



Drilling underway at Shearly Cripps Children's Home, Murewa District

Transvaal, Zimbabwe & Botswana Association (TZABA) Easter 2025

EASTER GREETINGS FROM ALL THE TZABA COMMITTEE

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From the Chairman, Carl Garner

In this last year the focus of our support has been the borehole project in Zimbabwe, with boreholes on church properties being inspected, upgraded or new ones sunk, and all supplied with solar powered pumps. All this, together with the training for suitable continuity management, being overseen by our treasurer Sandy, with funding from TZABA.

Sandy has an immense knowledge of the geology of southern Africa, so important for finding sources of water, and a fascination with the whole history of its evolution, and that of the human species. Among the photographs that were shared with us on how the borehole project was going, were those of vegetable gardens which were able to be created because of water being made available. One I remember particularly was of a lady holding the most enormous cabbage.

In the bible, in the beginning chapters of the book of Genesis there are creation stories, leading up to the creation of man: stories which the Catholic Catechism calls "symbolic", meaning, as the great church father St Gregory of Nyssa (fl. 375AD) said, they "contain doctrines in the form of a story". Man has God's own Spirit of life breathed into him, making him something more than an intelligent animal, but a being that somehow reflects God, "made in his image". Then there is the story of a well-watered garden- the garden of Eden, where God "walks". But things go wrong with mortal sin entering and communion with God being disrupted, and the way to paradise closed. The "Garden" is set as being in Mesopotamia, but of course it could be, or rather is, anywhere.

For those of us for whom the physical reality of southern Africa, the beauty and majesty of its geology, its fauna and flora, its smells, its life, is evocative, it is perhaps pleasing to note that many palaeontologists

lean to the belief that mankind first evolved in southern Africa- here was the first physical Eden.

I am writing this in the season of Lent which ends with us remembering the passion and crucifixion of Jesus, opening the way to the experienced forgiveness of sins for us all and the entering into renewed spiritual life by his resurrection. And here there is another garden: the garden where the tomb owned by Joseph of Arimathea was located, the tomb from which Jesus rose transformed on Easter day. The garden in which he appeared to Mary Magdalene. (A garden which seems very recently to have been partially uncovered in the restoration works in the Church of the Holy Sepulchre in Jerusalem).

"This the day that the Lord has made, let us rejoice and be glad in it" is a refrain from Psalm 118 long appropriated to Easter Day. For this is the day of the new creation, culminating in our Lord's ascension and his "breathing" in us of the Spirit in new degree on the day of Pentecost. And this is something in which we can all share: "If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation" (St Paul).

So let us praise God for this creation and this re-creation: and pray that we may have a role in what might be called "restoring Eden": encouraged by our Lord himself who taught us to pray to the Father saying "thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven"

God bless us all

CARL GARNER, Chairman

A Reminder that our TZABA Day Event will be on the
25th June 2025 at 11.30am.

The Event will be held, as usual, at Trinity House, London.

However, it will also be available on Zoom for those who are unable to attend in person. The Link will be emailed out beforehand.

Providing water, using Solar Power, to church communities across Zimbabwe

During this past year TZABA, working with the Anglican Relief & Development in Zimbabwe (ARDeZ) has continued the programme of providing solar powered boreholes for pumping and storing water in church communities right across Zimbabwe. We believe that this is a key intervention to support the work both of the church and local communities.



1 Locations of the TZABA Sites with Solar equipped Boreholes

This work was closely coordinated with the Diocesan Rural Officers of ARDeZ. Of particular mention again are Mr Artwell Sipinyu, Mr Darlington Musekiwa and Mr Matthais Thompson (known as the A-Team). They have been key players in ensuring that the programme is integrated with the needs of the community.

During the past year 7 more boreholes have been drilled, to add to the three boreholes constructed last year. As previously, a key aspect has been the learning process on Borehole Contract Management and Borehole Drilling. We have guided both the construction of the boreholes as well as provided further training on the Supervision and Management of Borehole Contracts.



2 The Team relaxing at Holy Cross School, Gokwe

St Andrews, Mkoba, Gweru, Central Province

The original borehole at the church of St Andrews was so poorly constructed that it was impossible to install a pump. Consequently a new borehole was drilled in December and comprehensively tested.

The borehole proved an immediate success. Indeed, even during the test pumping there were long queues of local people lining up to receive the clean pumped water. The local water supply has essentially failed and this borehole is seen as a Godsend.

During my visit in January, I managed to visit all the new boreholes, and provide a few days of training at the Anglican offices in Harare with the A-Team. There is a real sense that this is providing life and hope for the communities and a privilege to be part of the programme.



3: Inspecting the new borehole at St Thomas, Magunje

Testimony of Mr Darlington Musekiwa

My name is Darlington Musekiwa, the ARDeZ Officer for Diocese of Central Zimbabwe. I am privileged to be part of the ARDeZ TZABA Borehole Project A Team.



I have witnessed the growth of the project from the MWater Sites Mapping then to Solarisation of Existing boreholes. The project has now gained the title "Water and Sanitation Project". I am thrilled to make reference to the remote areas like Dorset St Davids where, from being a drought stricken area, an oasis had been developed where multitudes of people are getting clean domestic water and fresh horticultural produce.

The project now has close to 20 active sites in Zimbabwe, and is preaching a live gospel. At each of the sites people continue to praise God for TZABA and the gift of this precious commodity.

May God continue to bless TZABA for responding to human need through this precious gift of water. As part of the implementing team I do commit to continue supporting the beneficiaries so that they can continue to maintain the infrastructure and use the water wisely.

I would like to end by repeating the words of Sandy Elsworth, our TZABA Contact person, said to us in 2016 at the Anglican cathedral "Water is life". I am proud to be a testifier of this saying.

Once more thank you TZABA for the support that is improving the livelihoods of our communities. You are contributing to building up of community resilience to the global climate change predicament.

Darlington , ATeam Member



4: The Drilling Rig arrives on Site



5: The ARDeZ A-Team

Mr Artwell Sipinyu, National Coordinator, ARDeZ

The Solar Borehole Project has been a transformative initiative for our community, significantly enhancing access to clean and sustainable water sources.

By harnessing solar energy, we have not only reduced reliance on traditional power sources (Zesa) but also ensured consistent water supply even in our institutions. This project has led to improved health outcomes, as access to clean water minimizes waterborne diseases.

Additionally, it has empowered local communities by creating jobs and fostering environmental sustainability.

We are grateful for the support from TZABA donors, which has made this project possible, and we look forward to sharing these impactful

benefits with you. Your contributions are making a real difference in the lives of many.



6: Mr Matthias Maduba and Mr Artwell Sipinyu dipping the water level

As always, it is a joy to see clean water pumping onto parched soil. The school, clinic and church are now guaranteed a continuous supply of water even during the dry months. The farm can expand and feed the community.



7: Meeting with the Church Community at Nyamuroro

St Catherine of Alexandra, School for Girls, Rusape

The Girls School at Rusape has had a new borehole and the solar installation for over a year now, providing clean water for the hostel and the school gardens. The Headteacher, Mr Hlomayi, reports that the system is working well, and that they have already started cropping the winter harvest.



Figure 8: The Installation at St Catherine of Alexandria School



Figure 9: Irrigation at St Catherine of Alexandria School



Figure 10: Crops at St Davids, Sunrise

St Davids, Sunrise

Rev Mabhaudhi is thrilled to report from St Davids that “the borehole is fully functioning! The life-changing project is not only providing clean water to the community, but also enabling us to nurture a small winter maize project.

“Thank you for investing in our community’s well-being. Your support is making a tangible difference in people’s lives, and we are grateful for your partnership.”

It is reports like this that give us all hope in the future, and a reminder of our common humanity.

Medical Orphan Projects

MOP (as it is known) continues to support Anglican caring centres in Zimbabwe & Botswana. They include Holy Cross Hospice in Botswana, Bonda Childrens Home, St. Patricks Clinic Gweru, the Avondale Centre, Mabvuku, and Daramombe Clinic Masvingo.

At Bonda Mission we support the small orphanage looking after some 20 children between 4 and 19 years of age. Our support allows them to attend the local school, St David’s, and to keep the orphanage functioning. The Sisters are getting elderly, and the Orphanage requires costly alteration to meet the new government regulations.

PARTNERS is published by TZABA to disseminate information and promote FELLOWSHIP between those interested in its association with THIRTEEN Dioceses of the Anglican Church in Africa’s Capricorn Belt. It also records the charitable work undertaken by TZABA in support of those Dioceses.

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