

## **Urgent Appeal to Support Alliance Partners in Zimbabwe**

By: Staff

The African Baptist Churches of Zimbabwe, one of the Alliance's principal international partners, is suffering. And the suffering is only predicted to worsen as climate change accelerates, further disrupting weather patterns in the southern African nation. Political and economic instability prevails, thereby complicating any systemic response to climate change and the resulting threat of widespread famine.

The Alliance is deeply concerned about the members of the 23 Baptist churches that make up the African Baptist Churches of Zimbabwe. ABCZ formed five years ago, seeking freedom from the theologically coercive and controlling Zimbabwe Baptist Convention. Our long-standing relationship with these brave churches, some served by women pastors, as well as the Zimbabwe Theological Seminary, leads us to appeal to the Alliance's individual and congregational partners to view their crisis as an opportunity to give, learn and pray.

### **Give**

Give to help alleviate hunger and suffering. Give and take a small step in repairing some of the harm our actions, now and in the past, have caused. Can you support at \$50 per month, \$600 per year? This partnership will make such a difference for the individual ABCZ churches.

### **Learn**

Along with giving, take the time to study and learn about climate change and its impact on the most vulnerable people in the world. Study and learn that, unfortunately, those who are least responsible for climate change are also the people who most likely suffer the most from its effects.

### **Pray**

Along with offering actions for justice, you are invited to lift up the people of the ABCZ in prayer. Please join us in generously sending the people of the ABCZ prayers of love and the energy of the Spirit, offering solidarity to the congregational leaders and people of the African Baptist Churches of Zimbabwe.

Along with giving and praying, take time to learn about the deep historical and political roots of the crisis impacting Zimbabwe today. Decisions about land policies and employment practices dating as far back as colonial periods have repercussions today.

How do we respond when our collective and individual actions have contributed to immeasurable devastation and suffering? We give and we commit to learning. We pray. We take responsibility to right a wrong, and thereby take one step toward transformation—our own, and that of the world.

If you'd like to learn more about Zimbabwe, below are some places to start.

*Articles:*

[“Just Climate”](#)

[“Catholic Agencies Intervene in Zimbabwe climate Change Crisis”](#)

[“Climate Change impacts, vulnerability and adaptation in Zimbabwe”](#)

[“Fueled by Climate Change, Zimbabwe’s Erratic Harvests Cause Farmers with HIV to Struggle”](#)

[“Zimbabwe’s food security in crisis—but not for reasons you might think”](#)

[“ZANU’s neo-liberal turn \(again\) and the Shutdown in Zimbabwe”](#)