

### A Growing Partnership!

*Helen Sammon reflects on the purpose of the partnership.*

Sixteen years ago, the Bishops of Gloucester and Western Tanganyika had the vision to set up a partnership between our two Dioceses, to explore and celebrate the diversity and richness of the international church. Both those bishops, Michael Perham and Gerard Mpango, have since died, but I often reflect on how delighted they would be to see the Partnership which they began continuing to grow and develop.

Bishop Emmanuel's visit to us here in Gloucester last November (see opposite and overleaf) proved a great step in strengthening many aspects of the Partnership. The Partnership now feels truly 'Diocesan', in that it involves many hundreds of people in churches, schools, and church organisations, all growing in understanding and relationship with each other.

Our school partnerships enable children to learn about each other's cultures, their educational methods and family life. Church partnerships allow for mutual prayer as we share the different joys and challenges in our congregational life and mission. Our student sponsorship scheme creates one-to-one relationships between sponsors and ordinands, with the delight for those of us here who are sponsors knowing that we have trained a new minister for God's church. And we are now developing relationships between our Mother's Union groups (picture a thousand women in DWT!), our cathedrals, and some ecological projects as both our Dioceses respond to the global climate change crisis.

The stories and pictures in this Newsletter celebrate some of these relationships. If you would like to be involved in any way, please contact one of our Partnership Team members.



*Bishop Emmanuel with members of St Margaret's church, Whaddon.*

### Bishop Emmanuel in Gloucester

In November, Bishop Emmanuel spent ten very busy days in Gloucester, spending time with Bishop Rachel, Bishop Robert, the Archdeacons and, for the first time, meeting Dean Andrew. His visit also allowed him the opportunity to meet many supporters of the Partnership – both individuals and churches – and to go to a school and churches who have active partnerships with those in the Diocese of Western Tanganyika. Reports of some of the visits are given on the following page.



*In Hucclecote Community Garden at St Philip and St James church*

### Sponsorship

*During his visit, Bishop Emmanuel stressed the importance of the student sponsorship scheme. Peta Moffat, who administers the scheme for Gloucester Diocese, writes:*

#### Could you help the worldwide Anglican Church by supporting a student at Lake Tanganyika Theological College?

Our link with the college in Kasulu is a well-founded and well-run project with 24 students being sponsored at present. Some of the students are evangelists studying for 9 months, some are studying for 3 years for ordination, and we hope that in the future some priests in post will be able to take advantage of a refresher course.

#### You do not have to do this by yourself!

We have several groups of people who have joined together to spread the cost – currently £300 per sponsored ordinand per year – and welcome this approach.

#### What will happen if I/we say yes?

You/your group will be allocated a student by the College Principal and you will be invited to exchange photos and personal information. Later on, each party will send Christmas greetings and then hopefully take part in a WhatsApp video message exchange as well.

#### How is the college year planned?

The student year begins in August with the first semester finishing in early December. The second semester begins in early February following a time of parish placements. End of term and Ordination is in July.

*If you or your parish would like to take up a sponsorship please get in touch with Peta Moffat, [peta.moffat@gmail.com](mailto:peta.moffat@gmail.com). There is a vacancy for an immediate sponsorship.*

### Rebuilding Kasulu Cathedral

As reported in the last Newsletter, a major rebuilding project is underway at St Andrew's cathedral in Kasulu. Fr Kalebu, Sub-Dean, keeps us up-to-date with progress. It is planned that the impressive new cathedral will be dedicated in October.





## All Saints Academy's Visit to DWT

*Matt Round, ASA Chaplain, describes the plans for the visit in July:*

It's 2024, and the thought of taking 13 students and four staff members to an African country is becoming ever more real. No longer can I say the ASA Tanzania Trip is 'next year', no, it's this year and it's less than 6 months away!

Whilst the countdown can at times seem daunting, the excitement and buzz about the trip is certainly stirring amongst the team. We can't wait! The fundraising is ramping up, and plans are well underway as to what the details of the trip will look like.

Our hope is and always will be that eyes are opened, hearts are connected and inspiration is instilled from the culture, the communities and the individuals of Tanzania; building on the relationship between school and diocese, initially formed back in 2014.

Coming up over the next few months...

### School Production of Little Mermaid

This is one of our BIG fundraising opportunities. Please come and support us if you can. It runs from 29<sup>th</sup> February to 2<sup>nd</sup> March. Tickets can be obtained via ASA's website.

### Vaccinations

We're heading into vaccination territory and ensuring we are all fully protected.

### Team Time

Plans are being put into place for dedicated team bonding and Tanzanian culture lessons

We want to thank all those who have supported the team thus far, and ask for continued support and prayer as we make a big push in these final few months before we fly.

The trip is 100% fundraised. If you would like to give towards the cost of the trip you can do so via the link [https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/asa-tanzania-2024?utm\\_term=qKxzGV5XV](https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/asa-tanzania-2024?utm_term=qKxzGV5XV)

Please be in touch with the Diocesan Link Officers for more information about the Partnership:  
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For information on the Diocese of Western Tanganyika, see <https://www.gloucester.anglican.org/about-us/our-global-partners/western-tanganyika-tanzania/>



## Bishop Emmanuel in Gloucester

*Judith Manns, teacher at Clearwater Church of England Primary Academy, recalls a special day when +Emmanuel visited the school (seen left with Headteacher Kate Moss)*

It was wonderful to host Bishop Emmanuel and show him around our school in November. The bishop visited

every class and talked about his life in Tanzania, illustrated with photos that he had brought with him. The children were able to learn first-hand about life in different parts of the world. They asked him lots of questions about the similarities and differences in our schools and in the way of life.

Our Year 5 pupils gave a presentation about British Values and the Year 6 pupils gave a presentation on the Clearwater school values. The school's Worship Team led the collective worship with the choir and then Bishop Emmanuel was treated to a school dinner from the canteen. At the end of his visit Bishop Emmanuel gifted the school a painting of giraffes and zebras, the animals he had talked about with the children. The school gifted him a Clearwater teddy bear.

The school is now developing a partnership with St Andrew's Academy in DWT.

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*DWT Team Member Becca Faal writes:*

CNC (Cheltenham Network Church) was delighted to welcome +Emmanuel. He spent some time with the church leaders, and talked to the church with me about DWT. The partnership which we have with Ebenezer church was strengthened by his visit. +Emmanuel also enjoyed seeing my allotment and tasting chard for the first time!



*He also made two visits to St Philip and St James church, Hucclecote, as Alison Dight recalls:*

On Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> November, the church hosted an afternoon tea party for over fifty supporters of the Partnership. While we enjoyed a traditional English cream tea served by ASA students who will be visiting DWT in July, +Emmanuel spoke eloquently of the importance of the Partnership, and of his plans for the diocese. The afternoon provided an opportunity for all supporters to meet and chat with him, and for the DWT Team to sell preserves to raise funds. On the following morning, +Emmanuel was our guest at the Family Service. He again spoke about his vision for the diocese, the challenges ahead, and his gratitude for the church's partnership with Mwilanvya church in DWT. He also enjoyed a visit to the Community Garden on the church site.

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*What is life like at the Theological College? Mitcheldean and Abenhall churches, who sponsor Divina Hosea, asked College Principal Revd Alberto Koluza. Here is his response:*

Our timetable starts with a service every morning for thirty minutes except on Thursday when we have Holy Communion for an hour. So for five days a week there is a service at the college chapel. On Saturday there is no service, the students are free for personal business. On Sunday the students go to churches for practical experience. They have to serve at that particular church for a semester; for another semester they will be taken to another church.

The College prepares food for all students, so no-one cooks. All students live in the dormitory. Divina lives in a separate dormitory with three other female students.

According to our syllabus, a student has to study Old Testament, New Testament, Theology, Church History, Pastoral Theology, English and Greek. These are compulsory. There are other optional subjects.

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### DWT Partnership Team

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