

March 2018

UPDATE
FROM
ZAMBIA



Dan and Joan Jones Missionary Doctors Zimba Mission Hospital



Prayer Requests

(Please keep us in your weekly prayers)

Week 1 (March 4-10): Medical Stores Limited is the government supplier for the Ministry of Health. They did not give us any medications in January or February. Pray that they will supply the hospital with medications this month.

Week 2 (March 11-17): The Ministry of Health grant to assist with the monthly running costs of the hospital has not come since November. Pray that the next grant will be sent soon.

Week 3 (March 18-24): The United Nations estimates that 4.5 billion people live without "safely managed sanitation". Toilets save lives because human waste can spread killer diseases like cholera. Pray for improvements in access to proper toilet facilities in the developing world.

Week 4 (March 25-31): The current minimum wage in Zambia only covers 30% of living costs for a family of five. Pray that a fair minimum wage can be implemented soon.

Praise Item

(We celebrate what God is doing at ZMH)

Rainy Season has finally started: It has rained almost everyday for the past month. The scenery has changed from brown to green and the temperatures have become more moderate since the rainfall has increased.



**Pit Latrine
at a Basic
School in
the Village**

**Patient Toilets
at Zimba
Mission Hospital**



ZMH Staff Spotlight

(Highlighting a Staff Member Who Has Stepped Up and Been Doing a Great Job for an Extended Period of Time)



**Robert Namananga:
Toilet Cleaner**

Robert Namananga Has the Dirtiest Job at ZMH

Robert Namananga started working at ZMH in 2006. He is now 71 years old. His monthly salary is \$125. He has 6 dependents who he is responsible for at home. He has the dirtiest job at the hospital. His daily assignment is to clean the toilets. This task may seem like a simple one but it is actually much more challenging than it sounds.

Many of the patients admitted to the hospital come from rural villages. In the village, their homes do not have running water or indoor toilets. Instead, pit latrines are built a safe distance from their home. The pit latrines are dug to a depth of 6 feet. There is no toilet bowl or seat. Instead, there is just a hole in the ground that can be addressed by squatting or standing. Many patients are confused when they see a toilet for the first time at the hospital.

Another problem is the lack of toilet paper. Patients use whatever is most readily available. It could be grass, stones, or corn cobs. The foreign objects frequently cause an obstruction which prevents the toilet from draining properly. Robert has to then break loose the blockage before the toilet can flush properly again.