



## 40 DAYS OF PRAYER FOR HANDS AT WORK IN AFRICA 2025

# NIGERIA | WEEK ONE



**Wednesday, March 5th**

<https://www.handsatwork.org/nigeria-links>

### Day 1 - WELCOME TO NIGERIA

Nigeria is one of eight countries that Hands at Work is serving in across Africa. Nigeria has a population of 225,731,260 people, with 31% of the population living in extreme poverty. Ranking 161 out of 187 on the Human Development Index, 160,000 children are living with HIV/AIDS and 1,200,000 children have been orphaned because of this life-threatening illness. – Sources: UNAID, UNDP, World Poverty Clock

**As we start 40 Days of Prayer, we invite you to join us in praying for the country of Nigeria:**

- “Please pray that the Lord will touch the hearts of our leaders and that of every Nigerian to have a heart of compassion and generosity to each other. Please pray against every kind of greed.
- Please pray that the Lord will restore Nigeria in every good area. That our economy will be restored.
- Please pray for love and unity among all the ethnic groups in Nigeria.
- Please pray against sicknesses, kidnapping, drug abuse, ritual killings, child abuse and all forms of evil in Nigeria.” – Vivian, Service Centre\* Coordinator (Nigeria)

**Thursday, March 6th**

### Day 2 - PRAY FOR THE CHURCH IN NIGERIA AND OUR PARTNERS

Hands at Work envisions the local church in Africa effectively caring for the orphaned, the widowed and the dying in partnership with the International Church. **Today we invite you to join us in praying for the local church in Nigeria:**

- “Pray for unity and peace among the leaders and pastor of the church. So, they can come together as one body in Christ, rather than them fighting for members to fill up the church. Pray for genuine love to circulate among the churches and the members of the church, so they show love and care to one another despite that they are from different denominations. And also they won’t spread jealousy or hatred to one another.
- Pray that the church will be a blessing to the community and people in their environment, so they will not preach to receive from people, but rather preach salvation and repentance for people.
- Pray that God will touch the heart of false pastors, bad elders in the churches that has turned God’s words upside-down to their own selfish benefit and misleading many souls. Pray that the Holy Spirit arrest their heart to speak the truth and for the church of God will be a safe place to know the truth, getting healing and to brings people out of darkness to the kingdom light.” – Matthew, Service Centre\* Member (Nigeria)

Across the world, Hands at Work has dedicated partners from the International Church, who are committed to seeing the mission and vision of Hands at Work grow and flourish. **Today we invite you to join us in praying for the partners who support the most vulnerable communities within Nigeria:**

- “We praise you Almighty God for each of our faithful partners across the world, who are steadfastly committed to care for the most vulnerable children in communities across Nigeria. We lift them up to you as they advocate and are a voice for these children who have no voice and we ask for your continued provision. As our partners join Hands at Work to arise and build the wall so that the children will no longer be vulnerable, may you strengthen their hands for this good work as you did in Nehemiah 2:18. We pray for your blessing to be upon them as they serve you in their own communities and may they also care for the most vulnerable around them.” – Rachel McLaughlin, International Office Volunteer (Australia)

- Pray that international team members and visitors encounter God's heart among the vulnerable, encourage the work of the local teams on the ground, and further the goals of the partnership between the local and international Church and stir up momentum to further the partnership." – Suzette Tay Lee, International Office Volunteer (US)

## Friday, March 7th

### Day 3 - PRAY FOR OUR COMMUNITIES IN NIGERIA

Within Nigeria, there are six communities who are being supported and cared for. To read more about our involvement in each community, please click this link or the QR code at the heading for week one. (<https://www.handsatwork.org/nigeria-links>)

- Alugbo, Oloba and Onilemo (supported by the Ibadan Service Centre)
- Amokoko, Eagles Wings and Temitope (supported by the Lagos Service Centre)

#### Today we invite you to pray for the challenges that exist in these communities:

- "Within Alugbo, Oloba and Onilemo, there are many potential dangers to our children as people seek to do harm. We need to pray into that, as our children walk through thick bushes every day to school and their farms." – Taiwo, Service Centre\* Member (Nigeria)
- "In Eagles Wings, please pray for the families of our children and teachers that there will be peace, joy and love. In Temitope, please pray against sicknesses, diseases and infirmities in the health of our children and people in the community. In Amokoko, please pray for our youth that they will experience God more, that the heart of Christ will be in them and that they will be taught of the Lord." – Vivian

## Saturday, March 8th

### Day 4 - PRAY FOR OUR CARE WORKERS, PRIMARY CAREGIVERS AND CHILDREN IN NIGERIA

In Nigeria, there are 59 Care Workers who have committed to caring for the most vulnerable children. In many communities in Nigeria and across Africa, the Care Workers are also the Primary Caregivers of the children they serve. A Primary Caregiver is the mother, father, grandparents, aunts, uncles, older siblings or other relatives who live with the children coming to the Care Point. **The Lagos and Ibadan Service Centres\***

#### invite you to pray for the Care Workers and Primary Caregivers in their region:

- "Most of the land and sand that they use for farming, has been taken by people building houses. This has affected our Primary Caregivers and Care Workers because they are unable to plant and harvest the palm seeds that they need to produce palm oil. Pray that God will make a way and give a place where they can do farming and earn an income.
- Many Primary Caregivers and Care Workers are widows and because of this, they have been deprived of their rights to have land. This has caused frustration and many have lost hope as it is difficult to make ends meet. Pray that God will help them and give them a place to plant.
- Within the Ibadan communities, there is a stronghold of witchcraft and our Primary Caregivers and Care Workers have been impacted physically, emotionally and spiritually. Pray that they will believe in Jesus, that in Him all things are possible. Pray that they believe that Jesus has power in the darkness and pray that the light of God will shine in the communities." – Toyin, Service Centre\* Coordinator (Nigeria) sharing on behalf of the Ibadan Service Centre\* team
- "Please pray that the Lord will encourage our Care Workers and give them a heart to serve the children with joy. Please pray that the Lord will give our Care Workers and Primary Caregivers a spirit of unity among themselves at the Care Point and in the community.
- Please pray for the restoration of perfect health as many are sick, family relationships are severed, a heart of love for fathers and mothers experiencing disagreement and have even gone their own ways. Please pray for Love to be restored." – Vivian sharing on behalf of the Lagos Service Centre\* team

#### Within Nigeria, there are 555 children being loved and cared for. The Lagos and Ibadan Service Centres\* invite you to pray for the children in their region:

- "Please pray for God to give our children the spirit of obedience. Obedience to their parents and to elders. Please pray for the spirit of excellence to rest upon our children. Please pray for good health and long life for our children." – Esther, Service Centre\* Member (Nigeria) sharing on behalf of the Lagos Service Centre\* team.
- "Pray for our youth in Oloba, that God should touch their hearts because it is very tough for us to connect with them. Please let pray for the success of our children in Onilemo Care Point as they are preparing to do their common Entrance Examination." – Toyin sharing on behalf of the Ibadan Service Centre\* team.

## Sunday, March 9th

Alicia, Hands Leader, reflects on the role of the International Church and the Local Church working together to care for the most vulnerable:

"The call for us as the church is to care for 'widows and orphans in their distress.' Whether we were born in Canada or Nigeria, the mandate is the same. The beautiful thing about being a part of Hands at Work is we get to live out this calling hand-in-hand. Disciples of Jesus, both inside and outside Africa, get to witness God moving in our communities. We, His beloved church, get to partner together to bring the good news, to do miracles and be witness to the radical transformation of people's lives that only comes through being seen and loved by the Living God. And all we had to do was to say 'yes' to His call."



## Monday, March 10th

### Day 5 - WELCOME TO ZIMBABWE

Zimbabwe is one of eight countries that Hands at Work is serving in across Africa. Zimbabwe has a population of 18,830,740 people, with 40% of the population living in extreme poverty. Ranking 159 out of 187 on the Human Development Index, 70,000 children are living with HIV/AIDS and 480,000 children have been orphaned because of this life-threatening illness. – Sources: UNAID, UNDP, World Poverty Clock

As we start the week, please join us in praying for the country of Zimbabwe:

- “Pray for our economy in general as services are deteriorating.
- Pray for our children who are not going to school because of money. Most are staying at home and now wandering in streets, leading to early marriages and use of drugs.
- Pray for our churches and church leaders to be strong, and the Holy Spirit to lead as many people are now believing in witchcraft.”  
– Terry, Regional Support Team Leader (Zimbabwe)

## Tuesday, March 11th

### Day 6 - PRAY FOR THE CHURCH WITHIN ZIMBABWE

Hands at Work envisions the local church in Africa effectively caring for the orphaned, the widowed and the dying in partnership with the International Church. **Today we invite you to join us in praying for the local church in Zimbabwe:**

- “Please pray for the church in Zimbabwe that knows and understands the undiluted truth of the gospel to be bold and stand up and speak truth as there has been a lot of deception.
- In recent years there have been splits in some major churches in Zimbabwe due to disagreements around money and properties and corruption. Please pray that the love of money and corruption stops within the body of Christ as this has caused sheep to scatter.
- Zimbabwe has a big number of white robe cult churches that preach false doctrines especially in the vulnerable communities. Please pray for boldness in the body of Christ to share true doctrine to those that follow these churches, in the vulnerable communities. We find a lot of our Care Workers and Primary Caregivers follow these churches.” – Kupa, Regional Support Team Leader (Zimbabwe)

## Wednesday, March 12th

### Day 7 - PRAY FOR OUR PARTNERS IN ZIMBABWE

Across the world, Hands at Work has dedicated partners from the International Church, who are committed to seeing the mission and vision of Hands at Work grow and flourish. **Today, we invite you to pray for the partners who are supporting the work in Zimbabwe:**

- “We praise you Almighty God for each of our faithful partners across the world, who are steadfastly committed to care for the most vulnerable children in communities across Zimbabwe. We lift them up to you as they advocate and are a voice for these children who have no voice and we ask for your continued provision. As our partners join Hands at Work to arise and build the wall so that the children will no longer be vulnerable, may you strengthen their hands for this good work as you did in Nehemiah 2:18. We pray for your blessing to be upon them as they serve you in their own communities and may they also care for the most vulnerable around them.” – Rachel McLaughlin, International Office Volunteer (Australia)
- Pray that international team members and visitors encounter God’s heart among the vulnerable, encourage the work of the local teams on the ground, and further the goals of the partnership between the local and international Church and stir up momentum to further the partnership.” – Suzette Tay Lee, International Office Volunteer (US)

## Thursday, March 13th

### Day 8 - PRAY FOR OUR COMMUNITIES IN ZIMBABWE

Within Zimbabwe, there are five communities being supported and cared for:

- Chinyausunzi, Masasi A, Masasi B, Sakubva (supported by the Mutare Service Centre\*)
- Tsatse (supported by the Honde Valley Service Centre\*)

**Today we invite you to pray for the challenges that exist across all communities:**

- “Let’s pray for all our church leaders across Zimbabwean communities to involve themselves much at the Care Points. Most of them they were coming regularly in first days just after we had casted the vision to them. So, pray for them to be committed to God’s work since it is theirs.
- Pray for our communities, especially in regards to the health sectors. Our public hospitals have no medication which causes people to go for private ones which are very expensive for the ordinary families. This is tough to those people which do not have money, they are not able to access the health facilities.
- Pray for Zimbabwean communities as some of the organisations which were playing a vital role in the nation like USAID have been

immediately called to stop. This will bring a great trouble for our communities because poverty always result in property vandalism and theft.” – Jane, Service Centre\* Coordinator (Zimbabwe)

## Friday, March 14th

### Day 9 - PRAY FOR CARE WORKERS AND PRIMARY CAREGIVERS IN ZIMBABWE

In Zimbabwe, there are 55 Care Workers who have committed to caring for the most vulnerable children. In many communities in Zimbabwe and across Africa, the Care Workers are also the Primary Caregivers of the children they serve. A Primary Caregiver is the mother, father, grandparents, aunts, uncles, older siblings or other relatives who live with the children coming to the Care Point. **The Honde Valley and Mutare Service Centres\* invite you to pray for the Care Workers and Primary Caregivers in their region:**

- “Pray for all our Care Workers as most of them belong to the white robe church and believe in their prophets instead of Jesus. Pray for them to accept Jesus.
- Secondary school is not possible for most children many reasons in Zimbabwe. For some, this lack of alternatives together with other reasons can lead to risk-taking behaviour like drugs and also being taken advantage of for early marriage. Pray for the Care Workers and Primary Caregivers not to lose heart.” – Priscilla, Service Centre\* Member (Zimbabwe) sharing on behalf of the Mutare Service Centre\* team.
- “Sometimes the Care Workers hesitate to challenge the Primary Caregivers if something wrong happens to the children because they want to protect their relationship. The Primary Caregivers can struggle to open up to the Care Workers. Pray that our Care Workers and Primary Caregivers have a good relationship and build trust.” – Jane sharing on behalf of the Honde Valley Service Centre\* team.

## Saturday, March 15th

### Day 10 - PRAY FOR OUR CHILDREN IN ZIMBABWE

Within Zimbabwe, there are 370 children being loved and cared for. **The Honde Valley and Mutare Service Centres\* invite you to pray for the children in their region:**

- “Stand with us in prayer against early marriage especially in one of our communities, Tsatse. This community is dominated by white robe churches. Most of the time it’s difficult to get into their issues because the parents and their churches they support that practice.” – Jane sharing on behalf of the Honde Valley Service Centre\* team.
- “Pray for our kids to avoid drugs and that God would help them not to be initiated in witchcraft. Pray that our kids behave well at the Care Point and at home. Pray for our children to accept Jesus.” – John, Service Centre\* Member (Zimbabwe) sharing on behalf of the Honde Valley Service Centre\* team.

## Sunday, March 16th

Kupa, Regional Support Team Leader (Zimbabwe) reflects on the role of the International Church and the Local Church working together to care for the most vulnerable:

“I look at it as the international church coming in like Aaron and Hur. When Moses was in battle and as he was getting tired, Aaron and Hur were there to lift up his hands so that he could continue with the battle. So likewise, the international church is there to help lift up the local church, even when they get tired. I’ll give an example of when Clinton and Greg from Australia came to Mozambique, they had time as the international church to meet with local pastors and stand with them; supporting, encouraging, and rejuvenating them in the work. So in the same way, that is the major role that the international church plays. I know it’s easy to look at the financial role, which is a huge role, but there is also that encouragement. One thing I’ve realised is when the international church comes in, it energises and encourages the local church that, you know, someone from outside has come and is loving on our children, is loving on our communities. It gives them a renewed energy to continue soldiering on, to continue pushing and working with our communities, knowing full well that they are not alone in this battle, that they are not alone in this work, that they have the full backing of other churches praying with them and providing for them so that they are able to care for the community well.”



## Monday, March 17th

### Day 11 - WELCOME TO MOZAMBIQUE

Mozambique is one of eight countries that Hands at Work is serving in across Africa. Mozambique has a population of 34,690,880 people, with 70% of the population living in extreme poverty. Ranking 183 out of 187 on the Human Development Index, 150,000 children are living with HIV/AIDS and 1,300,000 children have been orphaned because of this life-threatening illness. – Sources: UNAID, UNDP, World Poverty Clock

As we start the week, please join us in praying for the country of Mozambique:

- “Pray for the country’s political situation which is affecting the country’s economy. There is no peace, no free movement, no care in hospitals, no schools because there are strikes everywhere – pray for our country so that everything returns to normal.
- Pray for the famine that has affected parts of the country due to the drought and the agricultural campaign of the year 2024 that has failed and food is scarce. Pray that God may provide for our country.” – Sandra, Service Centre\* Coordinator (Mozambique)

## Tuesday, March 18th

### Day 12 - PRAY FOR THE CHURCH WITHIN MOZAMBIQUE

Hands at Work envisions the local church in Africa effectively caring for the orphaned, the widowed and the dying in partnership with the International Church. Today we invite you to join us in praying for the local church in Mozambique:

- “Pray that the church will continue to be true to the true religion of caring for the orphans.
- Pray that the church leaders will live undefiled lives and not to fall in traps of love of worldly things.
- Pray that the church will be able to discern the times we are living now and will be only focus on the power of the cross.” – Audette, Regional Support Team Leader (Mozambique)

## Wednesday, March 19th

### Day 13 - PRAY FOR OUR PARTNERS IN MOZAMBIQUE

Across the world, Hands at Work has dedicated partners from the International Church, who are committed to seeing the mission and vision of Hands at Work grow and flourish. Today, we invite you to pray for the partners who are supporting the work in Mozambique:

- “We praise you Almighty God for each of our faithful partners across the world, who are steadfastly committed to care for the most vulnerable children in communities across Mozambique. We lift them up to you as they advocate and are a voice for these children who have no voice and we ask for your continued provision. As our partners join Hands at Work to arise and build the wall so that the children will no longer be vulnerable, may you strengthen their hands for this good work as you did in Nehemiah 2:18. We pray for your blessing to be upon them as they serve you in their own communities and may they also care for the most vulnerable around them.” – Rachel McLaughlin, International Office Volunteer (Australia)
- Pray that international team members and visitors encounter God’s heart among the vulnerable, encourage the work of the local teams on the ground, and further the goals of the partnership between the local and international Church and stir up momentum to further the partnership.” – Suzette Tay Lee, International Office Volunteer (US).

## Thursday, March 20th

### Day 14 - PRAY FOR OUR COMMUNITIES IN MOZAMBIQUE

Within Mozambique, there are five communities being supported and cared for:

- Chigodole, Gobogobo, Macadeira, Matsinho A, and Matsinho B (supported by the Chimoio Service Centre\*)

Today we invite you to pray for the challenges that exist across all communities:

- One of the biggest challenges we have is that of the children in our communities, girls are married before their time. We start the year with a good number of girls, but the year ends with many married girls. Please pray into this.
- There is challenge of unity, especially in the communities of Macadeira and Gobogobo. Pray for unity.
- Many children are enrolled in school but by the end of the year, many have dropped out. Pray against this spirit of dropping out of school. Pray for grandparents and children, that God will continue to protect them and that they will continue to hope in the Lord and that His will and desires will be fulfilled.” – Sandra

# MOZAMBIQUE | WEEK THREE CONTINUED

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## Friday, March 21st

### Day 15 - PRAY FOR CARE WORKERS AND PRIMARY CAREGIVERS IN MOZAMBIQUE

In Mozambique, there are 86 Care Workers who have committed to caring for the most vulnerable children. In many communities in Mozambique and across Africa, the Care Workers are also the Primary Caregivers of the children they serve. A Primary Caregiver is the mother, father, grandparents, aunts, uncles, older siblings or other relatives who live with the children coming to the Care Point. **The Chimoio Service Centre\* invites you to pray for the Care Workers and Primary Caregivers in their region:**

- “Pray for the Care Workers and Primary Caregivers, that they don’t get tired of caring for the children and that they continue to serve with love.
- Pray for protection and that God may open doors in their lives because many are vulnerable. Pray that God can provide their needs.”  
– Maria, Service Centre\* Member (Mozambique)

## Saturday, March 22nd

### Day 16 - PRAY FOR OUR CHILDREN IN MOZAMBIQUE

Within Mozambique, there are 565 children being loved and cared for. **The Chimoio Service Centre\* invites you to pray for the children in their region:**

- “Pray for children, that they will be able to learn from their parents’ mistakes and that they have the zeal for a different lifestyle”  
– Audette
- Pray for our children who are being assisted by Hands at Work; that they can have a better future and that the effort is not wasted.
- Pray for young people who abandon schools and marry before their age.” – Sozinho, Service Centre\* Member (Mozambique)

## Sunday, March 23rd

Ritha, Regional Support Team Leader, reflects on the role of the International Church and the Local Church working together to care for the most vulnerable:

“The International Church, they are really playing a big role in encouraging the work that we are doing. Sharing their stories which are so encouraging that we are one despite having different cultures. Together with the Local Church reminding each other on their mandate as Christians. It also encourages the communities seeing the International Church and the Local Church walking together doing Holy Home Visits and giving hope to the hopeless. For example, Clinton and Greg from the Australian church coming on the ground to do church mobilising and sit together with pastors to encourage one another on how to care for the vulnerable people in the communities. The International Church coming and serving together with the Local Church to encourage the Care Workers and help to care for the children, it really impacts their lives.”



### Monday, March 24th

#### Day 17 - WELCOME TO THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO (DRC)

The Democratic Republic of Congo is one of eight countries that Hands at Work is serving in across Africa. The Democratic Republic of Congo has a population of 98,363,340 people, with 72% of the population living in extreme poverty. Ranking 180 out of 187 on the Human Development Index, 50,000 children are living with HIV/AIDS and 450,000 children have been orphaned because of this life-threatening illness. – Sources: UNAID, UNDP, World Poverty Clock

Within the Democratic Republic of Congo, Hands at Work is serving in two areas: Likasi and Goma. For decades, the DRC has been plagued by war, particularly in the north-eastern province around the city of Goma. Hands at Work has been serving in communities devastated by this unrest since 2006. The area surrounding Goma continues to experience the constant threat of rebel attacks and war. This escalating instability around Goma is highlighting the reality that families in the DRC face. They are fighting for their daily survival.

Throughout the week, we want to pray and intercede for the area of Goma, which is in massive crisis. However, as the situation is ever-changing, we invite you to follow this link to our crisis page (<https://www.handsatwork.org/crisis-response-goma>), where we will be posting regular, up-to-date prayer points. **As such, please join us in praying for the country of the Democratic Republic of Congo as a whole:**

- “Pray for security of people and their things as conflicts among tribes, thieves and bandits break, steal and destroy people’s stuff, day and night, which is the cause of the insecurity.
- Pray for safety of the environment as many people are exposed to the dirt and mosquitoes, which cause many diseases like malaria, typhoid, cholera and measles.
- Pray for the government to be able to provide employment to those who are in need so the population can afford to live normal life as the cost of living is so high and makes tough life of people.” – Angel, Service Centre\* Coordinator (DRC)
- Pray for peace to reign in Goma and that God will make a way for His people.

### Tuesday, March 25th

#### Day 18 - PRAY FOR THE CHURCH WITHIN THE DRC

Hands at Work envisions the local church in Africa effectively caring for the orphaned, the widowed and the dying in partnership with the International Church. **Today we invite you to join us in praying for the local church in the DRC:**

- “Pray that we have the commitment of pastors and their participation in our activities in order to better prepare for the graduation of our communities. Pray for the pastors that they can take community responsibility according to the biblical recommendation.
- We must pray for the pastors so that they can understand the vision and mission of Hands at Work in order to play their role well as a church.” – Francis, Service Centre\* Member (DRC)
- Pray for the church in Goma, that in the midst of pain and chaos, they will be a place of peace and safety.

### Wednesday, March 26th

#### Day 19 - PRAY FOR OUR PARTNERS IN THE DRC

Across the world, Hands at Work has dedicated partners from the International Church, who are committed to seeing the mission and vision of Hands at Work grow and flourish. **Today, we invite you to pray for the partners who are supporting the work in the DRC:**

- “We praise you Almighty God for each of our faithful partners across the world, who are steadfastly committed to care for the most vulnerable children in communities across the DRC. We lift them up to you as they advocate and are a voice for these children who have no voice and we ask for your continued provision. As our partners join Hands at Work to arise and build the wall so that the children will no longer be vulnerable, may you strengthen their hands for this good work as you did in Nehemiah 2:18. We pray for your blessing to be upon them as they serve you in their own communities and may they also care for the most vulnerable around them.” – Rachel McLaughlin, International Office Volunteer (Australia)
- Pray that international team members and visitors encounter God’s heart among the vulnerable, encourage the work of the local teams on the ground, and further the goals of the partnership between the local and international Church and stir up momentum to further the partnership.” – Suzette Tay Lee, International Office Volunteer (US)

### Thursday, March 27th

#### Day 20 - PRAY FOR OUR COMMUNITIES IN DRC

Within the Democratic Republic of Congo, there are 10 communities who are being supported and cared for:

- Buhimba, Katembe, Luhonga (supported by the Goma Service Centre\*)
- Kambove, Kikula B, Kisunka, Kitabataba, Kitondo, Toyota A and Toyota B (supported by the Likasi Service Centre\*)

**Today we invite you to pray for the challenges that exist across all communities:**

- “The cost of living is becoming so high compared to the income people are getting. Even fuel is getting very expensive, almost 85%

of the normal price since early this year and the transport fare is getting very high. Pray for God's provision for His people.

- Let's pray for our communities in Likasi after the outbreak of cholera early this year. Pray that the Lord grant divine protection for our people. Pray that water will be available for the hygiene and cleanliness to fight this epidemic as drinking water is becoming scarce in the Likasi communities.
- Let's pray for peace within our communities as the issue of Goma taken by rebels cannot affect our communities as well as these 2 regions are the Swahili-speaking people. May God protect our communities against any form of malice roaming around our province.
- Pray for Goma as rebels have taken over, that God in His sovereignty brings stability and peace despite the wave of war which has last a decade." – Erick, Hands Leader (DRC)

### Friday, March 28th

#### Day 21 - PRAY FOR CARE WORKERS AND PRIMARY CAREGIVERS IN THE DRC

In the Democratic Republic of Congo, there are 128 Care Workers who have committed to caring for the most vulnerable children. In many communities in the Democratic Republic of Congo and across Africa, the Care Workers are also the Primary Caregivers of the children they serve. A Primary Caregiver is the mother, father, grandparents, aunts, uncles, older siblings or other relatives who live with the children coming to the Care Point. **The Goma and Likasi Service Centers\* invite you to pray for the Care Workers and Primary Caregivers in their region:**

- "Pray for those who do farming. Pray for good rains - many people can't afford to get fertilisers but may God provide good rains for so they can provide for their families.
- Pray for good health and strength as each day they have to do something so they can provide for their families. Unless they have good health, they can't do it otherwise. It's tough for them and it has an impact on the rest of the family.
- Pray for the Care Workers and Primary Caregivers to base their lives on the true foundation of Christ. Pray that they live it out in their daily lives and their relationships with others." – Angel sharing on behalf of the Likasi Service Centre\*.
- "Many of the Primary Caregivers and Care Workers have experienced lots of trauma. As they return to their communities, pray that the Lord will keep them through this season of different changes." – Bahati, Service Centre\* Member (DRC) sharing on behalf of the Goma Service Centre\*.

### Saturday, March 29th

#### Day 22 - PRAY FOR OUR CHILDREN IN THE DRC

Within the Democratic Republic of Congo, there are 1180 children being loved and cared for. **The Goma and Likasi Service Centres\* invite you to pray for the children in their region:**

- "Pray for children to experience the love of Christ in their lives through the people around them as many children experience verbal and physical abuse even from their own parents so it's difficult for them to explain what does love mean to them.
- Pray for the under 5s and the children aged 6 to 12 as these age groups are more exposed to diseases like malaria and typhoid. Pray for God's protection against sicknesses.
- Pray for the youths to know Christ and make good choice in their lives as many of them are attracted by things which can destroy their lives, like looking for odd jobs doing artisanal mines which lead them to abusing drugs and alcohol and enter into early marriage and prostitution." – Angel sharing on behalf of the Likasi Service Centre\*.
- "The war has affected the children in Goma and the displacement camps were a centre for many activities like use of drugs, child abuse, prostitution, which are taking our children away from a good education. As our children return to their homes, let us pray for the security of our teenagers and young ones and pray that they are able to return to school." – Erick sharing on behalf of the Goma Service Centre\*.
- Pray for our children to make wise and healthy choices as they have been living in a state of chaos. Pray for their protection against the schemes of the enemy.

### Sunday, March 30th

Erick, Hands Leader (DRC), reflects on the role of the International Church and the Local Church working together to care for the most vulnerable:

"Both of them have the same mandate to show love and care for the vulnerable. The International Church mostly prays for the children by name after getting their stories. They also support them in raising funds to support with the three essential services. They also support in sending teams with different talents and skills to serve the children and to encourage them. While the Local Church is the physical body of Christ to these children daily; visiting them, praying for them, encouraging them and sharing about Jesus."



# SOUTH AFRICA & ESWATINI | WEEK FIVE



<https://www.handsatwork.org/south-africa-links>  
<https://www.handsatwork.org/eswatini-links>

## Monday, March 31st

### Day 23 - WELCOME TO SOUTH AFRICA & ESWATINI

Eswatini is one of eight countries that Hands at Work is serving in across Africa. Eswatini has a population of 1,508,720 people, with 30% of the population living in extreme poverty. Ranking 142 out of 187 on the Human Development Index, there are 5,600 children living with HIV/AIDS and 70,000 children who have been orphaned because of this life-threatening illness. – Sources: UNAID, UNDP, World Poverty Clock

#### As we start the week, please join us in praying for the country of Eswatini:

- “Please pray in regards unemployment. There are many stories where the husband went to South Africa to look for odd jobs but then never come back home. And now the grandmother or the wife has to get odd jobs, which is rare and if they do, it’s not enough to generate income for the family. We find a lot of under-fives children who are left behind with grandmothers because their mothers went to South Africa to look for a way but they don’t come back.
- Please pray in regards to school fees, which are very high in Eswatini. Some of our youth, they end up not finishing high school and then they go and work in the farms, next to the border of Mozambique.” – Pinky, Regional Support Team Leader

South Africa is one of eight countries that Hands at Work is serving in across Africa. South Africa has a population of 61,073,340 people, with 22% of the population living in extreme poverty. Ranking 110 out of 187 on the Human Development Index, 160,000 children are living with HIV/AIDS and 640,000 children have been orphaned because of this life-threatening illness. – Sources: UNAID, UNDP, World Poverty Clock

#### As we start the week, please join us in praying for the country of South Africa:

s one of the most developed economies on the continent, South Africa attracts a significant number of foreign nationals seeking a better life for themselves and their families. In many remote communities, there is a substantial population of undocumented foreign nationals who often settle in small, underdeveloped, and informal communities. These individuals choose these areas because they can easily secure a small piece of land to build whatever shelter they can afford.

Unfortunately, they are often ostracised and pushed to live on “the other side of the tracks”, creating a clear divide between locals and foreigners in many communities. Once settled, these families grow, and many children are born in South Africa but lack recognition as citizens. These children face significant challenges, growing up in the country without access to benefits. Consequently, they struggle to obtain a quality education or any assistance from state institutions due to their undocumented status.

There is also a high incidence of crime directed toward them, as few are willing to stand up for foreign nationals. South Africa has been notoriously known for widespread xenophobic attitudes towards foreigners.

- “Pray for our Service Centres who have started to look to break new ground into new communities. We are in the process of walking and building relationships with stakeholders in some of the most vulnerable places in our region. Pray for this process to go smoothly.
- Our children and families have been living in South Africa for many years without proper documentation. Our children attend school with little hope of obtaining a qualification upon completion of their studies because they are undocumented.
- Pray for South African nationals in our communities to develop compassionate and hospitable hearts towards their foreign neighbours.
- Pray for churches in our communities to embrace their mandate to care for the foreigners among them.” – Sisanda, Regional Support Team Leader

## Tuesday, April 1st

### Day 24 - PRAY FOR THE CHURCH WITHIN SOUTH AFRICA & ESWATINI

Hands at Work envisions the local church in Africa effectively caring for the orphaned, the widowed and the dying in partnership with the International Church. **Today we invite you to join us in praying for the local church in South Africa and Eswatini:**

- “For South Africa may we please pray together for our churches. As a Christian organisation whose foundation is Christ, mobilising the church in serving the most vulnerable is the main thing. However, in South Africa, we have many kinds of churches with different doctrines, thus it becomes a challenge for us with Primary Caregivers, Care Workers and children coming from families that mix Christ with traditional worship. Pray for God’s guidance and intervention as we try to teach and preach about Jesus to our people and trying to get them belong to the right churches. - Nontobeko, Service Centre\* Coordinator sharing on behalf of the Oshoek Service Centre.
- “We can stand in prayer for pastors, because we know that pastors are the only people that can influence the whole church. If they buy into the Hands at Work vision, it’s easy for the whole church to follow because they trust them. A big problem in Eswatini is that the pastors themselves they don’t have relationship. There is this thing of different churches, different denominations. So, they look down upon each other and it’s not easy for them to come together even though they need to work together so they can care for the children after we graduate. Also, inside one church, you find that there is division which if the church is divided, it’s not easy for the church to take ownership at the Care Points. Please pray for unity in the church.” – Futhi, Service Centre\* Coordinator, sharing on behalf of the Lomahasha Service Centre\*.

## Wednesday, April 2nd

### Day 25 - PRAY FOR OUR PARTNERS IN SOUTH AFRICA & ESWATINI

Across the world, Hands at Work has dedicated partners from the International Church, who are committed to seeing the mission and vision of Hands at Work grow and flourish. **Today, we invite you to pray for the partners who are supporting the work in South Africa and Eswatini:**

- “We praise you Almighty God for each of our faithful partners across the world, who are steadfastly committed to care for the most vulnerable children in communities across South Africa and Eswatini. We lift them up to you as they advocate and are a voice for these children who have no voice and we ask for your continued provision. As our partners join Hands at Work to arise and build the wall so that the children will no longer be vulnerable, may you strengthen their hands for this good work as you did in Nehemiah 2:18. We pray for your blessing to be upon them as they serve you in their own communities and may they also care for the most vulnerable around them.” – Rachel McLaughlin, International Office Volunteer (Australia)
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- Pray that international team members and visitors encounter God’s heart among the vulnerable, encourage the work of the local teams on the ground, and further the goals of the partnership between the local and international Church and stir up momentum to further the partnership.” – Suzette Tay Lee, International Office Volunteer (US)

## Thursday, April 3rd

### Day 26 - PRAY FOR OUR COMMUNITIES IN SOUTH AFRICA & ESWATINI

Within South Africa and Eswatini, there are thirteen communities who are being supported and cared for:

- Beeskop, Houtbos, Mafambisa, Mluti, Oshoek, Seville B, Sthobela C, T Kloof and Welverdiend (supported by the Hazyview and Oshoek Service Centres\*, South Africa)
- Bhandeni, Msengeni B, Phophonyane, S'bovini. Shoka (supported by the Lomahasha and Phophonyane Service Centres\*, Eswatini)

**Today we invite you to pray for the challenges that exist across all communities in South Africa:**

- “As we look to expand in 2025, pray that God leads us to the right areas where there are vulnerable children. We also ask for prayers for the pastors and community leaders to understand our vision so that the community can get involved and start taking ownership of caring for the most vulnerable.
- For the Oshoek Service Centre team, we will be adding one new community. We seek prayers for strength as we start to walk into these neighbourhoods. Please pray that God guides us to areas where vulnerable children are in need and that the community understands our vision.
- Additionally, we will be graduating one of our communities, Beeskop, in March 2026. We ask for prayers that the community understands the significance of this graduation and is empowered to take ownership of the initiatives we have implemented.” – Virginia, Service Centre\* Coordinator (South Africa)

**Today we invite you to pray for the challenges that exist across all communities in Eswatini:**

- “Please pray for the expansion into a new community, Matlabathini, and for the involvement of pastors. We also ask for the community’s support in our initiatives on the ground. May God grant the leadership of the Service Centre wisdom as we plan to enter new communities. May God give them strength, and wisdom, and guide them to the right communities to serve.
- We praise God for the sense of responsibility shown by pastors and the Chief in the Phophonyane and S'bovini. We are working together and supporting one another in our efforts.
- We thank God for the successful graduation of Msengeni A last December, which marked the first community graduation in Eswatini. This success has enabled us to consider further expansion.” – Mnelisi, Service Centre\* Coordinator (Eswatini)

## Thursday, April 4th

### Day 27 - PRAY FOR CARE WORKERS AND PRIMARY CAREGIVERS IN SOUTH AFRICA & ESWATINI

In South Africa and Eswatini, there are 96 Care Workers who have committed to caring for the most vulnerable children. In many communities in South Africa, Eswatini and across Africa, the Care Workers are also the Primary Caregivers of the children they serve. A Primary Caregiver is the mother, father, grandparents, aunts, uncles, older siblings or other relatives who live with the children coming to the Care Point. **The Hazyview, Lomahasha, Oshoek and Phophonyane Service Centres\* invite you to pray for the Care Workers and Primary Caregivers in their region:**

- “Pray for our Primary Caregivers who feel overwhelmed by their circumstances. Many face the challenge of their children entering cycles of early pregnancy, which results in the children having to leave their babies with their grandparents (the Primary Caregivers) while they attempt to complete their schooling. This situation leaves the grandparents feeling burdened and the children feeling rejected by their parents. The trauma of this rejection often leads to substance abuse, poverty, and even prostitution.” - Audrey, Regional Support Team Leader (South Africa) sharing on behalf of the Hazyview and Oshoek Service Centres\* in South Africa.
- “Many of our Care Workers and Primary Caregivers are finding themselves in a really terrible situation where they need to be trained as a traditional healer but this training costs a lot of money for our Primary Caregivers and our Care Workers. We would like to pray for our pastors and church leaders, that they will be prayerful and share the Jesus we know to our people in the community. Pray for our

pastors that God will give them strength and boldness to stand against this practice. Pray that the pastors and the church leaders will be a part of bringing healing and deliverance and pray that we will have that boldness to stand and not to be paralysed that they can bring the restoration in our communities and our inner families that we are serving.” – Pragcidence sharing on behalf of the Hazyview and Oshoek Service Centres\* in South Africa

- “In Eswatini, men are allowed to marry more than one wife. Last year, we had a Care Worker and Primary Caregiver revival where we heard many stories that broke our heart. In the families of Care Workers and Primary Caregivers, we realise there’s so much hurt and disunity. Please pray with us for these Care Workers and Primary Caregivers because we realise that the hurt is so deep but it’s only God who can really restore and bring joy to these families.
- I know when we hear these things, we feel hopeless, like our Care Workers feel hopeless because they find themselves in a situation where they don’t know what to do. But Hebrews 11, is encouraging us that faith is the assurance of things not seen. It’s a really good reminder for us, that even as we pray for our Primary Caregivers and Care Workers, by faith God will restore this broken relationship. By faith, God will restore and bring hope and joy to these families.” – Pragcidence, Hands Leader sharing on behalf of the Lomahasha and Phophonyane Service Centres\* in Eswatini.

## Saturday, April 5th

### Day 28 - PRAY FOR OUR CHILDREN IN SOUTH AFRICA & ESWATINI

Within South Africa and Eswatini, there are 860 children being loved and cared for. **The Hazyview, Lomahasha, Oshoek and Phophonyane Service Centres\* invite you to pray for the children in their region:**

- “We are grateful for the positive changes we see in the kids who attended the leaders’ camp last December. In our Hazyview community, we thank God that there were opportunities for cooking, and the children were happy to be at the Care Point during the holiday season, enjoying the company of the Service Centre and Care Workers. It was a huge blessing for them.
- Pray for the children in the Oshoek communities, where there have been many accidents lately and incidents of crime and robbery. We pray that our children do not get involved in these negative activities.” - Penelope, Service Centre\* Member (South Africa) sharing on behalf of the Hazyview and Oshoek Service Centres\* in South Africa.
- Pray for protection over our children, particularly for our girls but sometimes young boys in South Africa. We have so many cases of sexual abuse and gender-based violence. Pray that God will give wisdom to our government and the leaders, to the police and to the social workers on how they can overcome this so that they can fight this challenge and protect our girls.” – Pragcidence sharing on behalf of the Hazyview and Oshoek Service Centres\* in South Africa.
- “We have some challenges with our children not attending school for a number of reasons. One challenge is children dropping out of school because they are not doing well. They find themselves failing or repeating the same grade three times which makes them sad, seeing their friends proceeding in new classes year after year. We also have an issue of our children dropping from school because they are going for work. Many of our boys go and work planting marijuana which is illegal and it’s very dangerous and they are away for long periods. There are also girls who have dropped school because they are pregnant. Many of our youth engage in this substance abuse where they smoke and drink alcohol.
- Please pray with us as we face these challenges; that may God help our children to focus at school and that we can get our children in school. Pray that the Primary Caregivers, who are able to, can pay for the fees of their children. Also, please pray with us for our children that they might start thinking for their future and work hard to achieve their goals even if things are not going well and they are facing hard times. Pray that they will know that God is always there and they should seek help from God first.” – Bongi, Service Centre\* Member (Eswatini) sharing on behalf of Lomahasha and Phophonyane Service Centres\* in Eswatini

## Sunday, April 6th

Levy, Senior Leader, reflects on the role of the International Church and the Local Church working together to care for the most vulnerable:

“We say that we are one body. If one part is in pain, the whole body is in pain. So the role of the International Church is to come and support the local churches, to lift their hands and, together, to look after those who are vulnerable. As our Father in Heaven is a father of the fatherless, He is the defender of the widow, and that is the role of the Church. God is a God of justice. Our Father wants to see justice – so the role of the Church is to see that justice is happening for those who have no voice. Called to be the Father of the fatherless, to be the defender of the widows and the orphans, and to make sure that they look after those who are not reached, those who are rejected, those who are lonely. The role of the Church is to be the hands and the feet of Jesus, to bring light to the world, and to protect those who are not protected.”



## Monday, April 7th

### Day 29 - WELCOME TO ZAMBIA

Zambia is one of eight countries that Hands at Work is serving in across Africa. Zambia has a population of 21,056,420 people, with 57% of the population living in extreme poverty. Ranking 153 out of 187 on the Human Development Index, 58,000 children are living with HIV/AIDS and 390,000 children have been orphaned because of this life-threatening illness. – Sources: UNAID, UNDP, World Poverty Clock

**As we start the week, please join us in praying for the country of Zambia:**

- “Pray for the country Zambia as the cost of living now is very high and that makes it very difficult for the most vulnerable families to have access to food and any other basic needs.
- Pray for the campaign that will start in preparation for the general election that we’ll have next year August; that the campaigns will be peaceful and there will be no shed of blood nor any violence during the campaign till the election.
- We thank God for the good rains that we have been receiving and let’s pray that this rain continues and not stop along the way before it’s the right time to stop.” – Luwis, Service Centre\* Coordinator (Zambia)
- “Load-shedding (national scheduled power outages) is one of the bigger problems Zambia is facing. Most communities receive 6 to 12 hours of electric power. This has led to closing of many businesses and loss of jobs, people are stressed and frustrated. Pray that the rain continues to the point of filling our rivers so that hours of electricity power supply can go back to normal.” – Jimmy, Regional Support Team Leader (Zambia)

## Tuesday, April 8th

### Day 30 - PRAY FOR THE CHURCH WITHIN ZAMBIA

Hands at Work envisions the local church in Africa effectively caring for the orphaned, the widowed and the dying in partnership with the International Church. **Today we invite you to join us in praying for the local church in Zambia:**

- “Pray for the church to preach the true gospel of Jesus that can bring salvation to people not the prosperity message. Pray for the church to take its position responding to their call of supporting the vulnerable and defending the rights of the poor. Pray for the church to be a beacon of peace, to stand on the truth, continue to show love and be the light of the world. Pray for the church that it will continue to portray the image of Christ of unity as one body but many parts. Pastors to be the role model of how to lead the family the way they lead the church in Christ way” – Michael, Regional Support Team Leader

## Wednesday, April 9th

### Day 31 - PRAY FOR OUR PARTNERS IN ZAMBIA

Across the world, Hands at Work has dedicated partners from the International Church, who are committed to seeing the mission and vision of Hands at Work grow and flourish. **Today, we invite you to pray for the partners who are supporting the work in Zambia:**

- “We praise you Almighty God for each of our faithful partners across the world, who are steadfastly committed to care for the most vulnerable children in communities across Zambia. We lift them up to you as they advocate and are a voice for these children who have no voice and we ask for your continued provision. As our partners join Hands at Work to arise and build the wall so that the children will no longer be vulnerable, may you strengthen their hands for this good work as you did in Nehemiah 2:18. We pray for your blessing to be upon them as they serve you in their own communities and may they also care for the most vulnerable around them.” – Rachel McLaughlin, International Office Volunteer (Australia)
- Pray that international team members and visitors encounter God’s heart among the vulnerable, encourage the work of the local teams on the ground, and further the goals of the partnership between the local and international Church and stir up momentum to further the partnership.” – Suzette Tay Lee, International Office Volunteer (US)

## Thursday, April 10th

### Day 32 - PRAY FOR OUR COMMUNITIES IN ZAMBIA

Within Zambia, there are 28 communities being supported and cared for :

- Kamaila, Malakata, Miswa, Mutaba (supported by the Chisamba Service Centre\*)
- Baraka, Chabota, Chilipamushi, Malakota A/B, Malakota C and Susu (supported by the Kabwe Service Centre\*)
- Amlew, Kamakonde, Mulenga, Mwaiseni, Racecourse, Zimba A and Zimba B (supported by the Kitwe Service Centre\*)
- Chibuli, Chilabula, Kalende, K Block 1, K Block 2, K Block 3, Katetaula, Maposa, Maranatha, Mount Moriah (supported by the Luanshya Service Centre\*)

**Today we invite you to pray for the challenges that exist across all communities:**

- “Due to the drought Zambia experienced last year, there has been a huge increase in prices of goods and services which has made the cost of living to be high. Pray that people will move away from complaining and focus on working and making use of every opportunity.

- Alcohol drinking and smoking is becoming popular to many young people in Zambia, which has brought an increase in crime and high number of school dropouts. Pray for restoration of our younger people and peace to continue in the land.
- In most part of the country, farm fields of maize plants and other types have grown well, please pray for good harvest this year.”  
– Jimmy

## Friday, April 11th

### Day 33 - PRAY FOR CARE WORKERS AND PRIMARY CAREGIVERS IN ZAMBIA

In Zambia, there are 501 Care Workers who have committed to caring for the most vulnerable children. In many communities in Zambia and across Africa, the Care Workers are also the Primary Caregivers of the children they serve. A Primary Caregiver is the mother, father, grandparents, aunts, uncles, older siblings or other relatives who live with the children coming to the Care Point. **The Chisamba, Kabwe, Kitwe and Luanshya Service Centres\* invite you to pray for the Care Workers and Primary Caregivers in their region:**

- “Pray that God continue giving us rain so that we can have good harvest. Pray that God give wisdom to our Primary Caregivers and Care Workers because most of them are grandmothers and they are struggling with basic needs.” – Monica, Service Centre\* Member (Zambia), sharing on behalf of Kabwe Service Centre\*.
- “Pray for the Primary Caregivers as we are walking with them. Pray for God to intervene in their lives, that they can love God and know him in truth. Pray for our Care Workers and Primary Caregivers who have planted their fields to have a good harvest this year.” – Emeldah, Service Centre\* Coordinator (Zambia), sharing on behalf of the Kitwe Service Centre\*.
- “Because of pain and loss of their loved ones, many of our Primary Caregivers have run to drinking, thinking it is the way to ease their inner pain. Our prayer is that God can bring healing in their lives so that they may come to the saving knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. Many of our Care Workers are single mothers because their husbands have run away from them. Many are bitter and struggle with unforgiveness. Let’s pray for God’s deliverance.” – Cecelia, Service Centre\* Coordinator (Zambia), sharing on behalf of the Chisamba Service Centre\*.
- “Most of our Care Workers and Primary Caregivers are struggling to meet the needs of their children as most of them are single mothers whose men prefer drinking than being supportive. And many don’t spend much with their children as they spend much time doing odd jobs in the community. Let’s pray for God’s provision.” – Sylvia, Service Centre\* Coordinator (Zambia), sharing on behalf of the Luanshya Service Centre\*

## Thursday, April 12th

### Day 34 - PRAY FOR OUR CHILDREN IN ZAMBIA

Within Zambia, there are 2965 children being loved and cared for. **The Chisamba, Kabwe, Kitwe and Luanshya Service Centres\* invite you to pray for the children in their region:**

- “Pray that our children continue to grow in the fear of the Lord. Pray for our youths not to involve themselves in bad behaviours like beer drinking, smoking and entering into early marriages.” – Monica sharing on behalf of Kabwe Service Centre\*.
- “Pray for the children as they grow to know the Lord in their lives for them to become men and women who love God in truth. Pray for God to provide requirements to those who has qualified to secondary grades.” – Emeldah sharing on behalf of the Kitwe Service Centre\*.
- “Many of our children have passed their examinations and some they have gone to different high schools. There is lots of substance abuse, prostitution and getting involved in witchcraft. Our prayer is that God will protect them and they will hold on to the teachings that we teach them about our Lord Jesus Christ. Some of our children in our communities are sick with epilepsy and there’s a lot of spiritual bondage, so let’s pray for God’s healing and deliverance.” – Cecelia sharing on behalf of the Chisamba Service Centre\*.
- “Most of our children are stopped from going to school as some parents tell them to go for odd jobs, especially this rain season. It has been a challenge for our elder children to be in high schools as some parents cannot afford to have the high school requirements. Pray for God’s favour and provision.” – Sylvia sharing on behalf of the Luanshya Service Centre\*

## Sunday, April 13th

Peter, Regional Support Team Leader (Zambia), reflects on the role of the International Church and the Local Church working together to care for the most vulnerable:

“When we as the body of Christ unite and we reach the most vulnerable people in our communities, it brings great glory to God and we share the heart of our Father. And that’s why in Hands at Work, we unite with the Church all over the world to display the Love of Father to the most vulnerable.”



## Monday, April 14th

### Day 35 - WELCOME TO MALAWI

Malawi is one of eight countries that Hands at Work is serving in across Africa. Malawi has a population of 23,045,760 people, with 73% of the population living in extreme poverty. Ranking 172 out of 187 on the Human Development Index, 50,000 children are living with HIV/AIDS and 440,000 children have been orphaned because of this life-threatening illness. – Sources: UNAID, UNDP, World Poverty Clock

As we start the week, please join us in praying for the country of Malawi:

- “Malawi will be holding presidential and parliamentary elections this year in September. The opposition parties have already started pointing fingers at the ruling party that it will tamper with the results. This may bring chaos in the country. We need to pray that our country should have free and fair elections.
- Malawi’s economy is not doing well. People are suffering because prices of goods and essential services are just rising. There is a huge gap between the official forex exchange rate in the banks and that of the black market and this is resulting into shortage of major foreign currencies such as the USD. We need to pray that God should intervene to give our leaders wisdom to find solutions to this problem.
- Our country has a high rate of unemployment. One of the reasons is that the country does not produce enough income to run the economy. It depends on borrowing from other countries to fill the shortage in the national budget. Pray for our country to invest in things that can create jobs to the citizens like commercial farming, processing and finding markets for our products outside the country to boost our economy.
- Currently, people are suffering in most parts of the country because of hunger. In some parts of the country, people had bumper harvest but the large population didn’t have. In the current farming season, most people have failed to access fertiliser and other farm inputs. We need to pray that these people should find something to depend on.” – Madalitso, Service Centre\* Member (Malawi)

## Tuesday, April 15th

### Day 36 - PRAY FOR THE CHURCH WITHIN MALAWI

Hands at Work envisions the local church in Africa effectively caring for the orphaned, the widowed and the dying in partnership with the International Church. **Today we invite you to join us in praying for the local church in Malawi:**

- “Let’s pray for the pastors and the church as a whole to preach the true gospel to their subjects, especially in the communities where we serve, so that we can bring total transformation to the lives of many.” – Royie, Regional Support Team Leader (Malawi)

## Wednesday, April 16th

### Day 37 - PRAY FOR OUR PARTNERS IN MALAWI

Across the world, Hands at Work has dedicated partners from the International Church, who are committed to seeing the mission and vision of Hands at Work grow and flourish. **Today, we invite you to pray for the partners who are supporting the work in Malawi:**

- “We praise you Almighty God for each of our faithful partners across the world, who are steadfastly committed to care for the most vulnerable children in communities across Malawi. We lift them up to you as they advocate and are a voice for these children who have no voice and we ask for your continued provision. As our partners join Hands at Work to arise and build the wall so that the children will no longer be vulnerable, may you strengthen their hands for this good work as you did in Nehemiah 2:18. We pray for your blessing to be upon them as they serve you in their own communities and may they also care for the most vulnerable around them.” – Rachel McLaughlin, International Office Volunteer (Australia)
- Pray that international team members and visitors encounter God’s heart among the vulnerable, encourage the work of the local teams on the ground, and further the goals of the partnership between the local and international Church and stir up momentum to further the partnership.” – Suzette Tay Lee, International Office Volunteer (US)

## Thursday, April 17th

### Day 38 - PRAY FOR OUR COMMUNITIES AND CARE WORKERS AND PRIMARY CAREGIVERS IN MALAWI

Within Malawi, there are eleven communities being supported and cared for:

- Chilindaukwe, Mcheneke, Milonde, Mngwere, Mpata and Mphunzi (supported by the Dedza Service Centre\*)
- Chinku, Fosa, Kawaza, Maonde, Mchenga (supported by the Lobi Service Centre\*)

Today we invite you to pray for the challenges that exist across all communities:

- “Most of the vulnerable people in our communities who have thatched houses, are finding it very difficult to find grass because all the places are being used for farming. And wherever they find grass, it means the place belongs to someone, moreover, they cannot even manage to buy iron sheets. Please pray for God to make a way.
- There is much stronghold of beer drinking in the communities which is affecting the caring of the children in several homes. Pray for freedom from this stronghold.
- There is much hunger in our communities and there are many reasons for that: there is not enough land for the people to do proper

farming, the fertiliser is very expensive which the vulnerable people have less privilege to buy so that they can manage their small fields very well and this has resulted not having enough food to feed their families throughout.” – Ritha, Regional Support Team Leader (Malawi)

In Malawi, there are 133 Care Workers who have committed to caring for the most vulnerable children. In many communities in Malawi and across Africa, the Care Workers are also the Primary Caregivers of the children they serve. A Primary Caregiver is the mother, father, grandparents, aunts, uncles, older siblings or other relatives who live with the children coming to the Care Point. **The Dedza and Lobi Service Centres\* invite you to pray for the Care Workers and Primary Caregivers in their region:**

- “Pray for the Care Workers to continue serving the children as they are doing. Our Care Workers are also the most vulnerable people most of time. To find the provision for their families are tough and the Primary Caregiver they leave the children alone going to different places looking for piece work.
- Pray for our Primary Caregivers know Jesus. We know some of Primary Caregivers still trusting in cultural traditions in their communities.” – Tanazio, Service Centre\* Coordinator (Malawi), sharing on behalf of the Lobi Service Centre\*
- “Pray for our Care Workers and Primary Caregivers, that they may accept Jesus as their personal saviour.
- Pray for God to intervene in the Primary Caregivers’ and Care Workers’ situation as they are without food these months of January, February and March before this year’s harvest. Pray for the rain to finish well so that our Care Workers and Primary Caregivers will have good yields.” – Violet, Service Centre\* Coordinator (Malawi), sharing on behalf of the Dedza Service Centre\*.

## Friday, April 18th

### Day 39 - PRAY FOR OUR CHILDREN IN MALAWI

Within Malawi, there are 1015 children being loved and cared for. **The Dedza and Lobi Service Centres\* invite you to pray for the children in their region:**

- “Pray for good health as most of our children affected by malaria during this rain season. Pray for hard work spirit on their education and that they may have passion to continue their studies and be the role models in their community.” – Mercy, Service Centre\* Member (Malawi) sharing on behalf of the Lobi Service Centre\*.
- “We need to pray against children fighting each other and pray against children dropping out of school.” – Beatrice, Service Centre\* Member (Malawi) sharing on behalf of the Dedza Service Centre\*.

## Saturday, April 19th

**Day 40 -** Gideon, Regional Support Team Leader (Malawi), reflects on the role of the International Church and the Local Church working together to care for the most vulnerable:

“As you may be aware, we envisage the local church in Africa effectively caring for the dying, the orphans and the widows, and for it to be unified in this mission with the Church outside Africa. So we see a local church in Africa and the Church outside Africa coming together, to care for the children, to care for that community which is out of the way and inaccessible. The local church is the church that is based in the community. These churches provide us with pastors who interact with the children at the Care Point, teaching them good morals and praying with them. These are the churches that provide us with Care Workers and visit the children in their homes. The International Church is the Church based outside Africa, and this is the Church that is a voice for the voiceless. It is a prophetic voice that challenges and encourages people so that a child in the community can have a meal and be cared for in an effective and holistic manner.”

## Sunday, April 20th

### EASTER SUNDAY

*He who testifies to these things says, “Surely I am coming quickly.” Amen. Even so, come, Lord Jesus! The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. Amen. – Revelations 22:20-21*

**“Thank you for joining us for our 40 Days of Prayer. Thank you for setting aside this time to commit the people we love to prayer. Our Watchword is a promise that as we pray in this time of 40 Days, God will answer before we call on Him. It says that while we are still talking about our needs, He will go ahead and answer our prayers. This is a good promise that as we pray, God will hear us.” – Prag, Senior Leader**

\* Across Africa, Hands at Work has local teams comprising of Christian men and women who have answered God’s calling on their lives to serve the most vulnerable. Each of these teams exists to encourage, challenge and support local volunteer Care Workers as they care for the most vulnerable children in the most broken and desperate communities across Africa. We call these teams Service Centres.