



Do Not Fear!

So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God.

I will strengthen you and help you;

I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

Isaiah 41:10

For all of us, our daily lives have been deeply impacted by the pandemic which has swept across our world this year. Inevitably, much of this newsletter will deal with the effects of the crisis both at the Falconer Home and in the work of the Falconer Trust here in the UK.

It is good, however, to be able to begin with good news! In the last newsletter we reported that we had purchased a brand new generator to be sent to the Home. After various delays, caused mainly by administrative challenges, the generator has now reached Ndola, and is ready to be transported to the Home, and installed. The verse from Isaiah, quoted above, reminds us of God's faithfulness and compassion, and this is demonstrated clearly in the way in which He has made a way for difficulties to be overcome even in such challenging times. Therefore we do not fear, for He is with us!



God has continued to protect those at the Falconer Home, as they deal with the pandemic. Social distancing is naturally very difficult amongst the children, but the staff have established a strict routine of hand washing for everyone throughout the day. They have also taken measures to prevent strangers from wandering into the Home. Thus far, everyone has remained virus-free.

At the time of writing, Zambia has reported around 1600 cases of Covid-

19, with 30 deaths. This is a little higher than some of the surrounding countries such as Zimbabwe, Namibia and Mozambique, but lower than many of the countries further north. The vast majority of cases of infection are in the large cities, especially Lusaka. The remoteness of Kabulamema is, for once, advantageous, as there is very little movement of people between the local community and the cities, reducing the opportunities for infection to travel there.

The Falconer Trust



As you will have no doubt realised, we have had to abandon all plans to visit the Home in 2020. This is unfortunate, but unavoidable. At our storage unit in Norfolk, our volunteers Brian and Margaret have not been able to come in since the start of lockdown, but Neil has been able to continue to work there alone.

As it has not been possible for Neil to make deputation visits since March, we have had to find new ways of keeping our supporters up to date with developments. To this end, in May a 10 minute video was produced and put online. Many of you will have already seen it, but if you have not, you can find it in one of the following ways:

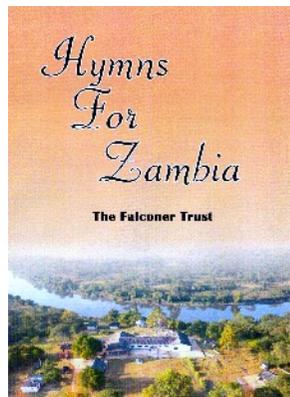
- 1) Follow this link: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LC5fq_Po5UQ
- 2) Go to our website and click on the link under the heading 'New Video Presentation';
- 3) Go to YouTube, and type 'Falconer Children's Home Update May 2020' into the search box.

We will produce another video update in the next few weeks.

Hymns For Zambia

On 2nd May the Trust held a fundraising event online, entitled 'Hymns for Zambia'. Neil played hymns and worship songs on the piano for six hours, and the event was streamed live on Facebook. Supporters were able to request hymns and songs, and donate. Through this event we were able to raise over £3,000 to support the Home through the pandemic. Thank you so much to everyone who contributed to the event.

If you were not able to get involved, you don't have to miss out!. We have now produced a 'Hymns for Zambia' DVD, containing eighteen of the hymns played on the day, accompanied by images of the Home, the children, Miss Falconer, Simon etc. Please contact us if you would like a copy.



Jonathan's Report on the 2019 Visit

My name is Jonathan and I am the grandson of Pat and Ken Webb. I accompanied them and Neil on their trip to Zambia in the summer. My first impression of the children's home was quite overwhelming, it was pitch black when we arrived and we were soon mobbed by a bunch of enthusiastic children that wanted to hold my hand, we were then sung to and I subsequently managed to lock myself in my bedroom. The children were always laughing and playing and they treasured any gift that they received (especially tennis balls). The older ones that I helped tutor were very capable, their work included that of matrices and other concepts that appear in further maths at A level or the first year of university. Many of



Jonathan with a chicken at the home of Sammy (left)

them had great aspirations of going into further education to study health care and such. I was surprised at the generosity of the local people when we visited the house of a woman that lived nearby, her home was small and dark and she had a daughter to take care of as well and yet as we left she gave us one of her few chickens as a gift. This and some other things (like someone telling me that he would find me a wife and then later informing me that he had been successful) did drive home the understanding that it is a different culture but otherwise the children



Jonathan with some of his maths students

are just like any other children, they sing and dance and play and run around and they don't mourn the things that they do not have. Regarding the future, the farm that was being set up looked to be very promising. However as we left I felt that there were still things that I would have liked to have gotten done whilst I was there; namely getting the water pump to work. To conclude I am extremely grateful to have been given the opportunity to go to Zambia and to meet so many people that constantly praise God despite their hardships.

Repairs and Maintenance

Simon continued to work on various projects despite workers being unable to come to the Home during this time. The water tower now has all four tanks back in position, and two water tanks have been installed at the farm. A vegetable garden has been reinstated near to the church, and work continues on kitchen and cooking facilities.



Please Pray...

- ... for the safety and wellbeing of children and staff during the pandemic
- ... for the continuing programme of repairs and improvements at the Home and the farm.
- ... for the successful delivery and installation of the generator.
- ... for the Trust here in the UK as we strive to operate effectively during these difficult times.

Thank You

A very big thank you to all who have supported the work in some way, whether through prayer, finance, donation of goods or any other way. May God bless you richly for your efforts on behalf of the children.



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