



**ANCIENT WAYS**  
PO Box 346 Scio OR 97374 USA



**NHIMBE FOR PROGRESS**  
PO Box 118 Mubaira Mhondoro Chegutu Zimbabwe

November 30<sup>th</sup>, 2020

Dear Friends of Ancient Ways,

Well, I must confess it's difficult to find the right words to sum up what this year has been, except that it will certainly be one that will be remembered and talked about for some time to come. I hope this letter finds all of you, family and friends, safe and well. This year brought us the Covid-19 pandemic and it's resulting effects with the tragic loss in July of Cosmas Magaya, our dear friend, and co-founder with Jaiaen, of Nhimbe for Progress. Cosmas was a beloved *mbira* teacher, mentor and inspiration to so many in our community and will be sorely missed. With the loss of Cosmas we faced some new challenges in the on-the-ground organization and operation of Nhimbe in Zimbabwe. The resiliency of the Ancient Ways organization has shined through once again in its ability to find ways to adjust and cope with these changes largely because of the incredible help and dedication of our Zimbabwean colleagues in Mhondoro working together with Jaiaen. We now have a new team in place in Zimbabwe that has stepped up into their leadership roles and are committed to moving the project forward with the same level of dedication and accountability as before. We are very fortunate and excited to have this partnership in place. More details about our new organization are in the attached Annual Letter.

Over the past year we have continued our focus on providing clean water. We have come to realize that a large number of wells have run dry over the past few years and we managed to extend 72 deeper in 2020. Also, due to some very generous donations, we were able to install a large new borehole (well) and windmill-powered pumping system, located at the Nhimbe Center. This well provides clean drinking water for all activities in the Center, residents in the area needing to haul water, and plenty enough more for irrigating the adjacent Nhimbe garden. Please check out the garden photos in the Annual Letter! New well building and more deepening is planned to continue in 2021. Our work also continues in the Nhimbe preschool operation, which opened back up in November with 53 preschoolers so far, and our Mhandara Monthly Care program with 84 girls, both with a current emphasis on Covid-19 protocols.

Ancient Ways has been very fortunate to receive a variety of support from many individuals, organizations and government agencies, here and there, over the last 21 years. Every donation, whether financial, volunteer hours, or words of encouragement and prayers, is greatly appreciated and well spent. Our newly established team will continue to provide a strong and reliable infrastructure in Zimbabwe that will assure you that all donations are utilized exactly as expected.

We are asking you again to assist our programs for 2021, and also to consider becoming a member of Ancient Ways. An Ancient Ways membership is an easy, effective and rewarding way to help us be consistent, while participating with us in our humanitarian efforts. Also, please consider an automated, recurring donation of your choosing as this method is extremely valuable to us in planning for the future.

It is only with your help, and the dedication of our friends and counterparts in Zimbabwe, that we have been able to remain focused, buoyant, and wade through whatever obstacles have come our way. This 2020 year was something else, but we have weathered many storms before, and will continue to do so. I want to express my sincere gratitude to all who have supported our efforts over these past years to inspire us to continue to persevere, to learn and grow, and to achieve what we have thus far accomplished.

With Warm Regards,

Jan L. Six  
President, Ancient Ways

P.S Our annual report online at [www.ancient-ways.org](http://www.ancient-ways.org) contains far more pictures than the printed version!