Dear Brethren.

I trust all is well with you, it's good to be able to sit down and update you all in the Lords work here in Africa which we all share in .Ivy and the children are doing well, it's still our winter here so days have been quite cold, even some snow falling in the eastern parts of our country.

We heard yesterday on the news that our new President made an official announcement that they will be going ahead with taking back land without compensation from white farmers . This is currently illegal in our constitution but since they have the majority of seats in parliament they are pushing forward now to change the constitution to suit their agenda and then call it "legal" . We really need your payers as this is exactly the same proto call the old dictator Robert Mugabe did in Zimbabwe , which led to massive violence and people getting killed and chased off their land . Despite the international outcry and none consensus of the people here in South Africa they still intend to go ahead . Once people were chased off farms in Zimbabwe this sled to the collapse of the economy and massive poverty and only the government and their connected friends benefitted by taking not only land but all personal property on most of the land. It has never benefitted the man on the street if anything the normal man who was employed as a farm worker lost his job .

As you are aware we stay out on a farm, and most of the Mabablabala Church's members are all employed in the farming industry so this action will affect all of us please pray that common sense will prevail and somehow this land issue can be resolved, without violence or destruction of our country.

On another issue our gas price has gone up 3 times since my last report, the main cause is the high oil price and our government taxes added on .This has a big effect on my work, as you are aware my work involves a lot of travel into other countries. I normally put forward, and work out a budget of the needs for the work in the beginning of the year, this budget is now way under estimated with the gas price with regards to travel. I have managed to absorb the costs from selling some hunts now in the season, but our hunting season ends this month and this will impact my financial situation going forward.

Drought Needs update:

As previously stated in my last report, I did have enough funds to help all our brethren in need until August .I have carried out buying and delivering maize meal to all our brethren in need and acted as your messenger and am happy to as always. The brethren asked me to really please make a point on thanking you so very much for thinking of them and showing such love, you are helping them survive through very difficult and hard times. I too personally want to thank you for answering my call for help, I am always humbled by you good brethren in your generous unconditional love, I am blessed to have fellowship with you .I will be delivering the August maize within these next few weeks in Zimbabwe and Botswana .I am planning to once again meet with suppliers and confirm and secure maize for the next 4 months until December. I once again make the call to all you good brethren to assist in raising the funds needed to make this possible, please help our brethren once again to get through this hard times. As it does take time to get the funds to me, I ask that as soon as possible if you are able to help, so I will be ready to pay suppliers. Also please pray that when our summer season starts it brings the needed rains to plant crops.

## ZIMBABWE:

As stated above I have been distributing the maize meal on all my trips into Zimbabwe ,the border crossings have been relatively easy .The traffic through the Zimbabwe border has slowed down due to the build-up of the election , I think many people rather just stay out until everything settles down .Brother Luckmore caught malaria and was hospitalised but has made a full recovery now, and we are great full for that .Malaria still remains a challenge in these area's and people who live there or like myself people who regularly travel in theses area's cannot constantly live on malaria medication , firstly they could not afford it and secondly it would become futile .

The brethren are all well under the circumstances, our brethren have at least their basic food need, thanks to all your love and fellowship. I visited all the congregations and had some good meetings with our brethren and also had a small preacher training session.

The political issues in Zimbabwe continued with the approach of the Election .The much advertised to the rest of the world as a "free and fair" election has not materialised. I was chased out of one village by Police saying we are not allowed to have public meetings , yet the mandate issued by the "democratic government "stated anyone can meet for any reason publically including if you wanted to campaign for the election .What you see published on TV is very different to what is going on in rural villages .In villages the ruling party is forcing people to come to their campaign's and threatening consequences if the ruling party should lose the election. In some villages I had no problem , but in Nyhombe village the ruling party campaign

members came a confiscated all the maize meal I had given to the brethren and were intimidated by the mob .When I received the word of what happened I turned around and retuned with the Village council and chief and only after Police arrived was the maize returned .

The election was subsequently held this Monday, and the ruling party who seems to have lost by a big margin refuse to release the results and are trying to have voters rolls in area's disqualified. So unfortunately seems like the same tactics of dictators just different faces, let's keep praying for our brethren who have to endure these hardships.

## **BOTSWANA**:

My trips into Botswana have gone well, with Ivy on the trips with me it makes it easier to travel the long distance roads, we at least get alone time to catch up in the car. There has been a lot more border traffic through Botswana, main reason as stated above most people trying to avoid travelling through Zimbabwe until elections are over.

The brethren are all doing fine, a few members with the flu and colds, as in the desert its very cold at night in our winter months. I have also been delivering the maize to our brethren in need at all three congregations and they too are very thank full for your love and fellowship.

We worshiped on Sunday with all three congregations, the Friday and Saturday Ivy taught the children in bible classes and I taught the adults. The work continues to be steady and the brethren are faithful.

## SOUTH AFRICA:

The Mabalabala work continues to grow, we have had good attendance considering it is still hunting season in our farming areas. We baptized a regular visitor 2 weeks ago so we are blessed

to have a new sister in Christ .The winter has been very cold and the pool water outside freezing cold , we braved it all and baptized our sister .

As mentioned before all our brethren work in the farming industry or are connected in some way, so this whole issue of land in South Africa has people very worried, but has also bought us more to our knees to our God. The work is doing well and brethren are growing in knowledge.

We too once again have also sent relief funds for maize to brethren, although it's not much, I am encouraged on the brethren's willingness and understanding with regards to needy saints.

Well brethren that brings me to and end of this report, please remember to contact me if you are able to assist with food needs of our brethren, please keep our Zimbabwe brethren in your prayers for the political issues going forward in that country, also once again prayers for rain in our summer and resolution on the land issue for South Africa.

You are all dear to us and we are blessed in your love and fellowship , please greet all the brethren .

In Christ we serve