

NOVEMBER 2023



EBENEZER KAZUNGULA

NEWS



We welcomed two new members of staff to the Ebenezer Kazungula team in November! We have long been hoping that Mwangala, the wife of team member James Batuke, would be able to join our team and so we were delighted to see that happen this month. Mwangala has wasted no time in getting stuck into lesson training and has been especially enjoying engaging with apprentices in Bible lessons.



Our second new team member is Chushi Kasongo, who joined us at the end of November. Before coming to Ebenezer Kazungula, Kasongo spent a week at Ebenezer Matobo in Zimbabwe, being orientated in the Ebenezer vision and culture. It was a good few days during which Kasongo was able to attend lessons, spend time with field coaches and understand more about the Ebenezer way of doing things!



Bible lessons have continued to be a particular highlight for both apprentices and staff this month! First years have been doing a series called "Back to Basics", looking at some of the basics of the Christian faith. There have been some amazing discussions around the topics, with good questions such as, how is it that God continues to forgive people who continually sin when they seek his forgiveness?!



Family Nights have also been an ongoing highlight this month, partly because of the good food and fun games we share, and partly because of our theme of "Walking with Jesus everyday." We are learning that Jesus did not promise us an easy life, but he has promised to be with us throughout it and through all of its challenges! We have appreciated speakers coming to share on topics such as temptation, money and anxiety.

PRODUCTION

November has seen four groups of apprentices sending broilers to the abattoir. Sadly, we have had disappointing results, we think partly due to poor quality chicks and partly due to high temperatures we are experiencing this summer. Across the batches we have seen weights ranging from 1.8 kg - 2.15 kg and mortality ranging from 2.8 % - 6.2 %.

Despite the disappointing results, apprentices have continued to work hard in managing these batches. In total they produced about 40,000 kg of meat!

Our layer birds continue to do really well in our new layer barn, under the management of 6 of our lady apprentices. The birds were 31 weeks old by the end of the month and were hitting an excellent lay-rate of 96%!

Second years, Florence and Youngson, have continued to reap the rewards of their hard work in the cropping section over the last few months. We have been supplying the Heartlands store in Livingstone with onions and we are finding a good demand there. We are still in the process of drying some of our onion harvest.

Land preparation is underway as we hope to plant maize and sunflower in the coming weeks. Following such success with these crops last year, this season we intend to expand our maize and sunflower planting. At the same time, we are preparing our kitchen garden to plant more vegetables.

