

Diane Cusick

Location: **Lusaka, ZAMBIA**

Mission: **Early childhood education**



'Let everything that has breath praise the Lord'
Psalm 150:6

It's been a whirlwind of a month! I spent time in Chipata at our ECD centre where we have many children – the biggest challenge has been the lack of toilets, especially when the torrential rains came and I had to find a bucket so that children did not have to run to the distant pit latrine! We are in the process of beginning a toilet block after the heavy rains in April.



Coming home from Chipata, the road was washed away and unfortunately, I had an accident and fell head first and cut myself quite badly – the worst being my right knee! At last I got the dressing off last week and it's much better – still badly bruised!

We prayed for rain and God has certainly answered our prayers – this last month we have had some really torrential rain with flooding all over the city of Lusaka, and other parts of the country...mind you, as I write we still have no power!! It will take a few years good rain to bring Kariba dam up to a good operating level again for hydro power.

I spent a few days with CCAP Synod of Harare in Zimbabwe, and then with Blantyre Synod in Malawi, visiting their ECD centres – what a privilege to see what other Synods are doing. Just like in Zambia, there is much work to be done to help these young children in their early development. I found children of 3-5 years sitting at desks, trying to copy from a blackboard, with one class even doing exams!!



In Zambia, we have just started a new school curriculum – it was due to begin in January but materials were not ready, so ECD classes started on 10 February, and I received the Syllabus the day before opening, as did all schools across the country!! During Easter Holidays, teachers will come for training so that we can go through the new Syllabus and see how best we can deliver it through play!

Thank you for your continued support. Keep updated with my life and work by checking my blog...www.dianecusick.blogspot.com

Please pray:

- Give thanks for the good rains and please pray for people who have been displaced because of flooding, that they may receive enough help.
- Pray that the committee at Muchini in Chipata as they prepare to build the toilet block, that everything will be in place, so that it can be built quickly to give children good access to sanitation.
- Pray for Diane for good health and safety on the roads as she travels!