



Mid-Year Report 2026

Dear friends,

Fellow workers in God's service

The Mid-Year Report provides a welcome opportunity to share with you the ongoing work of our amazing team in Bulawayo and an update on some of the life-affirming, life-changing projects in which they are engaged. But to understand the significance of all this we need to be aware of how deeply challenging is the situation now confronting them.

As the economy falters and so many of the basic services fail; as the very Constitution, intended to be the bedrock of the rule of law, is shredded by the ruling elite, so the country descends even further into the darkness of dictatorship. For the population at large, daily life has become a struggle to survive – and now a struggle in the darkness of uncertainty and fear of what comes next.

This is the daily reality that confronts our partners on the ground – our *“fellow workers in God's service”* as the Apostle Paul would call them. How are they coping you might ask. And how is the Lord ministering to them - and through them - to the hungry, the homeless, even the despairing?

Praise God the deepening crisis has not taken them unawares. For many years now their ministry and work in partnership with ZVSF has exposed them to the insecurity and suffering of those surviving somehow on the very edge. At the same time their partnership with the Lord in reaching out to these, his beloved, hurting children has taught them how awesome is His unfailing love.

The ongoing task



Lupane primary school lunches: We praise the Lord that through your abundant generosity it has been possible to sustain the ongoing distribution of 10 tonnes of mealie meal a month to some of those in greatest need. One half of this allocation is for the children of 10 primary schools in the impoverished Lupane area. The road to Lupane is in an appalling state and the journey difficult, but this is more than compensated for by the joy of seeing the excitement of the children ready and waiting to offload the precious cargo and carry it to the school kitchens for the lunches to be prepared. The teachers say these nutritious meals are crucial to the children's wellbeing.

e-Pap: Then there is the purchase and distribution every six months of 480 kgs of the highly nutritious supplementary food called e-Pap which has proved so effective in treating the severely malnourished – children and the frail elderly. e-Pap comes as a powder to be mixed with water and served as a porridge. It really is a game-changer for those close to starvation.

Seed maize: We are also working closely with the Mike Campbell Foundation which has developed an open-pollinated seed maize to empower many thousands of the poorest of the poor to feed themselves sustainably using true seed that can be grown again. Our part in the project is in identifying the families that



can, with help, grow the maize seed, and then transporting it to them. We are now holding some 18 tonnes of the seed to distribute in time for the onset of the seasonal rains due in October.

New ventures in self-help

Intuthuko Nutritional Garden

Having funded the launch of this self-help project for displaced families and seeing it thrive, we are now able, through the generosity of one of our long-standing partner churches, to fund an extension of the project to include the rearing of free-range chickens. Those families participating in the programme will then be blessed with both vegetables and meat to sustain themselves, and to sell on any surplus to a local market.

Skills Training for school leavers

Planning is at an advanced stage to launch a new skills training project for school leavers from the Lupane schools who would otherwise only graduate to become unemployed. We will be working with the Bulawayo Projects Centre (BPC) who are already offering four months training in a variety of practical skills, leading to a recognised qualification and so, hopefully, to employment or becoming self-employed. As early as September this year we expect to be sponsoring a pilot scheme offering places at the BPC to six young people selected for training.



The chicken project breaks ground at Intuthuko.

We are excited about both the ongoing projects and these new ventures with our partners on the ground. Their enthusiasm to press on, notwithstanding the huge challenges, brings to mind the Apostle Paul's exhortation to his brothers and sisters in Christ living in Philippi, within a confused and corrupting society, *"to shine as lights in the world, holding fast to the word of life"* (Philippians 2:15). Indeed, Paul's words could well be their manifesto. We are proud to call them our partners in Christ.

And you too, our dear supporters, are partners with us in this great work of the Lord, and we are deeply grateful to you for your persevering prayers and generous giving which are the bedrock of the entire ZVSF programme. Our heartfelt thanks to you.

Finally, and briefly as it must be, a word of deepest thanks to a key member of our team who has given so much to our work over so many years yet always remained out of view himself. Chris Sammons, a graphic artist with a great artistic talent, has been the one designing and formatting all our reports. It is his talent which has brought these reports vividly to life, and we owe him a huge debt of gratitude. To Chris, now sadly forced to stand down from this vital task, our heartfelt thanks.

The ZVSF Team, Trustees and Supporters

Donations

BANK TRANSFER OR STANDING ORDER

Name	Zimbabwe Victims' Support Fund
Account no.	34676637
Sort code	40-34-18
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45 Barnsley
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Via our website: www.zimbabwevictimssupportfund.org/donate