



## Christian Education Snippets

(Kevin Ricquebourg)

Dear Colleagues,

Declared by some “the best survival book in a decade” 438 Days is the true story of a man who survived fourteen months in a small boat drifting seven thousand miles across the Pacific Ocean.

On November 17, 2012, two men, Alvarenga and his friend Ezequiel Cordoba left the coast of Mexico for a weekend fishing trip in the open Pacific. That night, a violent storm ambushed them as they were fishing eighty miles offshore. As gale force winds and ten-foot waves pummelled their small, open boat from all sides and nearly capsized them, captain Salvador Alvarenga and his crewmate cut away a two-mile-long fishing line and began a desperate dash through crashing waves as they sought the safety of port.

They managed to get to within 20 miles of their desired haven when their outboard motor packed up. Now at the mercy of all

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the currents they were blown far out to sea. At the end of three months of living by their wits they had both lost weight and were battling to ensure that their water supply carried sufficient to keep them alive. The men had very different characters. Cordoba was given to bouts of depression and he came to believe that he would die shortly. Alvarenga on the other hand had a deeply held conviction that they would both survive the ordeal and live to tell others about it. Cordoba got thinner and thinner and began to entertain thoughts of suicide. Alvarenga did everything in his power to keep his friend alive. He gave him a generous share of the water which they gathered each day and prepared his food like a cordon bleu. Notwithstanding these efforts Cordoba eventually died hopeless and despairing.

Victor Frankl , well-known neurologist and pioneer of logotherapy, who was an inmate of at least three prisoners of war camps came to believe that only those who had hope in a better future would form the majority of those who would survive the ordeal of being a prisoner of war. He cites the example of two men whom he knew. One man believed that he would survive to see his wife again while the other felt doomed to die in the concentration camp. Within a month the second man was dead.

For the Christian the best always lies ahead! We live in tough times, in a country on the brink of economic disaster, in a world on the cusp of a third world war. It is easy to look at our circumstances and to give up, to despair and to lose hope. At moments like this we must turn to God's Word and read what God promises to His children. Look what Paul prays for the recipients of his letter to the Romans:

**“May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.”**

The above is our theme-verse for the Christian Educators' Conference later on this year. Look at all the positive words and phrases:

**God of hope; joy; peace; overflow with hope by the power of the holy spirit.**

Is this your experience now? If you're honest you are probably like me and many others. We glimpse the truth, we have moments of joy. Let's ask God's Spirit to give us overflowing hope, peace and joy as a steady experience of His love for us!

Kevin Ricquebourg  
ACSI (ZIMBABWE) Coordinator

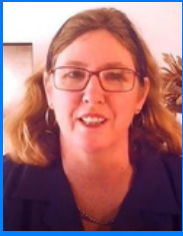
## **ACSI ZIMBABWE ADVISORY BOARD 2022**



**Back Row (Left to Right) : Eric Zinyengere, Kevin Ricquebourg, Lenard Mudiwa, Gus Hulley, Unity Sakhe**

**Front Row (Left to Right) : Sarah Cross (Chair), George Faneti, Tunga Mashungu, Tavonga Goto, Melanie Martin, Caroline Chirume, Temba Mkhosana, Charmian Deyssel**





## From the Chair.....

“Shalom” – Peace – was the recent theme for the ACSI Global day of prayer. It is more than a Hebrew greeting. It is more than just well-being. It is an understanding that we have a part to play in God’s larger story. Before time began, God planned for you and your school to make a difference in your community, right where you are, for such a time as this. It is contentment found in Jesus no matter the cultural tides encircling us. As the global team said, “When the Shalom of the Lord is present there is flourishing”, in other words, there is growth and beautiful, extensive, vibrant growth.

As we begin to look ahead at 2022, we are excited at the new opportunities and praying for God’s favour and growth in our membership and areas of influence. We long to be more accessible to anyone interested across Zimbabwe whether in government or private education. We are also looking at how to be a clearer voice in education, declaring God’s standards from a Biblical worldview. We believe this to be key to true holistic education and transformational for our country. In line with ACSI Global, we will be focussing on the 3 pillars of advancement, access, and advocacy. A key part of our advancement is that we long to strengthen partnerships with churches and other interested Christian organisations or individuals. We are also looking at new trainings and continuing to promote PSI, the Paths to School Improvement programme. For access, we continue to work on our data base, strengthen our social media platforms and presence, and also seek ways to subsidise membership fees for struggling schools. Our role in advocacy for now is building relationships and seeking to be a voice for integrating a Biblical worldview in education both to encourage individual teachers as well as institutions.

Please take time to look at our calendar and support any trainings or events as appropriate. Please also give us feedback on events or needs that you have and would like us to include in our partnership with you or your school or church.

In the month of February, many schools and churches and our communities celebrated

## KIDZCAN ORANGE DAY

supporting the cause of childhood cancer. Did you know that the founder, Mrs Andrea Whatman, is a member of one of our Associate members, Northside Community Church, and her heart is that Christ stays at the centre of Kidzcan, that each child and family know and hear about Jesus and His love and grace in their lives. We have included a bit of history on Kidzcan so that you can continue to pray and partner and see Gods blessings through being obedient to God’s call, one step at a time.

You will see on the calendar that we are excited to be having a visit by Sean Moore, the Director of ACSI Southern Africa, in early March, and he will be running various workshops, and visits to member schools. One of our partners, KURARAMA TRUST will be running a workshop on 12th March (entitled “The Mess and the Value in It”) to equip teachers - looking at mental health and substance abuse support and understanding. In April we will re-commence PSI trainings and there are still vacancies for new schools to join this two-year training programme to improve their schools. Please contact our office if you are interested.

To go hand in hand with the Peace of God, Shalom, our educators’ conference theme for August is HOPE. Jesus Christ is our HOPE. We have a great line up of speakers excited to support and encourage us.

So as we step into 2022, may the God of HOPE fill you with all joy and PEACE (Shalom) as you trust Him.

Sarah Cross  
(Chair)





As I think about KidzCan my mind is drawn to the story of the Little Engine that Could. A large freight train rolled into the station filled with toys for children on the other side of a large mountain. Its locomotive broke down and so the train started asking all the other locomotives, starting with the largest. They all looked at the large freight train and the large mountain and declined. Finally, the freight train asked the smallest (and cutest) locomotive – who said he would try. As the little engine pulled the large freight train over the large mountain you could hear it puffing, “I think I can, I think I can”. At times the mountain was steep, and the puffing was slow, “I... think... I can...!” But finally, the train got to the top of the hill and as it picked up speed, you could hear the engine puff, “I knew I could, I knew I could”. The train arrived at the station and the toys were distributed to the children.

26 years ago, Andrea Whatman came to see me at Northside Community Church. I was the pastor, and she was a member. She said that she felt God wanted her to do something to help children who were sick in hospital. Andrea was a patient in what is now Parirenyatwa Hospital with leukaemia as a child, until she was wonderfully and miraculously healed by God. She knew what it was like to be sick and in hospital. So, we started a ministry called Pari Volunteers. I asked Andrea what this would entail, and she said she had no idea! We learned as we went along, saying, “we think we can, we think we can”. There were times when the journey and the learning curve was steep.

One day Andrea discovered that the Oncology Ward (the ward Andrea was in as a child), only had Paracetamol. The children were weeping and crying out in pain. She burst into my office declaring, “I will not go back unless we do something to fix this!” So, I asked, how do we fix this? To which Andrea replied (again), “I have no idea, but I think we can!” We thought the journey and learning curve up till then was steep. Boy, were we wrong! Andrea pulled a small team together and we started assisting the doctors and hospital source drugs and whatever else they needed. We called on fellow churches and Christians around the world to help us pay for what was needed. We always had just enough! This part of Pari Volunteers grew until it was too big and so, KidzCan was created and registered as a PVO.

Northside continues to support all 4 children’s wards through Pari Volunteers, supplying things KidzCan cannot. KidzCan can only support children with cancer. If a child without cancer needs something, Northside tries to step in.

Kidzcan’s Vision is “A compassionate world where children with cancer are given the chance to lead healthy and fulfilling lives”. And its Mission is “Kidzcan is dedicated to increasing the survival rate of children with cancer in a loving and caring environment”.

We thank God for Andrea (the little, cute engine that could) and we thank God for loving sick Zimbabwean children. KidzCan continues to grow, but that is another story for another time...

Pastor Gary Cross ( Senior Pastor)



## WELCOME TO OUR NEWEST MEMBER SCHOOL

### PITTER PATTER PRESCHOOL - WESTQUE ACADEMY

We are a Christian School in the heart of Avonlea Harare. We have been operating since 2012. Our Preschool is called Pitter Patter and the Primary is called Westque Academy. We start taking children from 1½ years to 12 years of age. We have qualified, experienced and God fearing staff and pleasant school grounds for our children to enjoy. Our motto, is "Quest Ad Excellentem Illius" which in English means, Quest for Excellence - Achieving excellence in everything that we do. Our Vision is to be an outstanding Christian School in the community, achieving excellence in everything we do and ensuring every child achieves their full potential.



## CURRENT MEMBER SCHOOLS

Celebration International School

Destiny Primary School

Eaglesvale Junior School

Eaglesvale Senior School

Gateway High School

Gateway Primary School

Karanda Mission Primary School

Lendy Park School

Midlands Christian School

Midlands Christian College

Millennial Academy

Mutarazi Junior School

Pitter Patter / Westque  
Academy

Rainbow Pre-School

Southern Lights Trust

Success Tutorial College





# UPCOMING TRAINING EVENTS.....



## ACSI Zimbabwe Educators' CPD (Continuous Professional Development) Conference



with Sean Moore, Director of ACSI Southern Africa

### HEADS' CONFERENCE

Monday 7th March 2022

**Gateway Christian Training College**, Prices  
Avenue, Ashbottle

8:30 Registration

09:00 to 15:30

(Includes morning tea and lunch)

USD 15 (Members) USD 20 (Non-Members)

### GOVERNORS' SEMINAR

Monday 7th March 2022

**Gateway Christian Training College**, Prices  
Avenue, Ashbottle

17:00 Registration / TEA

17:30 to 19:00 "What Difference does my  
Faith make to my  
Governance?"

USD 3 (Members) USD 5 (Non-Members)

### SCHOOL DIRECTORS/ HODS SEMINAR

Wednesday 9th March 2022

**Gateway Primary School**

08:30 Registration  
09:00 to 10:30 "What has Jesus Christ got to  
do with Education in the 21st  
Century?"

10:30 TEA

USD 3 (Members) USD 5 (Non-Members)

### SCHOOL TEACHERS SEMINAR

Wednesday 9th March 2022

**Northside Community Church**, 8 Edinburgh Road,  
Pomona, Harare

14:00

14:30 - 16:00

Registration

"What Difference can a Christian  
Teacher make in a School?"

16:00

TEA

USD 3 (Members) USD 5 (Non-Members)

### HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT LEADERS SEMINAR

Thursday 10th March 2022

**Gateway High School**

14:00

14:30 - 16:00

Registration

"Leading by Serving."

16:00

REFRESHMENTS

No Charge

#### **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION :**

- Certificate of Attendance (soft copy) available on request
- Charges payable in USD cash or ZWL equivalent paid into the following account: ACSI Zimbabwe, Stanbic Bank (Belgravia) Account No. 9140002793368 (please email or present proof of payment)
- RSVP : Heads /Governors (by 2nd March)
- Directors / Teachers (by 4th March)
- High School Leaders (by 7th March)
- Email [info@acsi.co.zw](mailto:info@acsi.co.zw) / or whatsapp +263786031794



**FOCUS.**  
BY PROJECT KURARAMA

**PRESENTS**

at Gateway Primary School, Cnr Wretham Road and The Chase, Emerald Hill, Harare  
on Saturday 12 March 2022 from 09:00 to 13:00 (Registration at 08:30)

Charge: US\$10.00 per person  
RSVP by Tuesday 8 March 2022  
projectkurarama@gmail.com

**THE MESS**

..... AND THE VALUE IN IT!

AN INTERACTIVE WORKSHOP EXPLORING MENTAL HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE  
IN THE COMMUNITY THAT IS YOUR SCHOOL

.....AND THE ABILITY YOU HAVE TO MAKE A CHANGE  
AND WHY YOU HAVE TO!



**PROJECT KURARAMA**

.....progress, growth and healing in the context of community  
by fostering changed attitudes towards mental health and substance abuse.



**THE MESS**  
..... AND THE VALUE IN IT!

**WHO SHOULD COME  
..... AND WHY!**

Are you a headmaster or headmistress?  
Are you a deputy-headmaster or deputy-headmistress?  
Do you participate in policy development or manage policies for your school?  
Are you a school counsellor, life skills teacher or a head tutor?  
Are you in charge of a hostel or do you work as a san-nurse?  
Are you in charge of discipline at your school?  
Are you head of your school's sports department?  
Are you an administrator that has to deal with parents?  
Do you head up HR at your school?

.....or do you just care about the staff and pupils at your school?


IF YOU ANSWERED YES TO ANY OF THESE QUESTIONS  
THEN YOU SHOULD COME  
.....BECAUSE YOU HAVE THE ABILITY TO MAKE THE CHANGE  
THAT HAS TO BE MADE!

We're looking for up to 6 participants from your school!

(All Covid-19 protocols considered)

 **PROJECT  
KURARAMA**  
**FOCUS.**  
BY PROJECT KURARAMA

Have questions?  
Contact Dave Martins  
0775147179  
projectkurarama@gmail.com

  Kurarama - Zimbabwe  
@kuraramazimbabwe

# 2022 CHRISTIAN EDUCATORS' CONFERENCE

## "JESUS - OUR HOPE IN A HOPELESS WORLD" ROMANS 15:13

Planning has begun for our 2022 Christian Educators' Conference under the theme of "JESUS - OUR HOPE IN A HOPELESS WORLD" : "May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit." (Romans 15:13)

We are planning for a hybrid approach this year ie: A physical conference with the sessions recorded and made available on-line on our moodle platform. The benefits of this approach are that one can go back and re-listen to the sessions in order to get the most out of them, as well as the fact that people beyond our borders can also access the excellent material we will be sharing.

Please diarise **Wednesday 31st August to Friday 2nd September** for the physical conference.

*Watch this space for further details...*

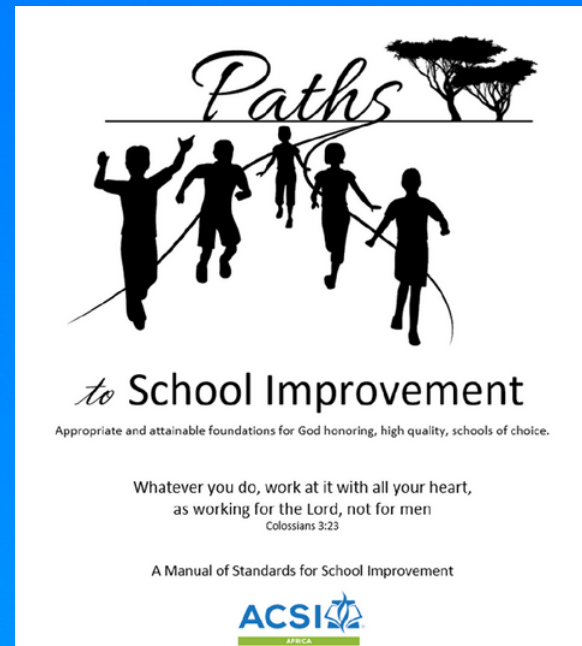


The ACSI Paths to School Improvement (PSI) is a strategy to accomplish resourcing as many schools as possible through a school improvement process.

For more information: email [info@acsi.co.zw](mailto:info@acsi.co.zw) or

Tel: +263 786 031 794

- Involves a two-year commitment to training, undertaken during school holidays by Heads, and then actioned throughout the term. There is a cost involved. The process of improvement continues as a lifelong commitment by the school.
- The advantage of this programme is that you walk the continual process in partnership/relationship with other schools, building a community committed to improving Christian Education through Zimbabwe and Africa.



If your school would like more details on the PSI Programme or to join Cohort 3 for training in April 2022 please do contact us at the above email or whatsapp number.



## TEACHER TESTIMONY

Havinei Chigodora

I am so thankful to the ACSI team for equipping me as a Christian educator with the Biblical knowledge that I need to be able to fulfill the values and mission of Gateway Primary School. As we all know that the school environment has a great impact on how a child develops, Gateway's Christian Education system has made a huge difference in my life and my children's ever since we joined the community. My children and I have developed a deep relationship with God and I feel blessed to see that now they understand that God does not only exist on Sundays when they go to church or at home when we pray as a family but that He is constantly at work every single day.

Allow me to commend all the staff members for the shepherding and discipleship work that they're doing to transform young lives. Speaking from a parent's perspective and teacher's perspective it should be said that it only takes witnessing transformation in children that are coming from outside for one to fully acknowledge the positive impact Christian education is making in the school in terms of spiritual growth and personal development. I have witnessed my children's lives being transformed ever since they joined the system as they have been encouraged to enrich their knowledge of God's Word through devotions and Biblical integration done during lessons. Now my children are well equipped with both hard skills and soft skills that they need to transform their world and make good choices in everything they do.

Keep doing the brilliant work you are doing ACSI, you have no idea how it is positively impacting the learners lives.



# ACSI ZIMBABWE CALENDAR 2022

FIRST TERM: (MONDAY 7TH FEBRUARY TO THURSDAY 7TH APRIL)

Friday 28th January:	10:30 – 12:30 PARTNERSHIPS SUB-COMMITTEE (ZOOM)
Tuesday 15th February:	ACSI Global Prayer Day
Wednesday 2nd March:	FINANCE SUB-COMMITTEE MEETING (ZOOM – TIME TBA)
Monday 7th to Friday 11th March:	Sean Moore Visit to Zimbabwe:
Monday 7th March:	Gateway Christian Training College 8:45 – 15:30 Head’s Conference (3 parts) (Sean Moore) 17:15 – 19:00 Board of Governors’ Seminar “What Difference does my Faith make to my Governance?”
Tuesday 8th March:	9:00 – 10:00 Tour of Lendy Park School 10:00 – 13:00 ACSI Zimbabwe AGM and Board Meeting 14:00 – 15:30 Address BY SEAN MOORE TO Lendy Park School Community “What Is so Special about a Christian Education?”
Wednesday 9th March:	Gateway Primary School 8:30 - 10:30 Sean Moore to address School Directors / HODs “What has Jesus Christ got to do with Education in the 21st-century?”  11:00 - 13:00 Visit to Millennial Academy  Northside Community Church 14:00 – 16:00 Sean Moore to address Teachers “What Difference can a Christian Teacher make in a School?”
Thursday 10th March:	10:30 – 12:30 Visit to Celebration International School  Gateway High School 14:00 - 16:00 Sean Moore to address Student School Leaders “Leading by Serving.”
Friday 11th March:	9:00 – 10:30 Pastors’ Coffee at Northside Community Church with Sean Moore Discussion on the “Role of the Church in Christian Education”
Tuesday 22nd March:	Gateway Primary School 18:00: Parenting Seminar : “The Pornography Problem”
Saturday 2nd April:	Interschools Athletics at Gateway High School
Friday 8th to Wed 13th April	PSI Training (Cohorts 2 and 3)



# ACSI ZIMBABWE CALENDAR 2022

## 2ND TERM: (TUESDAY 3RD MAY TO THURSDAY 4TH AUGUST)

Wednesday 1st June:	FINANCE SUB-COMMITTEE MEETING (ZOOM - TIME TBA)
Tuesday 7th June:	10:30 - 13:00 ACSI Zimbabwe Board Meeting
Date to be advised:	Gateway Primary School : Prefects Leadership Seminar
Monday 8th to	
Wednesday 10th August:	PSI Training (Candidate Trainees)
Thursday 11th to Tuesday	
16th August:	PSI Training(Cohorts 1 - 3)
Wednesday 31st August to	
Friday 2nd September:	Christian Educators' Conference

## 3RD TERM: (MONDAY 5TH SEPTEMBER TO THURSDAY 8TH DECEMBER)

Friday 16th September	09:00 - 16:00 : ACSI Zimbabwe Strategy Day 2022
Tuesday 20th September:	ACSI 21 Year Celebration
Saturday 1st October:	Teacher Certification Course
Wednesday 26th October:	FINANCE SUB-COMMITTEE MEETING (ZOOM - TIME TBA)
Friday 28th October:	Workshop for Teachers
Tuesday 1st November:	10:30 - 13:00 : ACSI Zimbabwe Board Meeting
Monday 12th to Wednesday	
14th December: (TBC)	PSI Training : Candidate Trainees
Thursday 15th to Saturday	
17th December: (TBC)	PSI Training : Cohorts 1 - 3





# MEMBERSHIP DETAILS

If you would like to enquire about membership of ACSI Zimbabwe please contact the office for details : [info@acsi.co.zw](mailto:info@acsi.co.zw) or [acsizimbabwe@gmail.com](mailto:acsizimbabwe@gmail.com) or call +263 786 031 794 <https://acsi.co.zw>

Membership Categories are as follows:

- 1) **INDIVIDUAL**: (\$10 per term)
- 2) **SCHOOL**: (0.50c per pupil per term)
- 3) **ASSOCIATE**: \$50 per term (for churches / business organisations)

## PRAYER POINTERS

- For growth and support to more schools across Zimbabwe through increased membership.
- For growth in being a voice for all schools working with ministry of education to support holistic education.
- ACSI Zimbabwe Advisory Board as they strategise for growth in 2022 - 23;
- Sean Moore as Director of ACSI Southern Africa and his leadership and mentoring role of schools in SA during these challenging times;
- ACSI Zimbabwe Members Schools: - those who are facing financial and other challenges;
- Re-commencement of PSI (Paths to School Improvement) training in April 2022;
- Schools who are currently part of PSI as they implement what they are learning;
- State schooling system;
- Protection for our communities, schools and families from Covid 19



If you have something to share, specific prayer requests or response to any article, please contact us :  
[info@acsi.co.zw](mailto:info@acsi.co.zw)  
[acsizimbabwe@gmail.com](mailto:acsizimbabwe@gmail.com)

If you would like to receive latest news from ACSI Southern Africa please notify by email to  
[info@acsi.co.zw](mailto:info@acsi.co.zw)  
[acsizimbabwe@gmail.com](mailto:acsizimbabwe@gmail.com)  
<https://acsi.co.zw>