



“Zimbabwe faces worst harvest on record”

"People in the lowveld (south east Zimbabwe) are so thin it is hard to look at them," said a Harare man who regularly travels to that dry area of the country.

“Zimbabwe, grappling with a record 2.2 million per cent inflation, has introduced a new \$Z100 billion (\$5.50) bank note to tackle cash shortages.”

“Zimbabwe is struggling to contain "unprecedented" cholera outbreaks that have spread to nine of the country’s 10 provinces, state media reported today.”

“About 5.5 million people in Zimbabwe - nearly half the population - need food aid, UN experts have warned”

These are just some of the Zimbabwe headlines news in 2008!

On behalf of the many believers in Zimbabwe, South African churches have been asked to help with finance for the purchase of seed for planting vegetables and field crops.

There is no seed in Zimbabwe at present for planting of food crops this season and millions of Zimbabweans face starvation, and are already surviving on insects for food. We in South Africa do not realise how blessed we are, as most of us have more food

and finance than we need. If this season to goes by with nothing planted, then next year will be even more desperate for Zimbabwe than 2008 has been. With a small garden, a family can at least have their own source of food, despite the economic and political problems facing the nation.

Although at the time of writing this article, the maize planting season has past, other seed that can be planted later is soybean, sugar bean, cowpea, sunflower, tomato, spinach, cucumber and carrots. We have relating churches in Gauteng who have been collecting seed and sending small packages into Zim with trips taking food parcels. This appears to be the only way to do it at the moment.

However, our friends in Zimbabwe will proceed with the lengthy steps necessary to secure import permits for larger consignments.

In the meantime, if you feel you would like to give money towards the purchase of seed for Zimbabwe please deposit the funds into our Mercy account, marking it very clearly, "**ZIM SEED**". We will then forward this on to Urban Life Church, Midrand, who is co-ordinating this mercy ministry with a group of people in Zimbabwe who run a programme called "Faithful Stewards Project". Part of this project is to teach people to first manage well what God has given them before wanting more. So they encourage them to use manure, compost, even anthills placed in the planting basin so as to maximise the advantage and help ensure the seed is not wasted.

Every contribution, however small, is appreciated, as God is able to multiply and do immeasurably more than we can ask or imagine.

Our banking details are:

Account	:	62055722203
Bank	:	First National Bank
Branch code	:	200412
Branch	:	Hermanus
Acc Holder	:	Live the Life Church, Mercy Account