholars and leadership of theological institutions in identifying, analyzing and deconstructing misleading theologies on power and authority.

Reverend Theresa Matimba of Lusaka Presbytery and Reverend Chali Mfuta of Western Presbytery will be part of the Symposium under the auspices of the circle for African Female Theologians, while Reverend Damon Makandawire will participate in his capacity as Mission Secretary Ecology and Economy at the Council for World Mission.



ALL AFRICA CONFERENCE OF CHURCHES (AACC)

4TH SYMPOSIUM ON MISLEADING THEOLOGIES

**THEME: ADDRESSING CONTEXTUAL MISLEADING THEOLOGIES
ON POWER AND AUTHORITY IN AFRICAN CHURCHES**

DATE: SEPTEMBER 19TH -23RD 2022

VENUE: DESMOND TUTU CONFERENCE CENTRE, NAIROBI-KENYA

CONFERENCE DES EG

4^{ÈME} SYMPOSIUM SU

**THÈME: ABORDER LES TH
SUR LE POUVOIR ET DE L'A**

DATE: 19-23

LIEU: CENTRE DE CONFERE



L-R: Rev. CMfita, Dr Zul, RCZ Moderator, Rev. TN Matimba and Re. D Mkandawire



LET US UNITE- BISHOP SIAME

*Rev. Friday Kapakasa - CCAP
Moderator*

The United Church of Zambia Lusaka Presbytery Bishop, Rev. Dr. Lordwell Siame has appealed to the body of Christ to be united for her to be relevant to the community.

Bishop Siame said different denominations need to work together if they are to respond to the challenges the contemporary society faces.

He said the Church must continue being the salt and the light of the world in a world faced with different social, political and economic challenges

“The Church must remain one in Christ and stand on biblical truth as we preach the Gospel and show the love of Christ to all the people.” He said

Bishop Siame said this when he conveyed fraternal greetings on behalf of the UCZ Synod Bishop during the Church of Central Africa Presbyterian (CCAP) which was held in Lusaka at Reformed Youth Center from 20th August, 2022 to 4th September, 2022.

The Synod meeting was held under the theme “Living a righteous life with values of Christianity” drawn from 2 Peter 1:5-11 which also saw the re-election of the Rev. Friday Kapakasa as CCAP Synod of Zambia Moderator

And Rev. Kapakasa said the CCAP values the ecumenical relationship the CCA enjoys with the United Church for Zambia.

“This shows how the church values oneness and partnership as we work to the glory of God,” He said.

Among the delegates to those who attend the synod meeting include the Rev. William Tembo, General secretary Livingstone Synod; the Right Rev. Biswick Nkhoma General Assembly Moderator and Presbyterian Church of Australia General secretary, the Rev John Wilson.

In a related development, the United Church of Zambia Synod Bishop, Rev. Sydney Sicilima has paid glowing tribute to the reformed church of Zambia for the continued cordial relationships the Church enjoys with the United Church of Zambia.

He was speaking during the RCZ synod meeting which was held at Katete Girls' Secondary school from 17th -19th August, 2022.



*Rev. Dr. Lordwell Siame - Lusaka
Presbytery Bishop*

MUSIC EXPERTS COUNSELS SINGING GROUPS

Music teacher, Teddy Debby Makasa Kampamba has appealed to the Church to come with a system which will enhance music ministry by providing capacity building among music leaders in the United Church of Zambia.

Mr.Kampamba noted that the Church has no clear policy guidelines about qualifications of a music leaders and lacks capacity building programs for the development of music ministry , the scenario that needs to be addressed.

Mr. Kampamba who is also a Music Director for the Gospel church choir at Jordan Congregation in Matero consistory and a member of the Lusaka Presbytery music subcommittee noted that most music directors need to be trained in music and leadership skills.

And Mr.Kampamba said the church should cease the practice of getting adjudicators from outside the United Church of Zambia but entrust the task with UCZ members who understand our music well and are experts in the filed.

He was speaking on the special edition of Synod Panorama radio Programme dubbed " *the challenges and prospects of music ministry on the United Church of Zambia* " on United Voice radio.

Featuring on the same platform, University of Zambia Lecturer Dr. Lawrence Mubita regretted that most

singing groups cry foul at the outcome of music festivals because music leaders emphasise on the aspect of competition to choir members as a motive of participating in the festivals at the expense of the objectives of festivals which are outlined in the church music policy handbook.

others who featured in the programme are Mr.Abraham Muluku , Music Director of St. Mark's Choir in Lusaka 's Chilenje Consistory and Mr. Peter Chongo of St. Stephen Congregation, in Lusaka Central Consistory



The MCF during the 2022 National Conference in Mansa

