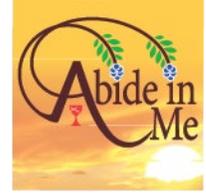


Offering Meditation

By Global Ministries



Nesta never stops working. Every day for the past fifteen years, she has been bustling around her farm to grow nutritious foods to feed her family and to sell at the local market. Several years ago, Nesta lost her husband, and she is now the primary breadwinner for her family of three children.

Over the past three years, Zimbabwe has been experiencing abnormal and extreme weather patterns, including long periods of droughts. Nesta's face was downcast as she explained how she had not been able to harvest many vegetables because of the droughts. Nesta made the difficult decision to use her savings to buy more seeds and more fertilizer for her farm. "All for nothing," she said, as the harvest was still not enough to feed her family and generate an income.

Nesta and her friends were testing out different farming techniques when Nesta heard about a new conservation farming workshop through the Zimbabwe Synod of the United Congregational Church in Southern Africa. Through this workshop, Nesta learned how to use a drip irrigation system, which has been proven to help farms yield crops amidst severe droughts. The Zimbabwe Synod also assisted Nesta in purchasing and installing her own drip irrigation system.



Now, the produce in Nesta's farm is growing again and she will be producing a harvest similar to the ones from before the droughts. Nesta is looking forward to feeding her family, paying for her children's school fees, giving to her local church, and buying a new outfit. This project of the Zimbabwe Synod of the UCCSA was supported by Global Ministries and is just one example of the ways that we abide with communities all over the world. Together, we are walking with sisters and brothers around the world who are seeking better lives for their families, communities, and countries.

Call: I now invite you to give generously as we worship God through the sharing of our gifts and offerings.

Prayer:

God,

We long for the time when the meek shall inherit the earth
and all who hunger and thirst after justice
shall be satisfied,
and we believe that now is always the time
when more good can be done
and we can make a difference.
May it be so, through the offering of these gifts
and the offering of our lives. Amen.

Source: Justice and Peace Prayers by Iona Abbey