

## Visit to Zambia – July 2019

We visited two schools, for 4 days each, with which we were involved in their construction in 2010.

One of the schools, Kumbaya, is within one of the poorest neighbourhoods on the outskirts of Lusaka. They, also, have a Care Ministry. It is to this school that we send clothes, etc. Another consignment has arrived this week. The school has children from reception to Grade 7, (end of primary). They, also, run adult literacy and numeracy classes up to Grade 7.



The other school, Crown of Life, was started in a large garage at the pastor's home for another poor community, but is now in a purpose built school, on a green field site, on the edge of the community. The school has children from Nursery to Grade 13, (end of "GCSE's").

Neither schools refuse students because they cannot pay a fee, they do not have to wear uniform and shoes, but are encouraged to do so. The school uniforms we have sent, from our grandson's school, have helped Kumbaya.



Our aim of the visit was to encourage, advise both schools and to improve communications with Crown of Life. In our previous two visits to the schools we had only spent about an hour looking around.

Ruth spent her time in the Nursery/Reception classes encouraging the teachers to use more visual aids and craft work to promote learning. The main problem the

schools have is that they do not have the financial resources to sustain this approach.

I, Ian, spent my time observing teaching and learning in the higher Grades. I had to be mindful of the local practices. So my main feed-back was on lesson planning, classroom management and some advise on lesson content.

At Kumbaya, a tailoring group has been running but with very few resources. The school had one sewing machine, which was broken, and the teacher brought her own for a group of 15/20 women. We were able to mend the machine and also provide another one and some cloth material. Ruth helped with some of the tuition and within a week the women had produced a useful article. I did a short session on budgeting as the purpose of the group is to enable the women to earn money.



In connection with Kumbaya's Care Programme we had the privilege of visiting some of the poorest and neediest home to distribute aid; food and clothes.

At Crown of Life, we were able to facilitate the setting up of the practical tailoring part of the "Home Economics" syllabus. There is still need for resources for the cooking element.

Pray for the continued work of the schools and their ministries. Pray for the teachers who work hard with limited resources, large classes and low pay. Pray that we able to continue sending clothes, academic resources and other aid to Kumbaya Crown of Life do not yet have Import Tax Exemption. Without that it would be uneconomical. Thank you for all who have supported this by giving clothes, cases and a contribution towards the freight costs. A consignment of six more cases is being collected by the courier this weekend – 17<sup>th</sup>/18<sup>th</sup> August.

We have been asked to return to continue what we started! Pray for wisdom and guidance on future plans.

Ian and Ruth Bell