

OCTOBER 2022



EBENEZER KAZUNGULA

NEWS



October has been another full month at Ebenezer Kazungula. We have enjoyed quite a few visitors which is always fun for our apprentices. This has especially been the case at our Sunday services where we are partnering with different churches every fortnight who visit us and share with us. This month we loved having friends from the Overland Church outside Livingstone. As well as holding a service together, they joined us for a feast and further fellowship at lunchtime.



We were also blessed this month to receive a visit from the kids from Katapazi, a community close to Ebenezer. As well as sharing a good time with them, one of our staff families was able to bless some of them with new shoes!



Bible lessons have continued to be engaging and fruitful for both apprentices and staff! Bible trainer James has been doing an excellent job of keeping apprentices motivated with small chocolate gifts! First year apprentices have been doing a series on "Back to Basics" looking at "Who is God?" "Who is Jesus?" and "Who is the Holy Spirit?" among other topics. They are now preparing presentations based on what they have learnt and we are looking forward to hearing from them!



October gave us cause for celebration as we marked 58 years of Zambian Independence on the 24th. One of our staff members celebrated the occasion with teachers and children from the local farm school, with the children giving some good presentations.

Excitement is beginning to mount towards our first Advanced Graduation happening at the end of November! Second years have been busy preparing with a lot of dance rehearsals happening in the evenings at Ebenezer!

PRODUCTION

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We are pleased with the progress some of our crops are making since we installed a fence to protect them from trespassing cows. Unfortunately those plants not fenced have still be falling victim to trespassing cows!

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Land prep is underway for more planting in November.

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As the dry season draws to a close we have been busy cutting and gathering grass in readiness for the arrival of new batches of broiler birds. This has been especially challenging with our tractor out of action, but staff and apprentices have been working hard to ensure a good amount of grass is available..

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We currently have 47,822 broiler birds on site, being farmed by pairs of apprentices caring for approximately 5,000 birds each.

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We finished our current flock of layer birds as they reached the end of their life. As we closed the cycle, the birds were hitting an average lay-rate of 69%, about 5% below target. We sadly saw quite high mortality in the last month with 223 birds dying.

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Work is underway to build a new thatched layer house which will give our apprentices experience in a different smaller scale style of layer farming. We hope to have the house completed and birds placed by March next year.

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Two apprentices recently closed a batch 4,713 broilers and we are happy to report that they made a profit! Despite quite a high mortality of 8.9%, Frank and Stephen's birds hit an average weight of 2.41 kg, meaning they achieved an FCR of 1.9. They delivered 10,338 kg of live weight to the abattoir.

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