

DIGNITY UPDATE: Southern Africa

HUB

Overview

Jon Witt has taken some time off over the last few weeks and on reflection this seems like a time of consideration and laying foundations for the future. The continuing development of the team in Zambia is a cause for a huge encouragement. Tied with this is consideration of questions about how we establish future hubs and work. We have begun to explore the idea of 'Home and Away kits' (working title) to partner and work with others. There has continued to be challenges but overall the work has shown amazing resilience that even if one person falls others step into their shoes. Life Groups continue to grow.

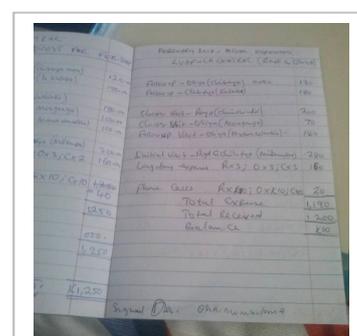
Southern Africa Hub: Dignity Zambia / Namibia / Tanzania

Life Groups

- **Life Groups** are growing. The last count and survey at the end of 2017 indicated 574 groups. Various ministry reports received so far this year show that these figures have continued to grow this year. This time of year is the 'follow up' phase with small amounts of training, so whilst numbers have grown they would naturally do so slowly at this time of year.

Impact Teams

- **The measures we recently introduced to increase accountability seem to have worked.** Every team now has an exercise book in which they request funds for the coming month and record their expenses. It has encouraged the teams to have their own budgets and be able to make more decisions themselves. This means they (and we) can plan better, be more efficient and are empowered more to make their own decisions in terms of ministry.
- **A team member from Luapula North has stepped down with immediate effect.** Due to issues with money and accountability a situation came to light which meant that he broke relationship with Dignity in February 2018. This was not entirely unexpected. We are still working with him to resolve the situation and hope that this will be done amicably. Bernard and Pilius visited the team and we are greatly encouraged that despite this the team remains strong.
- **Cornelius Chalwe in Petauke has taken a break due to ministry commitments.** It has been difficult for Cornelius to do the work of Dignity and his ministry as a Parish Priest. In consultation with us, Cornelius is taking a break to focus on his parish. We are in discussions with others in the area to re-form the team and to carry on with the ministry in South Eastern Zambia.



Example of team funding request & reporting

Dignity Zambia

- It has been really great to see how Bernard, Pilius, Royd and others are working together in the ministry team of Dignity Zambia. With the difficult situation in Luapula, both Pilius and Bernard went to encourage the team and investigate what had happened. In terms of pioneering, Bernard and others are doing this together. They will be running the April EQUIP camp together in Mkushi, Zambia. The team has produced their own programme and allocated sessions to different members of the wider team. We hope to directly support one or two of these people to further bolster the team during 2018.
- **Admin in Zambia** – Lauren with Hermien and others have done really well and their presence has helped Bernard and the teams to concentrate on the work of ministry. Thanks to them!
- **We will be sending our 2018 Investment Prospectus** to various potential supporters within Zambia.

Southern Africa Hub: Deeper Campaign

- **Deeper is rolling out across Zambia.** We love this photo shared by the Luapula North team of Agness sharing the material with a small group of Life group leaders. They are using the Bemba version of Plant!



- We will be monitoring and evaluating feedback from *Deeper* over the coming months.

Core: Planting & establishing new Hubs (Impact Team / Life Group Pioneering in new areas)

- Developing the 'Away Kit'.** We have recently come up with the concept of a 'Home' and 'Away' kit. We envisage a 'Home Kit' for those working on home soil to start and multiply Life Groups in their own context and an 'Away Kit' that will equip people to share the vision of Life Groups in a mission context. This could be used on short term mission or by other organisations to raise up the people God has placed in an area they are visiting or working in. For example it could be used by those doing ministry in Africa who wish to lay a foundation of something 'more' in terms of church planting, discipleship and community transformation. We have begun to explore and shape this in partnership with Nick Weyman who is working with Sudanese refugees there and a group from i61 Church who are building a school in rural Uganda. These two 'live' situation will allow us to learn the lessons as we shape the material.

The Numbers from Southern Africa

Measurable	Number to date, 2018	Previous Update	End 2017	Comments <i>(*these numbers are cumulative. All other numbers are for the current year)</i>
Total Number Life! Groups*	574	-	574	Anecdotal evidence suggests this number has increased in Jan/Feb.
Trained Active Impact Team Missionaries *	45	-	47	Has dropped by 2 due to team members stepping down.
Number of clusters*	31	-	31	We believe this number has grown, but we have not verified the data yet.
Impact Team Areas*	14	-	13	Stable at present, this will increase during 2018
Impact Team Training course (visit or central EQUIP)	1	-	10	Assessment and encouragement visit to North Luapula
<i>Intelligence</i> Schools of Evangelism	0	-	5	
Areas Initial Visit	5	-	71	Data from 4 main teams
Life! Group Training Courses	0	-	79	Trainings normally run between April and September
Encouragement visits	0	-	25	
Volunteer hours	4,592*	-*	23,296*	*Estimated figures based on 1 leader volunteering 4 hours/month per Life Group

3 Key Items for Prayer

- Pray for the team in Tanzania. They are a fledgling team, new to the work and plenty can go wrong. Pray that God raises them to be an effective force for the Gospel in their region.
- Pray for the *Deeper* campaign, for new leaders and trainers to be raised up from within the groups and clusters that comprise the work of Dignity.
- Pray for Augustine who needs to be restored. Pray also for Cornelius taking a break and every Impact Team member who continues to give to God sometimes in very difficult circumstances.

DIGNITY UPDATE: Central Administration

CORE

Overview

We have had a busy couple of months as we have set plans and started a number of projects for the year ahead. We have made steady progress with Foundations and sent a substantial shipment of Bibles and training materials to Zambia.

Core: Sharing our Knowledge

- We have been delighted to hear from team members as they have received their copies of *Plant* and the *Life Group leaflets* for *Deeper* and to see photos of them in use!
- Foundations 1: Life Begins** has been proof read and a short print run completed for first use. **Foundations 2: Life Grows** has been compiled, sent to authors for comments and is now being proof read. Books 3 and 4 will follow on.
- Jan Nettleton, Kate Allsup and Kate Nelson are progressing work on *Love Your Children*. We are so encouraged to see them contributing their skills and experience in this way. Thank you to each of them!



The Love Your Children team: Kate, Katy and Jan with Jo.

Core: General

People

- In January we gathered for a meal to thank Paul & Gill for their faithful service to Dignity. It was great to celebrate all they have done for Dignity.

Resources

- We shared [Moses' story](#) in our February bulletin. It was really encouraging to hear him talk about why he is committed to partnering with us.
- Our **2018 Year of Prayer** is now available. [Download the prayers and sign up to pray for a week.](#)
- In February 316 Bibles and lots of copies of Plant began the long journey to Zambia by road and sea.** Special thanks to Karen D for collecting 125 Bibles, Lighton W for driving 26 boxes of books and a tent to Essex and MMN for shipping them all to Zambia. Please pray for their safe arrival with no delays on route.



Paul & Gill



Packed & ready to go

Visits & Events

- Jon spoke at People's Church Partington and has availability to visit other **partner churches** in April/May.
- We will have a publicity stand at Spring Harvest Harrogate and Jon has been invited to speak at [Launch](#) in November.

Fundraising

- Plans are being made three fundraising events: The £10 Challenge, the Yorkshire 3 Peaks and the Peak District 10.

Finances

- We need to see a marked increase in our income.
- We have produced a **Charitable Investment Prospectus** outlining the cost of different key elements of our work.
- Since our last report no **regular gifts** have changed.
- We have received 3 gifts from **2 trust funds**, one towards our general literature costs and two for Foundations.

The Numbers

Measurable	Number to date, 2018	Number at end of 2017	Comments
Movement in regular monthly giving	0	+£340.83	Refer to finance report for further information
Total number of regular givers	48	48	
Trust fund applications made	0	4	
Prayer meetings held	0	3	
Events & church visits happened	1	3	People's Church Partington
Events & church visits scheduled	0	-	
Bibles recycled this year	156 received 316 sent	180 received 112 sent	Total Bibles recycled to date = 603 Bibles boxed and ready to send = 160
Translation in progress/completed	2	8	LYV Bemba, Rinj 4 Lunda to be finalised, 2 x Deeper materials in Tonga & Swahili to be undertaken.
Volunteer hours (UK)	15	309	