



c
Team Member Jonathan with Bishop James, here acting as translator – into Swahili.

Group work under a mango tree, enjoying a breeze in the shade



Visiting Sunday worship. Only a few big towns have such buildings. Most are simple

Travel between villages. The two arterial main roads are much better.



Please support our SOMA ministry (Sharing of Ministries Abroad) May 28th to June 19th 2019

Bishop James of Masasi and Bishop Oscar of Newala have invited Matthew to lead two clergy conferences



Matthew worked for them ten years ago, and is privileged to be invited by them to minister there once more.

Masaki

Newala.

Matthew's team has five members. From the UK: himself, Jonathan and Matt, and from South Africa Rob and Ellen.

Some reasons for going:

First,

to offer a time of encouragement and rest for the clergy and key leaders. East African clergy have few opportunities to be together, and many lead lonely and demanding lives. They greatly appreciate 'time out' and time to be together.

Secondly,

Newala is celebrating the tenth anniversary of being a diocese, and this is an opportunity to 'begin again' after some tough interludes.

Thirdly experienced 'outsider speakers' give a particular freedom for everyone to reconnect with the love of God, and the work of the Holy Spirit.

Please will you help these two strong visionary bishops?

- You can
- (1) offer to pray each day and
 - (2) make a financial gift to help.

Details overleaf.

How can you help?

Offer to pray.

All who offer to become what we call intercessors

- receive briefing emails before we go
- daily updates, depending on the reliability and availability of the internet - though mobile phone networks are increasingly effective in many parts of Africa so texting may be easy.
- Often find a verse or thought which are given by the Spirit to pass on to the team: which is somewhat exciting!

Make a financial contribution

- Team members meet their own costs (flights, visas, anti-malaria pills).
- But *your* help with the conferences is vital. The conference budgets total £3,500: this enables clergy travel, food and accommodation. (Quite reasonable for 120 attendees at each conference.)
Such help means families do not have to go without so priests can afford to travel, plus the attendees eat well for three days. This is a real gift when you live on maize porridge, some vegetables and occasional fruit.
- Helping with the two conference costs also means these very poor dioceses can save precious funds for other work eg primary schools, orphanages, dispensaries and their rejuvenated bible college.

When your offerings are Gift Aided, £100 becomes £125.

Thank you for reading this. Do email me or call me to hear more and ask your questions, or, better, call in to the vicarage in Amport and we'll chat over a cuppa.

Matthew

revupmg@gmail.com 07960 299 434

Prayer support

If you would like to support the team through regular prayer, please contact Marilyn Childs who will make sure you receive updates from the team by email or phone.

Marilyn's email is mamrchilds@gmail.com
and her phone number 01264 783 435

Financial support

Over Wallop PCC has agreed to receive donations and claim any gift aid.

Gifts and completed gift aid forms

- can be put in the collection plate,
- or given to a church warden or member of the clergy
- or posted to *Janet Baldock at her home:*

Saye House, Orange Lane, Over Wallop, Stockbridge, SO20 8JB

Please label envelopes, "*Gift for SOMA Ministry, c/o Janet Baldock*"

Please make cheques payable to "*Over Wallop PCC*"

BACS payment can be made: *sort code 309021 account number 00265499*
reference "*SOMA*" but please let Janet Baldock have the signed Gift Aid form below.

More information from Janet on 01264 783 540.

Gift Aid declaration:

I wish to Gift Aid my donation of £..... to Over Wallop PCC for the support of the SOMA missions to Masasi and Newala.

I am a UK taxpayer and understand that if I pay less income tax and/or capital gains tax in the current year than the amount of Gift Aid on all my donations it is my responsibility to pay any difference.

Signature:

Date

Full name :

Address :

Postcode: