

## Weekly Lenten Calendar 2021 The Nyadire Connection Hearing Innovation



**A thank YOU to TNC for the mattresses**

Imagine living in complete silence - not hearing the chirping of a bird, or the sound of an approaching train. How would you communicate with your parents, siblings or friends, if you were unable to hear their words? Many deaf people rely on using sign language, which is like a special code using motions of the hands and other body parts to spell out words or phrases to convey meaning.

Sunday 3/14	Monday 3/15	Tuesday 3/16	Wednesday 3/17	Thursday 3/18	Friday 3/19	Saturday 3/20
<p><b>Pray for all students who are deaf or hard of hearing to have equal opportunities like their school peers.</b></p>	<p><b>Give 35¢ if your teacher ever told you or your class to "BE QUIET."</b></p> <p><i>The Shona word for quiet is "NYARARA."</i></p>	<p><b>Give 25¢ if you have ever heard the BOOMS and felt the VIBRATIONS of fireworks.</b></p> <p><i>Those who are deaf can feel the vibrations of loud sounds.</i></p>	<p><b>If you couldn't hear, what sounds would you miss?</b></p> <p><i>Give 1¢ for each sound you would miss up to 50¢.</i></p>	<p><b>Give 25¢ if your grandparents or parents have a hearing aid. Give 50¢ if they don't use it.</b></p> <p>Very few at Nyadire can afford a hearing aid.</p>	<p><b>Give 10¢ if you know how to mute your TV. Give 20¢ if you don't.</b></p> <p><i>Try to watch TV muted. That is what it is like to be deaf and watching TV.</i></p>	<p><b>Was Beethoven who composed famous symphonies deaf? Give 25¢ if you said true. Give 35¢ if you said false.</b></p> <p>(the answer is true)</p>

**Hearing Innovation** - Deaf or hard of hearing people also rely on other physical cues when communicating, and may read a speaker's lips to help follow what they are saying. Without help and training, it can be an extremely isolating condition.

At Nyadire United Methodist Mission, there is a special school for children with hearing loss.. This school is one of only three in the country offering specialized care and instruction for for these children. Students enrolled in the school not only master Zimbabwean sign language, they also learn life skills such as arts and crafts, market gardening, welding, fashion & sewing, and carpentry. The opportunity for these kids to attend school allows them to develop friendships and build self esteem. Rather than being limited by their hearing disability, they are able to develop an identity encompassing all of their attributes.

TNC has developed a sponsorship program called The Hearing Innovation (HI) Program to help support these special students. Most of the 24 children in the program board on the premises. School fees must be paid, and uniforms are mandatory. In 2016, only one child had a hearing aid. In the ensuing years, donations to TNC have enabled the children to receive thorough ear, nose and throat examinations plus hearing tests. Nine students now have hearing aids and the school has purchased special student assessment tools and provided advanced teacher training. The divide between these students and their hearing peers was closed slightly when a TNC VIM team took them on a safari and a trip to Great Zimbabwe, the ruins of a magnificent ancient trading empire. They had never been on a field trip! Future goals are to equip all students with a Solar Hearing Aids, hold a parent workshop and provide students with another ENT exam.

To learn more, or to sponsor a HI student or even take a trip to Nyadire, please email Molly Michael ([mollyalice.michael@gmail.com](mailto:mollyalice.michael@gmail.com)).



**TATENDA!**