

DAMON & LISA

# MATACCHIERA

HOPE ZAMBIA INTERNATIONAL



*Online Newsletter - January, 2026*



**Moving Forward Carefully—**

There's never a good time to come across a venomous snake, and this one was especially large and dangerous. We discovered it while clearing grass from the collapsing thatch roof at the Eagle's Nest on our property. Heavy rains had waterlogged the thatch, and the added weight caused part of the pole structure to break. Finding the snake didn't stop the work, but it sure reminded us to move forward carefully. Because where there's one snake, there's often another nearby. Repairing the Eagle's Nest has taken longer and cost more than we expected, but we believe it's worth doing. We've already had to rearrange several meetings because this location is closed. This space represents hospitality, training, and future ministry opportunities. **We're committed to seeing it restored so it can continue serving that purpose.** Some have asked how they can help. Financially supporting the repair of this building is a worthy goal, and **we are currently working on it.**

The rainy season is typically a slower time for ministry. However, this year has found us busier than ever. The church in Chipata is growing, and even with the many setbacks in obtaining the title deed for our church land, we expect to complete everything soon. **Chipata seems to be growing every day.** The streets are busier, and more people are calling this city home. We believe God has placed our church here for such a time as this, to be a light for the gospel and to help establish believers in a faith that goes deeper than culture or convenience. It's exciting to watch our church shine as a witness in a city of more than 200,000 people.

What's been really encouraging is witnessing God's people take ownership in the work here at Hope. We're seeing many come to Christ, and volunteers are stepping up to serve. There's a rising sense that the church isn't only a place to attend, but a place they belong to. That growth hasn't happened by accident. We've been intentional about building a culture of discipleship at Hope Bible Baptist Church here in the city. For us, that means more than classes or cultural change. **It's about directing people back to God's Word, helping them walk with Him daily, and accepting responsibility for helping others grow in their faith.** Our prayer is that Jesus would receive glory through His church here in Chipata.

## *A Little Letter From Lisa*



We recently started using a recording of piano hymn music for our prelude and postlude so that I could have more freedom to mingle and chat with our church family. One of the first weeks we tried this, we had just finished the closing hymn and prayer, and I was getting settled at the piano, hands ready to play the postlude, when the music suddenly started. For a moment, I just sat there confused. The piano was playing, but I wasn't. I stared at the keys, trying to figure out what was happening, and then it hit me. I remembered the new arrangement and laughed at myself. Apparently, the piano didn't need me, so I stepped away to chat with our members instead.

*The Let's Talk Missions Podcast*



LET'S TALK

# MISSIONS

CUT THROUGH THE NOISE  
REDISCOVER THE MISSION

All 10 episodes of our latest series on [Let's Talk Missions](#) are now online and ready to stream! That's 10 hours of engaging, down-to-earth conversations with Damon Matacchiera and Robert Chirwa, diving into what sustainable missions looks like in real life. From inspiring stories to practical insights, each episode is packed with encouragement and truth from the frontlines of ministry. If you've ever wanted to understand missions and truly make an impact, this is a journey worth tuning in to!



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