

Deaf Ministries International

Issue 38 | February 2022

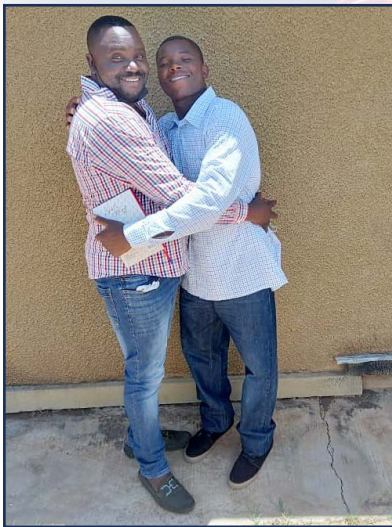
USA EDITION

*Taking the Gospel
to the Deaf*

Hallelujah!!!

**Emmanuel
Pardoned!!**

*Praise the
Lord!!*



Lewis and Emmanuel celebrating!

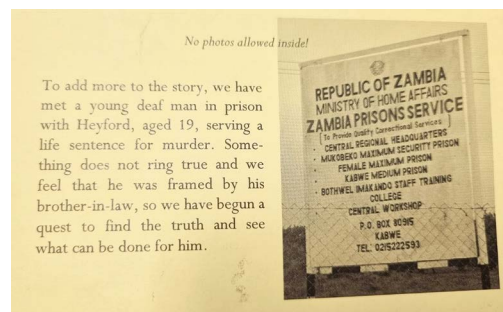
Great news from Zambia. Emmanuel Banda, a Deaf man who was wrongly imprisoned for murder and spent 14 years behind bars has, after years of appeals, been pardoned and released from prison! (He was framed by his brother-in-law and pleaded not guilty but because he was an illiterate deaf man and was not given an interpreter or a proper defense, he was convicted.) But now he is pardoned and free and we are so thankful for this! Neville would be rejoicing over this as he travelled to Zambia several times and worked hard to petition for Emmanuel's release. Lewis picked Emmanuel up from the prison and he is temporarily staying at Lewis' house. Under guidance from Sam Begumisa, our senior advisor in Africa, we are now looking to support Emmanuel for his future by enrolling him at the DMI Bible School in Kampala. We believe this will give him the basic academic skills he needs to work and support himself. More importantly, after a hard life and wrongful imprisonment, Emmanuel needs spiritual rehabilitation and mentoring and the Bible

school will provide this. Having small classes, the Bible school will give him the personal attention and support he needs. After that, there are vocational school options for Emmanuel as well. We pray for success in his new life.



Emmanuel with family

**God sets the lonely in families, he leads out
the prisoners with singing. Psalm 68:6**



*This article was
from the 2011
January DMI
newsletter. We
have been praying
for this day for a
long time!*

*Give praise to the Lord, proclaim His name; make known
among the nations what he has done. Psalm 105:1*

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Philippines

Davao School Closing

It is with sadness that we announce that our school in Davao will be closing on 31 March, 2022. The Davao school has for many years been a flagship school for DMI with, at its peak, over 100 Deaf students studying and living at the school. We are grateful that so many Deaf have graduated from the school, been a part of the Deaf church associated with the school, and



Joshua and Jocelyn Asuela

gone on to live meaningful lives because of the education received at the school.

Joshua and Jocelyn Asuela have been like parents to many of the Deaf children studying at the school, and have done a superb job educating, guiding and caring for them all. We thank God for their diligence, skill and big hearts in running the school.

ning the school.

The school began in 1991 under the name Deaf Ministries Institute and hosted the first DMI Conference in 1999. Joshua was the one who suggested to Neville that the name of our growing organisation (at that time under World Opportunities International) should be Deaf Ministries International. And that is what we became!

Over the last few years, because of another school for the Deaf opening in the area, changing logistics and, more recently, the pandemic, the number of students has drastically decreased, meaning it was no longer viable to continue running the school. The few remaining students have been guided to other schools, and sponsors have been notified and redirected to support

Ligao returning to normal Ligao Church

Pastor Arnel is thankful for the generous donations that came in for the Christmas period. The church members were so encouraged not just by the gifts but knowing that supporters in other countries are thinking of and praying for them. There was great cheer because of this.

The faith of the Deaf believers in Ligao is strong. Members continue to meet and pray together via Zoom meetings as well as face-to-face for Sunday worship.



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Davao students 2008

DMI students at other schools. We're grateful for their ongoing support.

Deaf Ministries Institute is now in the process of selling the school building and your prayers for this sale would be appreciated. The Davao Immanuel Church For The Deaf will continue at a new location yet to be decided.

This has been a challenging time for DMI and for the Asuela family, but we know that all things work for good for those who love the Lord. Your continued prayers are precious.



Davao school building

Ligao School

Bing reports similarly how glad the staff and students were to receive gifts from overseas for the Christmas period. With the donations, grocery items and gifts were given away and everyone had plenty of food. It made for a wonderful Christmas! With thanks to a kind donation from Chelsea Smith, staff were able to get new uniforms, too!

The staff and students were also grateful that the school saw no typhoons this year. Because of this, the crops were bountiful. Pineapples, bananas, cassavas, taros and ginger were planted. Grown mahogany tree seedlings are now ready to be planted at the border of the farm. Lemons and native oranges are growing well and some are bearing fruit now. Harvested rice was milled and sold. And the farm animals are all in good condition, too. One sow is pregnant and expected to



continued...

give birth any day now. One fattened pig and a yearling cow were sold. Two fattened pigs left will be raised into sows to add to the existing swine. 60 white chickens were also raised and dressed in the first week of January.

It's great to see this level of self-sustainability in Ligao! It's also good to see that many of the repairs that are being carried out on buildings damaged in last year's typhoons are being done by Deaf workmen. And so we see real increase in the motivation, productivity and dignity of the Deaf through our churches, schools and employment programs.



Visayas, Philippines



Doug and Val Clutton

In the Visayas, Doug Clutton reports on the employment projects for the Deaf there. Their mushrooms are selling better now, so production has been increased. One of the old piggery rooms has been fixed up, so they will soon purchase a couple of piglets for personal consumption and to share with the Deaf there.

Quail eggs are still selling well, and a number of (mostly local)

guests having been staying in the 3 rental AirBnB units - some long term. The proceeds of all these projects go to PICD. Doug is also on the preaching team at First Baptist Church in Dumaguete and speaks about once every 2 months there. Please pray for the newest layer hens to mature and be productive in the next month or two!



Uganda

Boom time for Uganda School

Neville Muir Comprehensive School for the Deaf

With the pandemic easing, it's wonderful to see so many students returning to the Neville Muir Comprehensive School in Lira, Uganda under Dennis' directorship. Registered students are now up to 350! Over 80 of these are Deaf, with 270 having other disabilities or special needs. We have never had so many students come for vocational training before! It's great to be able to make such a difference in the lives of these young people.

The recently completed dormitories are full and the courses



are expanding. In addition to the Brick Laying and Concrete Practice, Carpentry and Joinery, Tailoring and Hairdressing, the school will soon be introducing Knitting, Computer studies, Mechanics, Driving, and others.

Yet the blessing of so many students also brings trials. We don't have enough classrooms for the students! With the rainy season starting in March and the government putting pressure on us to build proper facilities, we can no longer keep holding classes under trees. The quote to build four classrooms is AUS64,000. So, we're running a special campaign to see if we can get these classrooms built as soon as possible. Called the Uganda Classroom Campaign, please see details to support on the next page.



UGANDA CLASSROOM CAMPAIGN



please help us build four classrooms
at the Neville Muir Comprehensive
School in Lira, Uganda.

AUSTRALIAN SUPPORTERS:

Please donate through Deaf Action
via our website or using the bank details on
the back of the newsletter
<https://deafmin.org/donate/>

ALL OTHER COUNTRIES:

Please donate through DMI
via our website or using the bank details on
the back of the newsletter
<https://deafmin.org/donate/>

Follow the links for Uganda Classroom Campaign
Thank you for your generous help at this time.

Malawi

Disaster in Malawi



In late January, we received news that Cyclone Ana had caused massive damage and disruption to Malawi, including the buildings, homes, fields and livestock of our staff and Deaf community. A state of emergency was declared by the government. The first thing we did was send \$500 so our Director Elton could buy food and water, then waited for his assessment of the

situation which is terrible:

* 200 Deaf families are now homeless, and need food, blankets and plastics to make temporary shelters

- * The roof, toilet, security fence and dormitory have been destroyed at our vocational centre in Migowi
- * Church buildings in Chikwawa and Zomba have been destroyed
- * All of the crops planted in 2 of the 3 of our self-sustainability fund fields have been lost.



On a personal note from Elton, he has lost his house and all household furnishings, the projector he uses to teach the Deaf, as well as his tools, bicycles and his 6 cows and 10 goats which were his livelihood. The good news is, no lives have been lost and we are very thankful for that!

Zambia

Deaf Action Zambia Registered

One of our broader long-term goals is to transition away from a traditional top-down structure and into a network of connected yet autonomous fields. This is why we are working to establish more national boards with legally recognised constitutions across our fields and by this, encourage local leaders to take a more prominent role in vision casting, decision making, and fundraising. Congratulations to Lewis and our whole Zambia team who have succeeded in registering Deaf Action Zambia in Zambia as an official charitable organisation! This is the fruit of years of work, and we hope will be the start of many years of fruitfulness to come.



Thank you!

Thank you to all those who gave so generously through our Christmas Campaign. We received a total of **\$12,135** in gifts and these will be distributed throughout our schools and employment projects. We thank God that we have such faithful and giving supporters. These Christmas gifts provide goods and joys that we can't give through our regular budgets.
Thank you so much again.



Tanzania

Fruitful Ministry in Tanzania

It's been encouraging to see how fruitful our ministry to the Deaf has been under Director Joseph Hizza in Tanzania. Through the regular ministry of weekly worship and services, we have seen an increase in attendance across the board in our churches. The Dar es salaam church, for example, has seen attendance rise from 70 to 85-100 people. Throughout the Christmas and new year period, a special evangelical effort saw 14 pastors and evangelists take the Word to over 9 different regions of Tanzania. This followed on the heels of a month-long workshop on baptism which 35 deaf people attended and led to 21 being baptised.

Over the last quarter of 2021, a three month Bible study and training course was conducted for many of the the ICDT church leaders and evangelists. The head of the Program, Pastor Umoja, oversaw a very successful program with the assistance of Joseph Hiza and Frida Mkumbo.

A number of humanitarian projects were also undertaken. During December, DAT organized a three-day workshop for Board members to familiarize themselves with loan terms and work ethos with regards to five potential economic projects for



Workshop group

2022. By God's grace and blessing, we were able to purchase 15 hectares of land as a new asset for our ministry. The site farm is located about 60 km from Dar es Salaam city, on the coast of the Indian Ocean. The site will be developed into bee keeping, agriculture and livestock activities.

Our ministry in Tanzania also witnessed two marriages in the Dar es Salaam and Morogoro regions, and at the same time carried out courtship and pre-marriage workshops for 25 young deaf persons and couples.



DAT Chairperson Nicholaus was baptised



DAT leaders with those who were baptised in Mbeya

Kenya

Sewing Workshop Making Progress

The Kenyan workshop was established to provide employment and dignity for Deaf women in Kenya who are HIV positive. Over the last few months the women have been working very hard and improving their skills to produce some much improved reusable sanitary pads for the big girls in our schools and community to use instead of paperbark. They have made 51 pouches each of which will contains 8 pads with a bonus pouch for a soiled pad.

The quality of the ladies' sewing has really improved so the products look excellent. The next stage is to produce these within a budget that will allow for affordable pricing. The last step will be to gain final approval from the Kenyan health authorities. Developing a product that is not only new to the manufacturers (our ladies) but to the market, is challenging but our team there are doing a great job, delivering 51 pouches to our Deaf school in Ringa, with plans to approaching other local schools and organisations in the future.



Integrated School Growing



Our Immanuel School for the Deaf in Kenya has become an integrated school – joining hearing and Deaf students together in the same learning environment. This is something of a new approach to education, encouraged by the Kenyan government. Rather than try to integrate the Deaf into hearing schools, this initiative integrates the hearing into established Deaf schools. Although the classes are segregated, all students learn to sign. The ISD now has 126 hearing students to about 90 Deaf. To keep the identity and character of the school, there are limits to the number of hearing students that can attend and this has only made the program more popular! Students and their families are lining up to join.

Equipping African Leaders



Front: Thomas Bimazubute, Patrick Tuyishimire, Weseley Agengo, Ruth Njihia

Back: Joseph Hiza, Marie Claire Uwineza, Daniel Njihia

seminar that took place in Nairobi, Kenya in the middle of January this year.

We invited central leaders from all African countries where DMI is operating, to participate. The goal was to equip them as preachers of the Good News among the deaf in their own countries.

Over four days, we enjoyed fellowship and celebrated the wonderful reality that being in Christ means sharing in His Sonship and so experience being loved by The Father. The seminar focused on how to help people in local churches to live in this reality. To forgive

"I regard the time we had together as one of the most wonderful moments in my life," wrote Joseph Hiza, the main leader of DAT - Deaf Action Tanzania. He wanted to express his gratitude after a leader's sem-

inar that took place in Nairobi, Kenya in the middle of January this year.

others, and especially our parents, was emphasized as a key to opening our own hearts.

The teaching was done by myself, and a couple from Norway, Unni and Olav Slåtten, who are friends of mine. This was the first time for us to do a seminar like this, with deaf and hearing pastors and leaders together. Personally, I was not sure how it would work for all of the deaf participants, because some of the teachings had to be interpreted. However, all of the DMI-people stated, when we evaluated the seminar, that they had really enjoyed being together with the hearing group, and that the seminar had given them new revelations, inspiring them to teach these messages when they went home.

Not all of the invited persons could attend, mostly because of lack of options to get double Covid injections. There were 17 people from DMI, including 3 of our sign language interpreters. The hearing group were about 20 people.

Josephat Mulongo from Kenya, the director of DAK, was the local DMI organizer. He also recorded all the teachings, and made them available to those who could not participate in a Facebook-group. For me it was also a big joy to see how DMI leaders from different African countries enjoyed meeting each other after two years of Covid separation. We had great fellowship together.

Gunnar Dehli, International Advisor
Deaf Ministries International

Going Global

As DMI works towards becoming a network of connected but increasingly autonomous fields, we are seeing the need more and more to operate and to communicate globally, and by this, for us to each better understand other DMI fields around the world. This means that rather than producing different newsletters in different countries, we will be producing one global newsletter for all countries (with minor differences like contact and banking details etc - and translation!).

So when you read about events happening in other countries, be encouraged to know what's going on there and why, and be inspired to pray for that event, to share it with others you might know in that country, or initiate something similar where you are!

Australia - Sydney



SYDNEY
Check our website for details

deaf ACTION FUNDRAISING DINNER
MARCH 3 2022

GUEST SPEAKER
Nick Farr-Jones
Former Wallaby Captain

6pm til 10pm
TICKETS \$125
3 COURSE MEAL
GAMES & SILENT AUCTION

Fundraising Dinner - Sydney, Australia

On March 3 (World Hearing Day), we will be holding a fundraising dinner in Sydney. Former Australian rugby captain Nick Farr-Jones will be the guest speaker. We are hoping for a huge turnout. Please pray that it would be so! And if you're in or near the Sydney area, please be sure to join us. All proceeds from ticket sales are going to Burundi's 2022 self-sustainability project. Flyers are enclosed for NSW supporters (or see the website).



Please check
your junk and
spam folders
for our emails!

We have been sending some emails to you though a new system and have discovered that many people aren't receiving them in their inbox. Please check your junk and spam folders to see if you've missed any of our news!

USA

USA Speaking Engagements

From March 8~30, Andrew will be visiting the United States to meet with current supporters and potential supporters. Current speaking locations and dates are:

March 13: Los Angeles

March 17/18: New York

March 20: South Carolina

March 27: Arkansas

Please contact Andrew at andrew.miller@deafmin.org to organise other meet-and-speak events in the States.



Prayer Partners

Here at DMI, we want to always firstly give all praise and honour to God who is over and above all things and pray that all we do in this ministry brings glory to His name. In Philippians 4, God asks us to bring all our requests to Him and to thank Him for all he's done. Prayer is such an important part of this ministry, and we'd like to ask you to partner with us in praying for the work that DMI is involved in. Each week we are going to share a few prayer points and we ask that you join with us in bringing them before God in prayer. We may not be able to do much by our strength, but with God, nothing is impossible!!

Would like to become a prayer partner?

To receive weekly prayer points via email: info@deafmin.org

To be a part of monthly online prayer meetings contact

Andrew Miller: andrew.miller@deafmin.org

You can also find prayer points weekly at www.deafmin.org/prayer

Don't worry about anything;
instead, pray about everything.
Philippians 4:6

Norway

DMI NORWAY

SUMMER FATHERHEART SCHOOL

Monday 15 August - Saturday 20 August

The purpose of the Fatherheart school:

To give you an opportunity to have a major personal experience of the love that God the Father has for you. To give the strongest Biblical understanding possible of the place of the Father in the Christian life and walk

Costs: kr. 1.000. Includes food, overnight and nature activities.

Transport to the venue:

Monday, 15 Aug.: leave from Oslo Airport 14:00

Saturday, 20 Aug.: back at Oslo Airport 15:00

REGISTRATION: EN.DMINORGE.NO/SUMMER

«LIV 2022» LIFE - IDENTITY - VALUE

August 22 - December 21
Norway, Ål.



Are you between 18 and 35? Do you want to know more about the Christian faith and what a life with God really means? Ål Folkehøyskole and DMI Norway cooperates a four months bible school called «LIV» in Ål. «LIV» stands for Life, Identity and Value. Don't miss it! LIV 2022 will give you a deeper understanding of how God the Father loves you and what He has in mind for you as a Son or a Daughter to Him.

The school offers six (almost) free places. The Ål Folkehøyskole covers your overnight and consumption during your residence in Norway from **August 22 to December 17**

Costs:

Western Europe €800

Eastern Europe €400

Africa / Asia free

The costs include education, nature activities, overnight, and meals for four months.

Application deadline:

1st April 2022.

Contact

E-mail: post@dminorge.no

Whatsapp/SMS: +4741215782 (Matthijs Terpstra)

Register Online:

<https://en.dminorge.no/liv-2022/>

There are two events coming up in the northern hemisphere summer which you can start making plans to attend. Everyone is welcome to these events in Norway!

Both arrangements are in cooperation with Ål Folkehøyskole in Norway. Matthijs notes how wonderful this venue is - situated in the midst of nature, it should be visited at least once in a person's life. Almost everything is run by Deaf people, from full Deaf board of directors to cleaners, teachers, administrators etc. Though not a Christian organisation, they open their arms to Deaf Christian activities. It is a beautiful development. A few years ago, this was unthinkable - it had to be secular. Pray that this will be one of God's instruments to bring the gospel to this small local community and beyond.

Australia

Deaf Camp



Early in the new year, 33 people attended Deaf Camp in sunny Queensland. Deaf Camp is a Christian gathering of Deaf to study the Bible and share fellowship together. The camp, organised by Deaf churches, has been held biennially for over twenty years. This year the theme was "Victory in Jesus" and DMI Australia Chairman Rod Chapman was one of the speakers. The camp was a great success by any measure. DMI members who attended ran a



Mac Adams Speaking

campaign for Ben Buyinza, one of our evangelists in Tanzania. Ben reaches out to the Deaf all over his region and asked for a motorbike to help him do this. Public transport is costly and inefficient. A motorbike allows him to reach many people, quickly and easily. The campaign raised \$3,760 which will cover the bike and insurance, and the excess will go towards Ben's citizenship registration (Ben is Ugandan). What a wonderful result!



Rod, Lorraine, Mac & Ps Donna

There was one negative aspect of the camp. Of the 33 who attended, 30 caught COVID! They have all recovered now.

China

God Moving in China

Our staff in China (we can't print their names) are faithful in taking the gospel to the Deaf. In Tengchong, we have employed three new Deaf workers. None of them know Jesus and they all have problems with other Deaf. But our staff have been sharing the gospel with them and teaching them the Bible online. The workers are open to receiving the good news so we pray for their salvation.

The church in Kunming is this month celebrating its 22nd anniversary. Because of the virus, the church can't worship in church but that doesn't stop them! They meet in the park and worship there.

In Dali, the Coffee Barista Training hosted many new Deaf attendees for five days and we pray that they will all be touched by God as they learn to brew coffee. During the training, the father of one of the staff became very sick but after praying for him he was able to walk again and is much better now. Christmas was celebrated in the coffee shop:)

Our staff say their greatest need now is for someone to teach them more about the Bible. They want to know God more deeply. Online is fine. That is their prayer.

DMI UK

We continue to (re)introduce our representatives in other countries who so selflessly serve the Deaf through DMI. The UK is an important supporting field for DMI, making a tangible difference in the lives of our Deaf neighbours who live on the other side of the world.

Gabriele McFarland is the DMI UK Coordinator and is responsible for collecting donations from all over the UK and sending them to Melbourne for global distribution. She lives in Leicester, England. Originally from Germany, she is Deaf and married to Bob, a well-known Deaf preacher in England and beyond.



Alison Hayes lives in Burnham, near Windsor. She is a primary school teacher of the Deaf in Hertfordshire and has a real heart for Deaf children internationally, too. She has the formidable task of distributing our newsletters to our UK supporters. She loves to read in the newsletters the testimonies of the Deaf and how they blossom in God's hands.

We're so thankful to have Gabi and Alison serving in the UK!

Praise and Prayer

- Firstly, we want to give praise and honour to our awesome God who is over and above all things. We pray that all that we do in this ministry brings glory to His name.
- We give thanks for the wonderful blessing of Emmanuel's pardon and release from prison. We give you all the honour and glory for all that it took for the wrongful charges to be dropped and for him to become a free man again. We pray for him as he adjusts to his new life after being in a prison cell for the past 14 years.
- We give thanks for the registration of Deaf Action Zambia. We pray for the board members and leaders of DAZ that they seek your wisdom and start to plan new projects for the Deaf in Zambia.
- We pray for the sale of the DMI school building in Davao. We give thanks for the hundreds of children that have walked through the doors of that school over the years and the lives that have been changed. We give thanks for Joshua and Jocelyn who have served so faithfully and we pray for continued blessings as they begin a new chapter.
- We also give thanks for our UK representatives, Gabi & Alison. We give thanks for their servant hearts and desire to share with others how You are spreading Your gospel to the Deaf throughout the world through the work of DMI.
- Pray for the campaigns for Malawi and Uganda. We pray that the needed funds would be raised to further Your work in these countries.
- We give thanks for the opportunity for the Deaf to gather together on a camp in Queensland, Australia. We give thanks for the fellowship that was had, the gospel that was shared and the generous hearts that raised funds for a motorbike for Ben in Uganda.
- We give thanks for our workers in China, that despite fear of persecution, they continue to share the word of God to those around them, and for the way that they've made ways to continue meeting together to worship. We pray for the new staff who are open to learning about Jesus. We pray for their salvation.
- We pray for the upcoming events planned for this year. Fundraisers, camps, Bible studies, conferences, speaking engagements and much more. We pray for Your hand to be upon them and Your name to be glorified through them as we seek to find more ways to reach out to share the love of Jesus to the Deaf around the world.



*Neville & Lill Muir
DMI Founders*



www.deafmin.org

www.deafministriesinternational.com

DMI Evangelistic Donations:

Details for EFT:

SWIFT CODE: BENDAU3B
BSB: 63-30-00
Account: 145833539

Paypal facility (secure) on website

USA Inquiries:

Deaf Ministries International
C/- Mrs Kathy Toth
8746 Bluebird Drive
West Chester OH 45069

Tel: 843 682 4934 (Mr. Peter Pfeil)
Email: ppfeil@hargray.com

Australian Office



Deaf Ministries International
P O Box 395
Beaconsfield, Victoria 3807
Australia

Ph: +61 3 5940 5431
e-mail: info@deafmin.org