



INDEPENDENT Presbyterian Church

May 23, 2011

To His Royal Highness, Senior Chief Inyambo Yeta

Dear Chief Yeta,

I am writing on behalf of the Staff, Session and Congregation of Independent Presbyterian Church in Birmingham, Alabama to express our deepest gratitude for the privilege of being in partnership with you and the people of Mwandu and the Mwandu UCZ Mission for more than 20 years. It has been a great joy to have the wonderful opportunity to have mission teams from our church visit the Mission, Mwandu Village and the beautiful nation of Zambia so very often these past many years. The deep and warm friendships we have established with you and your people have enriched our lives and our faith journey more than we can ever adequately express in a few short sentences.

Your kindness to each of our teams has been extraordinary. We have learned so much from our visits with you about the history of Barotseland, of Mwandu itself and of the Mission. Your own willingness to share the history of your life and the joys and challenges of your role as Senior Chief has added tremendously to our understanding of your nation and the culture of the Lozi people. What a joy it has been to share time with you over the years!

It is our deepest hope and prayer that our presence with you and with the people of Mwandu has made some small difference in the lives of those we have met. The difference our relationships and friendships have made on our own lives is remarkable. Every year, we return home humbled by the deep faith and rich spiritual lives of the people of Mwandu, whose trust in the Lord Jesus Christ is deep in spite of the hardships they endure. We are blessed to be in the midst of such faith each year.

We look forward to many more years of mission partnership with you and with the people of Mwandu. Please accept this brief letter as a small indication of our deepest admiration, our commitment to our friendship, and our great love for Mwandu and for her people. As long as you will welcome us into your midst, we will continue to come and spend time with you in Mwandu, giving what we can and no doubt receiving more than we will ever give. Thank you for the blessing of these many years of partnership. May the Lord continue to bless and deepen the ties that bind us to one another.

Yours in Christ,


The Rev. Susan A. Clayton

“Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. God’s love is revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us...”

“God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgment, because as he is, so are we in this world. There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. We love because he first loved us...The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God, must love their brothers and sisters also.” I John 4:7-12, 16b-19, 21

(I John 4:19 is etched on the original bell of the church in Mwandia, now outside the Jerusalem Church building)