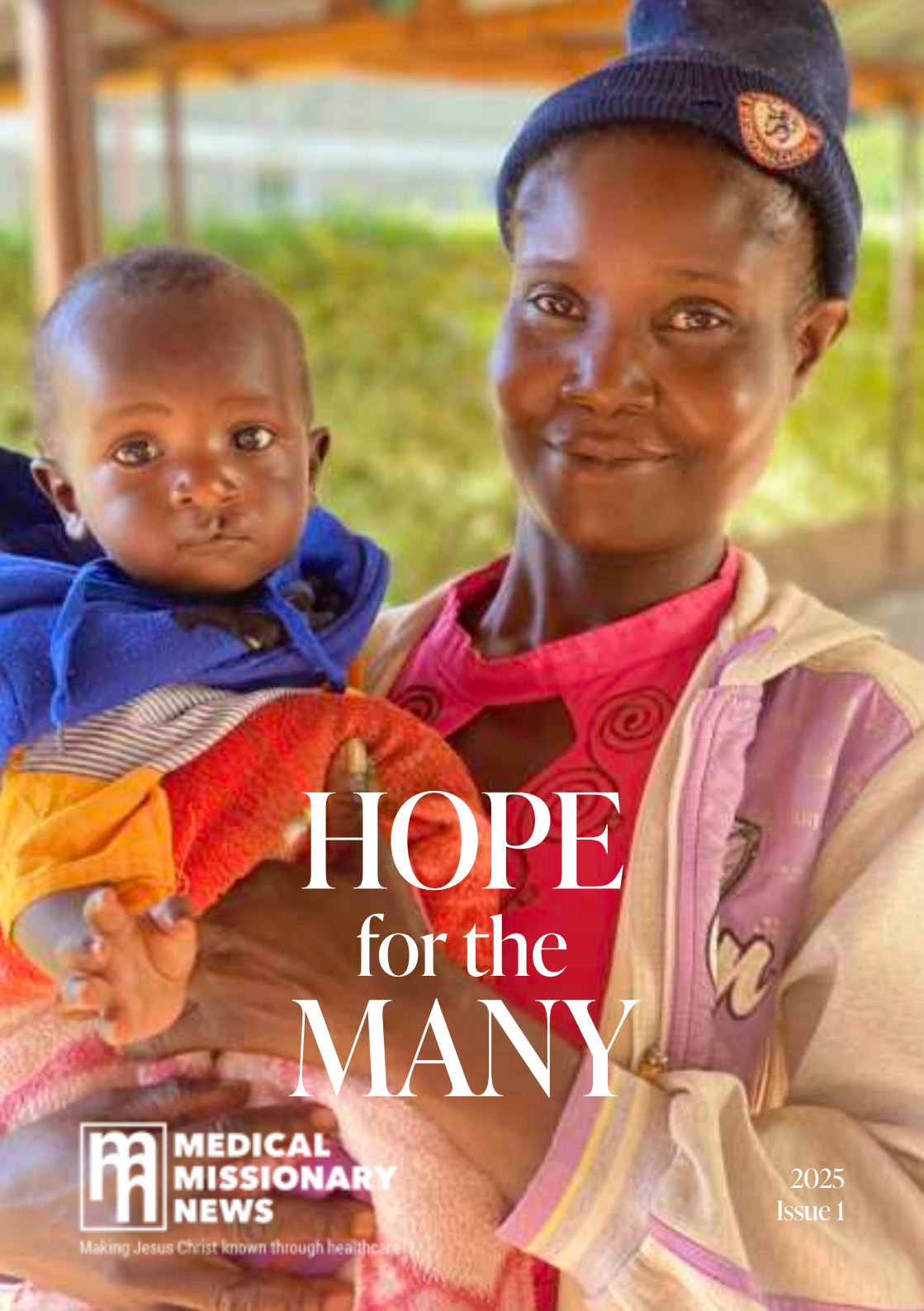




HOPE for the MANY



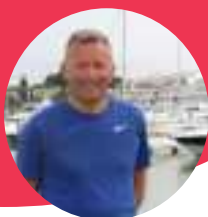
**MEDICAL
MISSIONARY
NEWS**

Making Jesus Christ known through healthcare

2025
Issue 1

The perfect illustration

*Contributed by Ian Proud
MMN Trustee*



A belated Happy New Year to you all! In this issue of our MMN magazine the focus is on hospital work and in particular how a mission hospital functions.

The purpose of MMN is "To provide support to those in need in a practical way and to share the Good News of God's saving grace." Therefore, a Mission Hospital is an ideal setting for MMN to provide support and follows the Scriptural example of our Lord Jesus Christ; Luke 9:10-11 '...And He took them and withdrew apart to a town called Bethsaida. When the crowds learned it, they followed Him, and He welcomed them and spoke to them of the kingdom of God and cured those who had need of healing.'

I have enjoyed looking at the histories of the various mission hospitals that MMN help to support and have been moved by the Lord's goodness upon them, and how He has blessed them in a super abundant way. This ought not to be a shock to us as we read in Ephesians 3:20: 'Now to Him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us.'

When we look at the histories of various Mission Hospitals it is evident that God does do '...far more abundantly than all we ask for or think...' and that He is faithful to His promises.

A good example to illustrate this point is Chitokoloki Mission Hospital in Zambia. This work began as a result of a group of intrepid missionaries journeying up the Zambezi River in 1914 to set up what initially was a base for a Teacher Training School. Over the course of time this work developed and changed. Today it is home to a 180-bed hospital along with 110 dwellings for TB and leprosy patients. The work within the hospital is highly skilled and varied, having three Operating Rooms, X-ray and ultra-sound departments, Sterilising and Instrument rooms, Eye and Dental clinic, Pharmacy, Emergency room, 6-bed ICU ward,

Maternity department, Kitchen, Laundry and Reception area. Never having worked in a hospital environment, I can only begin to imagine the complexity of bringing all these highly skilled physicians, nurses and other staff together to ensure the wellbeing of the individual patients. Allied to that, Chitokoloki, like every Mission Hospital, seek to minister to the souls of the patients who are in their care. They do this in a variety of ways, such as the holding of various meetings almost every day of the week, a variety of clubs, classes and also a PA system which relays messages from the Scriptures to every ward.

Eternity will reveal how many people have come to faith in the Lord Jesus Christ within these types of settings and although impossible to put a precise figure, we can be sure that it is in the thousands. This indeed is wonderful and something for which we must give the Lord

thanks, that not only are these Mission Hospitals being used for the physical wellbeing of the people, but also that many are coming to faith in Him.

While this is wonderful to consider, it also presents us with a great challenge! Why is it that the Lord chooses to bless Mission Hospitals in the saving of souls in what is essentially a work environment and does not do so (certainly in not such great numbers) in the UK?

We know from Scripture that God

God does do
‘...far more abundantly
than all we ask for
or think...’



Chitokoloki, like every Mission Hospital, seek to minister to the souls of the patients who are in their care.



Christian music and recorded audio messages are played throughout the wards at Chitokoloki

is Lord over the whole earth and He is not limited to working in one geographic location; Psalm 24:1 'The earth is the Lord's and all its fullness, the world and those who dwell therein.'

That it is in the will of the Lord that we find ourselves living in the time and location that we are; Acts 17:26: 'And He has made from one blood every nation of men to dwell on all the face of the earth, and has determined their pre-appointed times and the boundaries of their dwellings.'

Perhaps one of the reasons is that there is a great emphasis upon prayer in these settings, plus an intentionality among the staff to share their faith in the Lord to those who are in their care. Could it be that we share something in common with the children of Israel who '...limited the God of Israel. They did not remember His power, the day when He redeemed them from the enemy...' Psalm 78:41-42. We have no real expectancy of the Lord saving our work colleagues, friends, neighbours etc, therefore we fail to pray and witness.

May we take to heart what the Lord is doing currently in Mission Hospitals and apply this in our own lives to the glory of His name.

Expanding the work

*Contributed by Ruth Lancaster,
Dreamland Mission*



Kimilili, western Kenya

Dreamland Mission Hospital (DMH) is serving communities around Kimilili, a remote, rural town in western Kenya. Over the years, what began as a tiny clinic seeing a few patients has developed into a modern facility with around 100 beds, a special baby unit, a full outpatient service, and providing on average a thousand free or subsidised surgeries a year. All staffed by a wholly Kenyan, fully-trained team.

At DMH we treat many needy patients who either cannot afford to pay for their treatment or who are unable to register for Kenyan health insurance. The surgical operations we provide are unique in our area and life-changing for the children and patients involved. Due to the growing number of general surgical patients and the special theatre projects (club foot, cataracts, fistula and cleft lip) there has been a huge demand for our one main operating theatre. This has sometimes meant that we have not been able to give priority to emergency cases.

Now, after a long journey of fundraising (£197,000 raised), the hospital has just completed

the majority of Phase 1 of a new operating theatre. It has been incredibly exciting to see the walls going up, the interiors finished and the new equipment (shipped from the UK by MedAid) being installed and staff trained both on the equipment and in biomedical engineering by MedAid. Thanks to the generous support of MMN and the amazing fundraising efforts of donors across the globe, the theatre now has a special operating table that has multiple attachments allowing for orthopaedics surgery, women's health surgery, life-saving abdominal surgery and more. There

is a new anaesthetic machine, theatre lights, suction, diathermy machine and two fully-equipped recovery areas. On top of this, there are ten new sets of surgical equipment, and all the sterilisation equipment required to run an excellent service. We anticipate over a thousand surgeries being carried out this year with numbers set to grow in future years. The first surgery is scheduled for early in the year, after all the equipment has been fully safety checked, and all staff trained. This, and all the surgeries that follow, will truly embody the answer to many faithful prayers.



New theatre

Having the additional theatre means that we will not have to turn away emergency situations. Previously, if a pregnant woman arrived needing an emergency C-section, but the existing theatre was already busy, the woman would have to make an unsafe journey to another hospital, perhaps an hour away on rough roads, or have the C-section in an unsuitable room. In fact, this very scenario occurred while the equipment was still being installed in the new theatre. A child having limb-saving surgery was in the existing theatre when a mother arrived bleeding and needing urgent surgery. We simply did not have the space for both surgeries to be done at the same time. We

Our purpose is to
provide high-quality
medical services to
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community...

are thankful to God that this new facility will give us much more flexibility.

Our purpose is to provide high-quality medical services to this poor community, while also providing a Christian, supportive and prayerful environment. Most of our patients are subsistence farmers living below the poverty line, struggling to feed their families and pay for school fees. Many of these surgeries are transformational in the lives of our patients, giving people back their ability, dignity and independence.

DMH is a Christian mission hospital and our vision is not only to heal people physically through surgery and medicine, but to care for their spiritual needs too. So, in addition to the medical services the hospital provides, two full-time chaplains offer spiritual and emotional



support through daily devotions and Bible studies, as well as individual counselling sessions. "Our main objective is to share Christ through the medical services offered by the hospital, and to see spiritual transformation as a way of hope and encouragement to our clients,

...while also providing a
Christian, supportive and
prayerful environment.



Chaplain teaching patients

Part of the chaplains' work is to demystify the surgical process and allay fear. Please pray for them as they minister on the wards, in the waiting rooms and in the community.

which in turn affects community transformation as a whole", says Chaplain Dickson. Disability and disease are frequently viewed, in the African culture, as a curse and visits to the witch doctor are common, with all the associated risks of this sort of physical, emotional and spiritual abuse. Part of the chaplains' work is to demystify the surgical process and allay fear. Please pray for them as they minister on the wards, in the waiting rooms and in the community.

change in recent weeks, and this has posed some challenges in raising awareness of the change in our community and receiving payments from the scheme. Please pray for a swift resolution to the backlog.

Phase 2 of the building project will see the remaining space in the theatre block finished and equipped as another working theatre. We

The Kenyan health insurance system has been undergoing a

are seeking to raise approximately £50,000 to get this fully complete, with a promise from another donor to then install a children's theatre. The construction of an A&E unit is progressing well and we hope it will be open by the summer.

Our community outreach teams will continue to reach the most needy, and with that comes more surgeries. These are not always

funded by the Kenyan government so we are looking to build a pot of money to fund urgent surgical cases, such as serious broken limbs and abdominal surgery (£500 - £1,000 a surgery) and that can also fund a night in our baby unit (£30 a night). We appreciate your prayers for us in all of these endeavours.



Hospital staff in the new theatre

Humble Beginnings

*Contributed by M Philip,
Chief Executive Officer
Bethany Health Care
Centre*



Bethany Health Care Centre, established in 1985 by Dr Colleen Redit, stands as a shining testament to the power of faith and compassion.

Situated in Chennai, Tamil Nadu, India, it began as a humble clinic in the slums, offering free treatment and medicines to the underserved. Today, it has grown into a 24/7 healthcare facility, providing hope and healing to thousands.

Our Mission and Vision

The mission of Bethany Health Care Centre is to deliver holistic, quality health services that address the physical, emotional, and spiritual needs of patients. Inspired

by the vision of the Christian Missions Charitable Trust (CMCT): *'Transformed lives in India through the love of Christ'*, Bethany reflects the compassion and love of Jesus Christ. Every patient is treated with dignity and respect, regardless of their background or faith, as we seek to extend God's healing touch and restore body, mind, and spirit.

Journey of Restoration

Every patient's story at Bethany is a testament to God's grace and healing. One such story is that of E. Pavithra, a 25-year-old IT professional. In late 2023, Pavithra's life took a difficult turn due to

spinal tuberculosis, which left her with severe back pain, fever, and paralysis from the hips downward. Her recovery seemed improbable until she arrived at Bethany Health Care Centre.

After 19 days of treatment and physiotherapy, Pavithra experienced remarkable progress. She shared: "Now, I can sit and move my limbs. Listening to God's Word here has brought changes in my life." Her journey is a powerful reminder of the transformative care and spiritual encouragement Bethany provides.



Highlights and Achievements

In 2024, Bethany served nearly 16,500 patients, offering services that included:

Operating weekdays from 8am to 8pm, with emergency services on Sundays, the Centre ensures accessible, comprehensive care.

Facilities include a laboratory, radiology unit, pharmacy, physiotherapy services, and an Intensive Care Unit. The Centre also organises weekly medical camps in rural areas and hosts annual health programmes such as: Comprehensive Women's Health Care Camps on World Women's Day, World Health Day Awareness Programmes with screenings for diabetes and hypertension, Diabetic Screening Camps in November, Eye and Dental screening camps in schools and underserved communities.

199 major surgeries

143 eye surgeries

56 minor procedures

Milestones

Bethany has consistently upgraded its services to meet patient needs:

2014: Acquired a Phaco machine for advanced cataract treatments.

2016: Upgraded to an ultrasonogram machine with Echo attachments.

2017: Began master health check-ups for pastors and missionaries with the Missionary Upholding Trust (MUT).

2018: Built an ICU for critical care.

2022: Renovated the dental department, serving 7,000 patients annually.

2024: Initiated accreditation with the National Accreditation Board for Hospitals and Healthcare (NABH) to ensure standardised patient safety protocols.

Community Impact

Bethany's mission extends beyond physical healing. Whether at the Centre or in medical camps, we educate patients on health, self-care and family support. We counsel those in distress, share prayers and Scripture with permission, and refer complex cases to tertiary centres. Through partnerships with other CMCT ministries, we also assist with education, employment, and elderly care.

Future Plans

Guided by faith, Bethany Health Care Centre is committed to developing a state-of-the-art health facility offering affordable services; to establish nursing and paramedical training programmes; and, to launch Bethany Home Care Services to extend care into patients' homes.

We are deeply grateful to MMN for their generosity and support over the years and for this opportunity to share our work with the readers of this magazine. We invite you to join us in prayer or through contributions to bring glory to God by serving those in need and spreading His love and light to the communities we touch. "Together, we can bring hope and healing to all in His Name."





Look to the LORD
and His strength;
seek His face always.

1 Chron 16:11

Pause *to pray*

It is such a joy and privilege to hear of how God is working through healthcare to bring people back to Him. Mission Hospitals are an excellent base for this, as not only do thousands of patients come through their doors each year, but many patients stay at the hospital for a period of time and hear the gospel preached daily.

As we discover in these hospitals, trying to keep such a vast array of services going, and maintaining them at a high-quality standard is extremely costly. Every mission hospital wants to offer its services at a fraction of the cost, or even free of charge, so that healthcare can be accessible to everyone and is not dependent on their circumstances. These hospitals greatly need our prayers as they serve their local communities, and strive every day to reach people with the saving message that God loves them and wants them in His family.

Lord, when we hear of the work you are doing across the world through your people, it is overwhelming. We know the harvest is plentiful and we thank you for placing these mission hospitals in areas where they are so desperately needed. We pray for all of the staff and volunteers who keep these hospitals going, and who have such a heart to tell people about You. We pray for provision, for perseverance in challenging times and that You will continue to work through these mission hospitals.

Holistic Care

*Contributed by Esther Waweru,
Kijabe Hospital*



Since the founding of AIC (Agency for Integrated Care) Kijabe Hospital in central Kenya in 1915 by missionaries under the African Inland Mission, the shape of missions has changed dramatically. In those early days, the 42 Kenyan tribes were largely unreached with the gospel. Now Kenya is predominantly Christian, save for Muslim communities along border areas, the coast, and in Nairobi. Kenyan missionaries are sent to North Africa, Europe, America, and worldwide!

Medical work and practice have changed in Kijabe as well. Starting in the 1980s with the first class of

nurses to receive accredited training, Kijabe has grown to 400+ nursing and clinical officer students and 50 post-graduate doctors. International missionaries still play significant roles in education and leadership, but the shift is from doing to empowering.

Despite change, Christ remains the same

Despite the many changes that have taken place at AIC Kijabe Hospital and in the broader context of Kenyan missions, one truth remains constant: Christ is the same yesterday, today, and

forever. The hospital's mission continues to be rooted in the teachings of Jesus, providing holistic care that addresses both physical and spiritual needs. As Kijabe Hospital moves forward, it stands as a testament to the power of faith, the importance of education, and the enduring impact of a mission that seeks to empower individuals and communities in their journey of faith and health.

Culture is caught, not taught

As AIC Kijabe Hospital continues to evolve, it recognises that culture is caught, not taught. This principle is vital in the context of discipleship and evangelism, where lived experiences and practices of individuals play a crucial role in shaping their faith. The hospital has integrated several key discipleship programmes, including Kairos (a foundational course on world Christian mission), the Saline Process (designed to help Christian health professionals engage in holistic care), and Gospel-Centered Life courses, all of which foster a culture of relational evangelism and community engagement. These programmes encourage individuals to live out the teachings of Christ in their everyday lives, creating a vibrant community of believers who actively share their faith.

The integration of these discipleship programmes into the hospital's mission reflects a broader understanding of how faith and culture intersect. By focusing on the relational aspects of evangelism, Kijabe Hospital empowers healthcare professionals to become agents of change within their communities, promoting a culture of hope and healing that extends beyond the walls of the hospital.

Research and training

In terms of training and research, AIC Kijabe Hospital is dedicated to cultivating the next generation of healthcare professionals. The hospital offers a range of training programmes; from nursing to family medicine, to neurosurgery, that equip clinicians from across Africa with the skills necessary to provide high-quality care in their communities. By collaborating with international educational institutions and professional organisations, Kijabe Hospital enhances its training capabilities, ensuring that healthcare workers are well prepared to meet the challenges of a dynamic healthcare environment. Furthermore, the hospital actively engages in research initiatives aimed at addressing local health issues; contributing valuable insights that can inform policy and practice within the broader African healthcare landscape.



Resource disparities and strategic partnerships

The AIC Kijabe Hospital Strategic Plan for 2024-2029 identifies “Strategically Aligned Partnerships” as a key goal. Despite the significant progress made in medical training and healthcare delivery, resource disparities remain a major challenge in the Kenyan healthcare system. While AIC Kijabe Hospital stands as a beacon of hope, it continues to face ongoing struggles with limited financial and physical resources, which can hinder its ability to provide comprehensive care to all patients and effective training to healthcare professionals. These disparities are often exacerbated by socioeconomic factors, geographic barriers, and varying levels of access to healthcare and training across different regions of Kenya.

To address these challenges, Kijabe Hospital is committed to advocating for equitable access to healthcare and training, working diligently to bridge gaps in resource allocation. Through strategic partnerships with a wide range of local and international organisations, the hospital seeks to enhance its capacity to serve underserved populations, ensuring that quality healthcare and training are not privileges but rights for all. Kijabe Hospital deeply values its

Impact on the local community

The impact of AIC Kijabe Hospital on the local community is profound. By providing essential healthcare services, the hospital not only addresses immediate medical needs but also fosters a healthier community overall. The hospital's outreach programmes such as the Maternal Newborn Community Health (MNCH) and Chronic Care Clinic: looking after patients with HIV, diabetes and other chronic diseases, aim to educate the community on preventive healthcare practices, reducing the incidence of diseases and promoting wellness. Additionally, by serving as a referral centre for surrounding regions, Kijabe Hospital plays a pivotal role in improving health outcomes for underserved populations.

collaborations with key partners, including African Mission Healthcare (AMH), Pan-African Academy of Christian Surgeons (PAACS), Friends of Kijabe, and Medical Missionary News, among many others. Their collective support plays a crucial role in advancing the hospital's mission.

As AIC Kijabe Hospital continues to navigate the complexities of modern missions and healthcare training, it remains steadfast in its mission to empower individuals and communities. The enduring desire is to imitate the healing ministry of Christ, inspiring hope, and

bringing transformation in the lives of many. Through a focus on culture, discipleship, and addressing resource disparities, Kijabe Hospital stands as a testament to the power of faith in action, committed to making a lasting impact in the lives of those it serves.

The enduring
desire is to
imitate the healing
ministry of Christ...



A photograph showing a healthcare worker, likely a nurse or doctor, wearing a white face mask and white gloves. She is using a stethoscope to examine a young child who is wearing a red shirt. The child is seen from the back, looking towards the healthcare worker. The background is slightly blurred, showing what appears to be a clinical or hospital setting with blue metal frames.

Electives at Kijabe

*Julie-Ann Amartei shares
her elective experience at
Kijabe Hospital*

I am in awe of the Lord's kindness and goodness that He showed me in the wonderful six weeks I got to spend serving in AIC Kijabe Mission Hospital. I was apprehensive at first due to coming on my own and not really knowing what to expect while on my medical elective, but I had full trust that the Lord would go above and beyond my imagination and He did not disappoint.

I chose to do my hospital placement in the Internal Medicine wards which consisted of a men's ward, a women's ward, two high-dependency units and an intensive care unit. This is because I wanted to be able to help treat and manage a

wide range of acute and long-term medical conditions that can be presented in the rural hospital. The days on the wards were long and tiring due to arriving in the country when there was a doctor's strike happening. This meant that people were not going to public hospitals but rather coming to mission or private hospitals instead. This meant the wards were constantly full and struggling to have enough beds to meet the demand. I truly found strength in the Lord as working six days a week and, for some days, for 11 hours was not easy but I felt privileged to be working alongside some amazing people and know that our work was not in vain.

During my time in ICU, I was given one patient to care for. With lots of the patients there being critically ill, I learnt about how to treat and care for them. It consisted of lots of talks with the family to update them and answer questions they had about their loved ones. I learnt that honest and open communication while considering the family's needs and wants were essential in maintaining a good relationship with the family. While there were many deaths during my time there, I could feel the peace of God sustain the team and saw how His wisdom guided us to make decisions that allowed the patients to die with dignity. The chaplaincy team were also brilliant at being available during difficult discussions and provide excellent spiritual support for the families.

I also spent time in the accident and emergency department. The ward would usually start off quiet with few patients in the morning then suddenly be full by lunch-time: normally all coming at the same time! I learnt how to not become overwhelmed but rather ask the Holy Spirit for help on who to prioritise and who to call for more senior help. The A&E team worked well together to treat the patients who came in acutely unwell.

Every Wednesday morning, the hospital gathered at the chapel for a morning service, and this was so encouraging to begin the day surrounded by hundreds of other hospital staff praising God and hearing from His Word. Each department I worked in also had team devotionals and I was honoured to be able lead one on my last day in Kijabe. These devotions help us keep our eyes fixed on Jesus who is the Healer and helped see the patients through His eyes as people loved dearly by Him.

One day I will never forget was being able to participate in an outreach day in Kibagare: a large slum in Kangemi, Nairobi. We had



the privilege to touch over 500 lives through free medical outreach that included general consultations, dental, nutrition, cancer, psychology and screening services among others. I enjoyed being able to care for the various adults and children by doing general consultations. It was honouring to see people come in distressed, yet received medical care and spiritual care from us then left feeling hopeful.

All in all, the first five adjectives that come to mind when thinking about my time in Kijabe are satisfying, enjoyable, stretching, smooth and memorable. My experience in Kijabe helped me grow in my faith as well as in areas of resilience, generosity and boldness. Having

this experience has strengthened my desire to do long-term medical mission in the future and has shown me that the Lord will always make things work out for His good, so I need not be afraid but to trust in His ways. I plan to tell my friends and church family how God can use the skills you have (what He has given you) to work in any context you allow Him to put you in, if you take the step of faith to follow His calling.

Until I move overseas, I will use what I have learnt here to be a better witness to Christ and deliver compassionate healthcare for God's glory. I am confident that the best is yet to come.

Having this experience has strengthened my desire to do long-term medical mission in the future and has shown me that the Lord will always make things work out for His good, so I need not be afraid but to trust in His ways.



In December 2023, we shared our vision for the expansion of the Good News Hospital's maternity unit, a project dedicated to saving lives and bringing hope to families in Northern Madagascar. Today, we are overjoyed to share that the vision has become reality; the new unit is now up and running, welcoming its first patients and making an immediate impact.

The First Born in our New Mother and Baby Unit

On a Wednesday morning in early January, in a small village in Andratamarina, an 18-year-old young woman began labour with her first child. As her contractions started, so did a long day of waiting and expectation. Meanwhile, 70km away at Hopitaly Vaovao Mahafaly, final preparations for the opening of the new maternity unit were in full swing. Floors were being swept, curtains hung, and worktops meticulously cleaned in order to prepare the unit to welcome patients for the first time.

With the finishing touches complete, the team at the hospital went to bed with a sense of anticipation, excited for the next day's opening. Back in her village, the young woman laboured on through



New Beginnings

*Contributed by Ted Watts,
Missionary Team Lead of Good
News Hospital, Madagascar*



...the hospital team were gathering for a short meeting of prayer and praise, dedicating the new maternity unit to God.



the night, wondering when the baby would come.

By 7am the next morning, her mother decided it was time to act. Concerned that the labour had not progressed, she arranged for her daughter to make the journey to Hopitaly Vaovao Mahafaly. Their only option was a taximoto: a motorbike taxi that often carries multiple passengers on difficult, uneven roads. With three people squeezed onto a single motorbike, the young woman in active

labour, her mother, and the driver began the two-hour journey to the hospital.

The ride was gruelling. The narrow roads were dusty and full of pot-holes, and the rough terrain made every bump a painful challenge for the young woman. She later described how on the journey she felt like she could not breathe, though she never gave up hope of reaching the hospital.

As she was making her way across the district, the hospital team were gathering for a short meeting of prayer and praise, dedicating the new maternity unit to God. We prayed for the mothers and babies who would come through its doors and for the opportunity to share the love of Christ with them.

Soon after the meeting ended, the young woman and her family arrived at just the right time! Some hours later, after a carefully monitored labour, the young woman delivered a healthy baby boy. It was a privilege to see her joy at holding her baby boy in her arms. Both

mother and baby are doing well.

The family of the first baby told us they came to Hopitaly Vaovao Mahafaly because they knew they would receive excellent care. We are deeply thankful for this new maternity unit, which will allow us to provide safe deliveries and specialised care to families like theirs. We thank you all for your part in this: for your prayers, for your generosity, for your words of support and encouragement. We give thanks to God for His amazing provision and look forward to many more stories of life and hope within these walls.



It was a privilege to see her joy at holding her baby boy in her arms.

The Mother and Baby Unit includes:

- Larger Delivery Suite

Equipped with four beds, each designed to ensure safe and comfortable deliveries.

- Mother and Baby Intensive Care Unit

A dedicated unit with four bays for critically ill mothers and premature or unwell newborns, allowing them to remain together during care.

- Kangaroo care area

Kangaroo, or “skin-to-skin”, care has been shown to enhance bonding and improve outcomes for premature babies.

- Expanded Inpatient Beds

Increased capacity from 14 to 25 beds, including two private rooms and a seven-bed patient bay for greater comfort and privacy.

- Enhanced Antenatal Services

Two new antenatal consultation rooms for the early detection of complications, and planning of safer deliveries

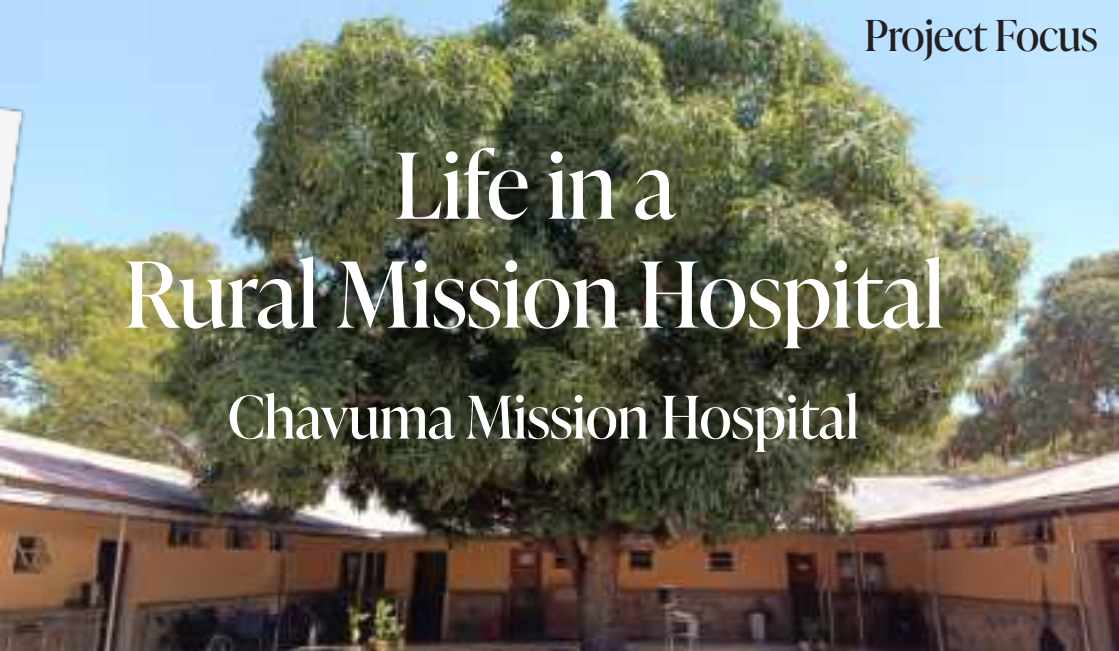
- Maternity garden

The new maternity garden provides a place of shade and peacefulness in which expectant or new mothers can walk, sit, eat, or relax.



We give thanks to God for His amazing provision and look forward to many more stories of life and hope within these walls.





Life in a Rural Mission Hospital

Chavuma Mission Hospital

Purpose

We exist to support patients physically and spiritually; from minor injuries to babies born prematurely, Chavuma aims to be a place of healthcare people can rely on and have access to within close proximity. The hospital acts as a base to teach medical staff in training, such as nurses from the government nursing college, and to offer hands-on experience with medical procedures. It is an excellent place for medics in training to get healthcare experience in a rural context. The hospital also provides healthcare to those needing support in Angola as it lies so close to the border.

Part of the outreach of the hospital is to offer every patient insight into God's Word...

Strategy

Each day in the hospital involves visiting patients in the wards and assessing their medical needs; the hospital also offers provision of food, clothing, hygiene items and baby layettes. Part of the outreach of the hospital is to offer every patient insight into God's Word through the provision of a Gospel of John booklet, calendars with Bible verses and evangelistic tracts. The senior team work to support the hospital staff in their daily activities, and ensure the medical supplies are purchased and kept up to date as necessary. The hospital also run a mobile clinic in Angola to offer healthcare services to those living in poorer communities.

Impact

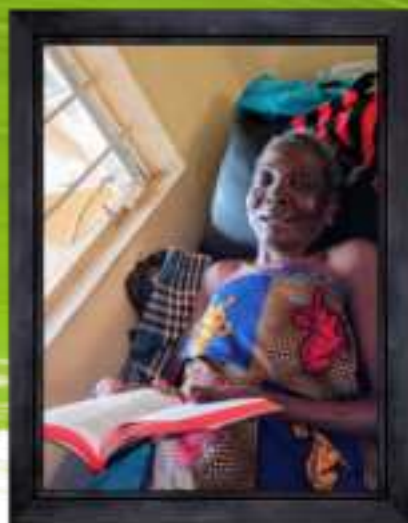
The overall impact is that communities living in much more rural locations, who would otherwise need to travel a great distance to larger hospitals, have access to affordable healthcare. The staff ensure that each patient receives the support they need for making as quick a recovery as possible, or provide them with support to travel to another hospital if more intense treatment is required that cannot be offered at Chavuma. However, the main reason that the hospital exists is to ensure every patient that walks through the doors experiences Jesus. The staff at the hospital take time to encourage and pray with each patient, opening the Bible with them and sharing verses that will bring them hope. The hospital also offers Christian counselling for those facing more challenging circumstances. It is a beacon of light to so many in the local community, who may otherwise never hear the saving truth of the gospel.



Challenges

Being in such a rural location, the hospital faces a number of practical challenges. We often experience power cuts at the hospital; while we now are able to use power from solar panels that have been installed, the length of time for energy from these is limited. Staffing at the hospital is a constant issue, as there are no experienced medical officers living on-site, so complicated cases often have to be referred to larger hospitals. Either due to funding or availability of workmen, renovation and repairs on the hospital get delayed which adds challenges to the working of the hospital. There is immense pressure on the staff with the number of patients they have to support with a small team, so they often have to miss attending church meetings or struggle to take time off as there is such great need.





Prayer

Life at the hospital is extremely busy and stretched, so please be praying for the staff team - that they would have strength and perseverance to keep going to be able to support those in need.

Chavuma is in need of a new accountant for handling the finances of the hospital, as well as need of a mechanic to handle the maintenance side of the building.

Please be praying for a medical officer to stay at the mission base, so that the team need to refer less cases to larger hospitals. There is also a need for reliable local medical staff to take responsibility for some of the running of the hospital, so that less strain is put on the existing team.

In recent times the hospital has faced a number of issues regarding thieves and vandalism; please be praying for God's protection over the mission base so that the work can continue smoothly.



Reflections on 2024

Thank you very much for your interest and support during another year. We could not do what God has called us to do without it, so we are very grateful and can reflect on what He has enabled us to do.

Prayed for over 60
partners in
27 countries



Gave grants or gifts
of over £300,000
to our partners



Supported 16
medical students
with bursaries



Shipped
3 containers



We have been saddened as we hear of much need; but, at the same time, we are excited to hear how God is using His people to meet the needs of those in their local communities and share the hope of the gospel with them.

The total raised for the Home Care Project run by Emanuel Clinic in Moldova came to £22,000, which is fantastic and a real encouragement to them. I am hoping to see this project at the end of March when I visit Moldova with Breadline.

We shipped two containers to Zambia and one to Angola, plus a number of pallets to Moldova in 2024. This is the lowest number we have shipped in a long time, so please pray for wisdom as we consider the future and how best to support our partners in these countries.

Thank you for your prayers and your generous gifts. We would love to come and share personally with you, so please get in touch to arrange for one of us to visit.

Grev Parmenter, Director



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