

E'pap food supplement

Our Bulawayo team has just concluded an agreement with the supplier to purchase 480 kgs of e'pap – a 6-months' supply for 150 children aged 1 to 6 of this life-changing food supplement.

OPV seed maize

Finally – and this is very timely coming just ahead of the planting season – the team are to receive 9 tonnes of OPV seed maize from the Mike Campbell Foundation to distribute to those able to grow it. A huge help and encouragement to some of those in desperate need.

While the people of Zimbabwe await, fearfully, the official results of the election, and all that will follow, praise God that we can not only hold them in our prayers but are blessed with the means of building some real hope among many who would otherwise be despairing.

Thank you for being a vital part of this good news story that God is writing in Zimbabwe today !

Graham Shaw

And a word from Chris Collier, our Media Officer:

*We have been busy working on a new website that will allow us to share our work with you more easily – our Prayer Focus, bi-annual reports and news from Zimbabwe will all be available on the new site and you will have the opportunity to invite friends and family to subscribe to these communications from the site itself. We hope the site will be live in the next few weeks and will be sharing updates on this and other work via our **Facebook page** in the meantime, which can be found here:*

[Zimbabwe Victims Support Fund \(Facebook\)](#)



E'pap delivery: ZVSF in partnership with Barnabas Aid

Please note our new bank details:

Name: Zimbabwe Victims Support Fund
Account no: 34676637
Sort Code: 40-34-18
Bank: HSBC



Zimbabwe Victims' Support Fund

(Registered Charity Number 1145569)

Trustees and email contacts

Graham Shaw (Chairman)

shamwari48@gmail.com

Graham Matthews (Treasurer)

zvsf.treas@gmail.com

Chris Sworn (Secretary)

zvsf.csworn@gmail.com

Chris Collier (Media Officer)

chris_collier@live.co.uk



Mid Year Report 2023

Dear friends,

A pall of fear

It should be a time of hopeful anticipation, even excitement, but instead there is a pall of fear hanging low over the whole nation. The election was held on 23rd August and, as I write, Zimbabweans are awaiting the official results, due to be announced within 5 days. The people want change. They are desperate for change that will end the years of tyrannical mis-rule that have ruined the economy, reduced most to penury, led to a huge exodus of the most able from the country and stifled all but the bravest dissent within. So why should an election not be welcomed joyously? Quite simply because, like all the elections of the past 20 years and more, this election is neither free nor fair. Already before the first vote was cast, it was plain for all to see that the ruling party had total control of the process to ensure the only outcome they would countenance – their continued hold on power. Senator David Coltart, a human rights lawyer and candidate in the election, declared it *“the most illegal election I’ve ever participated in, it’s illegality on steroids.”*

Hence the fear now gripping the hearts of so many Zimbabweans. Nor should we ignore this stark reality, but it does make even the smallest contribution we can offer to building hope, realistically, that much more significant. With this in mind I am pleased to share with you some of the recent good news stories from our ZVSF team on the ground.

Intuthuko

This is a Ndebele word meaning progress or development, and it is a word you will be hearing more of in the weeks ahead. The word was chosen by the first participants in a self-help garden project funded by ZVSF. Hence Intuthuko Nutritional Garden - which is now taking shape just outside Bulawayo.



May 2023 and the bare site

The participants are all displaced families – many of them destitute - living in the area. Each family accepted under the scheme is provided with a small plot of land fed by drip irrigation, a few essential garden tools and starter packs of seed – together with some basic training in horticulture. The very able team leader for the project is Pastor Xolani Ndlovu who has a degree in agriculture and soil science.

Our funding has covered the installation of a new pump for the bore hole and solar panels to power it, along with drip irrigation.

Within a few months it is hoped that the scheme will be self-supporting and self-governing under an elected committee chosen from among the participants.



July 2023 and the first crop of carrots on the way

Lupane Primary Schools

Then there is the continuation of the good news story of providing nutritious school lunches to over a thousand hungry children attending five different Primary Schools in the Lupane area, north of Bulawayo.

Phanuel Moyo is the team leader for this project, and he describes being deeply moved himself by the joy and delight seen on the faces of the children offloading the precious cargo of food he delivers. He has shared with us some excellent photos taken on these mercy runs, and these can be seen on our Facebook page and website.