

Dear Brethren

I trust you are all well on that side of the water , all is well with the family and I , I am content and blessed to be in our Lords service and in fellowship with you all. We are approaching the last month of our official winter , all though our winter would be considered very mild compared to the USA .The schools have a month vacation over our coldest month July , so the household has certainly been more busy .

Our government announced last week that they have put a task team together now to start working on changing our constitution to enable taking of land without any compensation , so this political football is kicked around again .No one knows how it is going to be implemented or under what circumstances . It is frustrating and worrying for us since our President keeps telling the rest of the world , this will only be done within the laws of the constitution , what he is not telling the Western world is that they are amending the constitution law to allow it , as the law stands now it is not allowed , so please continue to keep us in your prayers.

ZIMBABWE:

Just when you think the economy of Zimbabwe cannot get worse it does ,the government has now banned any USA dollars and South African rands as form of currency , they have now relaunched their own Zimbabwe dollar again , which is not recognised or is exchangeable anywhere else in the world ,as they have no backing for the currency so they are just printing money , and what is quite humorous is that they have only printed a small amount as they cannot afford to buy the paper as they have no forex to buy it .

Why I am I telling you this ? This has an impact on my trips and our brethren , there is once again very little food in the shops , shop owners are not allowed to have South African rands to come across the border and restock in South Africa as they always use to do, they now have to apply for forex (South African rands) through the local bank which has no forex to give them, it is such a mess , our brethren really need prayers that something will change in their country .

I as a South African may carry South African rands into Zimbabwe , but now when I do the next purchase of maize which I used to pay in South African rands , I will have to exchange my rands into Zimbabwe dollars , to buy maize .So this is how it will work going forward , if I receive US dollars to buy maize , I have to convert them to South African rands (that is our law) , then now when I cross into Zimbabwe and will have to convert those rands again into Zimbabwe dollars and all along this process I am charged for the exchange from banks.

Well , I hope that makes some sense in understanding , my trips into Zimbabwe have been quite drawn out due to the above money change , but none the less I have still managed to get to see all our brethren and teach and encourage as normal .I have also continued to deliver the food to the 6 congregations we are helping with food .The roads have been reasonably quite since there is very little gas around .The road blocks have intensified as the police and army are now searching for any foreign currency or any extra gas , you may not carry gas in a container if you are a Zimbabwe citizen , I have to declare my extra gas and pay tax on it at the border when I cross .

DROUGHT UPDATE :

As reported in my drought update sent out in March of this year , the higher regions of Zimbabwe did receive the rain and Botswana received the rain ,although it was late they were expecting to harvest in May.

I am Happy to report that both the brethren in Botswana and the higher areas of Zimbabwe did harvest their crops , it was not a great harvest as the late rains delayed harvest into our winter , but they did harvest enough to feed their family for the year ,which is prayers answered brethren , praise our GREAT GOD. What was very encouraging is that in Botswana the brethren that had a slightly better crop in the Mabua village shared and helped brethren in the Sehuno village , which I have been encouraging and teaching .

The 6 congregations in the lower area of Zimbabwe that we have helped with food , will still need our help until they have rains Lord willing and then Harvest end April 2020 .I did mention in my last report I had received all the funds needed to secure food until August and a bit extra .

I will be leaving for Zimbabwe in the next few days and will be handing out the last of that maize , so my next efforts will be to help our brethren from September to December the next four months .

I once again ask you good brethren to help me raise the funds needed to help our brethren with dire food need .

With the exchange currency issues and the increase in gas these are the numbers below.

I bag of Maize cost was \$17.50 in March from my last report .

I bag of Maize NOW costs \$ 19.20 in rural areas.

I will need one bag per Christian in need and currently at the 6 Churches there are 291 brethren to feed .So for the next period of September to December we need a total of \$5588 per month X 4= \$22348.

I have left over from last report request \$ 2140 so I need help to please raise the balance of R20208.

BRETHREN any help to help our brethren please will be greatly appreciated , even the small amounts add up , I pray you are able once again to help.

I thank you in advance for your continued Love and fellowship in this good work.

Botswana:

The work in Botswana is going well , once again no issues crossing the border or traveling on the roads , I did pass through two road blocks but had no problems .The brethren are doing well and the work is steady .Brethren are attending regularly and the bible knowledge and application is definitely growing .As I mentioned above with regards to the crops been shared amongst

themselves and done very wilfully is encouraging to see. The brethren are all doing well , we had no baptisms this time but we have 3 new regular visitors at Mabua and they are very interested .

Ivy is still doing a great job teaching the children , it's always heart-warming to see and interact with the children .I am blessed to have a wife working alongside me .

South Africa:

The work at Mabalabala continues also to be steadfast , we had a number of children attending Ivy's classes as mentioned we had school vacation ,so children come home from schools where they are boarding to stay with the parents working out on the farms .The brethren are all well , the Hunting season in Africa is closing now so the attendance will be more regular from next month .The men continue to grow in their abilities in song leading and other leadership roles in worship .We still continue to support a preacher in Zimbabwe and we have sent men to give funds to our brethren in need .I am trying to get all the brethren to be more involved and take responsibility for the work of the church .All in all everything is going well.

Brethren that brings me to the end for now , thank you once again for your love and support , this Lords work continues because of your fellowship , please continue to pray for the rains again as our summer approaches for our brethren in Zimbabwe , and please consider the help needed for our brethren going forward .

In Him we serve