



WORLD FEDERATION OF METHODIST AND UNITING CHURCH WOMEN

SOUTHERN AND EAST AFRICA AREA

He helps us in all our troubles, so that we are able to help others who have all kinds of troubles using the same help that we ourselves have received from God. Just as we have a share in Christ's many sufferings, so also through Christ we share in God's great help. **2 Corinthians 1: 4 - 5.**

Residing in Chitungwiza a dormitory town situated 30km out of Harare for over 30 years, this town is close to my heart. In my personal capacity and more so as Area President I felt that there was need to exercise my christian and social responsibility within my local church and the surrounding community. The residents of Chitungwiza town are finding themselves in an unprecedented circumstance because of COVID-19 pandemic, with the assistance of my friend namely Rosemary Mlambo of SAWA Charity, family members and friends in Christ, I started a feeding program on the 2nd of June 2020 at Nyatsime Methodist Church. The cooking and preparation of the food takes place in the church kitchen and done mostly by volunteers from my local fellowship Ruwadzano Women. They take turns to avail themselves for this worthy cause. We give all the Glory to God.



Our feeding program is assisting the underprivileged members of the society in our church and community. The majority of people are not employed and operate as street vendors. With this pandemic and the enforcement by Government of lockdown regulations all the informal and small businesses had to stop operating resulting in those affected failing to provide food for their families.

With the limited resources available to us, we are currently assisting families with one meal per day, preparing meals Monday - Friday. On the first day of the feeding program we fed 92 people. The numbers have increased and to date we are providing food to more than 300 people comprising of young children, men, women and the elderly. It is quite touching to an extent that food hampers were prepared and given to families with elderly grandmothers who were travelling long distances everyday with their disabled grandchildren in wheelchairs to collect their meal.



It was a joy distributing the masks and helping the little ones put them on, the masks which were donated by Tanya Mpofu from our MCZ Unit. She took her time to make face masks for children after we noticed some of the children were coming to collect food without masks on as per WHO guidelines. We really appreciate this donation to the less privileged.

We desire to keep the feeding program running until such time the lockdown regulations are lifted and pray God give us the strength and the provisions to keep it going forward for His Glory.

UNIT REPORTS

M.C.Z. UNIT

This Covid 19 has greatly affected our lives in one way or another globally. As Methodist Women Fellowship we decided to adopt the “we are locked down” but not knocked down attitude. Our Connexional President who is also the M.C.Z. Unit President Wadzanayi Zwana took this time to visit several areas donating food hampers, masks, logo materials. The areas visited are as follows: -

1. **Bulawayo and Hwange Districts** - Ndolwane and Tsolotsho.
2. **Gweru District** - Binga and Silobela.
3. **Harare East District** - Zengeza, Chitungwiza East, Murape and Chitsvedemo.

She went about educating and advising women on how to cope with Covid 19 pandemic more so teaching them how to make simple masks using the logo material she had donated for their families. During her visit to both Ndolwane and Tsolotsho, she noted that there was lack of vegetables since these are general dry areas due to poor rainfall. This has necessitated to embark on a project that of drying green vegetables and cabbages for distribution in all the 9 Districts which will in turn be brought in one central point for distribution to the affected and needy areas.

The Women Fellowship visited several Old People’s Homes and Children Homes donating food hampers and toiletries to assist them during these trying times. Covid 19 is still among us and by the Grace of God we thrive to be able to do more to the less privilege.

Mrs. Jane Chitsunge was in South Africa when the lockdown was effected and while she was there she made some masks.

A.M.E. UNIT

They had fliers printed in three major languages used in Zimbabwe, namely English, Shona and Ndebele concertizing people on Covid 19. Their cell group leaders are helping the under privilege elderly in their communities, this exercise is also done in Malawi. A.M.E. Unit now has a website where health issues are addressed and women are kept updated on Women Fellowship Business.

UMC SOUTH AFRICA

1. They have a District health coordinator who liaises with circuits who make sure that medication supplies for the senior citizens and sick people are collected from clinics and distributed to the respective needy people.
2. Women are providing transport to people who have compulsory clinic and hospital appointments since public transport has not been in operation.
3. UMW communication WhatsApp group is keeping all members informed about Government, Health Department, Church and Organization announcements and providing the pandemic fatal statistics that they are all kept informed of what is happening around them.
4. They provided food parcels to a limited number of people and distributed cleaning detergents to the needy households. Furthermore, they have sewn and made available face masks which are a compulsory to be worn in public.
5. Since most people are spiritual and emotionally drained; UMW in South Africa is working tirelessly to bring hope to those who are depressed and hopeless during this time of the pandemic by sending scripture readings, prayers and motivational talks
6. On a sad note, they have lost some members due to Covid 19 which has resulted in creating unbearable scares and sadness especially as they could not be able to pay their last respect to them due to the pandemic restrictions and regulations.

M.C.S.A. WOMEN ASSOCIATION

Covid 19 has continued to dominate our daily lives and people try very much to process the information received from WHO. The pandemic has altered the way people communicate, think and relate to one another and it is our prayer that it will come to pass.

1. One Health care worker from Women Association encouraged her colleagues to sacrifice their lunch and bring nonperishable food to work considering those who don't have any income. This initiative managed to provide 25 households food parcels as well pediatric unit for children who are severely maltreated.
2. They also provided food parcels to women work at Health-line Centre at the hospital from the monetary contributions done by the Doctors. Food parcels were also given to women volunteers at Crisis Centre. These health - care workers appreciated and were very grateful to the families for which we give all the Glory to God for enabling them to make a difference in those people lives.

3. With the help of a sponsor women were able to provide meals on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays to the elderly who were requested to provide their containers wherein their food was then delivered to them. Special effort was made to have food delivered to those affected with drug addiction.

4. Thursday in Black remain an important event of commitment in the Women Association to raise awareness and action against this shadow pandemic of Gender Based Violence which has increased during this period of lockdown. Women displayed posters of Thursday in Black with different slogans. Videos were created and circulated condemning these evil and inhuman actions against women and children. A candle is lit at a school every Thursday and teachers willing participate in supporting this campaign by wearing their Thursday in black badges. Thursday in black masks were made with a slogan "Say NO to violence" these masks were sold and the money will be donated to Kenya Unit for the FMG Mission Project.

UNITED METHODIST BURUNDI

From the time when Covid-19 was announced and the government took measures for prevention and response, The United Methodist Church in Burundi was among the first churches to approach the Ministry of Health for a partnership so that we do not invent the wheel in terms of key messages to be used in our different congregations. This was an easy task to the church leadership as they had an ongoing conversation regarding the renovation of one of the church Hospitals. The leaders were received very well and were given necessary support to launch a campaign against the Corona virus in Burundi. The Minister of Health appointed his Deputy, Dr Joselyne Nsanzerugeze, to always be at our disposal whenever we needed the Ministry support in this campaign. First and foremost, our Church Health Department organized a one-day workshop for all the 13 District Superintendents and their lay leaders, together with all members of the Burundi Health Board. At the end of the training, an action plan was developed to train all church leaders across the Burundi Annual Conference on Covid-19. During the same training, decisions were made to arrest/or prevent the spread of the pandemic and have since been implemented:

1. Hand washing tools and sanitizers were placed at churches entry points.
2. Sanitizers were availed inside the church to be used on microphones and music instruments that are shared among users.
3. Social distancing is mandatory in all worship places
4. Multiple church services were implemented to decongest churches every time of worship
5. During the celebration of the Holy Communion, pastors find worshipers in their seating places rather than moving towards the Alter as it has always been the practice.
6. Churches members were instructed to have tippy-taps installations at their houses and use them regularly
7. The church leadership has also instructed District Superintendents and pastors to explore possibilities of adopting open air services whenever rains are not expected. A part from that, women were at the forefront in training on Covid-19 prevention and behavior change on hand-washing. So hand-washing kits and soaps were distributed to local churches and surrounding communities in different church districts of the United Methodist Church.

To you O Lord I offer my prayer in you my God I trust. **Psalms 25:1 - 2**



Masks by Jane Chistunge

WOMEN'S MISSIONARY SOCIETY
COVID-19
IMEMTHEKA NJANI?
 I Covid 19 imemtheka njengomvimbano isuka emuntwini olegcikwane ngendlela ezilandelayo;

Nxa umuntu ethimula kumbe ekhwelela

Ukuthintana kumbe ngokuxhawulana izandla

Ukuthinta laphe okulegikwane khona kungaba liphepha, isitulo ubusubamba amehlo, amakhala kumbe umlomo ungasazanga izandla

Ngokuphefumula igcikwane eliphuma nxa umuntu olalo ekukhwelelela kumbe ekuthimulela

IZIBONAKALISO
 Izibonakaliso ze Covid-19 zinyenza iibhotubhelana leminywe imivimbano onxa zingezilandelayo;

Ukutshisa komzimba **Ukukhwelela** **Ukuphefumula nzima**

AME CHURCH- WOMEN'S MISSIONARY SOCIETY

SINGAWENQABELA NJANI?

- Ukugeza izandla njalonjalo stebenzisa amanzi agelezayo lesepa besisigcoba + Sanitizer
- Ngokuvala umlomo lamakhala ngengalo kumbe nge-tissue nxa sithimula kumbe sikhwelela
- Ukungazibambi amehlo kumbe amakhala lokungaxhawulani

AME CHURCH WOMEN'S MISSIONARY SOCIETY
CHENGETEDZA UTANO
COVID-19
ZVIDZMIRE KUBVA KU CORONA VIRUS

GEZA MAOKO
 Nguva nenguva uchishandisa sipo nemwura yakachena ugozora Sanitizer

SHANDISA TISSUE KANA GOKORA
 Kana uchikosora shandisa tishu kana kukosorera mukati megokora rako

USABATE
 Edza nepese paunogona napo kusabata maziso, mhino kana muromo

USASWEDERE PEDYO
 nevanhu, varikukosora, kupisa muviri kana kuhetsura

GARA KUMBA
 kana uchikosora, kupisa muviri kana kukosora, kana kuti ufonere rubatsiro kubva ku clinic Isaiah 26:20

AME. Zimbabwe Flyer



M.C.Z. UNIT



Hand-washing kits distribution in the Northern Province of Ngozi



Handwashing kits distribution in eastern part of Burundi



UNITED METHODIST BURUNDI