

changing lives in Africa, £5 at a time

## Church Building Expansion - Luangwa Valley, Zambia



You may remember that some High Five Club members visited the Luangwa Valley in Zambia with us in 2016. They went on to support a young man that they met there through college, Paul Ngoma, and in 2022 he completed his studies, achieving a Diploma in Theology at Chipata Bible School with flying colours.

Throughout his studies and beyond Paul has been a rural village pastor in Mnkhanya Chiefdom leading a growing, vibrant church in his community, alongside the wildlife-rich South Luangwa National Park. The church is called Revival Centre Church, PAOG (Pentecostal Assemblies of God).

Over the past 7 years the small rural Pentecostal church that Paul leads has grown from 30 members to now close to 1,000. Life is extremely hard for the people in this rural area, living in abject poverty as they do. Currently, they are facing extreme hunger as their maize crops have failed due to drought. Belonging to this small church enables people facing the same issues to support each other through times of great





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hardship. To come together to worship they say gives them strength and hope for the future, as well as the church providing practical help to the most vulnerable in this marginalised community.

The challenge that Paul and this little church have been facing is in enabling the community to come together and meet. When the community built their church it had space for 100 people to meet. Now with their rapid growth they have ca. 1,000 members. So the community approached the High Five Club and asked if we would join hands with them to increase the size of their church to enable more people to meet together at the same time.

## **High Five Club Support**



High Five Club responded to the community's request for support and joined hands with them to together increase the size of their existing church structure. The community hand-made each and every brick and collected sand and stones from dry river beds and transported these free natural resources by foot to the church. A lot of sweat and toil indeed given the distances walked with heavy loads. They also provided the labour needed to work on the extension, along with some of the pockets of cement needed for the build. As High Five Club we provided the materials that the community could not resource themselves, including iron sheets for the new roof and the remaining cement. With our collective support of the equivalent of £470.17, the community has been able to expand the size of their church three-fold to cater for their growth, allowing allow more of the community to come together at the same time to encourage and support each other in their faith and lives. We would like to thank our friends at **the Parish Church of St Peter & St Paul, Shorne who contributed towards this church expansion project.** 



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