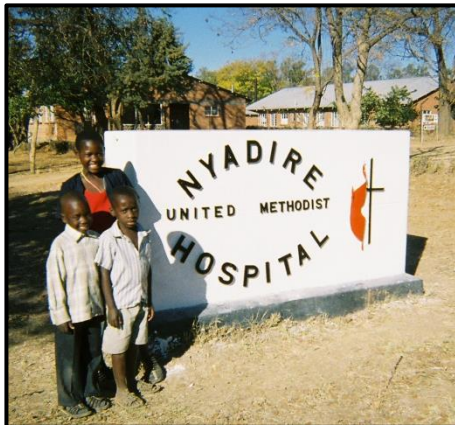


## Weekly Lenten Calendar 2021 The Nyadire Connection Medical Support



Dr. Tshiani inspecting meds brought in luggage to Nyadire.



Follow along each week to learn about TNC's varied programs; maybe you will become a TNC volunteer, too!  
Each day, read what is written on the calendar for that day and learn something new while you help support TNC's programs!

Sunday 2/21	Monday 2/22	Tuesday 2/23	Wednesday 2/24	Thursday 2/25	Friday 2/26	Saturday 2/27
Pray for full shelves of medicine at Nyadire Mission.	Give one quarter if you have Aspirin or Tylenol in your house.  <i>In Nyadire these medicines are not found in homes.</i>	Give 2 dimes if you have ever received a vaccine.  <i>In Nyadire vaccines are common.</i>	Give a nickel for every bottle or bar of soap in your house.  <i>Soap is a luxury for the people of Nyadire.</i>	Give a quarter for every toilet in your house.  <i>Homes in Nyadire have just one bathroom or if not an outhouse.</i>	Give a quarter if you can open your mouth and say "AHHH"	Give 2 quarters if your family had a prescription filled this week.  <i>Sadly, in Nyadire most can't afford prescriptions.</i>

**Medical Support** - One of the ways doctors can help someone who is sick get better is by giving them the right medicine. When the first team of volunteers visited Nyadire Hospital, the pharmacy shelves were empty. The hospital was also out of exam gloves and sutures for surgeries. It was even hard to keep a doctor on staff because of the remote location. TNC hunted for ways to procure these drugs and other supplies as soon as the team returned to Pittsburgh. Fortunately, one of the early shipments of pharmaceuticals to the hospital included drugs to fight cholera, equipping the community with the desperately needed medicine and hydration kits in time save lives during a cholera outbreak in 2009. A pharmacist at Nyadire carefully tracks medicine use and reports to a volunteer in Pittsburgh who helps place medicine orders. TNC spends about \$12,000 annually on medicine.

Volunteer teams traveling to Nyadire also carry in their luggage medicines and medical supplies collected from hospitals and other sources in the US. On one such trip, the doctor who greeted the travelers upon their arrival shared that a small child was suffering from breathing problems caused by asthma. A nurse on the VIM team dug through her luggage to pull out a medicine vial. The doctor gave it to the child that night, and her mother rejoiced as the child quickly recovered.

In addition to supplying consumable goods, or those that are “used up”, like medicine, exam gloves and sutures (special thread to close the wound after surgery), TNC has supplied Nyadire Hospital abundantly with medical equipment such as hospital beds, birthing tables, operating tables and lamps, orthopedic equipment and wheel chairs, computers, surgical instruments, and autoclaves. Autoclaves sterilize operating instruments; TNC has sourced them from CHOSEN, located near Erie, Pa. Retired workers there painstakingly disassemble, and clean the machines, replacing old parts so the machines are like new! TNC has even purchased ambulances and other vehicles, as well repairing the laundry equipment and X-Ray machine. The list goes on and on! One of the things VIM team visitors love to do is to distribute the baby blankets and hats knitted by members and friends of St. Paul’s UMC. To date, thousands have been sent to help welcome newborn babies. You don’t have to fly all the way to Zimbabwe to help the people at Nyadire! Even kids have helped by hosting fundraisers like spaghetti dinners and lemonade stands to raise funds for programs like those listed above! Thanks to everyone who has helped create a place where families can seek medical care in a clean and safe environment at Nyadire.



Dr. Tshiani and nurses inspecting water during Cholera outbreak. Cholera is a bacterial disease spread through unclean water.

**TATENDA!**