

THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
ZIMBABWE ANNUAL CONFERENCE
SPECIAL CENTENNIAL SESSION
1997 ANNUAL REPORTS

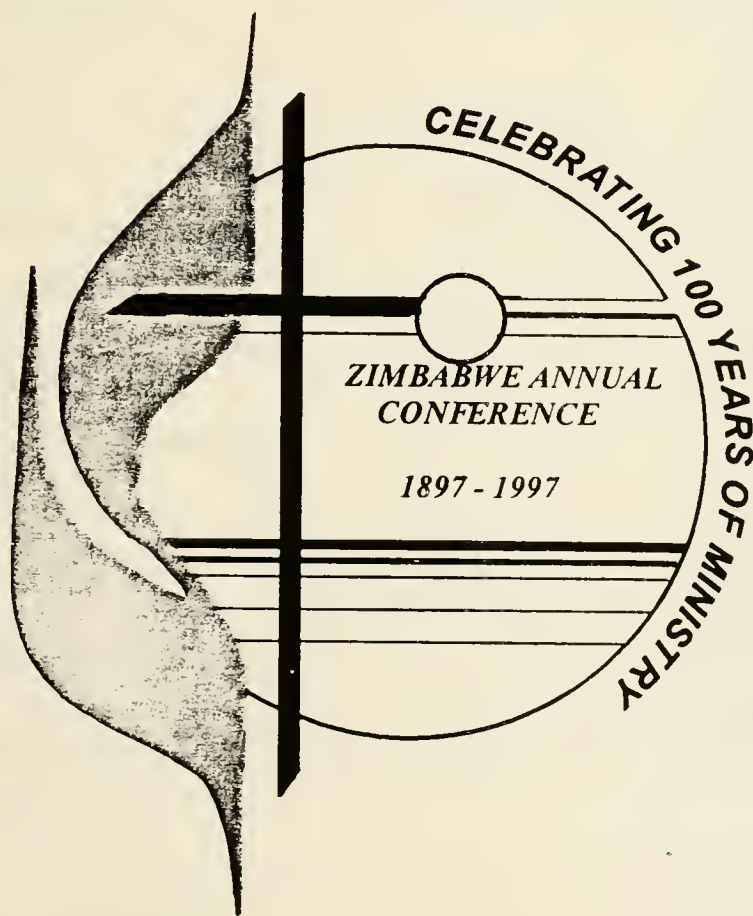


VENUE: OLD MUTARE MISSION CENTRE

DATE: 9 - 11 DECEMBER 1997

“WAIT UPON THE LORD...” (ISAIAH 40:31)


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DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENTS REPORT: TO THE EIGHTEENTH SESSION OF THE ZIMBABWE ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH: OLD MUTARE MISSION ON 9 – 11 DECEMBER 1997

1. **PREAMBLE:**

(a) **INTRODUCTION:**

Bishop, the purpose of this preamble is to give you and the Conference, a synopsis of the background, present situation and projection of our ministry since December 12, 1897. Details will be presented by your various agencies in their reports.

(b) **GREETINGS:**

First, we greet the President of this august Annual Conference in the name of Jesus Christ. We believe that the Holy Spirit has steadily guided us as a people of FAITH. The contribution made by Rev. John Wesley our founder, via the missionary work done by all the preachers since then, culminating in the work of Bishop Joseph Crane Hartzell who PLANTED the seed at Mutare Mudhara in 1897, can only be summarised by noting and thanking the various torch-bearers in the persons of:

Bishop William Taylor
Bishop Joseph Hartzell
Bishop Eben Johnson
Bishop John Mckendree Springer
Bishop Newell Booth
Bishop Ralph Dodge – who is here today with us. Praise God. And
Bishop Abel Tendekayi Muzorewa – who is also here today. Praise the Lord.

Because of the ministry of these men of God (and their wives --- dead or living) Bishop, we give glory, and honour, and our heartfelt gratitude to God who found favour in their ministry; and from strength to strength the ministry grew.

To the list above, we must also add the names of our own Church Fathers and Mothers who received the TORCH --- Jesus Christ, the Light of the World. Bishop, we must greet these layers of the African foundation even though post-humourously by (“Singing” Calling”) their names:

Baba Clifford Faku (1882 –1946)
Mai Lydia Chimonyo
Baba Thomas Marange (1886-1972)
Baba Isaiah Darikwa (1889-1951)
Mai Mandizera
Baba Simeon Machiri
Baba Paul Mariyanga
Baba Benjamin Katsidzira
Baba Renton Vilika

Baba Nathaniel Jijita
Baba Benjamin Kawadza
Baba Andrew Mbengo, and many others!
The Rev. David Mandisodza, the first to be trained and ordained!

Because of their sacrificial ministry, we give glory to God. We also take this opportunity, Bishop, to thank all the missionaries living or dead, who helped to spread the gospel of Jesus Christ not only in Zimbabwe but in Angola, Mozambique, Zaire, Uganda, South Africa, Malawi, Zambia, and other regions in Africa South.

As a result of the work of these missionaries, today we are blessed with the company of Bishop Emilio de Carvalho of Angola, and many other African Bishops who are present here in spirit.

Finally, Bishop, we wish to greet and thank all the delegates and observers present here today. May God richly bless us all in spite of sickness, poverty, and unemployment, suffering and even death. Truly, those who wait upon the Lord shall be given STRENGTH. (Isa. 40:31) The word is true that: some sow, others water and still others cultivate and others yet harvest!

Mr President, our greetings would be in vain and would remain wanting if we do not greet you our father, friend and shepherd and your wife, Edith Jokomo, the children; Verna and Rutendo. May God richly bless your family both for your sake and for the sake of the Zimbabwe Annual Conference. Truly, the Lord is in this place (and we did not know it!)

2. **SPIRITUAL REFLECTION** (*Isaiah 40:31 and John 10:10*)

As United Methodists we have to reflect on the past 100 years of ministry and acknowledge that we have come this far not by our wisdom or might but through the guidance, sustenance and grace from our God. The Lord God who is faithful and just, says: "Those who wait on the Lord shall be given strength, they will fly like eagles, will run without getting weary..." As a people of faith, we believe that the Lord is the rock of our Salvation. Without Him, we can do nothing. Our African Church fathers and mothers (named in the greetings above) lived by faith and hope not by their own wisdom or might. Today we count them as more than conquerors. Age, ignorance, gender or illiteracy did not work against them because God was with them.. God constantly gave them new life, new hope, and new strength. They who wait on the Lord will not grow weary. They live from strength to strength. God the Lord of life continues to rejuvenate us spiritually.

In fact, they who wait on the Lord – they who live in Jesus Christ will receive the abundant life, which Christ came to give. "I came that you may have life and have it abundantly" (John 10:10b) What God gives abundantly cannot be exhausted at all. The two phrases: "Will be given strength" and "have life abundantly" both point to ETERNAL JOY and VICTORY that is experienced now and at the hour of our death by "those who wait upon the Lord". For people of faith, it is no longer them who live for themselves. They live for Christ and Christ lives in them. It is Christ who lives in them and for them. Christ, who came to give us abundant life also constantly gives

us strength, making us victors! Therefore, if strength comes from Christ and he gives abundant life, it means we can expect to receive the gift of ETERNAL LIFE. We live eternally, not in misery but in joy – and we also live abundantly in Jesus Christ.

Zimbabwe Annual Conference, ours is a life of HOPE and FAITH. For instance think about these few examples:

- (a) do you realise that as a church we run a million dollar organisation but we do not have any money in the bank? Yet we are debt free?
- (b) do you realise that almost at every revival meeting we win souls to Christ but we have not written any books on either evangelism or theology, or mission
- (c) do you realise that many of us went to the Universities without paying a single cent from our parents? The Church paid!
- (d) Most of us worship in churches built by Christians we never knew!

They who wait on the Lord shall be given not only great strength but great blessings. Is our church not a blessing to our nation?

As a church, we have some of the best hospitals and clinics in the nation; as a church, we have some of the finest and affordable primary and High Schools in the nation; as a church, we were the first to build and run a private University.

They who wait on the Lord shall fly like eagles. Eagles fly above everything, even mountains. We therefore live above corruption in our nation, we live above illiteracy in our nation; we live above abject poverty in our nation. WHY? Because “those who wait on the Lord shall live abundantly”. And they shall be abundantly satisfiedwith the fullness of God’s love and ... AMEN.

3. A GENERAL OVERVIEW OF OUR FAITH/SPIRITUAL JOURNEY:

To account for an action packed period of one hundred years is not easy. But here we attempt to do just that. Following is a general overview of the activities of the Zimbabwe Annual Conference from its establishment.

PHYSICAL GROWTH

The Zimbabwe Annual Conference (then known as the Rhodesia) was set in motion on December 12, 1897 by Bishop Joseph Crane Hartzell who planted the United Methodist Church in the Eastern Districts of this country – here where we stand today (Old City of Mutare). When Bishop Hartzell preached to about 35 people, little did he know that each of those worshippers would represent more than three CIRCUITS within a period of one hundred years. *One preaching point* at the present site of the Mutare’s Puyzey and Payne garage has GROWN into not *only 130 circuits*, not only *11 districts* but a 100 000 member *Zimbabwe Annual Conference*. Ordinarily time works *against* life, but that is not the case with church life. Times have actually worked for life.

Also worth noting is the rapid growth of the Rhodesia Mission Conference under Bishop Eben Johnston reported in 1917 as having only *four* districts. The first episcopal leader to be assigned to this annual Conference was Bishop Eben Johnston. A period of 80 years has seen the membership grow from under 2 000 (both full members and probationers) to over 100 000; member of our constituency this year, 1997. This reflects an average membership growth of 1258 people per year.

In terms of mission centres, after Old Mutare Mission, founded by Bishop Hartzell, we have since established several other stations in this period. All these operate Primary and secondary School. However, it is at Old Mutare that the Africa University is located. Thus, the first Mission Centre has also become the first to host the first United Methodist Church related University in the nation. From strength to strength!

Regarding the healing ministry of the church, currently the Zimbabwe Annual Conference runs numerous clinics and three full-fledged hospitals, namely Nyadire, Mutambara and Old Mutare Mission hospitals. The vision of this conference must include establishment of community health centres in the remote villages in the next 100 years in order to match the ever-increasing national population.

We are proud to announce that we cannot keep up with church buildings and parsonages because *membership* population keeps increasing faster than provision of *buildings*. However, it is our commitment to make sure that not only the clergy personnel but all people live in decent homes. Consequently, the *overall standard of living* is getting better every decade although we wish we could say the same of the *cost of living*.

4. CLERGY PERSONNEL ANALYSIS:

The success story of the Zimbabwe Annual conference depends largely on the role played by the clergy – both expatriate and indigenous. Note that although it took 24 years to train and eventually ordain the first indigenous minister (1921), Rev. David Mandisodza, since the ball started rolling it has not stopped. 100 years later, we have more than 100 trained and ordained ministers. Many pastor-teachers received their “theological training” at the Biblical Institute at Old Mutare. The Zimbabwe Annual Conference later joined hands with other denominations in the business of training the Clergy. To date, the majority of our ministries are still being trained at the United Theological College. Naturally, our denomination has taken leadership in the training of women ministers. The first women in the Zimbabwe Annual Conference to be trained and ordained elders include Sheila (Mutasa) Nyajeka and Shirley (Culver) Dewolf.

Soon after our war of liberation in 1980 the Zimbabwe Annual Conference had only 61 clergy members in full connection, 10 local pastors and 2 probationers. In seventeen years, we have trained 104 local pastors, and now have 101 clergy members in full connection. The number of local pastors has increased so much because there is greater need for pastors than are pastors available. As a measure to curb the emergency situation, we have revitalised the Conference Course of Study program in order to provide in-service training to non-college-trained pastors. We

have requested the Council on finance to give priority to ministerial education. However, availability of funds does not necessarily guarantee availability of suitable ministerial candidates. We still have to “WAIT ON THE LORD” to raise men and women (young and Old who feel called to the ordained ministry.

With flourishing circuits and districts, we now have 11 district Superintendents. 1996 saw the appointment the first woman District Superintendent in the person of Rev. Mary Masamba. Also, the average age has dropped to 40 years in the cabinet.

We cannot move into another next topic without thanking our overseas friends who have volunteered to sponsor and help train some of our pastors. Pictorially, here is distribution of our clergy by academic qualifications.

Up to grade 7	15%
Up to 'O' Level plus university diploma	65%
Up to degree (1 st and 2 nd)	18%
Up to doctorate	2%

We have resolved to reopen the Biblical Institute in order to train more clergy since “the harvest is plenty yet the labourers are too few”.

5. COUNCIL ON MINISTRIES:

The Council on Ministries, which runs the programs of the Church including Christian Education, has indicated a great need for emphasis on Christian Education. Therefore we declare it a priority area which must receive adequate resourcing in the future.

6. CHRISTIAN EDUCATION AS AN AREA OF CONCERN:

The word of God has been proclaimed in Zimbabwe by the United Methodist Church for a hundred years now and many people have turned to Christ – the only way to salvation. When people are evangelised there is still a lot of work to be done in nurturing their souls so that they begin to understand that faith. This nurturing of the souls which is the objective of Christian Education, needs great emphasis in the Zimbabwe Annual Conference. There is need to revamp and redesign the Christian Education Curriculum in order to address the current spiritual, social and ethical problems confronting our society today.

Converts to the United Methodist Church need to be taught the meaning of faith, and doctrine and polity of the denomination.

In order to have effective lessons in Christian Education, it is necessary to have trained personnel. Church members need some guidance in producing relevant Christian materials for spiritual and moral development of the Church members. The production of Christian pamphlets, booklets and books is long overdue for people who want to cultivate a strong Christian culture.

Church-owned printing press could make the production of reading materials accessible to members of the church. More Sunday School and class-meeting books are required in our church. With new issues in our ever-changing society, it is not enough to continue to use old materials because these may be irrelevant.

As we enter the second century we hope to make serious improvements in Christian education personnel development and the production of Christian Education materials for effective nurturing of the church members as they go into the world to preach and teach Christian principles and to live the Christian life.

Of course, we realise that this calls for a relatively heavy budget.

7 **FINANCIAL GROWTH:**

From its implantation, the church has always needed funding. We are pleased to share with you today that our financial growth has been steady. We are beginning to experience the meaning of financial self-reliance. Thank God, most of our members have become aware that they must assume the responsibility of funding all church programmes as was done by our missionary friends who brought the gospel to us. Accordingly, we have identified several ways and means of raising revenue.

8. **HARVEST THANKSGIVING:**

One major traditional source of revenue for the Conference is district assessments. With II districts now, our revenue is still very low. The more exciting source of revenue which has steadily gathered popularity is one of our own creation, *namely The Harvest Thanksgiving.*

This practice started in the 1970s when the whole conference raised about \$15 000 (1976). In 1990 we raised \$1 m. In 1992, our target of \$2m was achieved. This year, 1997 we have beaten our record by raising \$6.5 million. This annual financial increase reflects the enthusiasm and commitment of the ever-increasing membership of the Zimbabwe Annual Conference. Although we still receive funds to assist with special projects, we can say, indeed, we have come a long way. The Zimbabwe Annual Conference is committed to the goal of self-reliance.

9. **FINANCIAL GROWTH: (From receiving donations, to making Contributions.)**

The Zimbabwe Annual Conference has benefited a lot from financial support from mission agencies of the Denomination in Europe and the USA. For example, in 1991, we reported: "A total of \$872 967.48 is need in 1992 to support Conference, district administrative needs, Theological education, Council on Ministries, Medical, Ecumenical and numerous other Conference programmes and Agencies."

Of this, \$232 470.78 (27%) shall be raised locally i.e. within Zimbabwe., while \$640 496.70 (73% came from overseas sources.

Now, a little over 5 years later (1996) the Zimbabwe Annual Conference budget of over \$5,5m was raised by ourselves. Although we struggle very hard to meet the

budget, we give glory to the Lord of the church who equips and enables us to grow from strength to strength.

9. **FINANCIAL RESOURCES:**

Bishop, we do truly thank God who has enabled and equipped us to explore both traditional and other methods of fund-raising. Our most popular way of raising money are:

- a) harvest thanksgiving
- b) tithing
- c) Commercial businesses/projects e.g. Stationery Foundation, Tariro etc.

Our members have shifted their giving concepts from giving as little as possible (1 cent!), to giving as much as they can (in 1997, two or three individual members have each given \$10 000)

10. **HIGHLIGHTS OF THE CENTURY:**

1. 1925 Abel Tendekayi was born at Old Mutare.
2. 1946 Christopher M. Jokomo was born.
3. 1957 Abel Tendekayi was ordained Elder
4. 1978 Christopher M. Jokomo was ordained Elder
5. 1968 The Methodist Episcopal Church combined with the United Brethren Church to form the United Methodist Church.
6. 1968 Abel Tendekayi was elected bishop: first African bishop for the Zimbabwe Annual Conference.
7. 1980 Zimbabwe became Independent
8. 1992 Christopher Jokomo was elected bishop of the Zimbabwe Annual Conference.
9. 1991 Africa University was established.
10. 1996 Christopher Jokomo was elected to life episcopacy.
11. 1990 Zimbabwe Annual Conference hit the one million dollars mark for harvest thanksgiving for the first time..
12. 1997 Centennial Celebrations for the Zimbabwe annual Conference (December 12, 1997).

11. **RECOMMENDATIONS:**

1. We recommend that in the foreseeable future, we process the establishment of two or three (will depend on current membership) Annual Conferences in the Zimbabwe Area.
2. We enter the unchurched rural and farm areas (and the elite) for the purpose of spreading the gospel.

BULAWAYO-MIDLANDS DISTRICT

1. **INTRODUCTION:**



Rev. Dr. G.H. Muzorewa, D.S.

The Lord Jesus Christ challenges us with these words “If you love me you tend my sheep”. This is what the Church is called to do today. Christians are challenged to show love for God by ministering to the least of these. As a districts we are committed to serve and to worship God in spirit and in truth, (John 4:24). Bishop, on behalf of Bulawayo-Midlands District and on my own behalf, I greet you in the name of the Lord of the Church.

The following is the annual report of our pastoral and fiscal activities of the year 1997. The report will conclude with our vision of the future of our district, and indeed the Church as a whole. But first note our geographical location as well as our economic contribution to the nation.

Below is the Map of Zimbabwe indicating our industrial and tourist activities where some of our members are involved in management, employment and spiritual development.

Evangelistic Expansion:

Bishop, as we begin 1998, we have at least three new circuits which are opening up. A couple of years down the line, we expect to build Churches in the areas where we are already field as United Methodist Church worshippers.

First, we thank the Zimbabwe Annual Conference for the major decision it made to enable the Church to grow by “pruning” the former district of which we were a part. This new district consists of the following circuits.

Hwange / Victoria Falls
Bulawayo North
Bulawayo East (Inner City Church
Bulawayo West
Bulawayo Central
Gweru West

Gweru East
 Kwekwe East
 Kwekwe West
 Redcliff

With the exception of the first and the last circuits on this list all the parishes are doing very well as evidenced by their spiritual and financial growth. Kwekwe West is quite healthy but it only suffered “membership drain” when more that 80% of the more active membership transferred out all at once. However, this did not result in a loss to the district as these have formed a new circuit to be evaluated by COM, which may ward it its proper status at the 1997 Annual Conference. Hwange-Victoria Falls Circuit is easily negatively affected by the instability of the Hwange Mining Community. My assessment is that, if Victoria Falls is managed by an ordained pastor, the circuit will at least be self-supporting. Otherwise, it has had to be subsidised by the district. One could say there is some potential for growth. Kwekwe West is rising steadily.

Statistics:

The Bulawayo-Midlands District started with only 1512 full members in January 1997. The past nine months have seen us win to Christ 1934. We have more than doubled our original population! Note that not all these “new people” are first time converts. Some of them are old United Methodists who had not placed to go and worship within the United Methodist Church context. So, our presence in this area, Bishop, is awakening United Methodism in many people who remain without choice but to convert to their old favourite church. The chart below shows our terrific population growth.

Statistical Chart:

CIRCUIT	YOUTH	INF/CHN	MEN	FEMALE	CIRCUIT TOTAL
Bulawayo Central	24	77	198	315	590
Gweru West	84	160	63	104	411
Kwekwe East	51	140	154	83	328
Redcliff	38	99	26	64	327
Bulawayo East	40	97	127	221	487
Bulawayo West	135	119	73	147	474
Hwange	29	54	25	33	151
Bulawayo North	45	190	26	63	134
Gweru East	30	154	40	95	319
Kwekwe West	37	30	23	44	134
Kwekwe Inner-City	17	39	22	32	93
District Total	530	1 167	677	1 201	3 575

Note: This chart shows circuit by circuit breakdown and district total (3 575).

Pastoral Activities:

Bishop, we are sure that it adds to your joy to hear that due to the dedicated pastors you assigned to this district there has been tremendous spiritual growth. The dynamic District COM Director you assigned to this area has facilitated seminars and meetings. Overall the

pastoral leadership in the district is excellent at pastoral activities. For instance, all circuits combined, we had:-

- 224 Baptisms were performed
- 121 Members were confirmed into full membership
- 255 Members were received as new members
- 54 RRW Members were installed
- 16 MUMC Members were installed
- 24 UMYF Members were installed
- 116 Members transferred out

The rest came by profession of faith, or simply resumed worshipping after many years of not attending church since they felt they were in a “strange land”.

One Church building was finished and dedicated by the Bishop (Mbizvo in Kwekwe East). The Kwekwe West parsonage is ready for dedication.

Bulawayo North (Luveve) is struggling to build the parsonage. Gweru East, Mkoba North, Hwange and Bulawayo East are working hard on building their Churches.

Spiritual Growth:

“All this struggle is so that we may enter the Kingdom of Heaven” says Mr. W. Tabvuma. This report is not complete without a brief statement on the spiritual aspect of our working the district. Bishop, we are witnessing the work of the Holy Spirit in how the Church is growing in leaps and bounce. We started the district this year with only 1 512 members. Now 2 063 have been added to our number. Praise God. In the leadership of the District Lay-Leader, Mr. Wilbert Tabvuma, a businessman who believes that God comes first in everything, we have organised spirit filled revivals which have enriched most of us. The Victoria Falls MUMC Revival held in May and the RRW Revival recently held in Bulawayo (August 21 - 23) are more magnified instances of what is happening in every circuit in the district. In one circuit, one of the weakest men who actually walks with crutches is among the strongest spiritually. In one circuit, there is a man we nicknamed “Bob Marley” (I hope he gets a chance to perform at the centennial celebrations). Among the hardest working circuits is Bulawayo Central which now has “Jacob’s Well” (tsime rewaKaseke) own bore hole. This is where the RRW District Revival was held where over 1 500 worshipers gathered. All my pastors agree with me that the Holy Spirit has indeed “harnessed” people who were otherwise wild. Now these have become “soldiers of at the cross”.

Financial Growth:

Bishop, I salute the men, women and youth of this district because they are able to “rova hosho”, to “rova minamoto” and give money to God”. Our financial status is as healthy as our spiritual stamina. For instance, faced with the normal expenses of FUNDING A NEW DISTRICT such as buying a new parsonage, District Superintendent’s vehicle’ establishing a new office, we think we have started on a very high note. We have not made any claims for subsidies from the Zimbabwe Annual Conference. Instead, CONFAD informs us that we are among the very few districts that have been paying dues in full and on time. Bishop, the leadership of our Finance Chairperson, Mr. John Mvududu together with his able treasurer Mr. O. Mataruka, to mention only two, has led our people to give “with a cheerful heart” due to the transparency of our finance committee. Fancy our Harvest Thanksgiving total of

\$390 000,00, which reflects the abundant giving of dedicated people! This comes from a membership of less than 2 000 (size of some congregations in certain districts! On the average, our people gave over \$200,00 per person. If our district had 11 900 members, at this rate, we would have raised over \$2.8m.

Bulawayo-Midlands District Vision:

According to the vision of my Top Executive and the pastors, we see the district giving birth to three new circuits next year. If a few more circuits are created, we will come up with a possibility of two new district within the next five years (being named Bulawayo District and Midlands District). Midlands would include Kadoma, Chegutu and Gokwe at the point. This dream is based on the observation that the city of Bulawayo is capable of more several new circuits than are currently in existence. Viewed mathematically, if each circuit multiplies by two Bulawayo alone could be a district. As Bulawayo East (Inner City) begins to plan a wonderful sanctuary, they know that this could be the Headquarters of the new district, unless Bulawayo Central beats them to it. A more wild dream is that Victoria Falls area may combine with our Zambia Circuit, creating a new mission district like Masvingo. However, I would not lose sleep over this because it will be in my "after life". Bishop, we invite you to come and dream with us. Certainly Bulawayo-Midlands District and Harare West should work together to form four districts within the quadrennial!

The Definite:

What we are focusing on right now is that within the next five years we should witness at least five new circuits in Bulawayo-Midlands District. We expect CCOM to authorise the establishment of what would be Kwekwe Inner-City in 1998. (This is a promising sleeping giant). Gweru West is nurturing Mkoba North as a prospective circuit in 1998. Gweru East is announcing the establishment of Shurugwe as circuit in 1998.

Gratitude:

Bishop, I want to personally thank you for giving me the task to lead this district which was born to lead and for being my pastor when I need one. Thank you for sending the VIM Team to Kwekwe. I thank you for all the pastors you sent to our district because they helped me to grow spiritually during our spiritually rich retreats. Most of all, Bishop, help me to thank Rev. Kelvin Mwandira and Rev. Tsitsi Chigwizura who have been acting in my absence. In the same breath, I thank my wife Sue, who has worked very hard to facilitate district works specifically the RRW. My district executive deserves a big thank you for their commitment to the Lord and the Church. Grace and Peace be unto you all till we meet again.

Submitted by: **Gwinyai Muzorewa Ph.D.**

DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT*

HARARE EAST DISTRICT

Preface:

Allow us to welcome you to the Harare East District. God has blessed us with a rich and wonderful ministry.

This report is a comprehensive document that details the history, mission, projects and vision of the district. With a membership of 8 889 there is no reason why our mission and vision cannot be fulfilled. The district is composed of 18 circuits with unlimited potential for growth.

The contribution of the 18 clergy members is distinct as one goes through this report. At the end of this report, one would have walked through the essential ministries that the district has done and is doing. May God bless you and inspire you to participate in the work of Harare East District.

As its name implies, the district is located in the eastern part of the capital city of Zimbabwe. It encompasses a satellite town of Harare City namely Chitungwiza. We stretch on as far as Hwedza about 140 km away from Harare, we go to Marondera first about 70 km from Harare then Svosve.

Geographically, this is one of the smallest district in terms of the area one travels. If one wishes, you can go around the district in one day.

Welcome:

Harare East District greets you all in the name of whom we serve. Bishop and Mrs. Jokomo, other Bishops of the United Methodist Church present at this conference, District Superintendents, Pastors, Delegates and all invited guests. 1997 has been a hectic year for us as a district.

It started with a moving installation service of the district superintendent, which was held at St. Paul United Methodist church on the fifth day of January. It was an event that propelled our vision and mission. In our ears these words still echo, "to serve and not be served". Allow us to walk with you through our accomplishments and failures for this a great year when the whole church is celebrating 100 years of ministry in Zimbabwe.

Introduction:

Harare East District has been in existence as a district for three years. It started as a small district but growth has been tremendous as witnessed by the works recorded in this document. From thirteen circuits to twenty in three years is very significant growth indeed.

Out of the twenty circuits, two of the m are to be created at this annual conference. Almost every circuit is involved in a massive construction program, a factor that has in a way limited our involvement in extensive mission work.

As we celebrate 100 years of ministry, the district is proud to be part of a great church. This can be viewed in the works that the churches of this district have accomplished in a short time. We, like others present a brief history of our district, an overview of the circuits, our

involvement in mission work, special ministries to women and children, our vision and commitment.



District Superintendent Rev. C K Chikoore at Installation Service.

Mission Statement:

The superintendent of this district has been tasked by the Lord Jesus Christ and those in authority, to oversee, direct, dream, spread the gospel, uplift the standard of our ministry as the United Methodist Church in Zimbabwe. We have pledged to do so, to the best of our ability. We shall oversee, direct, dream dreams, preach the gospel, uplift the standard, so help us God.

History of the District:

At a meeting held in 1986 with the town residents (old site for Mutare) Cecil John Rhodes agreed to move the town to the new site (Mutare City). The reason of moving to the new site being that the railway line from Beira could not pass to the site because of the Nyamashiri Range (Christmas Pass). Incidentally Bishop Hartzell had met Cecil Rhodes in Cape Town and had indicated to him that he was looking for a place to start a mission. When asked by the residents what he was going to do with the old site, he said that he would turn it into a mission.

Bishop Hartzell arrived in Mutare in December 1897 and preparations to start a mission at the old site begun thus the official opening of the mission was on 7 and 8 October 1899.

As the time unfolded the work of the Church spread not only to mission stations, rural stations but to urban areas as well. There was need to care for the Christians in Harare hence Reverend David Mandisodza was appointed to care for these Christians in 1921 under Uzumba Circuit. In 1923 Reverend Titus Marange was appointed to serve Harare. However, the pastors were asked to work in co-operation with Wesleyans - (Methodist in Zimbabwe). The idea did not go for too long.

In 1952 Reverend Samuel Chieza was appointed to serve the Salisbury Circuit under the supervision of Reverend R. C. Gates. The need to build a church was agreed.

However, there was need to start work in Bulawayo. An evangelist Paul Malianga was sent in 1944 though he worked under synod.

There was need to establish circuits in the African residential areas in Harare and Bulawayo. In the 1960s the following circuits were started Highfield, Bulawayo, Mabvuku, Mufakose and Mhangura, but were under Murewa District. people were worshipping under trees and Bishop Dodge spearheaded the fund raising campaign by sending Reverend Samuel Chieza to the United States for money to build sanctuaries. The campaign was successful and saw the building of Harare, Highfield, Mabvuku and Mhangura came up.

These churches under Murewa District were a mammoth case in terms of administration. Long distances hampered the effective management and membership was increasing hence Salisbury - Bulawayo District was formed in 1969 under Reverend Tom Curtis. District lay-leader was Isaac Masimba. Enoch Chieza was elected treasurer and Ishmael Kadenge as secretary. The membership of the district continued to grow until in 1989. A district called Masvingo-Bulawayo was formed including the whole of Midlands area, leaving Harare as a district on its own with Reverend Gladman Kapfumvuti as the district superintendent and Mrs. Beatrice Mutasa as district lay-leader and Shepherd Kudzai Machuma as vice lay-leader until December 1994 when in 1995 Harare West and Harare East Districts were formed.

Reverend Fanuel Kadenge was appointed district superintendent for Harare East with Shepherd Kudzai Machuma as district lay-leader and Jane Chamunorwa as vice district lay-leader. The district started with 13 circuits namely Chitungwiza, Chipititi, Cranborne, Harare, Hwedza Svosve, Hunyani, Greendale, Seke South, Seke North, Waterfalls, Mabvuku, Hatfield and Marondera. Then in 1996 another circuit was created, Nyameni in Marondera. A lot of evangelism was done and in 1997 four more circuits were created namely Seke Central, Hwedza, Svosve, Sunningdale and Ruwa-Tafara to see the number to 18. The hard working people who served as secretaries of the new district were Joselyn Chaerera and Grace Mushonga 1995 - 1996. Then 1997 saw the installation of the District Superintendent as Reverend Kadenge had retired. The new district superintendent installed on 5 January 1997 at St Paul in Harare Circuit is Reverend Christopher Chikoore. The district lay-leaders are Shepherd Kudzai Machuma and Lameck Mupanduki, secretaries are Mrs. Nyemba and Joselyn Chaerera.

There were many other faithful leaders with great determination to advance the cause of the kingdom of God. These were chairpersons of boards and committees who stood like great beacons of light showing the district the way to follow on the journey.

Church Growth:

Through the activities of our circuits 1997 has witnessed a spread in the areas we had not been to. Outreach has been done into the Goromonzi area. About five families are being shepherded. Dema, Dendenyore, Acturus and Melfort. These are new areas with the blessing of God we shall be reporting preaching points in these areas by 1998. Though our district is land locked by other districts, its expansion shall be concentrated in pocket areas that our Church has not yet reached.

Our projection in the urban Centres concentrates in efforts to establish congregations in Mt. Pleasant (using the UMYF, University of Zimbabwe group as a foundation), Borrowdale, Inner-City Marondera, another circuit in Chitungwiza (Seke), with the help of God our membership should grow and our ministry too.

Projects

Out of 18 circuits only 8 have got sanctuaries. This is a crisis, as we have 10 circuits struggling to put up sanctuaries. Our people are involved in serious fund-raising to construct church buildings and halls. Thousands of dollars that are supposed to be earmarked for mission are being paved into buildings. This stage shall soon be over and it is then that we will begin to celebrate a proper ministry in mission. 12 circuits have no parsonages, they are using temporary structures or leased houses. Here are some of the projects going up in our district.

Progress on the Church Building: Greendale



TEMPORARY SANCTUARY, PEOPLE ATTEND SERVICES EVERY SUNDAY

RUWA CHURCH SITE



RUWA CHURCH FOUNDATION

SUNNINGDALE

Have not yet been allocated a stand. We anticipate to start working on the project once the stand has been allocated.

WATERFALLS:



Sanctuary is now almost complete

NYAMENI

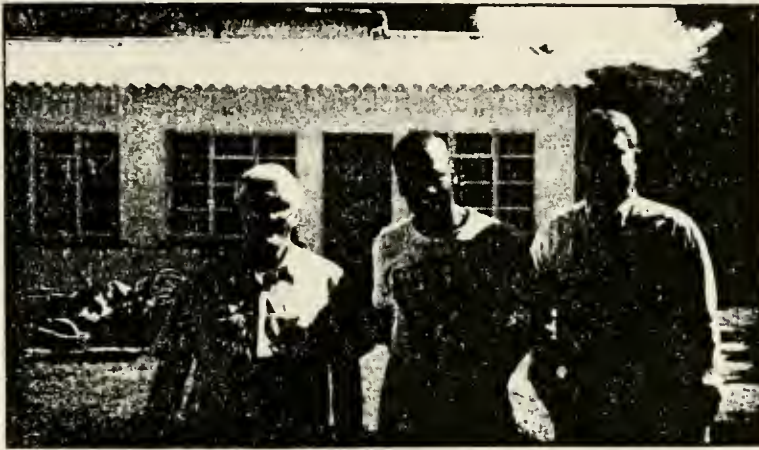
They have no church stand, but are working on their Parsonage.



District Office

As a district we have been working on the district offices. We are proud to have done 95% of the work on the offices. It is with joy to work in a modern office. However, we are still

working on equipment, that is computers, photocopiers to speed up production of materials and smooth communication.



Gail Wetzell, Tom Muhomba and Tom Wilson at the district Office.

Staff Development

The district superintendent has had an opportunity to attend several workshops and refresher courses. Pastors have benefited greatly from the three pastors' schools that were held in 1997. We have held a very successful three-day refresher course for the local pastors in our district. Practical courses were taught to try and address the problems they face in the circuits.

More needs to be done in this area because it is important to keep on improving ourselves as Clergy to keep up with the people we shepherd who are constantly in training in their jobs.

The lay-leadership in the district has been exposed to a thorough training system that was arranged by the district leadership. All circuits have held training sessions with different work areas.

CIRCUIT REVIEWS:

Svosve:

The ministry of God is being carried on under difficult conditions. We have people who are dictated to the work of God. They travel a long distance to be with others at district functions. This circuit has got four local churches, Mupazviriwo, Dhirihori, Nyagombore and Nhewe. Their Pastor Miriam Manyanga has been an inspiration in administration. This is a promising area and we are set to see its expansion towards Makoni Buhera District.

Nyameni:

Pastor John Muranda is spearheading the work of God in this circuit. Nyameni is growing and has potential to grow further. They are working on a parsonage to house their pastor. It is our prayer that this circuit will be allocated a stand for that sanctuary soon. With the growth of the residential area of Nyameni, the Church of Christ is going to experience phenomenal growth.

Marondera:

It is indeed a blessing to have St. Matthew within the district. It has outreach going on at Kushinga Pikilela and Grasslands Research Station. People have been baptised, confirmed and Holy Communion served at these outreach places. The creation of a downtown congregation has been a positive development in Marondera. With a clear attitude for unity and growth this circuit can be a miracle in this district. Rev. James Chikomba one of the most senior pastors in the district is leading this congregation.

Ruwa/Tafara:

Born in 1996, this circuit has been a jewel in the district. Its name suggest a difficult composition with communication problems because of geographical location of the two areas, they have achieved great works. Construction of the church at Ruwa has commenced. Tafara is poised to get a stand soon. If all goes well we shall have two circuits in 1998. Fungai Gwiriri is the pastor of this church.

Mabvuku:

The ministry of Reverend T. Kufarimayi is bearing fruits at this circuit. There are positive indications that soon they will embark on extending their parsonage. Well done Mabvuku. Membership at their local Church support unit is growing. This is one of the oldest circuits in the district and they are taking up their place in the district.

Greendale:

Created out of Chisipiti while we were still Harare District. Steps have already been taken to have a resident pastor. It has been pastored by students from United Theological College. With the introduction of a resident pastor, Greendale can grow and be a giant. Well done to the leaders for putting up a slab on their stand and buying benches for the people. Expansion of this circuit should be towards Msasa area and Danhiko.

Chisipiti:

Started the spirit of fund raising dinners in 1997. They raised over \$100 000,00 on their dinner. Construction of their church hall is progressing well. Have intention to move to their church stand latest January 1998. Chisipiti can lead us into the Borrowdale area and other areas beyond. They have been shepherded by a part-time pastor and it is our prayer that they will soon follow the Greendale way and have a full time resident pastor. This is a growing Church with a very high spirit of self-reliance. Their teaching ministry spearheaded by Rev. P. Chikafu is one of the richest in the district.

Hatfield:

With a new pastor in 1997 Rev. M. Nyagato this circuit is set to expand and do great things. Domboramwari Local Church has potential to grow. With crusades coming into this area God can do wonders for us. Polishing up of Hatfield Sanctuary, construction of a parsonage and getting a church stand for Domboramwari are challenges facing this circuit.

Cranborne:

Wonderful works have been recorded at this Church. Their Pastor Anne-Grace Jumbi is a member of the General Board of Discipleship. Her exposure at this high level helped the width and depth of her ministry. Construction of the Church Hall and office block is in progress. Spirit of self-reliance has caught firm at this congregation. With the construction of their sanctuary set to begin soon, we expect to see further growth in giving.

Sunningdale:

1997 started with confusion, no parsonage was in place for the pastor. With the help of God we now have a pastor housed in reasonably good accommodation. This congregation hold their worship service in a rented room, with the availability of a church stand we anticipate to see great things. There is potential for growth. One of the four circuits in the district led by a female pastor Rev. Eunice Marima.

Harare:

Wisdom comes with age, says the learned. It has proved so for St. Paul. Growth recorded in 1977 has been phenomenal. Who could have imagined that St. Paul could raise \$130 000,00 in harvest celebration. Harare Circuit is located in a very poor area. Their work has proved that poverty is no excuse not to worship God with all our hearts and our minds and all our wealth. The energy of Reverend Elisha Kabungaidze is still needed at Harare Circuit.

Waterfalls:

Building a house for the Lord is a task to be carried out with joy. This has been the spirit at Waterfalls. The ever busy Reverend L. Nyanungo has made a great difference for this circuit. With a figure of \$113 000,00 in June for fund-raising and a harvest of over \$150 000,00. God's work is surely set for great success. They have done a good job taking care of orphans at SOS Children's Home where they hold their services.

Chitungwiza:

By far the largest congregation we have in the district. With a completed sanctuary we anticipate the spirit of mission work. The M.U.M.C. have started furnishing the pastor's office. With a new suburb coming up right behind the Church building, we anticipate growth. Rev. L. Matewa is the man behind this big church.

Seke South:

You need to be there every Sunday morning at 8:00 am to witness how people are now hungry for the word of God. This is a vibrant circuit, it is a joy to share the word of God with them. Have got an expansion outreach in Nenguwo. Plans to expand the sanctuary are under way. Most importantly there are plans to start other congregations around St. Peter. Rev. C. Mukasa has led this congregation with great success.

Seke North:

The potential to grow is there. God willing we can experience this anticipated growth. Construction of their sanctuary is top priority for them. We pray to God for the work of this circuit. Their pastor is Rev. Joel Mutema.

Seke Central:

Another Jewel in the district. This is a vibrant congregation. They have set out to preach the word of God before everything else. Their call or recommendation to have evangelism work classified as a Board proves this. They are the circuit with the highest evangelism budget in the district. They have started outreach at Dema and other places around them Ground breaking for their Church construction was on 7 September. God bless this circuit as they preach his work and build his Church. Pastor M. Ganda was tasked to lead this circuit.

Hunyani:

The oldest circuit in Seke area with the leadership of Reverend V. Mutezo. They have moved from step to step. They are busy putting up a wall around their sanctuary.

Hwedza:

Celebrated the dedication of their sanctuary in June this year. It was a memorable day. Have started outreach into Demdenyore area. This circuit is posed for growth through the evangelisation of surrounding areas.

STATISTICS:

<u>NAME OF CIRCUIT</u>	<u>FULL MEMBERS</u>	<u>PROBATIONERS</u>
Chisipiti	170	146
Chitungwiza	412	605
Cranborne	334	246
Greendale	85	80
Harare	417	703
Hatfield	261	376
Hunyani	138	196
Hwedza	26	55
Mabvuku	306	282
Marondera	523	523
Nyameni	95	160
Ruwa/Tafara	186	272
Seke Central	146	276
Seke North	140	268
Seke South	370	164
Sunningdale	58	161
Svosve	80	30
Waterfalls	302	293
TOTAL	4 049	4 840

Ministry to Women

Women constitute a large percentage of our membership. As a district we have a special ministry to the women. Many projects are going on in the circuits. We have a vibrant sawing group at Harare Circuit. They sell their produce to the local market and to visitors.



Mbare Ministry to Women program in action with the leader – Mrs. Jambga To ear a living and uplift the standard of life. The district women have held a tye and dye workshop where more than 50 women participated including Pastor's wives.



Children:

Besides the ever busy Junior Sunday schools held every Sunday at each congregation, the district operates two crèches where children are brought up under Christian values. A number of our circuits run holiday tutorial groups for examination classes. This has proved to be a helpful exercise to our children.

MABVUKU CRECHE



IT IS EATING TIME AT MABVUKU CRECHE

CENTENNIAL CELEBRATIONS:

This district has been heavily involved in programmes to celebrate 100 years of ministry in Zimbabwe as a Church. All pastors participated in the three special pastor s' schools that were held in preparation for the celebrations.

Circuits were actively involved too. Special topics were presented ranging from the life of John Wesley, Bishop Hartzell's entry into Zimbabwe, the role of the pastor-teachers, 1987 experience of the Holy Spirit and other interesting topics. Amongst our circuits, Waterfalls had an outstanding programme.

Seke Central organised their own celebrations which went on very well. The district will celebrate in stages. Our final celebration will be on 23 September 1997 at Mbare. Activities involving the whole family have been set up. We are set to participate in December in thousands. We congratulate the whole church for attaining 100 years.

VISION:

Where there is no vision people perish. as leaders of Harare East District, it is our challenge to lead the people into the twenty-first century. Preaching of the Gospel is our main thrust. The district is set upon a course of expansion into areas like Goromonzi, Melfort, Bromley, Dema, Chivu, Denenyore and other surrounding areas. We seek to continually make our churches accessible to the people. The time of building large expensive buildings is over, small church structures closer to the people should be the motto in the coming century. .

Development of a Clergy strategy. Having a clergy that fits all situations. This calls upon the district leadership to set a clear and deliberate policy on clergy education.

Our greatest vision is to provide a holistic ministry to our people. Life is to be lived abundantly.

Commitment:

A century passed we are proud to be a part of that century. A millennium coming, we of Harare East District would like to pledge our commitments to the Ministry of the United Methodist Church. With our strength coming from God, we know we shall not be weary.

Bishop and Conference, Harare East District is saying "We are ready to tackle any task given to us for the Glory of the Kingdom of God". Please hear 8 000 voices saying "**WE ARE HERE, SEND US**", God bless you all.

CONCLUSION:

Harare East District though one of the smallest in terms of area covered has the potential to do great things.

We hope you have had a good glimpse of what the district has achieved since its inception. We invite you to visit our display stand to get more information of our work and ministry.

As we celebrate the centennial in service, our district is proud to be part and parcel of these celebrations. We look forward to the coming millennium. God bless you for having taken your time to read through this. We need your prayers.

GOD BLESS YOU ALL!

SUBMITTED BY: **Rev. C. Chikoore**
DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT

HARARE WEST DISTRICT:

INTRODUCTION

We are gathered here once more to celebrate what God enabled us to do in His vineyard this year and to celebrate what we achieved in ministry for the past 100 years as a church. It is not just celebration of the successes achieved but we are here to dream dreams and share visions for we should be reminded of the saying that "where there is no vision people perish. Proverbs 29 verse 18. It should also be noted that God speaks through people of his choice at a given time, let's open our hearts and minds and listen to what God has to say at this Conference to our church without looking down on anyone or having an inferiority complex. God chose to speak to His people the Jews through prophets like Amos, Hosea, Jeremiah, Nathan, Isaiah etc. If God speaks to you, He wants you to speak. We need to wait upon the Lord, wait to receive salvation for survival, to be given new strength for sustenance, wait to receive His words of wisdom and wait to be given direction.

STATE OF THE CHURCH

What we are today as a district came from very humble beginnings. The work of the church in Harare was started in 1921 when Rev D Mandisodza, who was Pastor of Uzumba circuit was assigned as a visiting pastor to the then Salisbury area to work with the Methodist synod in ministering to United Methodist members. Our members were not content to work and worship under the Methodist synod. This resulted in the break away of some members to form the African Independence Church (Muchakata). In 1951 the Salisbury area treated as special ministry under the leadership of Rev Samuel Chieza. He was supervised not by a District Superintendent but by Rev R. C Gates who was the Conference Evangelism secretary and mission correspondent. In 1957 Salisbury area ceased to be handled as a special area and became a circuit under Murewa District. Rev Chieza continued to shepherd the parish as its pastor assisted by Pastor Josiah Makande as the Christian Education worker. Murewa District was led by Rev Jonah Chitombo

Salisbury/Bulawayo

Another interesting development was the formation of the Salisbury/Bulawayo District in 1969 which later changed name at the country's independence in 1980 to Harare/Bulawayo. The composition of this district was four circuits as follows:- Bulawayo, Harare, Highfield and Mhangura.

The first District Superintendent was Rev Tom Curtis and Mr. I T Kadenge was the Lay leader. After Rev T Curtis came Rev Munjoma and Rev Elliot Jijita respectively. At the close of term of office of Rev E Jijita in 1988 the district was split to Harare District and Masvingo/Bulawayo districts.

Harare District

In 1989 Rev Gladman Kapfumvuti took over the district from Rev Zebediah Marewangepo who had taken over from Rev E Jijita for only three months. Rev Z Marewangepo left to take up a new appointment with the Global Ministries Office.

The Harare District was left with seventeen circuits and the responsibility to supervise the work in Zambia and Malawi.

During Rev G Kapfumvuti's time 13 more circuits were created to make a total of circuits and this resulted in the district being split to Harare East and Harare West in January 1995.

Harare West District

Rev Geoffrey Kagoro become the Superintendent of the new district with seventeen circuits. Here is the list of circuits that were in the district at formation:- Bindura, Chinhoyi, Dziwarasekwa, Glen Norah, Glen View, Inner City, Kadoma, Kambuzuma, Karoi/Mhangura, Kuwadzana, Mabelreign, Mhondoro, Norton, Gokwe and Warren Park.

It is interesting to note that the for the past years the district added five more circuits namely: Hatcliff, Kariba, Budiriro, Chegutu and Southerton. Two more are in the making. If this Conference approves Concession and Mt Darwin/Rushinga Circuits will be created for 1998 January.

There is tremendous growth in membership from the time when the church came into Harare urban in 1951 up to date. The table clearly shows it.

1951	1957	1972	1982	1988	1994	1994	1995	1996	1997
246	1,221	4,504	4,903	8,694	14,526	9,094	10,276	11,190	14,023

NOTE: The first figure for 1994 is for the whole Harare district and the second 94 is for the total of only those circuits to for Harare West district.

It is also interesting to note the growth in Harvest thanksgiving contribution as from 1998-1997.

1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997
283,667,25	375,799	513,751	719,788	815,810,59	909,832	1,173,344	1,075,713,18	1,444,918	2,031,020,87

MISSION

As the redeemed of the Lord we celebrate God's grace that we have received from him and we are here to celebrate the work entrusted on us by the Almighty and to carry it on. As we think of the tasks ahead of us we are reminded about the words of our Lord Jesus Christ at the great commission, "Go then to all people everywhere and make them my disciples ... baptize them ... and teach them to obey everything I hane commanded you" Mat 28:19-20. As long as we have people in our neighborhood and far from us who still need salvation, we are compelled to go with agents to them.. We must say with Jesus, "my food is to do the work of him who sent me and to finish it." John 4:34.

Making people Christ's disciples is giving people moral re-armourment through preaching the word of life, baptising converts and households into God's kingdom of believers and giving strength for growth to both converts and every Christian through teaching and healing the sick and feeding the hungry. Ours is a ministry of giving care, to people so that together we will mount up like eagles to heaven. For Jesus said, "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor, he has send me to heal the broken-hearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind , to

set at liberty those that are bruised.” Luke 4:18-19. The Spirit in us compels us to follow in the footsteps of our master. His mission and ministry becomes ours.

Ministry

The word or concept ministry is derived from the Greek root (diakonia) which means service. Ministry in the Christian Church has its basis, the work of the Father through the Incarnate son by the Holy Spirit. It is a ministry bestowed upon the believer by Christ and one required by the entire Church. In the United Methodist Church, the concept “The Ministry of all Christians sums up to all what is meant by ministry and the forms through which this ministry takes place in our days. Let us examine how the concept Ministry was understood in the past, and how it was applied in terms of personnel in the history of Harare West District over the years and the point out areas of strengths and those which needs improvement and state future vision of personal development in order for us to fulfil Christ’s mission.

A. Understanding of the concept ministry in the past

Over the years in all our churches, there was a tendency by some people to regard the Pastor as “the person that lay people hire to do the ministry of Christ for them.” Their part was to provide salary only if the work done was to their satisfaction. They said “we have never been to a seminary, we are bakers, clerks, school teachers, doctors of medicine, housewives, what do we know about theology” If the Church fails to fulfil its mission of reaching and winning people to Christ the blame should be on the Pastor. The misunderstanding of Christ’s mission did harm slowed down the progress of the church in many areas of ministry.

B. Understanding of the concept ministry today

The last half of our century had seen the emerging of a new concept of ministry somewhat different from the one discussed earlier.

1. The concept stresses that all Christians, all who follow Jesus called to be Ministers of Jesus Christ. They have a share in the ministry of Jesus, who came not to be served, but to serve. (Mark 10:45). Both the Pastor on the pulpit and the lay person sitting on the pew are all called to a ministry of serving the people of God within the community of Faith (i.e. the Church) and outside it (i.e. the world). All Christians are called on to love and serve their brothers and sisters in the church as well as these outside it. For the very fact of being a Christian carries with it the call to ministry and not to be ministered unto. The Ministry of all Christians finds its perfect expression in Jesus Christ who was an Ordained Clergy man, but a lay who did not evade or delegate this ministry to others but did it himself. With laity and clergy working side by side there was great progress in the Ministry. It is only in those churches where there is unity, harmony and team work where you see progress success. This has been the secret for our success in Harare West District. It is a ministry of sacrificial service both for clergy and laity.

Clergy Personnel

There has been steady rise in statistical records of clergy in the district from four pastors in 1969. It is also interesting to note that the expansion of the church became over whelming so that our staffing could not meet the demand of trained personnel.

Details	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997
Ordained Pastors	19	16	17	24	19	21	20	13	11	14
Local Pastors	3	4	5	8	7	7	12	8	10	11
TOTAL	22	20	22	32	26	28	32	21	21	25

It should be noted that there was a time when the church was able to appoint more than one trained pastor at one charge and also there was a period where two or three trained were at the same charge because others were on part time appointment. It should also be noted that the rise up and down was necessary because of the development of the information of new districts as in 1989 and 1995.

These men and women of God did great work to see growth realised in this district and its predecessors. They have been able to foster unit among the laity and make them a formidable force of God's army.

Below are the current pastors in Harare West District.

Rev Philip Mupindu is Pastor in Charge of Inner City Church. A young dynamic preacher. He is in his first year this circuit and district. He is loved for his powerful teachings and creative leadership.

Pastor Prisca Nyagande, Assistant Pastor at Inner City Church. She is probably the youngest in the team and the smallest in stature but on the pulpit she delivers powerful and challenging messages. She knows what it means to stand firm for the Lord.

Pastor Sophrina Sign Makoni former Assistant Pastor for Inner City Circuit. Inner City's work for 1997 cannot be complete without mentioning the work done by this ever smiling lady who has left the parish in August to become a student at Africa University. She became a dear for so many because of her gifts teaching, preaching and public relations. We miss her.

Rev Alfred Katsande is Pastor-in-charge of Mabelregan Circuit. This old man is a man of God, blessed with a lot of gifts. His major weapon in ministry is prayer. He excels in visitation supporting his members in times of need. He is a loving father both to his parishioners and fellow pastors. He is a reliable work horse to be trusted in all seasons.

Rev Irene Kabete is Pastor in Charge Hatcliff Circuit. She is in her second year in this appointment and her first appointment from graduating from United Theological College. She is the first pastor in a new circuit bubbling with confidence and zeal to work for the Lord. She has molded the new congregation into a stable hard working church with a zeal of evangelism.

Pastor Brian Chinyerere is Pastor in charge of Dziwarasekwa Circuit. He is a gifted preacher who is relatively new in the ministry. He came to take over the circuit in September this year from Rev. A Balance who was transferred mid year.

Rev Archiford Balance is Pastor in charge of Glen Norah Circuit. Another new comer who changed circuits mid-year, he had just moved in September to take over from Rev Tsitsi Moyo who left to go to school in USA. Rev Balance is a gift preacher and a singer who can motivate a congregation to great heights.

Our work cannot be complete without mentioned the work of Rev Tsitsi Moyo who left in August to study in USA. A good administrator and teacher was able to unite the circuit and led them in making great strides in building a sanctuary at Glen Norah. She will be missed by many in the circuit and the district as our council on Ministries Chairperson.

Rev Bernard Mare is Pastor in Charge of Southerton Circuit. He is in his first year in a new circuit as its first Pastor. One of the smallest circuits in membership but a giant in works. It has been first almost in everything this year. Rev Mare is a gifted teacher who has taken over the reigns of our COM from Chairperson Rev T Moyo.

Rev Eliah Chitiyo is Pastor in Charge of Highfield Circuit. An intelligent old man, cool and always cautious in his approach of things. A gifted teacher and musician. Has been able to lead one of our oldest churches in the district.

Rev Abiot Moyo is pastor in charge of Glen View Circuit. A gifted preacher and speaker. This man of God is a natural leader who has the talent to deal with difficult situations. He is leading one of the biggest churches in the district and probably in the Conference. He is a man of prayer, and has made Glen View a praying church and a spiritual team.

Pastor Charles Nyamakope is a student Pastor in charge of Budiro, a new circuit. Pastor Nyamakope a promising young man who is doing his third year at United Theological College took over the circuit from Pastor Samuel Dzobo who left to study at Africa University in August.

Pastor Samuel Dzobo the former first Pastor of Budiro circuit is a blessed preacher and musician. He is a very promising pastor. Pastor Dzobo is an intelligent young man who is very energetic. He led the circuit at its founding.

Rev Edward Chapata is the Pastor in Charge of Mufakose Circuit. This old man was appointed to this old circuit three years ago and changed this circuit into a live congregation through his powerful messages. He is one of our best preachers in the district and Conference. He is a blessed preacher who will be remembered for his work at Mufakose and his humility.

Rev Kenneth Shamu is the Pastor in charge of Kambuzuma Circuit. He is an energetic retired old man who is blessed by his sense of humor. He managed to bring back the memories of Kambuzuma. Life has come, unity and peace had prevailed in the circuit. Kambuzuma have been able to do what they last did so many years ago.

Rev Thomas Muhomba is the Pastor in charge of Warren Park Circuit. One of the intelligent hard working young Pastor. he is a talented administer who has good public relations. He is new to Warren Prk circuit at Mabasa Evapositori Church a congregation with people full of zeal and energy to work. He has helped them shape their vision and work. He did well as our part time Council on Ministries Director and the Conference Co-ordinator of the Centennial Celebrations. When he is there you cannot afford to ignore his presence.

Pastor Philip Musharu is the Assistant Pastor for Warren Park Circuit . pastor Musharu just joined Mabasa Evapositori in August this year as an Assistant to Rev T. Muhomba while he is also studying at United Theological College where he is doing his third year. He is a promising young man.

Rev Blessing Mukoyi is the Pastor in the Pastor in charge of Kuwadzana Circuit. Rev Mukoyi is a preacher and an Administrator. He had helped up Kuwadzana Circuit back on course. the circuit did quite well on their harvest thanksgiving.

Pastor Godfrey Gaga is Pastor in charge of Norton Circuit. He is an energetic young pastor appointed to an energetic circuit which has the potential of growing. They did well on their harvest.

Pastor Dumisani Musimanga is pastor I charge of Mhondoro Circuit. He is a gifted preacher and a good organizer. he managed to motivate the circuit from very low levels to be the best improved circuit. A promising young pastor.

Pastor David Mucherera is the Pastor of Chegutu Circuit. He is a new pastor into a new circuit. A circuit which has achieved quite a lot in its first year of existence. They constructed a permanent structure for their church and purchased a stand for parsonage and did very well on their harvest. They held a very successful crusade this year. This is one of the most growing circuits.

Pastor Alec Kanhimba is Pastor in charge of Kadoma. Another circuit that did well this year. Probably it was because Pastor Kanhimba became a new man this year by getting married in June . Pastor Kanhimba is a new pastor in the circuit. he is a good preacher and musician who is also a promising young pastor.

Pastor Batsirai Katsande is Pastor in charge of Gokwe Circuit the only circuit in Midlands province and one of the furthest circuit from Harare. He is s good in Evangelism. this year Gokwe opened a preaching point. We hope to have more churches started in Gouache.

Pastor Desire Tiriwepi is in charge of Kariba circuit. This is one of those circuits started in Harare West which is doing well. Pastor Tiriwepi is one of these young energetic pastor who is very promising. He is a good preacher musician and an administrator.

Pastor Washington Jembere is in charge of Karoi/Mhangura Circuit one of the first four circuits in the District. He does his things quietly and he is a good organizer. this circuit came second most improved circuit on harvest thanksgiving. He has the potential but the circuit is one of the most stretched circuits. He travels more than eighty kilometers within the circuit.

Rev tendai Zimunya is a quite and cool guy but who knows what he does. He is the only ordained pastor working out of Harare City. He is Pastor in charge of Chinhoyi circuit. He is like a District superintendent because he covers all the circuits in Mashonaland West administering sacraments and weddings. He is a hard working man.

Pastor Matthew Mutidzawanda is pastor in charge of Bindura/Rushinga probably the largest circuit in the district which have all the potential to expand. He is a student at United Theological College who is doing his last year. His circuit did very well on their harvest thanksgiving. Pastor Mutidzawanda is a talented musician and he is natural organizer.

The success of Harare West can not be attributed to clergy without laity. These men and women have done a lot of sacrifice. Mr. Brain Jonga has been in the forefront as the District Lay leader for the past three years. Mr. Jonga is a spiritual leader who has a vision, courage and a powerful preacher. I am always amazed by the commitment given by our laity to the work of God. We have always worked as a team.

The church has always been growing and this can be shown by the figures below:-

Details	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997
Full members	4889		5357	6083	6706	8215	7221	4194	4847	6067
Probationers	6021		5221	7102	8426	7869	7305	6082	6343	7956
TOTAL	10910		10578	13185	15132	16084	14526	10276	11190	14023

PROJECTS:

Completed Projects:

1. Inner-City is now complete and was officially opened for public use waiting dedication. The congregation has contributed the bulk of the money used with assistance from friends abroad and a bank loan to be paid.
2. Bindura Church is now ready for dedication this year.
3. Glen view Hall is now ready for dedication.
4. St. Mark Hall will be read for dedication from January 1998.

All these halls were built without outside assistance.

Highlights:

Harare West District has excelled in harvest, MUMC and RRW work for the past three years we have been in existence and have maintained poll position. Our UMYF did well in 1995 but faltered and lost their rhythm.. I am praying that the situation in this department improves.

The Way Forward:

1. Harare West District stretches over 155 kilometres from Harare to Rutuka in Rushinga District, 366 kilometres to Kariba and 370 kilometres to circuits in Gokwe which gives it
 - the potential to do evangelism and expand more than most district in the conference, my

dream is to see more expansion into four districts in the coming decade and possibility of three conference in the next 100 years.

2. It is my dream that more institutions should be build in this district to prepare for conferences to come to give more meaningful ministry to these areas that the Church is expanding into.
3. Missionaries planned their strategies for evangelising in the country, the Church today should plan how we are to expand into all the surrounding towns and communal areas.

CONCLUSION:

As we celebrate the ministry of the Church for the past hundred years I would like to remind this house of the culture and heritage within the United Methodist Church which we need to preserve:-

1. That we should continue to listen allow the Holy Spirit to lead us as He wishes.
2. We continue to allow freedom of expression in the Church and maintain oneness.

LETS DELIBERATE AND CELEBRATE IN THE SPIRIT OF PEACE AND PROGRESS.

Submitted by: Rev. Geoffrey Kagoro
DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT

MAKONI-BUHERA DISTRICT

1. INTRODUCTION:

Bishop C. Jokomo and Mrs. E. Jokomo, Districts Superintendents, CCOM Director, District Lay Leaders, all members, delegates and the invited guests, the Makoni-Buhera District is glad to present to you what we have done for the Lord "Jesus Christ".

The JEKA JEKA District Motomuzhinji has managed to provide its electricity to the Zimbabwe Annual Conference for the hundred years. Our spiritual generator in Evangelism is so powerful to an extent that even if the devil has been bringing in hail and thunderstorm of hunger (drought), diseases and death the electricity did not go out.

Furthermore, this composite report is to present to you the vision of Makoni-Buhera District a clear picture of what the district should look like in the next hundred years. In spite of the difficult hail and thunderstorm of drought, death, diseases, economic and social problems we are going through. The district has continued to grow in number and geographical boundaries, The commitment of the people is quite visible by their services, revivals and contributions for the smooth running of the district and the Church as a whole.

2. THEOLOGICAL STATEMENT: (Waiting upon the Lord - Isaiah 40 vs 31)

In presenting this mission statement, the symbolism of the Eagle is not only a scavenger and predator but it is also a bird adorned with beauty in appearance. Thus the Eagle is pictured as a bird of (1) Caring (2) Renewal (3) Growth (4) Vigilance.

Our God like the eagle is a God who carries His people, caring them like the bird which bears its young ones on its wings (Exodus 19 v 4). This is noted from the experience of the deliverance story of the Israelites when they lived under harsh conditions in Egypt.

Our God did not only help the Israelites but he exposed them to the vicissitudes of life. (Canaan the land of milk and honey).

This is what we see with an Eagle, it does not only help its young ones to fly but it exposes them to a place of its prey. After taking them to high skies, it tilts its wings to slip off its young ones from its back.

It takes enjoyment in sharing high in the skies for its visionaries. In times of a heavy wind it flies higher and that's when it gains strength to move about into other territories where it will meet its prey. In as much as we have seen from the characteristics of an eagle the church in Makoni-Buhera has undertaken caring, Growth, renewal and Vigilance in Christianizing the people.

In times of exiles, social and economic problems, diseases, death and hunger, to those who wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength they shall mount up with wings as eagles, they shall run and not weary and they walk and not faint. Our challenge as a church to problems is to wait for the Lord. The church must take instructions and

directions from Christ, our Saviour and the Head. Just like what our master did when he faced the cross (His arrest and Crucifixion). He waited upon the Lord and he was renewed and He was renewed and He was given strength and the power to mount up into heaven. Consequently, our challenge as the church is the same as that of Christ.

2. **HIGHLIGHTS**



RUKWEZA PARSONAGE - MAKONI SOUTH CIRCUIT

Makoni South circuits “(people)” have completed their 7 roomed parsonage worth \$70 000-00. For the four years we have spent as a District we have managed to buy a duplicating machine, type writers and Office furniture. We have also managed to create four new circuits from 10 to 14 circuits. Our membership has rose from 5 000 to 8 000.

Our district organisations U.M.Y.F. has bought two pairs of bed sheets, R.R.W. two beds M.U.M.C nine blankets for district’s parsonage. Many church buildings are under construction e.g. Rukweza in Makoni South is at roof level, Masedza at slab level and Chakuma has completed its roofing. Praise to the people of Makoni South for the buildings and also the people of Gandanzara for Chikuruwo church building.



CHIKURUWO CHURCH BUILDING – GANDANZARA CIRCUIT

Harvest thanks-giving in the District is raising yearly, although our growth is not so fast. We hope through God's power, the current is going to give more electricity to the Conference since we are known as (ZESA JEKA JEKA MWOTO MUZHINJI). Praise be to Rusape circuit, headlands South for their good harvest. Lastly but not least to Chizawana circuit where a cow and a sheep was given for harvest, thanks-giving and Makoni South circuit for rocketing above their harvest target of \$20 000.00. A building at M.R.I.D. (Arnoldine Mission) has been elected and electrified. Also tape water to both sites at M.R.I.D. and the camping ground. Chinyadza and Arnoldine clinics have built new nurses' houses and renovations were made at Arnoldine Primary school.



CHINYADZA - MAKONI WEST PARSONAGE

4A. THE STATE OF THE DISTRICT

Before we attempt to explore the state of Makoni-Buhera District, it is of interest to reflect back when we were attached to the so called Mutasa Makoni District. Generally speaking people in Mutasa Area were more participative than people in Makoni. In leadership, many people who were on post were from Mutasa and handful from Makoni. Its however, shows that the base of Makoni Area was not as strong and sound as that of Mutasa. Although at one time the members of Makoni Area superseded that of Mutasa, the biggest problem was indeed not of membership rational but it was noted that people in Makoni Area were not supportive in financial issues. The members were hard to part with money for on material items for God's work. Many people in Makoni did not have the zeal to give.

In issues of church support and harvest, Thanks-giving in Mutasa Makoni District dependence was mainly on the four circuits found in Mutasa-Nyanga District namely; Old Mutare, Nyakatsapa, Mutasa and Honde Valley and nothing was from Makoni area.

As can be noted from Conference Journals, these circuits were recognised and received shields and trophies for outstanding harvest thanks-giving. The new very famous Rusape circuit was completely unheard of, Gandanzara and Makoni South circuits were the only two circuits which appeared to have some life.

There was apparently no tither in the whole of Mutasa Makoni District.

Even though the Conference started talking about tithing at the end of 1991, the message was still too new to take root.

When arrangements were being to divide Mutasa-Makoni into two district, there was not much money to share because all funds available were utilised to pay up debts and balances, especially with the Conference. The only funds that was shared between the two new district was the amount of \$40 000.00 that came as a result of the sale of the District Vehicle. Some of the former executive members of the Mutasa-Makoni District had shred the proposal that the fund (\$40 000.00) should not be shared equally because the \$3.00 contributions per member paid towards the purchase of the vehicle had mainly been received from the Mutasa Area.

The furniture for district office was not shared between the two new districts because there was misinformation that the new Makoni-Buhera District was going to be provided with furniture from the Conference. The new district therefore started from scratch but has done well to make appropriate provisions for the Office.

The performance of the District changed radically from what it was, when it was still part of the Mutasa-Makoni District. The following part of this report is going to give an insight of the achievements in the new district (Makoni-Buhera). Much credit goes to the District Superintendent, Rev. John Chinyati whose gift to influence other people is God given. He worked very hard with the assistance of his late wife, "Mrs Dorcus Chinyati", the clergy and the laity to bring the "JEKA JEKA MWOTO MUZHINJI DISTRICT", to what it is now. Also to the district director, COM chairperson, the district Lay Leader and the Clergy.

The new district (Makoni-Buhera) stretches from Makoni-Mutoko border to Buhera-Gutu border. Roughly it stretches for more than 300km.



BUHERA NORTH CIRCUIT

Rainfall in the district varies from place to place. Some areas such as Chikore, Tanda and Buhera North circuits do not receive good rainfall. 90% of the people in our District depend on farming while 10% are working and are mainly found in Rusape and teachers who are scattered in the District.

Travelling is very difficult and it is a problem to travel from the far parts of the district. However, I thank God for the power He renders to me in visiting the district. Although the spirit of the people in terms of giving is so low, I thank them for their spirit of worshipping. The spirit worship is very high and is growing very fast. Many revivals, all night prayers and crusades are organised by the pastors.

The district is growing from strength to strength. For instance it has grown geographically to Buhera and the membership has increased also the number of circuits from 10 to 14. Even the spirit of giving has increased and attention to Conference Assessments and other dues has improved tremendously. We now have an appreciable number of tithers. The harvest thanks-giving has improved year by year and evangelism work has shown that members fear and praise God. These are just but a few pointers that the district is enjoying God's Grace, act of caring, renewal, growth and Vigilant. Not withstanding the experience of the past, our new district has improved greatly on pledging, tithing and harvest thanks-giving. The recognition made at the "(Z.A.C.)" of 1996 has a testimony for growth and improvement.

4.B FINANCIAL ANALYSIS (GROWTH) TABLE

	1995	1996	1997
ASSESSMENTS	\$30 000.00	\$50 000.00	\$118 000.00
HARVEST	\$74 000.00	\$153 220.90	\$174 790.00

4C PASTORAL PERSONNEL: STATE OF AFFAIRS

Our district needs trained devoted pastors who want to work for the Lord, longing for their rewards in heaven. Pastors who can meet the district needs of more teachings to our laity. The chart below indicates clearly a shortage of elders in the district.

RETIRED	ELDERS	DEACONS	LOCAL PASTORS	STUDENT PASTORS	TOTAL
1	4	3	8	3	15

4D. DISTRICT MEMBERSHIP: (1996-1997)

CIRCUITS	1996 FEMALES	1997 FEMALES	1996 MALES	1997 MALES	1996 TOTAL	1997 TOTAL
BUHERA NORTH	-	133	-	69	-	202
CHIDUKU	391	374	53	138	444	512
CHIKORE	N/A	299	N/A	57	N/A	356
CHIZAWANA	331	380	144	145	475	525
GANDANZARA	653	527	262	288	915	815
H/LANDS EAST	358	400	214	221	602	621
H/LANDS NORTH	520	835	296	112	816	949
H/LANDS SOUTH	244	288	130	111	374	399
MAKONI (ZUZE)	311	492	171	129	482	621
MAKONI CENTRAL	734	843	165	66	899	911
MAKONI SOUTH	471	627	348	265	819	892
MAKONI WEST	215	270	119	114	334	384
RUSAPE	472	537	226	226	698	808
TANDA	N/A	404	N/A	106	N/A	510
*CHIKORE TANDA	709	N/A	157	N/A	866	N/A
TOTAL MEMBERSHIP	5 430	6 409	2 285	2 092	7 724	8 505
ORGANISATION BADGED						
TOTAL R.R.W		1 662	-	-	-	1 662
TOTAL M.U.M.C	-	-	214	247	-	247
TOTAL U.M.Y.F	-	98	-	89	-	187

4E. CHURCH BUILDINGS AND CIRCUITS

NO: OF CIRCUITS	NO: OF CHURCHES	PREACHING POINTS
14	85	17

New congregations have been opened in resettlement and in Buhera. We have covered the resettlement in Chikore, Headlands, Rusape, (Woodlands) Makoni South (Mahere and Josiahs), and also around Nyazura. In Buhera we have opened new congregations at Buhera Offices, Gombe, Murambinda, Dorowa, Zviyambe and Marenge.

5. SOCIAL WITNESS OF THE CHURCH

Since the laity leadership is gaining its strength as compared to the yester-year, our district is growing bit by bit in both dimension spiritually and financially.

We believe time has come for our laity to read and understand the bible. Truly gone are the days when many people were persuaded to join the church, for the kingdom of God is at hand. Many people are now living a life worth calling to the kingdom. We are living in the days of God's grace and we feel we must preach the word of God and read the word of God taking it as a measuring rode of our living.

We are encouraging individuals to have some projects to help themselves in their homes and as a way of getting fees for their children. Some are having gardens and others are keeping chickens for sale. Also clubs are being formulated in villages and in Markets where they sale fruits and vegetables.

6. SOCIETIES AND WORKS OF EVANGELISM (CRUSADE & CELEBRATIONS)

Our Societies and Evangelism in the District are going on well. The three R.R.W., M.U.M.C. and U.M.Y.F. are copying up with other districts in paying their Rupawo and donations. Four of the U.M.Y.F. members has joined Ministerial Work. Praise be to the youngsters who are joining in God's Vineyard. The R.R.W. had wonderful district revival, workshops and had pledged \$1 100.00 to the Youth Members who volunteered to form (mould) bricks at Arnoldine on U M V I M, Spirit plus \$1 700.00 towards District Assessment.

Through the works of Evangelism we had a wonderful District Crusade at Dorowa in Buhera North Circuit where people had an access of the Jesus film and a video of what happened at the scene. Also we had a wonderful and a joyous District Centennial Celebration at New Nyatande and Makoni South Circuits had a Blessed Centennial Celebrations where hundred heads of departments i.e. Ministry of Education Z.R.P., D.A, Councilors, Chief Makoni and Headmen were gathered. A processional March with a Police escort and a Drum Majorettes group was done along the Dorowa road, to and fro Rukweza Business Centre (growth point) and a centennial movement (memorial Mark) was elected and unveiled.

The District managed to hold its district conference at Macheke UMC in Headlands South and it was very inspiring and challenging. Many souls noted that in carrying God's work we must work in unity and in diversity we destroy God's Kingdom. Some circuits went home with the zeal of working for god in unity and love.

7. COLLECTIVE VISION (VISION 20/20)

Our vision is to uplift the needs of all age groups, developing leadership to all age groups, locals, circuits and the district. Teaching our church structure and terms of operations that is of confectionalism. Embarking on Lay Trainings, outreaches, and uplifting the face of Arnoldine Mission to a Secondary School Mission and Industrial Training Centre.

Lastly but not least is to continue uplifting the standards of women, men and children in the church. The district is concerned with pastoral work and leadership, we are aware that our clients consists of different social classes, thus we must have developed pastoral leadership which matches the circuits.

To do this, the circuits needs personnel who can rise the laity's standards.

8A. PROJECTS ACTIVELY UNDERWAY (Askings)

1.	Chikuruwo	Church building	(Gandanzara	Circuit)
2.	Masedza	“ “	(Makoni South	“)
3.	Rukweza	“ “	(Makoni South	“)
4.	Buhera	“ “	(Buhera North	“)
5.	Murambinda	“ “	(Buhera North	“)
6.	Gurure (New)	“ “	(Makoni South	“)
7.	Ruombwe	“ “	(Makoni South	“)
8a.	Arnoldine Primary School House			

8B. SUBMITTED FOR THE ASKINGS

1. District parsonage extension (Two rooms + a bath room)
2. Murambinda Parsonage
3. Chikuruwo church building
4. Rukweza church building
5. Arnoldine new parsonage
6. Makoni South Women's Chicken Raising Project

9. CHALLENGES-PROBLEMS

The district still need more teachings in giving, leadership, training and the general understanding of our church. That is the connectional and not congregational. These take them as challenges and problems which need to be addressed and stressed on.

The other issues are of cost of living unemployment which is rapidly escalating day and night. However, we believe as we wait for the Lord, things shall change for where is a hill there is a valley. Aids epidemic is the other issue which has caused bereavement and has put many souls into orphans, widows and widowers.

10. VISION IN THE NEXT DECADE (21st Century)

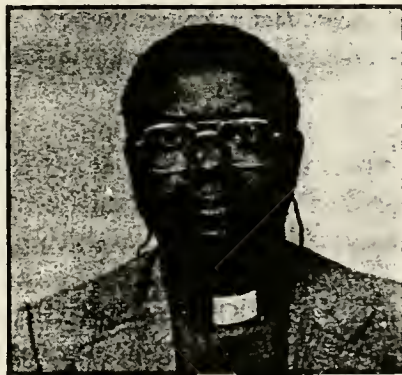
1. That the district stand on its own without a totem, i.e. Makoni District and Buhera District.

2. That some of our bigger circuits be divided into smaller and viable circuits say (from 8/6 locals)
3. To train and upgrade leadership skills and that every member to be a tither.
4. To embark vigorously on income generating projects e.g. buying houses or stands for rentals in growth points and towns.
5. That we have a full time COM Director
6. To continue collecting common pool funds.
7. That as a district we built a Conference Centre at Headlands.
8. That the district parsonage has an extension of a bedroom and bathroom.

11. **CONCLUSION**

Bishop and the cabinet at large, may the Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you and continue to guide you and lead the Zimbabwe Annual Conference in the Spirit of God. Please keep on dreaming the future of our Conference.

PRAISE THE LORD! GOD IS GOOD.



In Loving

Rev. J. Chinyati
MAKONI-BUHERA DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT

MASVINGO DISTRICT

CHURCH LEADERS

1.	Rev. J. Banda	-	District Superintendent
2.	Mrs. M. Banda	-	Women's District Worker
3.	Mrs. J. Charwadza	-	Vice Women's District Worker
4.	Mr. Marahwa	-	District Lay-leader
5.	Mr. B. H. Maziofa	-	Vice District Lay-leader
6.	Mr. R. T. Karidza	-	District Finance Chairperson
7.	Mrs. M.F. Marisa	-	District Treasurer
8.	Mr. S. Musiyazviriyo	-	District Superintendency Committee Chairman
9.	Mr. B. Chipunza	-	Vice DS Committee Chairperson
10.	Mrs. E. Maposa	-	District Secretary
11.	Mr. C. T. Mawaro	-	District COM Chairperson
12.	Pastor T. Mashekede	-	District COM Director
13.	Mrs. Tabettha Musiyazviriyo	-	Vice Chairperson B.O.T.
14.	Mr. Mavern Machiri	-	Christian Education & Secular Education Chair.
15.	Ms. Ndinatsei Mutema	-	Vice Chairperson C.E. and C.E.
16.	Mrs. Fortune Mudzuri	-	Evangelism Committee
17.	Mr. Shadreck Zimunya	-	Vice Chairperson E.C.
18.	Mr. Chenjerai Chipungu	-	Stewardship and Temperance Committee
19.	Mr. Theophilus Gurupira	-	Vice Chairperson
20.	Mrs. Emily Marahwa	-	Ministry to women, youth & children Chair.
21.	Mrs. Chitima	-	Vice Chairperson
22.	Mrs. Greta Machiri	-	Ecumenical and Inter-Religious Committee Chairperson
23.	Mrs. Mavis Karidza	-	Vice Chairperson
24.	Mrs. A. J. Chigumira	-	Church & Society & Health Committee Chair.
25.	Mrs. Enny Chipungu	-	Vice Chairperson
26.	Mr. L. Chigumira	-	History and Archives, Communication and Publications Chairperson.
27.	Mrs. Gloria Chirimhana	-	Vice Chairperson
28.	Mr. Mutsambiwa	-	Building and Parsonage Committee
29.	Mr. Raradza	-	Vice Chairperson
30.	Mr. Maziofa	-	Task Force Chairperson
31.	Mr. Oncemore Taendza	-	Vice Chairperson
32.	Mr. Mutasa	-	Task Force Committee Member
33.	Mr. Chipungu	-	Task Force Committee Member
34.	Mrs. R. Mashamba	-	Task Force Committee Member
35.	Mrs. Mutepaire	-	Task Force Committee Member
36.	Mr. Toronga	-	Projects Chairperson
37.	Mrs. M. Marisa	-	Projects Committee Member
38.	Mrs. Mutepaire	-	Projects Committee Member

AUDITORS:

39.	Mrs. A. Mawaro	-	Masvingo Area
40.	Mr. A. Toronga	-	Masvingo Area
41.	Mr. Mudzuri	-	Chiredzi Area

42. Mr. D. Marange Chiredzi Area

DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENCY COMMITTEE:

- 43. Mrs. Maposa
- 44. Mrs. Nyazika
- 45. Mrs. J. Charwadza
- 46. Rev. M. Mususa
- 47. Pastor T. Mashekede

NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE

- 48. Mrs. M. F. Marisa
- 49. Mrs. Musiyazviriyo
- 50. Mr. Nyzika
- 51. Mr. M. Machiri
- 52. Mr. Machineni
- 53. Mrs. Gezana
- 54. Mr. Mutero
- 55. Mr. M. Muzondidya
- 56. Mr. Mabasa Mandiki
- 57. Mrs. Mutenda

PASTORS

- 1. Pastor T. Mashekede - Masvingo Circuit
- 2. Pastor D. Charwadza - Mashava Circuit
- 3. Pastor I. Kabunze - Zvishavane Circuit
- 4. Pastor P. Maguje - Chirumanzu Circuit
- 5. Pastor P. Mapa - Zaka East Circuit
- 6. Pastor H. Chareka - Zaka West Circuit
- 7. Pastor D. Mutsikwi - Gutu-Bikita Circuit
- 8. Pastor M. Vhangarani - Gaza Circuit
- 9. Pastor T. Musanhi - Triangle Circuit
- 10. Pastor M. Mususa - Chiredzi Circuit
- 11. Rev. J. C. Banda - Masvingo District

Your Worship Bishop C. Jokomo and the conference, the Masvingo District of the United Methodist Church congratulates you upon the United Methodist Church's stand resolute for the church's mission in the world as we enter into another century of service to God and the people. We hear the voice of the Lord saying, "whom shall I send? And who will go for us?" Like Isaiah, we respond to the Lord "Here we are. Send us!"

The Masvingo District of the United Methodist Church which is politically known as Masvingo Province is the latest of the Zimbabwe Annual Conference to be penetrated by the United Methodist Church. The baby district is the result and part of a century of Church work in Zimbabwe which the United Methodists celebrate with great excitement this year. The 12th of December 1997 will witness the climax of the joy and excitement of the United Methodist Church members in Zimbabwe as they look a hundred years backwards in order to see how the Holy Spirit has enabled the United Methodist Church to survive in spite of many religious, social, economic and political obstacles. We hopefully stand and move as the Church to achieve great things in the coming millennium, God being our Helper!

MASVINGO PROVINCE:

Here are some of the facts about Masvingo Province in which our Masvingo District of the United Methodist Church is located.

Position:

It is located in the southern part of Zimbabwe and is equidistant to four major cities of Zimbabwe (Bulawayo, Gweru, Harare and Mutare) and border with our South Africa at Beit-Bridge.

Altitude:

The District Office is in the City of Masvingo which has an altitude of 1067 meters above sea level.

Temperature:

The temperature may fall to about 5 Degrees Celsius in the cold months of June and July and may rise to 30 Degrees Celsius or even more in the hot months of October - December.

Average Rainfall:

In a normal rainfall season, the average rainfall is 1 000 millimeters. The rain season runs from October through early March.

Population:

Population of Masvingo according to the official 1992 census	1 222 581
Male Population	573 927
Female Population	648 654
Population Density per square kilometer	21.6
Province area in square kilometers	56 566

Masvingo Urban:

Male	25 977
Female	25 766
TOTAL	51 743

Bikita

Male	70 692
Female	83 685
TOTAL	154 377

Chiredzi

Male	87 795
Female	95 560
TOTAL	183 355

Gutu

Male	90 497
Female	105 305
TOTAL	195 802

Masvingo Rural:

Male	89 511
Female	97 267
TOTAL	186 778

Chivi

Male	73 225
Female	84 203
TOTAL	157 428

Mwenezi

Male	47 539
Female	53 574
TOTAL	101 113

Zaka

Male	88 691
Female	103 294
TOTAL	191 985

HUMAN ACTIVITIES:

1. Mining:

Asbestos at Mashava and Zvishavane.

Asbestos is mainly used for roofing houses.

2. Farming:

- Growing
1. Sugar-cane at Chiredzi and Triangle and
 2. Citrus-fruit - Oranges at Chiredzi
 3. Maize (It is the chief food crop of the Zimbabweans)

3. Places of Interest:

1. The 700 year old Great Zimbabwe Ruins.

28 kilometres south of the town of Masvingo is the country's premier national monument of the great Zimbabwe Ruins, covering 720 hectares. The estate evolved from a small settlement into a powerful empire ruled by successive Kings. It flourished between the 12th and 16th centuries. The monument consists of three areas: The Hill Complex, Valley Enclosure and Great Enclosure. Our country takes its name after these Great Zimbabwe Ruins which were built of millions of brick-shaped stones without any use of mortar.

2. Morgenster Mission/Finger Rocks

Near Great Zimbabwe Monuments, Morgenster Mission is known for its school for the deaf. The "world's view" at Morgenster is one of the finest panoramas in Zimbabwe. The finger rocks are two monoliths guarding the entrance to the mission.

3. Recreational Area and Game Parks

(i) Lake Kyle (Mutirikwi)

Lake Mutirikwi, Zimbabwe's second largest body of water after Lake Kariba on the northern border of Zimbabwe with Zambia, was created when the 67 metre high, 309 metre long Kyle Dam was built across the Mutirikwi River as part of an immense water storage system for the south-eastern lowveld.

The dam caused the river to flood the valleys of its tributaries until the lake spread over 91 square kilometres. Mutirikwi features one of the most varied shorelines of any of Zimbabwe's inland waters, ranging from granite cliffs to tree-lined rocky beaches.

Boating on these wide expanses of water is very popular and from the club situated on the southern shore, quite close to the dam wall, the bright sails of yachts and the power-boats with their water-skiers add colour to the scene.

For the fisherman, Lake Mutirikwi provides the best fishing activity and international competitions attract competitors from all over southern and central Africa.

4. **Kyle Recreational Park**

The 8900 hectare game park is situated on the lake's northern shore and can be reached by travelling along the road from Masvingo to Mutare, the turn off being 20 km from town. The turn-off is clearly signposted.

5. **Hotels**

1. Chevron Hotel-Telephone No 65054/55
-STD Code-139
2. New Flamboyant Hotel-Telephone No (139) 53085/86 or 52898/35
3. Pa-Nyanda Lodge (Rustic, comfortable exciting)
Telephone No (139) 53084 or 63979/63962/63412
4. Glenlivet Hotel-The Mountain Lodge on the Eastern side of Lake Mutirikwi,
Single-Z\$380.00
Double-Z\$550.00
Includes Bed and Breakfast,
Facilities include a swimming pool, tennis court, horse riding, boat cruiser, bird watching and scenic walks.
Telephone No (139) 7611-Masvingo

The present Masvingo District of the United Methodist was born in January 1997. However, some of the church members have been in the church for many years whereas others are new converts. The district in the southern part of Zimbabwe is made up of ten circuits: five of them urban and the other five rural.

The ten circuits are:

	<u>Circuits</u>	<u>No. of Churches</u>	<u>Preaching Points</u>
1.	Gaza	2	1
2.	Chiredzi	1	2
3.	Chirumanzu in Midlands Province	1	2
4.	Gutu-Bikita	3	2
5.	Mashava	1	
6.	Masvingo	2	
7.	Triangle	1	
8.	Zaka East	3	
9.	Zaka West	2	1
10	Zvishavane	1	

The district has an interesting amoebic beginning and development as you shall notice.

Church Growth in Masvingo: (Brief history)

In 1974, United Methodist Church members from Mutoko, Murewa and Mutare who were working in Chiredzi, overwhelmed by a sense of ecclesiastical belonging, called for assistance to have the United Methodist Church established at Chiredzi. The message was sent to the conference committee of Evangelism whose chairperson was the late Rev. Martin Chiza. Some of the members of this committee were Messrs. P.K. Mudiwa and Steven Mareya. Rev. Morgan Muchanyerei who was the pastor of Nyanyadzi Circuit was asked by the Evangelism Committee to extend his shepherding responsibilities to some United Methodists residing in Chiredzi.

In 1975, the Evangelism Committee members met Mr. Oliver Gwaku who introduced them to some of the Church members in Chiredzi such as Messrs. Chitima and Mangwiro. The United Methodist started to meet together for prayers at Tshovani Township. Messrs. O. Gaku and Mangwiro arranged for transport to ferry people to Tshovani Township, Triangle and Buffalo Range. Mr. Chitima played a very important role of ferrying people to the places of worship.

Rev. M. Muchanyerei would visit Chiredzi after every two weeks. At times, services would be conducted in the police camp. People were encouraged to have Christian marriages so that they could take up leadership rocks in the Church. Amongst those who were married by the Christian rites were Messrs. Thomas Mangwiro, Masango, Chikafu, Ngoro, Zimunya and Chitima. Mr. Mangwiro became the first circuit lay-leader. The Evangelism committee sent Mr. Chidembo, a layman, to organise the Church in Chiredzi. Rev. Muchanyerei used to administer the Sacraments from time to time. The women's and men's organizations of Nyanyadzi Circuit took interest in evangelizing the people of Chiredzi and they would accompany Rev. Muchanyerei from time to time. Mr. Chidembo worked as a lay pastor for a year in 1977.

In order to plan the Churches fast, the Conference felt that there was need to send an evangelist to Chiredzi and other parts of Masvingo Province. Rev. Conrad Chigumira, a dynamic, charismatic preacher, was the conference's choice for ground-work in this area. The starting point of his evangelistic maneuvers was Mr. Chitima's home in Chiredzi Sugar Estate. From Chiredzi, the tireless, energetic, bearded and grey haired evangelist, Rev. C. Chigumira, went to Triangle Sugar Estate where he sowed seeds of the Gospel that germinated in no time because God who sent him watered the seeds and a preaching point was established. Later on Chiredzi and Triangle became one local church. From Triangle Rev. C. Chigumira went to Zaka where he established a local Church at Muzondidya and then Methodism spread fast like wild fire. Within a short space of time the whole of Zaka had received the good news, the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

From Zaka, this great evangelist went to Chambuta and established a local Church there. The people in this area have since the inception of Methodism there, been asking if a clinic of the United Methodist Church could be constructed in their area. However, the Zimbabwe Annual Conference has only succeeded in building a sanctuary.

From Chambuta, the evangelist went to Masvingo Town where he established a local Church in Muccheke high density suburb after the evangelist had identified Mr. Gowa, a United

Methodist lay person in Mucheke Suburb. From Masvingo town, he went to Mashava Mine where he met a United Methodist Church layman, Mr. Mervyn Machiri, a Primary School headmaster. The evangelist worked with this fine young man, a product of Hartzell High at Old Mutare and Nyadire Teachers College. Here a local Church was established. The next step was to take the gospel to Zvishavane Mine. When a local church was established at Mashava, Mr. Machiri's maid servant felt that it would be a good thing if her parents would belong to United Methodist Church and so she asked Mr. Machiri who was serving as a lay pastor then if he could help to bring the good news of Jesus Christ to Chirumanzu where she came from. Through this invitation the gospel took root in Chirumanzu.

In the eastern part of Masvingo in Gutu and Bikita, Methodism blew like strong wind shaking even the roots of African traditionalists to the point of realising that Jesus is the Lord. Methodism penetrated into Bikita from Buhera where the late lay pastor Mupara was instrumental in preaching Jesus as the Lord and Saviour. Mr. Mazaiwana an agriculturist and Mrs. Wafawanaka invited Rev. Chigumira, the popular evangelist, to help them to establish the United Methodist Church in Bikita and it was done. Mr. Kubiku worked hard establish the Church in Gutu at Chepiri.

South of Morgenster Mission, the African Reformed Church Centre, something was happening. Jocylene Matsilele, a girl who had been converted in Chambuta decided to go to Nyajena in order to tell her sister about Jesus, and find out a possibility of starting the United Methodist Church there. when Jocylene found out that people were welcoming, she sent for Rev. Conrad Chigumira who welcomed the invitation and started to preach in Nyajena and as a result, the Church was planted there. Rev. C. Chigumira stayed at the home of Jocylene's sister as the starting point for his evangelistic maneuvers.

Masvingo circuits were once part of Mutare South district. Mr. Chitima, seeing that the nearest district of the United Methodist Church was Mutare South, approached Rev. Alfred Katsande who was then the District Superintendent. Rev. Katsande acceded to Mr. Chitima's request then Chiredzi and subsequently other circuits became part of Mutare South district under the Superintendency of Rev. A. Katsande. The successors of Rev. Katsande, Rev. Isaac M. Mawokomatanda and Rev. S. Mungure respectively assumed responsibilities to supervise Church work in Masvingo where the United Methodist Church was beginning to establish itself. Meanwhile, to the North and West of here, Harare-Bulawayo District was growing fast with several Churches in the cities of Bulawayo, Gweru and Kwekwe.

Restructuring of Districts and the Birth of Masvingo-Bulawayo District of the United Methodist Church

In 1989 the Annual Conference took action to restructure Mutare South and Harare Bulawayo Districts in order to accommodate Masvingo Circuits. As a result, Masvingo circuits and the circuits of Harare-Bulawayo which were located in cities of Bulawayo, Gweru and Kwekwe were brought together to form Masvingo-Bulawayo District under the Superintendency of Rev. Isaac M. Mawokomatanda.

In 1991, Rev. Funnel Kadenge succeeded Rev. Isaac Mawokomatanda. The former, served in Masvingo-Bulawayo District until 1994. In 1995, Rev. Dr. G. H. Muzorewa was appointed to Superintendent of Masvingo-Bulawayo District until 1996. Because this district was too big to be supervised effectively, a decision to diide the district into two was made at the Annual

Conference of 1996 resulting into the birth of twin districts namely Bulawayo-Midlands District under the Superintendency of rev. Dr. G.H. Muzorewa and Masvingo District under the Superintendency of Rev. J. C. Banda.

MISSION STATEMENT OF THE DISTRICT:

Besides preaching the word, the church is to be engaged in serious stewardship and Christian education programmes to enable members to participate effectively in the evangelisation of people in this part of the country. Needed also, is at least one high school with technical education bias in order to reduce unemployment, poverty and hunger.



THE RESIDENT BISHOP C. JOKOMO COMMISSIONING MASVINGO DISTRICT



***REV JOSEPHAT BANDA COMMISSIONED TO SERVE
AS MASVINGO DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT***

As a new District Superintendent of a new district, I came; I saw and I hope to conquer in the name of Jesus.

The new district calls for more workers in that many people, especially in the rural areas, bear signs and symptoms that they hunger after righteousness. Whenever there is a revival in a rural circuit, people attend in large numbers. Their attendance is an indication that harvest is ready. I have no doubt in my mind that the Spirit of the Lord is empowering the preachers and Church leaders in the district and motivating people to flee from their sins to a place of safety, the house of the Lord.

Lay Trainings:

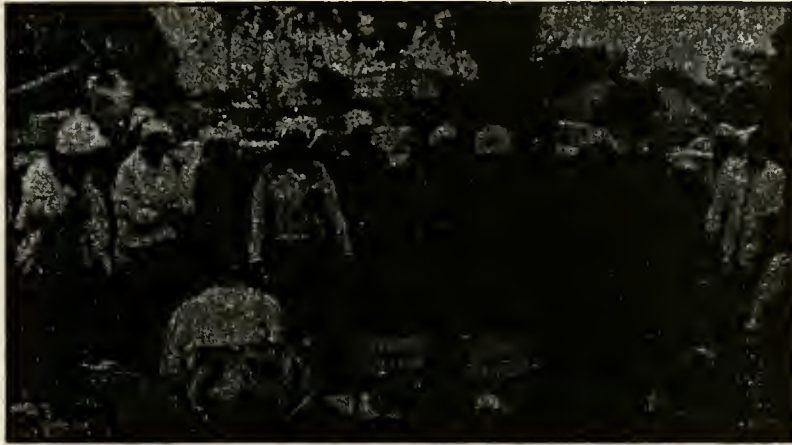
Having sensed the need for lay training in the new district, the district leaders resolved to hold lay trainings in different areas concentrating on Christian Education, Evangelism and Stewardship. The response was very encouraging. The District Superintendent and the District Lay-leader, Mr. Marahwa, managed to attend the lay training at Muzondidya, a rural local Church in Zaka. The conference lay-leader participated in the training and witnessed with surprise what transpired at the place that day.

Crusade at Rudhanda in Zaka:

As from the 21st to the 23rd of March 1997, the district managed to hold a crusade at Rudhanda Secondary School in Zaka East about 1 000 people were present. The crusade was blessed by the presence of our Resident Bishop C. Jokomo who introduced the District Superintendent to the District. it was on Saturday, when the new District Superintendent was commissioned by the Bishop. During the inauguration ceremony it was raining; some people were in the classroom and others standing outside listening through the windows. People joyfully welcomed the District Superintendent, taking turns circuit by circuit, giving gifts of appreciation to the new District Superintendent. Although it was raining, the people braved the rain. The Chiefs who attended the crusade, expressed their appreciation to the Bishop and in the same breath brought to the attention of the Bishop their need for education for children in this area. On Sunday, 23rd March 1997, after the people had taken the Holy communion, an appeal to the people present was made by the District Superintendent to start an education fund and a sum of \$1 021,30 was realised that day. Construction of a sills training school in one of our remote areas is on the district's long term plan. Through the Conference Board of Education we appeal to the Zimbabwe Annual Conference to assume responsibility for this noble project.



CRUSADE AT RUDHANDA IN ZAKA



CRUSADE IN ZAKA

Ground Breaking in order to build a Sanctuary:

On the 19th of July, we had a ground breaking ceremony at Benzi Village in Zaka. The people are prepared to build the Church on their own. They have molded bricks and well wishers in the neighbouring farms have offered the Church members some building materials and money. They will only come to the district of assistance if they fail to buy the required roofing materials. During the ceremony, the District Lay-leader, Mr. Marahwa, challenged the people present to give something towards the construction of the sanctuary and in response, people gave as much as \$875.74.

The Church members in Zaka East are geared to give as much as they can to their Lord during the Harvest Thanksgiving festival. If they happen to reach their target, they may be able to finish up building sanctuaries at Benzi and Chipfunde.



***D.S. REV. J. BANDA AT GROUND BREAKING
CEREMONY FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A SANCTUARY***

Fund Raising Projects in Zaka:

Plans are underway to help the people of Zaka to carry out fund-raising projects so that they are able to be self-sufficient in Church support. At the moment Zaka East and Zaka West are on a conference subsidy like Gutu-Bikita, Gaza and Chirumhanzu. The district leaders are urging the five rural circuits to grow spiritually and in church support. Continuous financial

support into circuits concerned has the tendency to maim the circuits concerned in that people will not take giving seriously as part of worship that enables the church to grow.

Evangelism in Gaza:/Chambuta

In Gaza Circuit, a traditional healer surrendered his paraphernalia used in healing and sooth-saying, to the members of the evangelism group to be burnt after accepting Jesus as his personal saviour. He, his wife and children were baptised in the name of Jesus by Rev. Musafare Mususa. On the 19th of June, a man, his wife and two children were baptised at the former Chambuta Refugee Camp at the request of the couple. Four more adults asked the District Superintendent to baptise them after making their intention known to their pastor. There was great excitement among the worshipers after the baptism of these people.

The people at Chambuta are still appealing to the United Methodist Church to rescue them from unbelief, ignorance and diseases by building churches, a high school and a clinic in their area. These needs are very real. Sanctuaries, school and at least a clinic in Gaza are necessary as a means of helping to develop the people of these communities.

A Humble Beginning of a School

There is a study group of sixteen boys and girls at Chambuta under the supervision of Pastor Vhangarani. At the beginning of this year, the study group lessons were being conducted in the Church building. When Pastor Vhangarani approached the District Administrator at Chiredzi asking him to allow the study group to make use of the existing former refugee camp facilities about five kilometers away from the United Methodist Church building, the response was positive. This former Chambuta Refugee Camp has twenty-six classrooms, nine houses, a clinic and electricity within the camp although the buildings have not been electrified. There are two bore-holes within the camp and piped water drawn from underground near Runde River. The District Administrator informed the District Superintendent that the United Methodist Church could have this place provided it was willing to develop the place into a high school. The need for education in Chambuta is great. The United Methodist Church is urged to take this up as one of its tasks in the years ahead.



FORMS I AND III STUDY GROUPS AT CHAMBUTA

MENTORS: T. NDAVANI AND P. CHAUKE LESSONS WERE INITIALLY CONDUCTED IN A CHURCH BUILDING



DR A. CHIBANGUZA (UMC EDUCATION SECRETARY)MR R. KAWENDA (UMC) BOARD OF TRUSTEES CHAIRMAN ANDMR P. KANGARA (UMC) REPRESENTATIVE FOR SECONDARY SCHOOL AT CHAMBUTA AT CHAMBUTA, INSPECTING THE SITE TO BE DEVELOPED INTO HIGH SCHOOL

Fund Raising projects in Gaza:

The district church leaders have urged the church members to embark on fund raising projects in the area like raising goats and chickens so that they can improve their church support since they are in a semi arid area. With a little financial help they received from some church leaders, a goat rearing project has begun in Gaza and we hope that this will be very viable in the near future after the harvest thanksgiving festival. Constant teachings on good stewardship of land, water, animals and money will greatly improve the lives of the people in this part of Masvingo.

The Great Church Revival Event and the Unpreached Sermon:

A combined Masvingo District Revival of Ruwadzano Rwe Wadzimai (RRW), Mubvuwi we United Methodist Church (MUMC) and United Methodist Youth Fellowship members (UMYF) was held at St. Philip United Methodist Church in Mucheke High Density suburb from the 1st to the 3rd of August, 1997. All of the ten circuits that make up the Masvingo District of the United Methodist Church were represented and the gathering was well over 500 people.

In the evening of the 1st of August 1997, the District Superintendent, Rev. J. C. Banda preached on the quadrennial theme of the Zimbabwe Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church:

“... they who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint. Isaisah 40:31.

After the sermon 34 people went to the alter to dedicate and rededicate themselves to the Lord. Indeed the Lord visited us. On Saturday, the Masvingo pastors took turns to preach as the Spirit of the Lord guided them. Pastors Panganai Mapa, Henry Chareka, Trymore Mashekede and Rev. Musafare Mususa preached moving sermons. Pastor Duncan Charwadza talked about the History of the United Methodist Church and the oncoming zonal pre-

centennial celebrations of the United Methodist and the Conference-wide Centennial celebrations of our Church at Old Mutare on the 12th and 13th December 1997. This history of the United Methodist Church in Zimbabwe was, indeed, an eye-opener that enabled the old and new converts see the great works that the Holy Spirit has done in Zimbabwe through the United Methodist Church.

Rev. P. Mupindu, our guest preacher, preached two very powerful sermons in a dramatic way on Asa the son of Abijah, King of Judah who could not compromise with the foreign gods and worshipers of these gods and on "The borrowed axe" II Kings 6:1-7. When a man's axe had got lost into the deep water of the Jordan River, he had nothing to cut the logs with and he became frustrated because he could not do any work. Moreover, he had lost an axe-head of a borrowed axe. However, the man of God, Elisha was able to retrieve the axe-head by throwing a stick into the water at the point where the axe-head had fallen into the water. A man who had lost hope had his hope renewed. Those who believe in God will have their strength renewed and they will be able to perform their work well. After the sermon, many people went to the altar to dedicate themselves and pastors prayed for them.

Mr. Webster Zimunya, from the Harare West District, representing Vabvuwi we United Methodist Church, preached a touching sermon that made the worshipers re-examine themselves. The Ruwadzano women presented their preacher as the Spirit of the Lord instructed them. Mrs. Gloria Chirimani, Mrs. Tabitha Musiyazviriyo and Mrs. Mavis Karidza successfully delivered the messages of God to the spiritually hungry listeners.

Two spirit mediums dedicated themselves to Christ as they were giving their testimonies. A traditional African healer from Gaza praised God for saving him from a state of spiritual captivity he was in for a long time. He said that he was now a different person altogether, enjoying peace of mind. Six children and five adults were baptised. Six UMYF, three RRW and three MUMC members were received into the full membership of their organizations

The climax of the revival was reached at about nine o'clock on Sunday morning after the texts "Numbers 21:4-9 and John 3:14-15" were read and the invited MUMC choir from Harare West District of the United Methodist had sung Rev. J. C. Banda's (the DS's favorite hymn 215 "Mwari wangu ndipfwenyi". The District Superintendent briefly introduced the sermon. While in the pulpit, the preacher felt something like an invading force similar to mild electric shock and his experience was so overwhelming that it surprised the preacher and moved him greatly. What he could do was to ask the Harare West District MUMC choir to sing the hymn again and when the choir was singing, the preacher and the congregation were in tears, some dropping onto the floor and others moving in different directions, shouting, screaming and sobbing. Mr. T. Gurupira who was taking the video could not withstand the atmosphere that was prevailing that time and he had to stop carrying out the assigned duty for he, too, was all in tears. It is just difficult to explain the event. Individual testimonies might help us to know what really was happening. Some people from other denominations who had come to worship with the United Methodists remarked that they were really surprised by the event and that they were convinced that the Holy Spirit is truly at work in the United Methodist Church for they had witnessed with their own eyes what had transpired that morning.

The sermon was not preached but the District Superintendent asked Rev. P. Mupindu, the invited guest to celebrate the Eucharist, while he went into the vestry to pray for himself and

the congregation. People took the Eucharist while seated or standing with tears running on their cheeks. The situation was, indeed, out of our control but under God's control. The District Superintendent was the last person to take the Eucharist. our theological interpretation of the event is that God is surely with us in our endeavours to evangelize the people in this southern part of Zimbabwe. Our strength to serve God and the peoples has truly been renewed and we hope to word harder to preach the good news.

This brief account of the Sunday morning event of the 3rd of August, 1997 at about nine o'clock, does not claim to have exhausted all that took place. One who wants to have a picture of what really happened, one has to interview all those who experienced this spontaneous overwhelming event and some eyewitnesses who saw some of the things that were happening. All the people were convinced that God had visited His people in a very unusual way. Days after the event, people kept on asking whether they understand what took place on that Sunday morning.



REV J.C.BANDA, D.S AT THE REVIVAL OF 1-3 AUGUST 1997 AT ST PHILIP U.M.CHURCH IN MASVINGO



THE HARARE WEST FISHERS OF PEOPLE (VABVUWI) S AT THE 1-3 AUGUST 1997 REVIVAL



WORSHIPPERS' RESPONSE TO THE WORD OF GOD AT THE MEMORABLE REVIVAL



READY TO GO TO PROPAGATE THE WORD

There is a lot of work to be done in this new district. People rush to revivals when they are held near their homes. Those living in the rural areas find it difficult to get bus fares to travel to Church meetings that are held far away from their homes. The District Church leaders feel indebted to these people. The district needs a vehicle to facilitate their missionary journeys to win the souls for Christ. This work we were called to do has to be done without wasting time for time is not on our side. Quick actions might help a person or two to accept Jesus as their personal saviour before they breathe their last.

Christian education is in demand in this new district. People are very eager to learn and this reminds me of Paul's words in Romans 10:14-15, "But how can they call to him for help if they have not believed? And how can they believe if they have not heard the message? And how can they hear if the message is not proclaimed? And how can the message be proclaimed if messengers are not sent out? As the scripture says, "How wonderful is the coming of the messengers who bring good news!"

We of Masvingo District owe our sincere gratitude to the fishers of men or United Methodist Men of Harare West District who resolved to bring us close to them and openly referred to us as their sister district with whom they can evangelise people in Masvingo and elsewhere in the district. Come what may! We do not doubt the words of Jesus to his Church which he bought with his precious blood, "I will be with you always, to the end of the age." Matthew 28:20b.

U.M.Y.F. (United Methodist Youth Fellowship)

Youth work in the district is refer. The youths plan and follow their programmes closely. Through revivals and prayer meetings, they have been able to win new members. Two traditional healers were converted to Christianity by UMYF members in Gaza. The youth have been able to console the bereaved, provide the sick children with toys at Chiredzi Hospital and provide the senior citizens of our Church with food items in Masvingo Circuit.

M.U.M.C. (Mubvuwi we United Methodist Church)

Full members are few and scattered in this district. Executive members have been finding it difficult to meet regularly in order to strategies their work. It was later resolved that members in the circuits close to each other be elected to assume leadership roles in the organisation. This having been done, life was noticed in fishers of men. Masvingo, Zaka East and Zaka West Circuits have a good number of fishers of men who need to follow their programmes closely to be very effective. Three probationers were accepted into full membership of the organisation.

R.R.W. (Ruwadzano Rwe Wadzimai)

The women together with the men and youths organised a combined revival that was held at St. Philip United Methodist Church in Masvingo Circuit from the 1 - 3 August 1997. At this revival, people experienced the power of the Holy Spirit - they felt their hearts strangely warmed, received Jesus as their personal saviour - were uplifted spiritually and were healed.

In this organisation there are forty-two tithers. The members console the bereaved. Seven members were approved for full membership but only three of them succeeded to attend the meeting where new members were to be received and so three were received into full membership. Besides evangelising people, women carry out fund raising projects like goat rearing in Gaza, tie and dye and wall hangers in Masvingo, Zvishavane, Mashava and Chiredzi Circuits.

PASTORAL PERSONNEL

There are only two elders including the District Superintendent in the district. Two of the Pastors are fourth or final year student pastors on the college internship programme. One is in his third year conference course of study programme and five are local Pastors who still need to go to the seminary for some training. Although the district is not adequately staffed, God has performed miracles with these Pastors. It is the general wish of the Pastors and the church members that the local Pastors be given some training since all qualify to go to the seminary-the United Theological College. More elders are needed in the district so that they can administer sacraments according to the circuits' plans.

I would like to thank all the Pastors for their dedication to work. Some of them are working under very difficult situations for they do not have sanctuaries or parsonages or both.

CHURCH SUPPORT AND CIRCUITS' FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE

Gaza, Chirumanzu, Gutu-Bikita, Zaka East and Zaka West, all of which are rural circuits, have had conference financial subsidies in their pastoral support. All but Zaka East are unable to give regular travel allowances to their pastors. These circuits need to be helped with ideas in order to be self supportive. The District Finance and Stewardship Committees have been tasked to assist the circuits to overcome their financial difficulties.

The other five circuits which are urban are able to meet their pastoral support but they have failed to contribute towards the common pool.



REV JOSEPHAT BANDA (D.S)



*MRS MAVIS BANDA (D.S'S SPOUSE)
DISTRICT WOMEN'S WORKER*



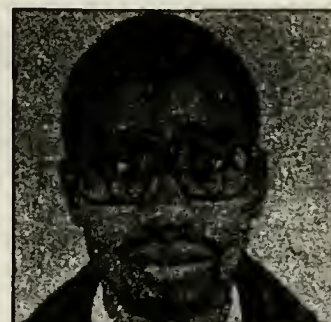
*PASTOR TRYMORE MASHEKEDE
(DISTRICT COM DIRECTOR)*



PASTOR ITAI KABUNZE



PASTOR DUNCAN CHARWADZA



PASTOR HENRY CHAREKA



PASTOR PANGANAI MAPA



REV MUSAFARE MUSUSA



*PASTOR VHANGARANI, REV J. BANDA,
REV M. MUSUSA AND MR M. MARAHWA
(DISTRICT LAY LEADER)*

HARVEST THANKSGIVING

CIRCUITS	1996		1997	
	TARGET	ACTUAL	TARGET	ACTUAL
			(Chiredzi)	
Chiredzi + Triangle	\$10 000.00	\$15 000.00	(\$20 000.00)	(\$6 000.00)
Chirumanzu		\$ 200.00	\$ 5 000.00	\$ 800.00
Gaza	-	\$ 760.00	\$ 3 000.00	\$1 050.00
Gutu-Bikita	\$3 000.00	\$ 3 000.00	\$ 8 000.00	\$ 5 000.00
Mashava	\$8 000.00	\$ 6 000.00	\$15 000.00	\$ 8 700.00
Masvingo	\$20 000.00	\$18 000.00	\$67 000.00	\$45 000.00
Triangle	-	-	\$15 000.00	\$16 000.00
Zaka East	\$5 000.00	\$10 000.00	\$ 6 000.00	\$10 000.00
Zaka West	\$5 000.00	\$ 5 300.00	\$ 6 000.00	\$ 3 300.00
Zvishavane	\$10 000.00	\$ 9 300.00	\$16 000.00	\$ 8 000.00
TOTALS	\$61 000.00	\$67 560.00	\$161 000.00	\$105 050.00

GLOBAL GATHERING III IN KANSAS CITY

Thanks be to our God who intervenes in our life situations and human history for our good. God made it possible for one of the District Superintendents to be among the Zimbabwe Annual Conference representatives at the global-gathering III in Kansas City, Missouri from the 10th to the 13th of April 1997.

This is one of the properly planned motivating church events many people should be exposed to. I wished thousands of kilometres were just a walking distance so that many Methodists in my country would just walk to witness for themselves the inspiring worship services, very educative workshops on, (1) "Bible calls us to Mission," (2) "Holiness of Heart and Life", (3) "Interpreting Mission in the local church," (4) "Mission education with children and youth," (5) "Holy boldness: strategy for mission with urban youth, and other topics". It was to my great joy to see excited, loving exhibitors, standing or seated in front of captivating exhibits. United Methodist related colleges, seminaries and universities in U.S.A. and Africa University; what they stand for, have done, are doing and hope to do were explained in black and white, on video tapes and verbally by exhibitors. People are so innovative as to be able to transform the present world into a better world to live in. Various fund raising and life sustaining projects were exhibited in various booths in a great hall near Mariette Hotel. Time was so fast and short for one to stay long at one booth in order to learn all the exhibitors had on display. The Pet (personal energy transportation) is ideal for persons who have lost the use of their legs due to landmines, polio, amputations and other factors.

I wish we would be able to make them as United Methodists in Zimbabwe and then give our valuable services to those in need of it. The Pet, gives them a chance at life; it says to them, "In the name of Jesus Christ, arise and walk"

I was greatly touched by the lively singing at this global gathering. We were made to feel that we were indeed one. People could sing in Shona like "Tinotenda Jesu, Tinotenda Jesu Hallelujah Ameni!" Muchindikani yesu mutumwa" (Tumbuka hymn, Malawi), "Blessed Be the name" etc.

The sermon on the special child of Bethelhem and the other children of Bethelhem was very touching. Jesus the special child of Bethelhem escaped ruthless death in his infancy when Herod the Great killed the Jewish infants in the hope to kill the baby King. Pharaoh in the Old Testament was once an enemy of the baby boys of the Israelites. The disciples of Jesus rebuked women who had brought their infants to Jesus in order to touch them.

“But Jesus called them to him, saying, “let the children come to me, and do not hinder them; for to such belongs to the kingdom of God”. (Luke 18:15-16). In these stories we see adults feeling threatened by infants, hating to the point of physically eliminating the infants and yet Jesus the Lord of the world identifies Himself with these innocent loving and obedient little ones. Most of the victims in the civil wars that are fought are young ones and women. Most of the people thrown out into the streets and deprived of food are young ones. What sort of leaders do we want to have in future? When you see a child living in the street as yourself “whose child is that?”

Someone’s or somebody’s child is your and you should care for him or her. Children need food, good health, shelter, clothes, education and love. We should care for children now in order to have good leaders of tomorrow and good world to live in. Let us think of and implement better plans for children care in our districts!

I wish the global gathering IV would be held in Zimbabwe so that many in Africa could benefit from it. It is indeed enriching to experience the global village!

LAY PEOPLE’S COMMITMENT TO DISTRICT CHURCH WORK

In conclusion, I would like to highlight the dedication of Mr Marahwa, the district lay-leader, to the work of the Lord. He has offered his time, effort and car in organising church work and propagating the word of God in Masvingo District. Without his co-operation, district work was going to be very difficult. Messrs. T. Gurupira, Chipungu and Musiyazviriyo, among others, also deserve the district’s appreciation for using their vehicles voluntarily in the district; without their help, work would have been disappointingly retarded. A district car is a necessity in Masvingo District whose circuits are, in most cases, far apart.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

As the district, we recommend to the Zimbabwe Annual Conference:

1. that the Chipfunde Technical College project be taken up by the Zimbabwe Annual Conference as its long term project
2. that the former Chambuta Refugee Camp be developed into a high school of the United Methodist Church
3. that Chirumanzu, Mupandawana (Gutu), Mashava and Zvishavane be assisted financially to build parsonages and sanctuaries’
4. that Masvingo District be granted a loan to buy a district vehicle.

Humbly submitted by: **Josephat Chaponda Banda**
DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT

MUREWA DISTRICT'S REPORT



District Superintendent Rev. Mary Masamba

CENTENNIAL GREETINGS

Bishop; Murewa District of the UMC is pleased to bring special greetings to you and the whole household of the Lord which is in your Episcopal area. We bring our special greetings to this Centennial session of our Conference. Praises and Thanks be to God. We are pleased again, Bishop, to extend special greetings to your predecessors who are here with us: Bishop Abel T. Muzorewa and Bishop E. Dodge. We remember with great nostalgia the glorious days of their Ministry in this Conference as our Episcopal leaders. We also greet Bishop James K. Matthews. As we extend our greetings to you, we wish to share with you the story of the work of the United Methodist Church in Murewa District. It is an amazing story of evangelism, healing and empowering of ordinary people through education.

MISSION STATEMENT: "GO THEREFORE AND MAKE DISCIPLES OF ALL NATIONS...." (MATT. 28:19)

The district has the great Commission (Matt.28:...) as its compass in Ministry and we in Murewa will continue to evangelise and prepare the Christians in the district to become strong disciples with a strong commitment to the mission in order that the poor may have the gospel preached to them, and the orphans are cared for and that in Murewa, Uzumba, Maramba-Pfungwe, Chikwaka and other areas, every knee shall bow to the Lord.

The conference theme: Isaiah 40:31 is a powerful guidance for many of the people in the district who are currently going through very trying hard times because of poverty, AIDS and AIDS related deaths, unemployment and loss of their meager property to thieves and robbers. The Church must get involved to find solutions to these devastating socio-economic problems.

HISTORY OF MUREWA DISTRICT IN BRIEF

The establishment of Murewa Churches started in about 1904 when Mr Mhotani Murewa met Dr Gurney at Chitsanza where he was delivering his sermon. The sermon touched the life of Mr Murewa and he asked Dr Gurney how this new life could be a reality in his own life.

The same year Dr Gurney arrived at Murewa Centre and met Mhotani Murewa and his son, Mungate. The other person present was the Native Commissioner, Willie Edwards. During this early interaction, Dr Gurney was stationed at Chitimbe. In 1909, Dr Gurney traveled long distances to treat people regardless of their colour, race or creed in the whole District of Murewa.

One day Dr Gurney received a message requesting him to come to the rescue of a ten-year old girl named Chemhunga who had been gored by a bull. The bull's horns had torn open her stomach exposing her intestines hence the need for urgent medical attention. Prayerfully and painstakingly, Dr Gurney performed a wonderful piece of work which turned out to be God's miracle for all villagers to witness. To the villagers and its leadership it was indeed seeing God's hand in action. That event provided fertile ground upon which the word of the Lord was to flourish.

Inspired by Dr Gurney's commitment, love and zeal, the Native Commissioner was persuaded to grant him permission to establish a Mission station in Headman Kanyasa's area. Headman Kanyasa and his people were receptive to Dr Gurney's work. They even assisted in erecting infra-structure that housed a dispensary, schoolroom, church and residence for Dr Gurney and his assistant, Job Tsiga.

Later, Dr Gurney asked for more places to establish other but he encounters resistance from headmen and chiefs who were skeptical about his work. Many took him for a white wizard and imperialist who wanted to distort the social fabric of their African way of life. He received fierce attacks and suffered many trials and tribulations. Despite these challenges and hardships he was determined to forge ahead with God's work. To him God's call was God's call; no one could resist it forever.

God empowered him in his work to pursue his vision. God continued to bless his endeavours and he was given Murewa Kraal to establish a church and a school.

The period 1911-1917 saw Murewa and Mutoko brought together to form on one circuit under the supervision of Dr Gurney. In this new circuit he established schools, churches and dispensary buildings from poles, mud and grass.

Through his ministry of healing, teaching and preaching many lives touched and the church continued to experience rapid growth.

From 1917 Murewa and Mutoko started operating as independent circuits. Murewa grew from strength and the word spread into areas like Chikoore-Tanda, Headlands, Macheke, Marondera, Harare, Bulawayo, Chinhoyi, Mhangura and Kariba.

In 1918 Herbert N. Howard started constructing one of the first buildings whose roof was completed on the night before the outbreak of the influenza epidemic.

In 1919 T. A.O. Farrel started construction work on the stone church building and the school. On the 3rd of August 1924 Dr Gurney passed away. Despite the sad loss of this man the two circuits, Murewa and Mutoko, expanded tremendously and each one of them earned District status.

The emergence of the two Districts called for the services of a District Superintendent. Rev. H.I. James was appointed District Superintendent in 1927 and he served up to 1938. He was succeeded by Rev Sells who was in turn succeeded by Rev R.C. Gates. 1947 saw C.E. Fuller at the helm of the District. The period 1950-1954 saw O.A. Stine becoming the District Superintendent while Josiah Chidzikwe was the circuit Pastor. It was during this same time that plans to establish a church centre in Salisbury started under the supervision of Rev Samuel. He was stationed at Murewa North circuit as he performed his supervisory work.

In 1953 Rev Charles Miller embarked on a programme designed to train church leaders in special areas of Christian Education and Stewardship. And as one scholar once said, history repeats itself... our district has come to the realisation that training programmes for church leadership should always play a pivotal role in Church administration.

As a result of the efforts made by Rev. Charles Miller in the training programmes the period 1954-1959 witnessed the installation of Rev Jonah Chitombo as the first African District Superintendent. Rev Jonah Kawadza succeeded him in 1960 and served until 1963.

When Rev D. Chikosi assumed office in 1963 he supervised the work of Pastors in Harare, Marondera, Bulawayo, Kariba, Makuti, Chirundu, Gwelo, Gatooma, Selukwe, Mhangula, Sinoia and Karoi.

The following is a list of the names of the Pastors and the areas they were in charge of:

1. Rev J. MasendaKariba, Makuti, Chirundu.
2. Rev K. ChotoMangula, Sinoia, Banket.
3. Rev S. KowoGwelo, Gatooma, Selukwe.
4. Rev J. GurureVisiting Preacher in Marondera.

As the church continued to cherish spiritual and educational growth, Maпонongwe School was opened in January 1965, marking the birth of formal education in Bishop Jokomo's home area.

Like all great human endeavours, the church had its own share of stumbling blocks. In 1965, Rev Chikosi reported that the church was experiencing disturbances due to the political climate prevailing in the country at that time. The disturbances culminated in the deportation of Bishop and Mrs Dodge and Rev and Mrs R. Hughes. In many places churches and schools were burnt down.

The year 1969 was a historic year for Murewa District for it weaned yet another district-Harare District. During this period Rev D. Mudzengerere was District Superintendent for Murewa and Rev T. Curtis became District Superintendent for Harare. Two years later, a new circuit, Maramba-Pfungwe was born bringing the total number of Murewa circuits to ten.

In 1974 when the liberation struggle was at its peak in all areas of the country, Rev Josiah Kurewa was the District Superintendent for Murewa. The same year Bishop Muzorewa's house suffered a grenade attack and it was only by God's grace that he survived the attack as he was out of the country. This attack might have been politically motivated since he was the leader of the A.N.C. party. I still remember vividly people calling him by the name Black Moses. The church played a significant role in fighting the colonial injustices of the time.

The eleventh session of the Zimbabwe Annual Conference was held at Murewa in 1977 under an explosive war situation. The war claimed the lives of many including some of our church members. It was a trying time that tested one's faith and trust in the Lord. In those trying times, Rev Lovemore Nyanungo was appointed acting District Superintendent for Murewa District until the return of Rev Kanonhuwa in August of 1978. Despite the difficult war situation construction work at Murewa Mission continued and Murewa High School was completed that same year. In August Rev Kanonhuwa and his wife came back and resumed his office as District Superintendent.

The late 1970's was not only a difficult period because of the war but also because of the serious shortage of manpower the conference was experiencing. Some of our Pastors had left the Ministry for greener pastures offered in various government institutions. The skills the church had developed in them enabled them to take up important jobs in government. To remedy this situation conference invited and reinstated all retired ministers who were still able to carry out effective pastoral work. The post-war period was characterised by rebuilding, reconciliation and recapturing of the ground and the grip that had been lost during the liberation struggle. In 1984 Rev A.K. Katsande was appointed District Superintendent for Murewa District. During those difficult times it was reported that Pastors were going for several months without salaries.

Only four circuits out of ten in the district were able to raise their Pastor's salaries in full.

In 1987 Rev Banda succeeded Rev A.K. Katsande. The period 1984 to 1986 was characterised by political disturbances which saw pastors being evicted from the Mission Centre by members of the public in the name of the party politics. The community was suspicious of the political inclination of the United Methodist Church members and their local leadership. Despite these unfortunate circumstances the district continued to grow as two more circuits were added to the existing ten thus the financial situation of the district improved thereby enabling circuits to support their Pastors.

After Rev R.J. Banda came Rev R.K. Chiza in 1989. By that time the church had re-established itself. As church activities had now been brought back on track, emphasis was placed on self-sustenance. The Murewa District bought bicycles for its Pastors. Furthermore, Matutu, Mhembere, Karumazondo and Muchinjike were dedicated. The district was exalted in 1990 when the U.M.Y.F. came second in the Zimbabwe Annual Conference Youth Projects Competition. This was a historic achievement in a district where people had not taken an active role in such projects before.

In 1991 a new era dawned in Murewa District as one of its sons, Rev C. Jokomo, accepted God's call to become the Episcopal leader. Rev R.K. Chiza's district had been blessed. The anxiety that had built up in the conference over the retirement of our Bishop, Rev Abel Muzorewa was relieved. It was not easy to give farewell to Bishop Muzorewa who had

shepherded the conference for over two decades, from 1968 to December 1991. His contributions could not be fully explored within pages of reports or during the few days we gathered as conference. Various committees and Boards paid tribute to his exceptional work. It was not easy to say good-bye to a leader like him.

After Rev. Christopher Jokomo was elected Bishop, a new headmaster for Murewa had to be appointed and the District Superintendent, Rev Chiza was challenged to nominate a suitable candidate for the post. The school had to continue to improve its stance on discipline and spiritual growth and this required a candidate of strong personality.

The appointment of Bishop Jokomo brought great pride and honour to the whole district. A son born to Mbuya Verna and Sekuru Jokomo, devout Christians who dedicated their lives to God, had been chosen by God to lead the Holy Ministry. Women in the district, through the Rukwadzano Fellowship, have continued to support their son by constantly holding vigil prayers for the work of the Bishop and the church.

In 1996 Rev Mary Masamba took over as District Superintendent for Murewa to become the first woman District Superintendent in the Zimbabwe Annual Conference. The district now had sixteen circuits and this meant increased financial obligation on the part of the district. While some circuits were able to give enough support to their Pastors others were struggling to make ends meet. For instance, Murewa North East (Chitowa) Murewa South, Wuyuwuyu and Murewa East were some of the circuits. Consequently, the district's financial standing remained shaky and maintaining a District Savings Account was virtually impossible.

BACKGROUND AND LOCATION

Murewa District of the United Methodist Church is made up of two distinct, politically delineated areas, namely; Uzumba Maramba Pfungwe (U.M.P.) and Murewa.

The district is about 86km east of Harare. The residence of the District Superintendent is at Murewa Mission Centre which is about 87km from Harare, the capital city of Zimbabwe.

The district covers a wide area. From Murewa Centre to Pfungwe it is about 200km. From Murewa Centre going southwards and eastwards, the district stretches for about 80km and 40km, respectively. Going westwards the district stretches for about 40km.

There is a busy highway that passes through the district linking Harare and Mozambique and Malawi. This highway has caused many social problems within the district.

During the liberation struggle for Zimbabwe the whole district was a blood bath for the Colonial Regime Soldiers, liberation struggle fighters and civilians because of the easy accessibility of the area offered by the highway. At present truck drivers are victims of professional prostitutes, robbers and drug traffickers. Beer gardens and lodges which are poorly maintained are erected all over along the highway.

POPULATION SIZE AND STRUCTURE

The population size of Murewa District is based on the National Census of 1992(**Source of information: Surveyor General's Office.) Murewa District has a total population of 238,813.

Since the last national census the population has increased tremendously and only another census can give a realistic picture of the current situation. The 1992 Census revealed that the male population was 113,718 whilst that of females was 125,095. The population growth rate is 2,2% per annum.

This rapid growth is due to high fertility rate and declining infant mortality rate. The growing population supplies labour and this has resulted in the expansion of the economic activities undertaken in the district.

ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES

Many people in the district are peasant farmers and small scale farmers or subsistence farmers. The yields from our communal farmers are very low due to the small farming lands which have very poor soils. In the communal areas there are mainly sandy soils. The red clay and dark fertile soils are found in very few and isolated places.

Our major sources of water are deep wells, boreholes and a few man-made dams. The few major dams found in the district were constructed by the responsible local authorities to cater for the needs of Growth Points. The common crops grown in the district are maize, sorghum, rapoko, groundnuts, soya beans, sunflower, cotton, sugarbeans and tobacco. Maize and groundnuts are the major crops grown in the area. The reason maize is the major crop is that it is the staple food. Ground maize is used in the preparation of sadza which is the main meal for most Zimbabweans.

Domestic animals are also kept in the district. People keep pigs, goats, cattle, ostrich and chickens. The piggery industry is fast becoming a popular project. A few communal farmers send their produce to Colcom while the majority market send their produce to the local butcheries. Goat keeping is also very popular in the district; nearly every household has some goats. Some families have up to 50 goats. Cattle are the major source of income for our people. Besides, they are a status symbol and a source of pride. Almost every family keeps cattle.

THE WORK OF THE CHURCH

CIRCUITS

The district is composed of 16 circuits and 86 stations or local churches. It has 40 church buildings and 15 parsonages. There are also church buildings that are under construction. These are Munemo, Kaseke, Dombodzvuku, Rupange and Mavhurume. There are also churches that still have to be dedicated. These are Mashambanhaka, Chinhenga, Hokodzi and Chin'ono. I am impressed with the team spirit and co-operation that our members show when it comes to doing the work of the Lord. When a church is to be built they mould bricks, crush concrete stones, fetch river sand and pit-sand rather than just wait for financial assistance. Where they can do something for themselves they do not just fold their arms and wait for donors. Most of our members are peasant farmers as has been pointed out elsewhere in this report. There are few professional workers in the district. Murewa Centre is the only circuit that has a large pool of skilled and well-paid members. Again the Murewa business community constitutes a considerable part of its membership.

CLERGY PERSONNEL

We have four itinerant Elders, eighteen local Pastors and two student Pastors who are going to graduate this year. These are G.M. Nyamupfumbi and Godfrey Muranda. Two of our circuits are without Pastors-they are led by the circuit leadership who get assistance from the District Superintendent and the District Lay Leader.

MISSION STATIONS

We have two mission stations in the district, namely; Murewa Mission and Dindi Mission in Pfungwe area. Murewa Mission has a high school, a primary school and a pre-school. The high and primary schools have shared boarding facilities. The two schools have special education programmes for the Visually and Mentally Handcapped children. Dindi Mission has no boarding facilities due to lack of funds. There is great need of money to establish the boarding facilities. Most children walk long distances of about 20km everyday to attend school. Dindi Mission has a clinic which is in a poor state to be considered as a health centre. It is the cry of the people and staff at Dindi to have a modern health facility at the mission as the nearest hospital is about 40km away. The buildings at the mission centre including the church need major renovations. As a district together with the conference we have a dream to build a skills training college at Dindi Mission Centre. The Lord has blessed us as we have already secured a piece of land for the project. For the project to commence there is need of almost two million dollars.

THE STATE OF THE CHURCH

MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

The membership of the district according to last year's records is 7 141. This year we have witnessed growth. We opened preaching points in Juru area where we established Murape preaching point with 9 new members and Shiro preaching point with 4 new members.

In Pfungwe area we have a dynamic and talented Pastor in Evangelism, Pastor Mukandiona. We also established preaching points in the area. These are Magudu with 16 members and Maseka with 11 new members and Nyakarawa with 7 new members.

We hope to spread out into other areas like Mount Darwin which is in the northern part of Pfungwe. We are encouraging all our pastors to reach as many new areas as they can to bring the salvation of our Lord to the lost.

EASTER

This year we had zones combining their circuits for purposes of their Easter Revivals. This arrangement had great impact as many new souls were brought to Christ. A spirit medium well known in Pfungwe gave his life to Christ and brought his two wives for baptism. He burned his charms and belongings dedicated to the spirits. At the same occasion one of our strong members, Mr Mukata who had been a leader in Chitungwiza but had lost strength in his faith some time ago gave back his life to Christ and his powerful testimony strengthened others.

In Uzumba area at Manyika Church, the MP for the area, Mr Kabayanjiri and his two wives gave their lives to Christ and gave pledge for the whole year. This was a great challenge to many Christians who do not support their church financially.

DISTRICT CRUSADE

The week long District Crusade activities were held at Murewa Mission. The Evangelist was Rev Scott Carter. It was the week I witnessed the power of God touching the hearts and minds of our children. Many confessed openly their evil acts of beer drinking, drug abuse, vandalising of school property and indulgence in pre-marital sex. They declared openly their need to follow Christ, our Lord. We experienced great joy as the number of our youths increased day by day. The young people continued to sing and give touching testimonies of their lives. Some requested for prayers for their troubled families. Others coming from broken homes came to seek advice on their problems. •

DISTRICT REVIVAL AND CENTENNIAL CELEBRATIONS

The district held its Revival and Centennial Celebrations at Murewa Mission since it was a convenient place to mount displays and stage a jubilation march. The event took place from 22 to 24 September 1997. the event was an eye-opener to many circuits who were overwhelmed by the meaning of the activities.

Many lives were touched. Many were strengthened in their faith by the sermons and teachings delivered by Rev Gurupira and Rev Mhone. It was a time to seek God's guidance in our lives as followers of Christ. We received and badged new members who joined R.R.W.. Three women from Murewa Centre were given back their uniforms after intense follow up and teachings to live a Holy life and to witness for Christ after they had told the gathering circumstances pertaining to their withdrawal from being effective members of Rukwadzano. We held our centennial celebrations march from Murewa Mission, entered Murewa Centre and came back to Murewa Mission via the Murewa centre high density suburbs. We had an open-air sermon for the public.

R.R.W

Our woman society has displayed wonderful acts in their activities in the community. They have formed clubs and prayer support groups where they utilise their talents and earn a living. The clubs are involved in gardening, tie and dye, dressmaking and poultry. Many programmes have been implemented to raise awareness to social problems such as unemployment, the AIDS epidemic and home based care programmes within the district.

The women meet every Wednesday for Bible studies and on Fridays for their worship services. The women make up the majority of our membership. Many of the women hold leading positions within the church and the community.

M.U.M.C

I have seen slight growth in this movement in terms of membership growth. The reason behind this is that the majority of men have jobs away from their rural homes so they only come home on weekends. These only become effective members of the church after retirement when they come home to settle. The main thrust of the M.U.M.C. is Evangelism. they have done very little in terms of rendering financial support to the church.

U.M.Y.F

The year 1997 has been a great year for our youth. The youths worked tirelessly with singularity of purpose in their projects, Revivals and District Meetings. In their brick molding project they molded 10750 bricks to help Murewa South Circuit build their parsonage and toilet. They crushed concrete stones for Chin'ono Church, fetched river-sand and pit-sand which earned them \$4 000.00. They did the same at Kaseke. They have gardening and poultry keeping projects. These are sound, soul-winning programmes. This year during their Revival they brought 25 youths to Christ. They cleaned Murewa District Hospital during their Youth Week as their community service. In the group we have 20 local preachers. They have great zeal to serve the Lord. They have taken seriously anti-AIDS awareness Campaign programmes within their circuits to inform others about the deadly disease. With the power and grace of God we hope to establish a Drop-In centre for victims of drug abuse, child abuse, unwanted pregnancies and AIDS. The youths are the most vulnerable group and this proposed centre will help to inform them about the dangers that surround them in this wicked world.

COMPLETION AND DEDICATION OF MAPONONGWE CHURCH

We witnessed God's intervening hand in the completion of Maponongwe Church when we received Volunteers in Mission for the United Methodist Church in February this year. The team comprised Rev. Chris Holmes, John and Ruella Barnes, Emily Frye, Joan and Howard McGaflin, Mike Elliot, Judy Kelly, Cleo McCoy, Doe Minter, Kay Osburnsen and George White. They started building the church from the window level where construction work stopped due to war in 1965. They built the church and completed it. This dedicated team of men and women from the Community United Methodist Church came to our rescue and did a splendid job. They brought their money and provided the much needed manpower. The Maponongwe Church was opened this year by Bishop May and his wife, and Bishop Jokomo. The ceremony was attended by the MUMC Choir and men and women from U.S.A. On that day God blessed us by saving souls of men who were beer drinkers. they became members of Maponongwe Church.

OUR NEEDS AS A CHURCH

The church bears a history of preaching, teaching and healing. Evangelism has been and is still a major tool needed in our church. We also need transport for our Pastors who foot from place to place. We need bicycles, motor cycles and a good four-wheel drive car for the district because of the bad roads that only a strong car can withstand. The district needs money to complete churches that are still under construction. It also needs more competent trained manpower.

Submitted by: **Rev. M. Masamba**
DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT

MUTARE DISTRICT



REV G.K. MACHINGA (DS) AND HIS WIFE MAGARET MACHINGA

1.0 INTRODUCTION

Time is so funny, it drags and yet it does not. Its exactly 100 years now when "Umtali" City was founded by Mr. Cecil John Rhodes at its present site. The Old site of Umtali made it prohibitive to develop the city as wells its physiography teathed problems for future expansion. Hence Bishop Joseph Crane Hartzell saw this situation as a golden opportunity and entered into an agreement with Cecil Rhodes to rescue Old Mutare site for the establishment of a Mission and a training Centre under the auspices of the AMERICAN EPISCOPAL CHURCH. This fortuitous event marked the inception of Old Mutare Mission and the birth of United Methodist Church in Zimbabwe.

Old Mutare Mission naturally assumed the role model position in spiritually, morally, physically and social matters only to mention a few. A lot of Mission Centres and churches were established throughout the country, Mutambara Mission, Nyadire, Murewa, Nyamuzuwe, Dendera, Mt Makomwe. Old Mutare trained and churned out Evangelists, Pastor-Teachers who went out to preach the Good news of our Lord Christ. Within a short space of time, the Methodist Episcopal church area began to grow. A number of District Superintendents have helped shape Mutare District together with their laity Leadership, modeled on Wesleyan values deeply entrenched in the teachings of our Lord Jesus Christ.

United Methodists in Mutare District of the Zimbabwe Annual Conference (Z.A.C) feel greatly privileged to be among the heirs of a very rich and dynamic Christian tradition which is the light of their everyday lives.

The new year began on January 4 1997 with the installation of the pioneer youngest District Superintendent in the history of the Zimbabwe U.M.C. The installation of Rev G.K. Machinga at St James-Dangamvura marked a new watershed in the leadership of the District as well as the church. The church, gencrally known to be a "life boat" has reaped fruits of intensified Evangelism through crusades; significant growth spiritually as evidenced by the works of faith.

Numerically the membership swelled up and financial viability improved through Harvest Thanks-giving and income generating projects.

2.0 MISSION STATEMENT

Mutare District of the United Methodist Church is a structural and functional entity of the Zimbabwe Annual Conference which seeks to spread the Good news of the risen Christ, to empower the disadvantaged, uplift moral righteousness in the face of socio-economic recession. This is to be achieved through teaching and preaching of the Christian Values, serving and ministering to all and sundry irrespective of their sex, race, tribe and creed.

3.0 HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The Methodist Episcopal Church (now United Methodist Church) came to Africa through freed slaves of Liberia who had come back from American in 1822. After 51 years, they requested for a missionary Bishop, and the request was reluctantly granted. Bishop William Taylor was elected and consecrated the first Missionary Bishop for Africa.

Through Bishop Taylor's hard work and vision, Missions were planted in Liberia, Congo, Angola and Mozambique. In 1886 the Bishop retired and was replaced by Bishop Joseph Crane Hartzell. The new Bishop first came to Rhodesia in October 1897 through an invitation by Cecil John Rhodes to witness the opening of a railway road connecting Bulawayo and South Africa. It was during this visit that the Rhodes Administration decided to relocate the city of Umtali to the present site because geographically it could not be linked with the railway line from Beira due to the Nyamashiri Range of mountains (Christmas Pass). As mentioned earlier, the Bishop reached an agreement with Cecil John Rhodes to have Old Mutare turned into a Mission. He went back after that successful deal.

On December 10, 1897, Bishop Hartzell arrived in the new Umtali on horseback from Beira. This marked the inauguration of Methodism in Rhodesia-as two days later, the 12th of December 1897 on a Sunday the first service was conducted. The Bishop conducted the service in a storeroom of a company building that belonged to Messers WM Philip and company (located at the present Puzey and Payne site).

Christian work grew steady-fastly in Africa and Bishop Hartzell presided a meeting which saw the creation of East Central Africa Conference to cover work in Rhodesia, Mozambique and Angola. The first session of the new Conference was held in the new Umtali where the Mutare District Offices are housed.

Two districts, Inhambane and Umtali were created at this session to administer work in Mozambique and Rhodesia respectively. More districts were later established in different parts of the country. The establishment of the Methodist Episcopal church to the South radiated from Mutare and congregations were established at Muradzikwa, Munyarari, Mutambara and Marange etc. As more churches were established, the growth was so unprecedented that there was need to establish an Annual Conference and Rhodesia Annual Conference of the Methodist Episcopal church came into being.

As work progressed, Mutare South District with offices based in the city of Mutare, was established to cover work in Zimunya, Marange, Mutambara, Chipinge, Masvingo and Chiredzi. Because of the membership numerically spiraling up, Mutare South District “gave birth” to Masvingo-Bulawayo District in 1988. Subsequently Mutare District came into existence in 1994 when Mutare South District was split. The present Mutare District cover the Mutare urban area, and the rural areas of Zimunya and Marange.

4.0 **PERSONNEL DETAILS AND STATISTICS**

Out of the eleven districts in the Zimbabwe Annual Conference Mutare District is the largest in terms of numerical membership and number of circuits.

4.1 **CLERGY**

The twenty-seven Pastors appointed in Mutare District this year worked harmoniously and relentlessly to deliver admirable and commendable achievements in their various charges. They indeed crossed some unseemingly insurmountable hurdles together with their Lay-Leadership. GOD BE BLESSED FOR THAT.

The table below shows clergy details and the analysis of the clergy personnel.

- A) Fifty (50%) of the pastors are untrained indicating the need for personnel development programmes as well as challenging the Conference to deliberately make funds available for the training of more clergy personnel
- B) Only a third (33.3%) of the pastors are ordained . This results in the delay in membership reception and the administration of sacraments.
- C) The women clergy represented 29.6% thereby challenging us to recruit more women called in the ministry.

PASTORS” CATEGORY	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
LOCAL PASTORS	10	3	13
CONFERENCE COURSE OF STUDY	-	2	2
RETIRED	1	-	1
STUDENT PASTORS	2	-	2
ORDAINED	6	3	9
TOTALS	19	8	27

In a bid to alleviate the problems highlighted in A and B on the analysis table, the district held Pastors workshops during the course of the year as a way of equipping pastors to brilliantly and confidently execute their duties.

Each Local Pastor was paired with an Ordained Elder for immediate attention to areas of ministry that demand the services of an Ordained Pastor.

4.3 BUILDINGS

Statistics at hand indicate that we have eight-five (85) Local Churches and sixteen (16) Preaching Points. This gives us an average of four (4) congregation per charge. Less than half the congregations. (44) have complete Sanctuaries with the rest worshipping in school classrooms and in the open. Only eight (8) sanctuaries are at different stages of construction.

The situation regarding parsonages is not pleasing. Only half of the 24 circuits own parsonages with the other half renting-mostly school properties. We are very grateful to the school authorities and individual Christian families who have graciously offered their houses for use by our Pastors.

5.0 EDUCATION AND HEALTH

5.1 MARANGE U.M.C. CENTRE

If you mention Athens in Greece, you mention education, likewise, if you mention Mt Makomwe it is synonymous with education in Marange Area.

Marange Mission dates back to 1904 when it was established and functioned as the beacon of light in Marange Area. The Reverend Wodehouse sought a suitable place for the Methodist work in Marange, South of Umtali. In 1905 Chief Marange granted permission and the Bishop appointed Rev Greeley to work in the Marange area.

A site was selected at Makomwe and by 1907, a school, church and Dispensary were established. The school, and church named Hudson Memorial were abandoned due to cracking walls. The new church, still Hudson memorial was dedicated in 1916. By 1943 the Boarding School at Mt Makomwe had developed rapidly. The Methodist Women (Rukwadzano) donated a Girls hostel and was opened officially by Mrs. Sells. The Boarding school at Makomwe was abandoned in 1951 and the Boarding property was transferred to Mutambara. This was later revived and the center became Ecumenical as it was jointly run by Anglican, Methodists and the Community.

It was in 1995 that Marange Mission came back to the U. M. C fold at the request the community and the Board of Governors running the school.

The U.M.C. Centre in Marange boasts of a Primary school, church and High school which was recently granted "A" Level classes The 'A' level classes will commence upon Completion of the Science Laboratory, lecture theatre, and arts block and a girls Hostel currently under construction. The enrolment figures at the two schools are as follows:-

Marange High School	750
Mt Makomwe Primary School	504

5.2 CHITORA RURAL HEALTH CENTRE

The boldest effort to realize Christ's ministry was realised when Mutare District sourced and was awarded a million Zimbabwean dollar by E.U. to construct Chitora Rural Health Centre. The history of Chitora project dates back to the early 1990's when a missionary nurse, sister Ruth Lindigren ran an outreach mobile clinic from

Mutambara Mission Hospital about 60km away. The benevolent sister visited Chitora area on fortnightly basis to bring the much needed health Care to the people. This health service in 1980 came to a halt in 1976 when the war of liberation was at its throttle. The Chitora Community attempted to revive the health service but failed to get off the ground, until the church responded to the Community's needs.

This year, construction of the health center has been progressing steadily. It is our joy to report that, to date, the building of clinic block three staff houses and a waiting mother's shelter is complete. The area has been fenced and the bore-hole has been drilled for water reticulation. Solar power installation is expected to be complete before the end of year.

6.1 EVANGELISM

United Methodists of Mutare District responded to Christ's great commission to make disciples of all nations---"Matt 28:19" The proclamation of the gospel was made to all people in all places through local churches, Revivals and Crusades. Most members were spiritually revived by messages from Preachers and well-organised District revivals by societies.

The District-organised crusades were held in all three areas of Zimunya. Marange and Mutare Urban. Hugh Mclellan a U.S.A. Evangelist and District COM Director, Rev M. Chambara Camped in Marange, preaching to students in secondary schools of Marange high, Nharira and Gomorefu. As a result for that five hundred made decisions for Christ.

The Crusades led to the Revival of a preaching point at Mapoff in Vumba, and an establishment of congregations in Chiadzwa (Marange South) and Chikundu resettlement area near Odzi. Mutare Urban Crusade held at the show grounds was a success as many souls were won for Christ. Our evaluation convinced us that holding of crusades is a very effective method of evangelism and crusades are here to stay in Mutare District.

In this district, the church is also evangelizing and ministering through its institutions. The youth center in Sakubva, the women's hostel, the formal schools are just a few examples of such institutions.

7.1 MUTARE WOMEN'S HOSTEL

Towards the early 1930's the city of Mutare was gradually industrializing with most men absorbed in the mushrooming industries and most of the women remained in the rural areas as cheap agricultural labour. The cash economy became fashionable. Many young women trickled to Umtali to look for employment as maids in the formally white residential area. Some of the women sought institutions to be trained as typist and receptionists. Accommodation became a serious problem for them as some of the women fell prey to immoral and unscrupulous men in the growing Umtali City. These Women needed shelter, education and training in home crafts and good Christian social behaviour.

It was for this gloomy background that the foreign Missionary Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church built the present Mutare Women's Hostel "The Native

Girls Hostel” as it was then called was built and opened in 1930 and dedicated to God for service by then Colonial Secretary, Mr. WM Leggate and Bishop E.S Johnson. Mutare women’s Hostel was the first of its own kind in the country. The opening of the buildings probed great excitement throughout the country and attracted press coverage, which gave testimony to the significance of the Love-based project.

Both our Lord Jesus Christ and John Wesley the founder of Methodism, had taught both by word and deed that true Christian love reaches out to those in need. The Mutare Women’s Hostel is a concrete expression of the living Christian Faith.

Today, many women seeking employment and professional training are housed at Mutare Women’s Hostel at nominal Fee. One hundred and forty-seven women are housed at the Hostels. For sixty -seven years the women’ s Hostel has rendered service to many women folk in a very meaningful way.

7.2 HAGAR GIRLS HOME

Its inception was championed by Mrs. Margaret Machinga the incumbent Mutare district Coordinator for women’s work, together with other CHRISTIAN women in Mutare. This ecumenical group of Christian women saw the need to establish temporary shelter and care for the abandoned, unemployed, desperate and the impregnated young girls. During their period of stay, the Hagar Home will endeavour to equip the girls with good motherhood as well as self-sustaining skills. After providing creative comforts like food and clothing, the home offers, counseling services facilitates reconciliation with their families and total rehabilitation of the individuals. Many women in Mutare District fully support the Hagar Girls Home, which has seen many young women graduate from it, self-motivated, hopeful and ready to meet the challenges of the future.

7.3 WOMEN IN SELF HELP

A cooperative of women specializing in flower arrangement was launched in Mutare’ s Dangamvura suburb under the auspices of Ruwadzano Empowerment programme. The project, which started with ten women, has provided employment for these Mutare women. They offer service in occasions like weddings, funerals, parties, and churches office and home decorations.

7.4 SINGLE PARENTS

Single parents especially women are a marginalised group in the society as well as the church. They are the “leapers” of contemporary society. In most cases they are refused the chance to preach, to take leadership positions let alone to freely participate in church activities.

Workshops were organised in a bid to stamp out the stigma society puts on single parents and to create the necessary climate for them to feel wanted and being part of the Christian community. They were taught effective parenting methods and other self-sustaining skills.

The church communities are being conscientised on the importance of single parents as citizens in their own right. A lot of good ground has been gained as regards accommodating single parents in the church and Ruwadzano programmes, and even taking leadership roles.

8.0 YOUTHS AND CHILDREN

Holiday vacation schools were run during the schools holidays especially for candidates preparing for examinations. Some of our churches run pre-schools, which help instill Christian values during the children's formative years. These institutions offer valuable services at very minimum costs.

The conference Youth Centre situated in our district is accessible to Youths who want to pursue secretarial studies and dressmaking. The center runs a non-formal school for form ones up to form four. The youths work in the district is spearhead by well organised and dynamic United Methodist Youth fellowship (U.M.Y.F.) They have worked on a number of projects mainly at Makomwe through their local volunteers in Mission Team established this year. Two mission houses were electrified (labour) and 50 000 bricks to be used for the construction of women and Youth center at Makomwe were molded at no cost. The youths' hard work and commitment to Christian faith and work earned them the first prize trophy at the U.M.Y.F. Annual Conference held in August. Judging their performance, the youth needed such fitting recognition. It was heartwarming for our Mutare youths to host the U.M.Y.F. Annual Conference, which was successfully concluded.

8.1 PROJECTS

The cure of boredom is to work. A number of projects currently underway are construction related.

8.2 DISTRICT OFFICES FACELIFT

The District through its board of Trustees undertook a project to renovate the District Offices. This exercise has realised offices to house the District Office Secretary, reception area and the record room. This face lifting has changed the offices for the better with new furniture and carpeting taking place. The offices were commissioned by Bishop C. Jokomo in the Month of October.

8.3 CHURCHES AND PARSONAGES

A total number of 13 churches and 7 parsonages are currently under construction. These projects, at different levels of completion are manifestation of the spiritual maturity and faith of the united Methodists in Mutare District. The majority of the projects are locally funded with a lot of people having understood the concept of self-reliance and self-determination. In most cases church members provide materials and labour. Bishop Jokomo dedicated the two church buildings, Muromo and Madewekunze during the course of the year.

8.4 FAITH IN ACTION

The month of June was quite eventful. This month will go down in the annals of History the district witnessed, participated and celebrated the roofing of Mavhiza church in Marange South and Mafararikwa in Marange West. The two churches had tried in vain to roof their sanctuaries for a length period but to no avail.

Many thanks go to the United Methodist Volunteers in Mission from Virginia U.S.A. led by K.P. Robinson who came to our aid. This industrious group of ten and indigenous people joined hands to make the deferred dream of roofless sanctuaries be realised. The visitors, as if it was not enough, went on to donate medical supplies which they presented to Mavhiza and Marange clinics. We wish this loving group God's blessings, and may we take a leaf out of their book of volunteers in mission work to other places of need..

9.0 ISSUES OF CONCERN

- (a) Aids undoubtedly has become our national bugbear. Aids has inflicted a great toll on human life, not only in Mutare but the Country as a whole. We once again recommend an intensified "AIDS awareness campaign" with more workshops and seminars organised at Local church levels up to district level. We thank Mrs. M. Jambwa for her unflagging support in this area of great concern.
- (b) As we enter the new millenium, we pose to think about the institution of marriage, which creates a family and eventually becomes custodian of our Christian values. It is time to go back to the old core values that sustains families.

10.0 VISION

Now as we prepare to face the new millenium abound with challenges, we can only develop confidence in ourselves to tackle the problems if we have prophetic vision as our campus for direction. Where there is no vision the people dwell carelessly i.e. unlawfully, unrestrained and they live a life style, which lacks purpose.

United Methodist in Mutare District are geared to translate vision into action, effective action and required divinely directed action goals. The areas that United Methodists in Mutare will focus attention are stewardship, construction of parsonages and churches, personnel recruitment and Development Evangelism, Christian Education and church and society.

10.1 STEWARDSHIP

Many thinking Christians have defined stewardship as the individuals responsibility for sharing systemically and proportionately his or her time, talent and material resources in the service of God and for the benefit of all mankind.

In that sense, we are all stewards, both in our personal lives and in our professional careers.

In view of the above definition I call upon United Methodists (especially in Mutare) to be geared to embark on self help projects which are income-generating. There is need for launching an investment fund in view of the economic hardships borne out of Esap and Drought.

Indeed there is need to rise up and walk” economically rather than stay at the beautiful gate of handouts. The time has come for United Methodists to command all their resources and create projects that generate money, which can be used in the service of God.

10.2 CONSTRUCTION OF CHURCHES AND PARSONAGES

The construction of churches and parsonages is deemed necessary in the next four years. Ten charges in the District need spacious parsonages. There is need to make a deliberate effort to construct Parsonages and Sanctuaries.

10.3 PERSONNEL DEVELOPMENT

There is a need among Christians leaders to seek wise Counsel in those areas in which they themselves are lacking in aptitudes, training and experience. As indicated above Pastors manning twelve circuits out of twenty-four are untrained. There should be a deliberate effort to marshal resources for ministerial training in the next four years.

10.4 CREATION OF ANOTHER DISTRICT

Mutare District of the United Methodist Church to date is the biggest district in terms of number of circuits and membership. The district envisages unprecedented growth and this warrants a division of the current Mutare District. By January 1999, we expect the creation of another district within Mutare District.

10.5 MINISTRY TO THE POOR /NEEDY

The church that does not care about the poor, lonely and marginalised people is not considerate. Many people have woken up jobless and homeless due to dictate of Esap. As a church, we should rise to the occasion and provide solutions to such situations. The time has come to show clean anger when we see human life being treated with less than the dignity intended by God. Our Lord Jesus Christ set the example followed by a host of other, who when words failed them sought demonstration acts consistent with the proper use of anger to help human needs. Florence Nightingale got angry at the lack of proper hospital care for wounded soldiers-we need to show Christian anger to dramatize our desires for wholesome, aggressive and positive change. Moses stood before Pharaoh and said “Let my people go.” Elijah stood before king Ahab and condemned his relationship with Jezebel.

Once again the time has come for Christians to get angry about those conditions that degrade human personality -overtly in our communities-both Urban and Rural. Exploitation and abuse in our shops and factories, excesses among our people in the sale and use of drugs and intoxicants; general indifference about crime and the Criminal, public apathy concerning violence and killing are some of the areas of concern..

The time is overdue when Christians should rise up with righteous anger and cleanse these polluted areas and heal these sick spots in our society.

Our streets are abounding with street children-most of them Aids orphans. As a church, we are challenged to look for lasting solutions to that nagging problem.

11.0 CONCLUSION

I hope the good Lord will bless us as we journey towards our heavenly destination. I hope and believe the captain our Lord Jesus Christ will guide us safely to our destination achieving our goals.

As District Superintendent, I salute the people of Mutare District for their courage, strength and steadfastness in faith. I want them to know that my wife and I stand shoulder to shoulder with them till we reach the Promised Land.

Let us continue to tell the story of man's struggle to know God and of God's effort to reveal himself to men.

Pictures below show some of the work projects in the district.



CHIRINGAODZI CIRCUIT



DORA NORTH PARSONAGE



MT MAKOMWE PARSONAGE



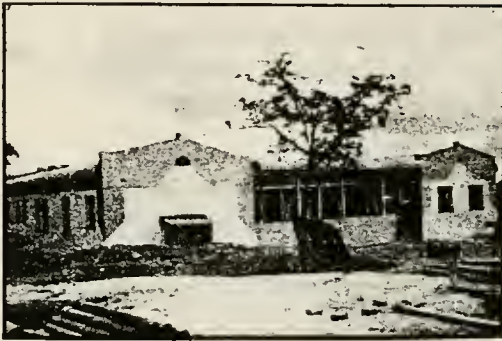
MURAI HILLTOP U.M.C.-MARANGE SOUTH



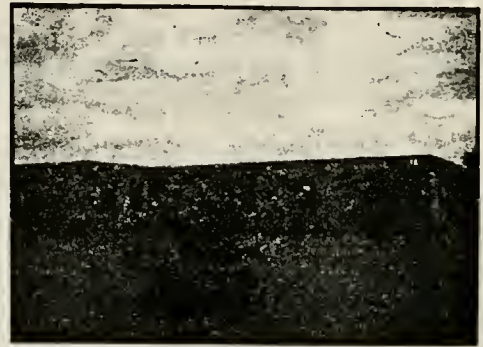
U.M.Y.F. VOLUNTEERS IN MISSION



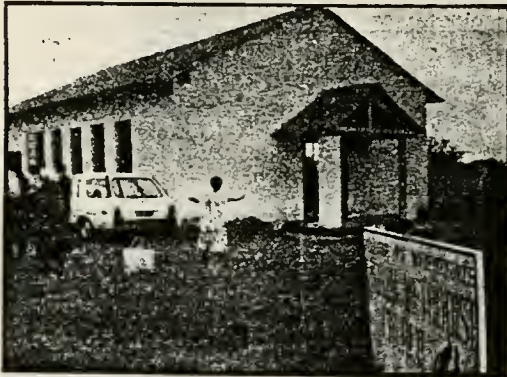
PART OF BRICKS MOULDED BY THE YOUTHS



CHTORA RURAL HEALTH CENTRE



MAFARIKWA U.M.C. BEFORE ROOFING



DEDICATED MWADEWEKUNZE U.M.C.



DEDICATED MUROMO U.M.C



ST. MARY DANGAMVURA GROUND-BREAKING



MAVHIZHA U.M.C. BEFORE COMPLETION



MAFARARIKWA U.M.C.-NEW LOOK



MAVHIZHA U.M.C. ROOF UNDER CONSTRUCTION

SUBMITTED BY: **Rev. G. Machinga,**
DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT

MUTARE SOUTH DISTRICT

1. INTRODUCTION:

Bishop and Mai Jokomo, conference and fellow workers in the vineyard, as we celebrate our one hundred years of United Methodism in Zimbabwe (1897 - 1997) Mutare South District is glad to be part and parcel of the celebrations. This is a new district – only a quadrennium old (1993 to the present) Growing pains have been inevitable, but they have not been insurmountable. As we try to evaluate what we have accomplished in the four years of our existence as a district and as we try to determine how best we can forge ahead in the next century, we are conscious of the critical need for financial and human resources.

2. THEOLOGICAL STATEMENT:

The work of planning, administering, and facilitating the implementation and evaluation of Church programs, of developing personnel and building necessary infrastructures for Church work, needs fuelled strength and renewal that comes from waiting upon the Lord. We will need to walk and run without weary. So, we shall wait upon the Lord. We look forward to the creation of a new district centre in the next few years at a site to be determined.

Vision:

Our vision for the United Methodism in the district is to commit ourselves with renewed interest to the study of the Bible and to invite people to experience the justifying and sanctifying grace of God through personal and corporate discipline of the Christian Church. We shall continue to proclaim Jesus Christ's life, his teachings, his deeds, his death and his resurrection.

We see our district growing big enough to be divided into two with mission centres in Buhera and Chipinge. Chipinge town is growing so fast that we might build a district centre there. We hope to correct the imbalance in our leadership in the district which currently stands as 80% males and 20% females.

3. THE STATE OF THE CHURCH IN THE DISTRICT:

Mutare South District is separated from Mutare District by Wengezi, Odzi and Sabi Rivers, from Masvingo District by Devure and Sabi Rivers, and from Makoni-Buhera District by Marenga Growth point (20 kilometres from Murambinda). There are three political districts in the Mutare South district, namely Chimanimani, Chipinge and Buhera.

The membership of the district has grown as shown in the table below:-

YEAR	MEMBERSHIP OF MISSIONARIES	NATIONALS	CIRCUITS	LOCALS	
1909	3	10	1		
1929		567	1		
1946		1521			
1956		2753			
1971		2555			
1980					
1990		2024			
1993		2972	12		
1997		4123	12	14	14P. P

The district is proud to have two mission centres, namely Mutambara and Lydia Chimonyo. We thank God for the amicable relationship between our denominations and other denominations in the district, including UBC,UCCZ and others. We have been able to plant churches among various tribes such as those in Chipinge and Buhera without denominational rivalry. We have a total of twelve church buildings and several ones are under construction.

3.1. NEED FOR A DISTRICT CENTRE

A. Problems:

The Southern side of the district, which covers the area from Mutambara to Chipinge, is on the geographical boarder of Zimbabwe with Mozambique and is mountainous. The mountains and the distance between circuits make supervision and administration of the circuits difficult. While Mutambara is the administrative centre of the district it is not in a central position. For instance, the two circuits in Chipinge are about 127 km and Chibuwe-Rimbi Circuit is about 150 km, from Mutambara Mission. The two Buhera circuits are about 174 km away from Mutambara Centre.

B. Financial and Personnel Resources:

There is a mission farm at Mutambara. There are also eight irrigation schemes for the community that stretch from Mutambara along the valley area to Chisumbanje. The recently established saw-mill estates in Chimanimani, the coffee and tea estates in Chipinge and Chimanimani highlands, serve as potential personnel and financial resources. The ever increasing Sabi Valley scheme and its ARDA Agricultural Projects are now areas to be explored and possibly utilised for developing mission and financial/personnel in the district. Chipinge town and the four other main growth-points of Nhedziwa, Nyanyadzi, Birchenough Bridge and its Tourism, and Checheche are potential resources which have not yet been fully utilised to have any meaningful financial/personnel contributions towards the development of the district.

B. Infrastructural Development in Chipinge:

Chipinge town is growing fast hence there is need to acquire land for position growth and expansion.

C. Cost of living and unemployment:

Eighty percent (80%) of our circuits are in the rural areas. Most of the rural people are subsistence farmers while a small fraction have the benefit of the Odzi and Sabi River irrigation schemes. Both urban and rural members are suffering from the consequences of retrenchments caused by ESAP and recurrent droughts. Our Gospel needs to meet these practical hardships.

D. HIV/AIDS and Malaria:

AIDS continues to be a menace among the entire district population. Malaria has also claimed a lot of lives. On the whole, there has been, and still are, so many deaths, that it has been difficult to follow Church calendars. Workshops have been held to teach people how to protect themselves against AIDS and against Malaria, and how to care for AIDS patients and orphans. The message on protection against AIDS has been chastity for single people and fidelity in marriages.

3.2. 1997 DISTRICT HIGHLIGHT AND ACIEVEMENTS::

We are pleased to highlight some of the things we have achieved in the four years of our existence as a district.

A. Harvest thanksgiving:

Our 1997-harvest target was \$200 000,00. Cultivated programs towards the achievement of the above goal included harvest campaigns and pulpits exchange programs, at both circuits and local levels. We thank God that the spirit of giving has grown in our district. Our harvest thanksgiving has grown by more than 120% from the \$72 982,33 raised in 1994 to \$176 457,41 in 1997.

B. DISTRICT LAY TRAININGS:

The district lay-trainings this year were held in various areas of the district instead of holding the entire district together. Attendance at each lay training were as follows:-

DATE	AREA	ATTENDANCES
25/01/97	Mutambara Centre, East, Chimanimani and Chayamiti	130
25/01/97	Nyanyadzi, Mutambara South & West	100
7-9/02/97	Chibuwe-Rimbi	25
14-16/02/97	Buhera East & West	20
7-9/03/97	Chipinge St Mark & Gaza Rattleshook	50

The topics which were discussed included Methodism, Administration, Finance, Bookkeeping and the Role of the Lay-Leader. Fifteen facilitators were identified, oriented and utilised. We were blessed by the presence of the Conference Lay-leader Mr. John Zvinoira. His speech at our Chipinge lay training in March was very enriching.

C. District Crusades 17 – 22 March:

The district registers its sincere appreciation to the Conference COM Director, Rev. G. Kapfumvuti and to the entire Conference for the services of Rev. Laerey Jones, the Evangelist who came to our district. His services at our two missions, Mutambara and Lydia Chimonyo from the 17th to the 19th of March blessed about 530 students as well as 30 teaching and non-teaching staff with his teachings, prayers and counselling sessions. A total of 154 students received Christ for the first time and were recorded as new converts.

The results of the crusade services at Mutambara Mission from Friday the 21st of March to Sunday the 23rd, was an eye opener for the church as it showered shocking figures that calls for special attention of both the District and conference. For the three days to which preaching, counselling and teachings were conducted a total of 787 students and pupils received Christ for the first time. There was a tremendous response from all the students and a few members of staff and of the community who were in attendance. We thank Mutambara Centre Church, DS. Muchanyerei and particularly the station chairperson, Rev Katsidzira for the hospitality and accommodation provided.

From District Crusades a total of 140 converts were recorded in the three areas above. A District All-Night prayer was held on the 15th March at Nyanyadzi U.M.C to prepare those who were going to receive changes.

D DISTRICT JOINED REVIVAL 20 TO 24 AUGUST 1997:

In an effort to reach new areas and spread the spirit of United Methodism this year, a joint societal district conference revival was held at Chibuwe U.M.C. A record of \$30 000,00 budget was formulated and successfully implemented. Close to 3 500 people were in attendance to witness God's Word. Programmes which included centennial teachings on Methodism, the Aldersgate Experience, Bible Studies, Raising a U.M.C. family in the U.M.C doctrinal teachings and beliefs, as well as John Wesley's teachings on love, Grace, Holiness and Forgiveness. Although some of the presenters to these topics did not come, we were richly blessed with the services and preaching of Pastors F. Nyagato and W. Chanaiwa. The district registers its sincere appreciation to conference M.U.M.C for sending Mr Zimunya its Evangelism Chairperson, to Mutasa-Nyanga District for sending Mr Manjiche who brought with him a lot of Hymn Books, Bibles, pins, badges, mabhande and many other literature books. These were bought like hot cakes. It was amazing to note that many people needed all these materials. We also thank our conference lay leader Mr J. Zvinoira for travelling the whole journey to Chibuwe. We were spiritually uplifted with the presence of Chief Mutambara delegate, as well as Chief Chibuwe. They braved the heavy schedule of our program and attended with us.

E. Chief Mutambara's Dramatic Return To Church

The return of chief Mutambara to church and his dramatic experience all point to God's miraculous acts. Last year, 1996, in March, the Chief summoned to his home

the D.S. Rev. Muchanyerei and Mrs. Muchanyerei, the sub-chiefs and headmen who included Mrs. Maraire of Chakohwa, Ishe Mazwi, Samson Mutambara, and Mukunda Naume Mutambara to listen to his testimony. The sincerity with which he spoke left his listeners with no doubt that the chief was a changed person, no longer one who harassed the church. When he paid his pledges and his church support everybody believed the chief had indeed repented.

The resultant freedom of worship brought many people to the church fold again. We maintained this relationship by frequent visits to his home and by celebrating communion together.

The Chief's Untimely Death on May 25 1997.

The chief's death brought with it a mixture of deep fear and great sorrow. Many people were surprised when his relatives gave authority to view his body, and more so to take the body to Mutambara Church for burial ceremony. We are certain that God did it. Prior to the Chief's death, our Episcopal leader, Bishop Christopher Jokomo had given him communion while he was in hospital and conducted the Chief's burial service. We register our deep appreciation on this service of the Bishop. The relationship built between the chief in his last days and the church should continue to grow from strength to strength.

E. Centennial Programmes and Celebrations

Preparations for the pastor schools have resulted in giving pastors the opportunity to conduct one or more lessons on centennial celebrations. Topics covered included those on family values, Christian community values, Holy living, Methodism, John Wesley's teachings on, stewardship, love, holiness forgiveness and grace.

Our Ester programmes ever observed in all circuits and about 300 children and adults were baptised. Christian Education, Evangelism, Ministry to Women and Children, Church and Society were reportedly observed in all our circuits. The district had requested circuits and locals to teach and share the spirit of centennial celebrations.

4. PASTORAL PERSONNEL: STATE OF AFFAIRS

4.1 Clergy

The district is concerned about its pastoral personnel state of affairs. At the beginning of the quadrennium the pastoral composition ran as follows: 25% trained itinerant clergy, 58% local pastors in 1994. This has slightly improved four years later as shown by the table below.

1997 Appointments

NAME OF DISTRICT	RETIRED	ELDERS INC	DEACONS	LOCAL PASTORS	ELDERS IN OTHER APPOINTMENTS	TOTAL
MUTARE SOUTH	1	4	2	6	3	16
	6%	25%	13%	38%	17%	100%

The district together with the Conference Board on Ordained Ministry should adopt a deliberate effort to address this imbalance. At least half of our clergy should be trained and itinerant in order to balance the think-tank with the laity rate and average.

4.2 Local Pastors

Most of our local pastors have been in the district since its inception and have covered pastoral appointments of up to five years in one circuit. We hope and believe the introduction of the Conference Course of Study will help redress this situation. We are proud to note that one of the pastors is now joining the full U.T.C. training next year. The literacy rate of Zimbabwe is now so high that it is almost impossible for someone without O-levels to find work in Zimbabwe.

More and more refresher courses should be held to equip, reorientate and equip our pastors with the current and up to date methods and new ways of carrying out the ministry. We appreciate the services being rendered by the bulk of our local pastors.

4.3 Pastoral/Personnel analysis

Schools, irrigation schemes, growth points and towns, businesses and small-scale farmers surround many of our churches and circuits. This composition presents a real challenge to the pastor. A great deal of our churches are now being led by civil servants, artisans and those in the private sector. This group requires a degree of professionalism to deal with. There is need, bishop, for those already in the ministry to take up professional areas they can specialise in so as to offer a consolidated ministry to all the district and circuits they serve in. Careers in Evangelism, Administration, Management, Christian Education, Planning Personnel Management and many other areas needs to be emphasised.

4.4 Societies and Evangelism:

As we celebrate together with the Conference, Bishop, it is important to note the contributions made by all our three societies. R.R.W., MUMC and UMYF societies have been associated with the evangelical growth of the district from as far back as the 1920s. The strength of our district as we know it today lies much on the contributions of these three societies. We cherish RRW programmes for their crusade participation in Chipinge this year. They were sent there by COM to lead the crusade. Their rupawo of \$8 261.60 and total budget income of \$33 000.00 is a record achievement. We thank their district revival contributions in Chibwe in which 34 RRW new members were uniformed. Their membership has risen from a very small figure to 769 members by 1997. The Tie and Dye and Tailoring Workshops at Nyanyadzi were an eye opener to all the women. The men's MUMC group even though struggling, is doing exceptionally well. We thank them for leading the 1997 Crusade in Buhera where nearly 40 people received Christ. Financially, they are still struggling, but a lot of improvement has been witnessed since the inception of the district in 1994. It has managed to hold District Dumbas for the last two years. Their membership has steadily risen from the 114 members of 1993 to about 161 full members this year 1997. The youth group of UMYF has also steadily grown into a force we could use for Evangelism. A total of 7 all-night prayers were held in all our district zones by the youth to evangelise and renew the youth programmes and

participation. A total of 114 new converts was made to Christ through the program. A lot of improvement is, however, needed in their finance and administration. Their District Conference was held in Chipinge Gaza Hall and we thank their conference leadership for supporting them fully.

5. COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS: 90 YEARS OF METHODISM 1907-1997

5.1 Finances:

(a) Harvest Thanksgiving:

We have come a long way in as far as giving is concerned. In 1994 we raised a harvest thanksgiving of \$72 982.33; in 1995, \$107 522.59; in 1996 and \$120 418.20 in 1997. This is a steady and consistent growth which now stands at about 133%. The spirit of giving however continues to be below expectations.

There is great need to improve in our literature production.

(b) Tithers:

Tithing has not been an easy thing in the district as figures clearly show that from 1994's figure of 14 tithers, we have only risen to 48 tithers by 1997. This is far below expectations. There is great need to emphasise it in order to improve our financial base as a district. The message should be continually repeated

5.2 Evangelism and church Construction:

(a) Church Construction:

In 1993 we constructed eleven churches. Churches have grown to 13 by 1997. A total of 136 local preachers were registered in 1993. Section leaders have also grown from 150 to 196 by 1997. Preaching points have increased from 7 in 1993 to 14 in 1997, an increase of almost 100%. The number of locals has also increased to 41 in 1997. Church construction continues to be our problem due to lack of financial support. A number of churches do not go beyond roof and window heights. Some remain at foundation level. Lydia Chimonyo's multi-purpose building, church and hall combined, is near completion but funds remain a hindrance to finish it. Church projects have been submitted to conference for funding. We still await responses. There is need to acquire more residential and building properties in the growth points in our district, especially in Chipinge Town where we expect a fast growth.

(b) Evangelism:

There is a great need to evangelise in all the three districts of our operations, namely: Chimanimani, Chipinge and Buhera. These could become districts one day. A total of seven circuits is current in Chimanimani, and more are expected. Chipinge has three circuits Buhera has two. Three crusades were held, one in each of these districts in 1997 in an effort to win more souls to Christ and create new parishes. Mhakwe in Chimanimani, Gaza in Chipinge and Muzokomba in Buhera are targeted as potential centres for expansion. The Jesus project from the life Ministry was extensively used in an effort to win souls to Christ. Membership has risen from 2972 in 1993 to over 4 000 members in 1995.

5.3 **Leadership:**

As we close the first four years of the existence of our district, we would like to express our sincere appreciation to the first leaders of Mutare South District who are listed below.

	<u>NAME</u>	<u>POSITION HELD</u>
Mr B. Mutasa	Mr O Sigera	District Lay Leader
	Mr T. Chitsiku	Vice District Layleader
		Finance Chairperson
	Mr T.D.M. Chinguno	Vice Finance Chairperson
	Mr K. Mataruka	Treasurer
	Mrs M. Mukoko	Finance Secretary
Mr P. Mudari	Mr V. Mukoko	Board of Trustees Chairperson
	Mr M. Munhutu	Superintendency Committee Chairperson
		District Secretary
	Rev M. Katsidzira	District COM Chairperson
	Mr N. Chimbunde	Vice District COM Chairperson
	Pastor A. Munyama	District COM Secretary
	Revs. I. Chitsiku & N. Pfupa	District COM Directors

5.4 **Collective Vision**

We suggest the following visionary dreams for our way forward.

- (a) That we emphasise Evangelism, Christian Education and Stewardship and Temperance ministries in order to grow numerically, especially in Buhera and Chipinge areas where geographically we cover vast areas but infrastructurally have only two circuits and four locals in each of the district and circuits.
- (b) That we recommit ourselves to the study of the Bible and to the production of literature that will replace our old ones.
- (c) That there be deliberate effort towards infrastructural development in terms of residential and land properties in all our fast developing towns and growth points.
- (d) That the district works towards creating a new central district office in growth points. Alternatively, work towards the creation of new possible District Officers in Chipinge and Buhera.
- (e) That the District works towards the creation of a strong financial base and personnel resources that will serve as capital and equipment necessary for a strong financial "Dura" in the future.
- (f) There is great need to emphasise the work of youth and women in the district so as to empower them to take a leadership responsibilities in the district thereby correcting imbalances in the present leadership.

- (g) That we recruit and staff-develop, qualified and capable leadership at district and circuit levels for efficiency.
- (h) That there be deliberate effort to improve efficiency among our church and non-church members at our Mission Centres in order to improve in our output.

WE WISH THE DISTRICT AND CONFERENCE A HAPPY AND PROSPEROUS CENTENNIAL CELEBRATIONS AHEAD

SUBMITTED BY:

REV. M. MUCHANYEREI
DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT

MUTASA-NYANGA DISTRICT



THE DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT REV. P.B.T. MUDIWA & HIS WIFE H. MUDIWA

Greetings:

Bishop C. Jokomo and Mai Bishop, Pastors and their wives and husbands present today, Conference Lay-leader, Mr. John Zvinoira, district lay-leaders, delegates, I greet you all in the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

District Leadership:

- | | | |
|-----|--------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. | District Lay-leader | Mrs. Eliather Chikuni |
| | Vice District Lay-leader | Mr. Douglas Mbende |
| 2. | Secretary | Mrs. Eugena Mudede |
| | Vice Secretary | Mrs. G. Nyabereka |
| 3. | Treasurer | Mrs. Tracy Mvere |
| 4. | Finance Chairperson | Mr. V. Mudede |
| | Vice Finance Chairperson | Mr. Phineas Dzeka |
| 5. | COM Chairperson | Mr. Ernest Zvingovaziseyi |
| | Vice COM Chairperson | Mr. Joseph Miti |
| 6. | COM Secretary | Mrs. C. Goremusandu |
| | Vice COM Secretary | Mrs. M. Chishakwe |
| 7. | BOT Chairperson | Pastor Simon Muchesa |
| | Vice Chairperson | Mr. Joseph Jumburu Sithole |
| 8. | Worship Chairperson | Mr. Edgar Chambara |
| | Vice Chairperson | Mrs. A. Dzeka |
| 9. | Stewardship & Temperance Chairperson | Mr. Isaac Mudehwe |
| | Vice Chairperson | Mr. S. Bwawa |
| 10. | Church and Society | Mr. S. Chanaiwa |
| | Vice Chairperson | Mrs. Manyeza |
| 11. | Health | Mr. Hwindingwi |
| | Vice Chairperson | Mrs. Cecilia Chikukwa |
| 12. | Agriculture | Mr. Edward Masevha |
| | Vice Chairperson | Mrs. Mawoyo |
| 13. | Ecumenical | Mrs. Eugenia Nyakatawa |
| | Vice Chairperson | Mrs. Norah Chomba |
| 14. | Hospitality | Mrs. Helen Kuture |

	Vice Chairperson	Mrs. C. Mbende
15.	Communications & Publications	Mr. Patrick Manjiche
	Vice Chairperson	Mr. a. Charinge
16.	Ministry to Women	Mrs. M. Ngirande
	Vice Chairperson	Mrs. C. Mudehwe
17.	Audit Chairperson	Mr. Jonathan Gonye
	Vice Chairperson	Mr. Musango
18.	Nominations Secretary	Mrs. E. Mudede
19.	<u>Nominations Committee:</u>	
	Mudenda	Mr. P. Kahlari
	Nyakatsapa	Mr. Eugenia Zvingowanisei
	Nyanga East	Mrs. E. Nyakatawa
	Nyanga West	Mrs. C. Mbende
	Mutasa	Mrs. Norah Chiomba
	Old Mutare	Mrs. Marjory Nyandoro
	Honde North	Mrs. E. Mazaiwana
	Honde South	
	Odzi	Mr. S. Bwawa
	Penhalonga	
20.	<u>Building Committee:</u>	
	Chairperson	Mr. M. Manyarara
	Vice Chairperson	Mr. J. Ndemera
21.	Task Force	Mr. V. Mudede
	Vice Chairperson	Mrs. A. Dzeka
22.	<u>Committee Members:</u>	Mr. Wilson Anderson
		Mr. M. Murauro
		Rev. Willie Marara
		Pastor Willard Chanaiwa
		Mrs. Musuka
		Mrs. Bridget Vumbunu
		Mr. Nicodemus Chikuni
23.	District Superintendency Chairperson	Mr. J. Manhiri
	Vice Chairperson	Mrs. E. Mudede
	<u>Committee Members:</u>	Pastor Simon Muchesa
		Mrs. G. Nyabereka
		Mr. Nyabando
		Mrs. A. Mandisekwe
		Rev. Clifford Mushishi
		Dr. Tendai Manyeza
		Mr. Gift Mudambo
24.	COM Director	Rev. E. Chikwenjere
25.	Historical	Mr. John Chingonzo
* 26.	Investment Committee Chairperson	Mr. E. Muzorewa
	Vice Chairperson	Dr. T. Manyeza
	Treasurer	Mr. Kumbirai Nyabereka
	<u>Other Committee Members:</u>	Mr. V. Mudede
		Mrs. Eliather Chikuni
		Mrs. G. Nyabereka
		Mr. Douglas Mbende

District Superintendent

Mrs. Tracy Mvere
Mrs. Douglas Mbende
Mrs. Kumbirai Nyabereka
Rev. Eliot Chikwenjere
Mr. J. Ndemera
Rev. P.B.T. Mudiwa

Quadrennial Theme:

“But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with this as eagles, they shall run and not be weary, and they shall walk, and not faint”. Isaiah 40:31.

Preamble:

The region that is covered with what we now call Mutasa-Nyanga District of the United Methodist Church is the Jerusalem of this Church in Zimbabwe.

It is in this region that the first mission centre of the United Methodist Church has been established by the first United Methodist Missionary and Bishop to Zimbabwe. In 1897 the Old Mutare Centre was established by Bishop J.C. Hartzell through a deal with C. J. Rhodes. As such the first African generation of United Methodist in Zimbabwe comes from this district. No wonder why such powerful personalities like Mbuya Chimonyo came from this district.

The district unlike many districts have been privileged to have many United Methodist Centres in it, it is in Mutasa-Nyanga that we have Nyakatsapa Mission Centre, a high school that is so promising, despite the fact that it is a day school. In Mutasa-Nyanga we also have Old Mutare Hospital. We also have a dental clinic at the same hospital and an orphanage. We also have Gatsi Clinic in the Honde Valley area which has the potential of growing into a hospital judging from the population it is serving. North of the district we also have Nyangombe Clinic which is one of the out-reach clinics of Mutare Hospital.

In the late eighties we were also blessed in our district by the highest institution of learning that the United Methodist Church has ever donated to Africa, this is the Africa University.

The reason why we are highlighting all this is very obvious. We are a people who have enjoyed the presence of this Church in Zimbabwe than any one else of the United Methodist Church brought employment then it was our people who benefited most. If United Methodist Church brought education, then the people of Mutasa-Nyanga District had more opportunities than any one else. If United Methodist Church brought health and hygiene then the institutions of health were put at our door steps.

As a district we at times feel bad as people that we did not do much for this Church, if we compare with what the Church did for us. And I think we have every reason to be proud as a district that all the districts of the Zimbabwe Annual Conference came from us. A good parent enjoys seeing his/her children growing beyond what he/she were capable of doing. As we see other districts do well at times better than us, we do not envy them but we enjoy with them, because they are our children doing well.

The history of the district:

The activities of the Methodist Church spread north of Old Mutare, the missionaries were attracted to King Mutasa's Royal Court for two main reasons:

First, the presence of a large African population in that area, and second the possibility of exploiting the king's authority and influence over his subjects. The missionaries who were involved in this discussions with Chief Mutasa were. Eddy Greeley and Samuel Gurney.

In 1904 Eddy H. Greeley, among the missionaries to have opened the doors of Old Mutare. Mission school to the first student intake, visited King Mutasa to start missionary work in what we called the largest town in Manicaland. He spent a few months teaching Africans Christian songs and healing them of ulcers, burns, cuts and other diseases, some of which were chronic and acute. This made a great impression on the King. Henceforth the missionaries worked hard to consolidated the gains they had made at Mutasa's Royal Court.

The second case involved Samuel Gurney, the missionary doctor, who spent six weeks at the King's Royal Court studying the manners of the people, their religion, and their attitude towards whites, He wrote down his impressions some of which reads:

"This town is the centre of their Government and although the chief has little legal authority he has greater moral influence over the people, and if the leaven is sent to work in his kraal, it will soon be felt all over the country. It is an important centre for a missionary and, we ought to begin our work at Mutasa's at a very early date."

The rapid expansion of the Methodist Episcopal Church in the Mutasa area is best illustrated by the conference statistics of 1908 session, indicated below:

Mutasa Village	1 000
Sherukuru	600
Chikanga	400
Manyarara	300
Vumbunu	200
Mandiambira	100
Muredzwa	100

Mutasa-Makoni District:

In 1951 the new district was created known as Mutasa-Makoni District and Rev. Luke Chieza was the district superintendent. Rev. Newell S. Booth was the Bishop at that time.

Below is a list of names of pastors who served in this district as district superintendents:

1.	Luke Chieza	1951 - 1957
2.	R. C. Gates	1957 - 1961
3.	Tom Curtes	1961 - 1967
4.	Ovid Stain	1968 - 1972
5.	Josiah Chidzikwe	1973 - 1978
6.	Willie Makunike	1979 - 1980
7.	Lameck Zhungu	1980 - 1986
8.	Alias N. Mumbiro	1987 - 1992
9.	Peter B. T. Mudiwa	Present

Bishops:

1.	Newell S. Booth	1944 - 1955
2.	Ralph Dodge	1956 - 1967

- | | | |
|----|--------------------|-------------|
| 3. | Abel T. Muzorewa | 1968 - 1991 |
| 4. | Christopher Jokomo | Present |

The district was made up of twenty circuits. Since the work was growing bigger it was difficult to control and supervision of pastors became too expensive for the district superintendent to travel round. At that time the membership of the district was 5834 that is in 1992.

Division of Districts:

In 1993 Mutasa-Makoni divided itself into two districts. Mutasa became Mutasa-Nyanga District and Makoni became Makoni-Buhera District. The district has ten circuits and COM of this district has forwarded a petition to create three new circuits.

The district has a membership of 6 686 members. Fourteen pastors, eight trained and six local pastors. In 1993 our harvest was \$72 000,00 and this year 1997 our harvest is \$305 000,00. We thank God for the growth we see in this district both in membership and in financial aspect.

Personnel analysis:

- | | | |
|-----|--|---|
| 1. | Old Mutare
Assistant | Clifford Mushishi
Kingstone Kahlari |
| 2. | High school Headmaster
Deputy Headmaster
Primary Headmaster
Deputy Headmaster
Medical Doctor
Matron | Jairus Mafondokoto
John Ngirande
Naboth Maramba
Moud Dhliwayo
Dr. Tendai Manyeza
Virginia Mukwekwezeke |
| 3. | Penhalonga | Willard Chanaiwa |
| 4. | Mundenda
Assistant | Moffat Mukwada
Noah Chikuni |
| 5. | Odzi | Gilbert Chigumira |
| 6. | Mutasa
Assistant | Paul Nyandoro
Oscar Mukahanana |
| 7. | Nyakatsapa | Willie Marara |
| 8. | Honde Valley North | Simon Muchesa |
| 9. | Honde Valley South | Philimon Chamburuka |
| 10. | Nyanga West
Assistant | Elliot Chikwenjere
Noah Kafesu |
| 11. | Nyanga East | George Chanaiwa |

New Circuits:

1. Mutasa Circuit will be Mutasa North and Mutasa South.
2. Mundenda Circuit will create a new circuit, which will be called Marara Circuit
3. Nyanga West will create a new circuit, which will be called Nyanga North.

We have three more circuits, which have the potential to create new circuits and they are:

- (a). Nyakatsapa Circuit
- (b). Honde South Circuit
- (c). Honde North Circuit

What is needed is to look for parsonages.

Parsonages:

Many of our circuits do not have parsonages. The list below shows the circuits with parsonages: Old Mutare, Vumbunu, Mundenda, Nyanga West, Mutasa, Nyakatsapa, and Honde North. Therefore out of 14 pastors only seven have parsonages and the other seven live in houses for rent.

Church Buildings:

The district has 65 local preaching points and many of them worship in classrooms, some under trees and a few have church buildings. We are encouraging the congregation without a church building to see that they put more effort to build a church building in order for them to worship in a good building.

Human Activities:

Mutasa-Nyanga is a rural district except Nyanga urban and places like Old Mutare and Nyakatsapa Missions. Most of the people in this district depend on subsistence farming. The crops which are grown in this area are maize as staple food. Tobacco and cotton, are grown in Nyamaropa irrigation scheme as cash crops. Tea and coffee are also cash crops grown in Nyanga Estates and Honde Valley.

Places of Interests:

Nyanga Mountains, Troutbeck and going down to Honde Valley where we have Mutarazi Falls. If some one happens to visit these places one would be able to see God at work.

My Vision:

1. To see that the word of God has reached every soul in this district through evangelism.
2. To see that Christian education is taught seriously to all our mission schools and to our congregations.
3. To see that new circuits are being created.
4. To see that by year 2000 Mutasa-Nyanga District is divided into two district namely Mutasa District and Nyanga District.

Mission Statement:

1. To see that the spiritual needs of the well being of a person is met though preaching and teaching.
2. To see that the intellectual well being of a person is met through establishing many institutions of high learning.
3. To see that physical well being of a person is cared for through establishing many hospitals and training of many doctors and nurses.
4. To see that the standard of living of a person has been improved through good farming.
5. To see that the moral life of a person is controlled by the Christian ethics.

Submitted By: Peter B. T. Mudiwa
DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT

MUTOKO-MUDZI DISTRICT

Theological Statement:

1.1. **Theme:** Isaiah 40:31

They that wait upon the Lord shall continuously receive strength from the Lord ever walking tirelessly for the Gospel and flying and mounting to great heights God being the constant source of our strength. The district understands that for any programme to succeed there is need to wait upon the Lord in ceaseless prayer as Paul says.

Because of this understanding which raises the membership's commitment the district has continued to grow, this will be reflected in the following pages of the main report. The membership's financial and devotional life has grown tremendously.

Those who were here before us waited upon the Lord and built this great Church and the task is acceptably upon us to keep the light burning for the future generations.



Mr. Bourgaize at Mutoko Mission- "Planting the seed"

1.2 **Mission Statement:**

The Spirit of the Lord is upon us to preach the good news to the illiterate, the homeless and the naked. In trying to fulfil this we realise that we are watering the seeds that was planted by those missionaries and the early pastor-teachers. At least everyone in this area has heard and received some form of baptism in the name of Jesus the Saviour but our current challenge is to facilitate for the growth of that seed. As a district we endeavour to respond to the cry of human needs in different aspects of life, by creating congregations which are more like Jesus. The district is developing programmes to revitalise and energise the whole church's membership so that we can together build and manage the Church of God. Our goal is to make soul minded Christians who realise that

they are on this earth as God's stewards and therefore ought to use all resources responsibly and purposeful. God being our source of strength the stated challenges are achievable.



District superintendent Rev. K. Marange "Watering the seed"

2. Geographical Description:

Mutoko-Mudzi District is basically rural with only two developing growth points i.e. Mutoko 143 km from Harare and Kotwa about 20 km from Mozambique border post westwards. This area lies within the natural region 4 and 5 and this means its rainfall is very scanty. The rainfall pattern ultimately bears an impact on the general population farming, which is averagely subsistent. Nonetheless we have a share of our tourist attractions, just barely 10 km east of Mutoko there are some ruins a miniature replica of the Great Zimbabwe and some Bushman paintings at Manhamba Hill 20-km north-west of Mutoko close to Nyadire Mission Centre.

In all Mutoko-Mudzi District covers two civic districts i.e. Mutoko and Mudzi and a small part of the Uzumba Maramba Pfungwe. The total general population is slightly 80 000 people. The roads are gravel and at times not quite well maintained which will make it difficult to travel on smaller cars but every point is accessible.

3 A Historical Statement of Mutoko-Mudzi District:

The work of the United Methodist Church in this district started from Mutoko and Nyadire, which were opened by Dr. Gurney from Murewa in 1911. After 1911 there was little progress for the next 5 years until 1916 when Mutoko got its first resident missionary but stayed just for 6 months. The other addition was Makaha, a mining community that later dispersed in 1919 when the mine was closed and subsequently the missionary work there ended. That very 1919 Dr. Gurney challenged the missionary conference to accept the responsibility of developing Mutoko, which was still being administered as part of Murewa.

In 1922 Wilfred Bourgaize was appointed to pastor Mutoko and Uzumba Circuits which were part of Murewa District which included Headlands, Salisbury, Murewa, Uzumba and Mutoko. The quality of Mutoko and Uzumba's growth is shown by the fact that in 1923 Nyadire Mission hosted the district conference for the first time and

in 1926 Nyadire hosted the first Annual Conference to be held outside Old Umtali Mission. The initial resistance from the Chiefs and traditional healers was slowly being overcome and chiefs began asking for schools to be opened in their respective areas Chief Kowo pressing for a training institution.

In 1927 at the 11th Session of the Rhodesia Mission Conference, Murewa district brought forth two new Districts i.e. Mutoko with two circuits out of 22 stations. Rev. Wilfred Bourgaize as D.S. and Nyadire with two circuits out of 36 stations. The latter stretched from Nyadire Mission, Uzumba and included Salisbury with Rev. O Farrell as D.S. The two districts Mutoko and Nyadire.

Nyadire in 1960 at Old Mutare joined into Mutoko Annual Conference, Rev. O. Stine D.S. at the 22nd session of Rhodesia Annual Conference. This is the Mutoko Nyadire which was renamed Mutoko-Mudzi in 1989 at Murewa during the 10th session of the Zimbabwe annual Conference. Mutoko Mudzi started with 15 circuits, which have grown into 21 and two more will be added by action of this conference. The district now has 103 congregations which gives a total membership of 10 673 plus. This membership is the fruit of witnessing from the 107 full members and 257 probationers on record by 1922.

4. **Personnel:**

Mutoko-Mudzi has a staff compliment of 24 pastors including the district superintendent. 10 are trained and ordained, 6 are female. Two have been approved to join United Theological College in 1998 for training. We also enjoy support and assistance from six retired pastors within this district. The work these men and women of God are doing is quite magnificent inspite and despite their various limitations for some are yet to be ordained. Thirteen of the 24 pastors are married to very supportive spouses and for that we thank God and continue to pray that those still to marry will also get Christ commissioned life partners. The cry of the district is to accord the Church with trained pastors and we continue to urge those of our team who are still young enough to attain the required qualifications and join United Theological College shortly. At least when they join United Theological College we are sure we will be sending in seasoned and tested/tried persons with a bright future in the ministry.

5. **The state of the District:**

5.1 **Administration of the District**

This district remains one of the biggest districts throughout the conference. There are 21 circuits made up of 83 stations and 32 preaching points with a total of 10 673 members. We also have four mission stations namely Nyadire Mission, Nyamuzuwe Mission, Mutoko and Dendera Mission Stations. Each of these mission Centres has several operational departments carrying out the total Gospel for a full and wholesome Christian i.e. through the teaching, healing and preaching ministries.

The district is managed by two fronts of leadership i.e. the elected who are the district executive and the appointed who constitute the district staff persons

through pastoral appointments. The district executive meets bimonthly whilst the pastors meet monthly for fellowship and spiritual encouragement. These sets of leaders have the same source of inspiration and seek to achieve the same goal and this makes them very complimentary. The goal is to water the seed so that God gives it the required growth.

5.2 Finance:

This year has been very different from all our past years in financial performances. This district was known for not paying pastors' salaries not even the conference assessments. Even if we still fall short, the gap has been greatly reduced of the 21 pastors assigned to circuits, 13 are being paid within the current month, 4 mid next month and the rest by two months. This by our standards is a big improvement though we have not attained the best of fall achievements – we are on the rise. The assessments have been paid to two quarters. We continue to work very hard for the rest.

We were big participants in the annual harvest festival. So far a total of 80 000 has been paid to conference treasury as our 20% harvest submission. The figure may appear small in comparison with other districts, but its worth mentioning that we have doubled our performance and thus our reason for celebrating. The district through its circuits has done very well on pension, NSSA and recently introduced pastors' medical aid. Again on harvest, Nyadire Centre Circuit rose from \$45 000 for 1996 to \$115 000, 1997. Averagely most circuits doubled and some even trebled their last year's performances.

This has been possible because of bimonthly district finance meetings where circuits have been continuously furnished with the treasurer's detailed reports. We have increased our financial administration by making sure that all who pay money into the Church at whatever level receive a receipt of the same. People now understand the reason for auditing finance books and are now very keen on that. All in all we are glad to report that we are experiencing growth in issues of finances.

5.3 Council on Ministries:

Council on Ministries - a new era has really dawned in COM by assuming its real role of planning, implementing, co-ordinating and evaluating. COM did very well by putting together the district calendar and distributed it on time and the circuits acted wisely through such calendar guidance. Programmes of training were easy to follow up. After the district's lay-training the circuits made sure more people were covered by subsequently organising their own circuit lay-trainings.

The feedback we get is that this programme ought to be repeated come 1998. Previously COM was known for calling for reports and compiling such information into a report for the higher councils.

COM masterminded the district's historical mammoth centennial celebrations at Mutoko Centre on the 23 August 1997. First there was the T-shirt sale that heralded the coming event. Come the day, there was big march procession from four main points and people were in their T-shirts that spoke of the event each group waving its own banner with the same message of 100 years United Methodist Church celebrations. It was a great day for the district. From then the Spirit and the mood of celebrating was ignited and will be consumed here at Old Mutare on 12 and 13 December.

The district committees within COM's work areas were allowed to idle but more work was done by COM's Executive. This has greatly influenced the district's walking strides. Evangelism, Christian Education and Stewardship were the major points of emphasis. Being the conference's centennial year, the life of John Wesley and his teachings featured prominently in most of our circuit lay trainings. However COM is being challenged to include health teachings as a major item realising the fact that AIDS is wrecking havoc in society and the Church. The women's, men's and youths' group activities will be highlighted separately from COM under societies.

5.4 Board of Trustees:

Not much has been done in terms of this organ spearheading acquiring properties. However the board has been hammering on the circuits to have a clear church property inventory register. Of late they have charged those circuits with either sanctuaries or parsonages to keep them in proper shape. The district Conference emphasised that this Board seeks to acquire leases with the local Authority of all land where we have church constructions.

There is need of further training the persons of this Board so that they can carry out their mandate effectively.

But for 1998 they have committed themselves to improve the District parsonage, and also assist some local stations, which are building sanctuaries, on fund raising for the same to be completed. Each charge is requested to put up at least one building for the church to symbolise it as a unit.

5.5 Committee on Superintendency:

The committee's awareness of its tasks are becoming clearer and the members are taking an active role to implement certain plans to make the D.S.'s ministry more meaningful and relevant to the district. This year the committee included the pastor parish relationship committees in their planning this approach has helped build a team of pastors with sound relationship the D.S. included. The D.S. has been provided with goodies and provisions to make sure his living conditions are good.

5 Institutions:

5.1 Nyadire Primary School:

Started by the Rev. D. O'Farrel and was registered in 1938, currently has an enrolment of 964 pupils tutored by 32 teachers including 10 student teachers. For 20 years the school has produced the best grade 7 results in this area. In 1996 the pass rate was 89.9%. Nyadire has a special class of 19 pupils who have a disability in speech and hearing. The school is looking forward to electrifying the classrooms, construct a boys' hostel and an administration block. They also would want to fence their premises for security reasons. For the hearing impaired there is special need to introduce practical subjects.

5.2 The Maintenance Department:

This has come up as a service hand for the centre. All the plumbing, woodwork and electricity problems even servicing of all centre vehicles are done here. This was started in 1992 by Mr. J. Loveland a Norwegian Missionary with support from the United Methodist Church in Norway and NORAD in response to the Zimbabwe United Methodist Church's needs.

5.3 Nyadire Teachers' College:

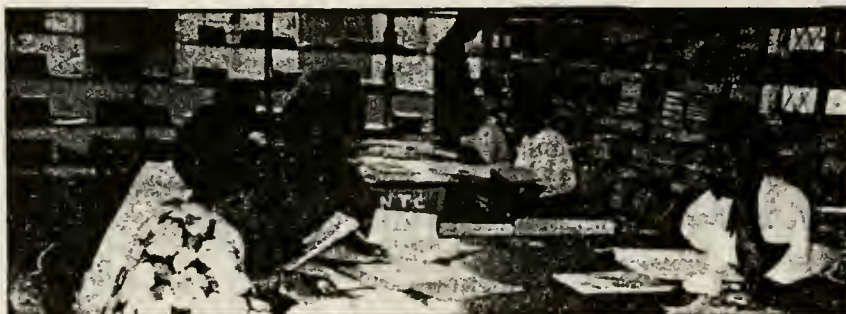
Currently under a female principal with an establishment of 36 Lecturers have a total of 836 students this year of which 451 are female. The college is busy improving the infrastructure for effective teaching ministry. The science laboratory is almost complete but they urgently need two flats for the lecturers. The college has a dire need for a modern lecture theatre and college bus for the students' social and sporting activities. They have put down a comprehensive four-year development plan as follows:

1997: Computer, furniture (lecturer's offices) P.A. System, first vehicle, photocopiers Pit Latrine, Lab completion, fittings and equipment. Staff accommodation, and telephone extensions in houses.

1998: Mini-hall finishing up, A.V.A., water browser, waxing machine, A.V.A. (cont.) Music studio, up-grading sports facilities

1999: Review, second vehicle, evaluating operations.

2000: Review of progress, gym continued, electrifying the kitchen pots.



Nyadire Teachers' College – Teachers being groomed

5.4 Nyadire Hospital:

Nyadire Hospital in action. Continuing and effecting evangelism through healing. A 100 years of effective witness. The hospital needs more staff houses, and mother's shelters. We also pray that more doctors, qualified technicians and tutors may come our way and help.

5.5 Nyadire High School:

Education with production. This school, started in 1977 by United Methodist Church men's wing (Vabvuwi) then just for boys, with a bias for technical subjects, still retains its tradition but now includes girls in the school. Nyadire believes in equipping its pupils to totality i.e. physically, mentally and spiritually through various co-curricular activities.

6. BRIEF STATEMENTS ON CIRCUITS:

6.1 Bondamakara:

Currently 4 point charges but from January will be 3 point charge and a new preaching point. The three stations have sanctuaries each but a circuit is still to build a parsonage. The women are paying school fees for 3 children at primary and the men have adopted a disabled child. The membership is 686.

Chidowe:



Chidowe Circuit – Centennial Celebrations

Recently instituted from the resettled farmers, composed of 4 stations and 3 preaching points. This charge has neither a parsonage nor a sanctuary. All buildings used are borrowed from schools within the area. The membership stands at 236.

6.3 Chikwizo:

This started as home mission area for the Rhodesia Annual Conference. There is also a clinic started by the Church but of late it is more inclined to the Local Council Authority. Once in a while the Nyadire Hospital visits to support the staff there. Out of their five stations and two preaching points, only one station, Chikwizo has a sanctuary and that's where the parsonage is located. This charge struggles to raise the pastor's salary let alone its share of conference apportionment. Membership is 246.

6.4 Chimukoko:

Another one, 3 point charge and 4 preaching points. The preaching points have been slow to grow yet geographically cannot be put together to form a station. This circuit has neither a parsonage nor church building. It has seen slow financial growth this year. The pastor travels monthly on foot. Membership is 219.

6.5 Chingwena:

Three point charge and one preaching point 1998 sees this circuit restructured to include one other station from Chimukoko mainly for communication convenience. This circuit is about to construct their first sanctuary at Chingwena station. Membership is 267.



Women moulding bricks

6.6 Dendera:

The furthest in the east and stretches along the border with Mozambique, started very small but posed to grow. A rural council run secondary school within this area has been ceded to the Church as R/A and this has had a positive effect on the circuit work. However this new school brings to the Church more financial and administrative burdens. The Church has to assist on putting up the necessary infrastructure for boarding students. There is a task to raise the school to A Level standard.

Otherwise the charge has four stations and three preaching points. Quite a number of people are illiterate. There is also a Church run clinic and an adult literacy school at Dendera station. They also run a small dairy at Dendera. There is also a reforestation programme run from Dendera, which has greatly benefited the community. More is still to be done. We have a parsonage and one sanctuary, another one is about to be constructed at Kotwa Growth Point. Membership is 303.

6.7 **Kowo:**

Has embarked on building a parsonage on their own and volunteers assisting quite a lot. The walls are complete but the parish is now finding it tough to put up the roof which may cost \$15000,00. They have a beautiful sanctuary where they hold many of their circuit revivals and circuit meetings. This is made up of four stations with a membership of 426 people.

6.8 **Mudzonga:**

An averagely big circuit by its membership but needs a lot of motivation to reclaim its normal performance position. It has three large stations and two more averagely small and fast growing preaching points. There are three sanctuaries but no parsonage yet. This circuit gives good ministry to Mutoko High School run by the Rural Council. Its membership is 588.

6.9 **Mutoko:**

Currently a three point charge but for 1998 the district proposes that it includes a fourth station from Nyamuzuwe. Because of its geographical expansion and position of its stations, the pastor normally travels on bicycle or foot. There is no bus system that joins all the stations. All the three points have sanctuaries but one is still to be dedicated after some few final marks of completion. Its membership is 607. It has no parsonage yet.

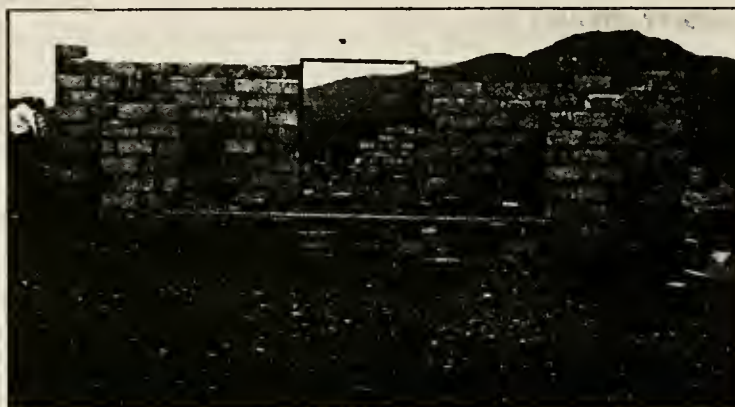
6.10 **Mutoko Centre:**

This is the Church of the growth point Mutoko but built on our small mission station Mutoko. The membership is semi-urban and thus very mobile. The school on the station provides education to the growth point primary school kids. The Church has acquired a Church stand in the township and plans are under way to utilise the Church stand. Though still one point charge with a sanctuary, there is great potential for growth because of the growth point. Its current membership is 483 of mostly middle-aged people. Mutoko Primary has been earmarked for the Secretary's Bell, 1998.

6.11 **Mutoko East I**

This circuit includes Makaha Mining Area where the Methodist Church established a congregation around 1911 but there has been no significant church growth. Nonetheless the circuit the circuit has 5 stations and two

preaching points. There are two sanctuaries under construction i.e. Katsande and Mutondo to add onto one sanctuary which already exists. They have a parsonage and all points are well co-ordinated by a road system. Membership is 563.



Nechomba UMC - Sanctuary under construction.

6.12 Mutoko East II:

A circuit with a big membership of 647 but their performance has been below for quite some time except this year where they showed a financial good rise. Early March the Circuit opened a preaching point which is growing very well, in fact it turned out to be a local church there and then. This four point charge has one sanctuary and the other one is still to be roofed (see picture of Chipfiko). They are still to build a parsonage.



Chipfiko UMC - Sanctuary under construction

6.13 Mutoko North:

Another charge with a very big membership of 702. This charge has 8 stations and 2 preaching points and extends into a very remote area without any school nor clinic. At their furthest preaching point people walk about 18 kilometres to the nearest school and shopping centre. Recently the district conference

resolved to restructure it so that with its neighbourly circuits we create another charge. The charge has a parsonage but out of the 8 stations only two have sanctuaries and a third one is under construction. Their evangelism programme is second to none in the district.

6.14 Mutoko South:

A five point charge with a membership of 661 With 4 complete sanctuaries and a fifth one under construction. They have embarked on a real voluntary work to construct their parsonage such that the few builders within the charge volunteer their skills and the rest supply the general labour. This is the first time a circuit has put their efforts in such a style. The circuit is also looking forward to establish a Youth skills training centre and the youth themselves are putting funds together for such a project. This circuit has a vision and if given support will lead people to greater heights in their ministry.

6.15 Mutoko West I:

Much of its membership survive on gardening and produce from their orchards. However the transport system to ferry their produce to the cities for quick market is very problematic. They would need a reliable twenty-tone truck for that. They have two sanctuaries and a comfortable parsonage. Its membership is 530 and above 50% is of advanced age.

6.16 Mutoko West II:

A charge of two stations and two preaching points of a membership of 407. This charge has neither a parsonage nor a sanctuary, the parish depend on borrowed structures. There is urgent need to put up at least a building for identity purposes. Just like Mutoko West I they depend upon gardens and orchards produce and likewise would need transport facilities. This circuit has a vibrant youth group that is very keen on dramas.

6.17 Nyadire Centre:

This is the guiding star of Mutoko Mudzi District. They provide the bulk of district leaders and carry a large part of the district financial obligations as allocated. Come end 1997 this circuit is going through a structural change and two of its three stations form another new charge with one station from Uzumba. It has three sanctuaries and a parsonage.

In-fact Nyadire and Mutoko Centre provided the base where this district has continued to grow from. Nyadire Centre also includes Nyadire Hospital, Nyadire Primary and Secondary Schools and the Teacher's College – (details reported under institutions.) Its total membership is 1460. Together the members have assisted financially the neighbourly Nyadire south. They made the biggest collection on Harvest \$115 000 the district is very amused of their achievements this year.

6.18 **Nyadire South:**

A four charge and three preaching points without a parsonage nor a church building. These are people residing in the post-independence resettlement schemes. The people put their fields first and are really hard working along those lines. They now have a site for a parsonage and have plans to mould bricks to put up a parsonage. The stations are not connectable by bus but here and there on foot. Its total membership is 269 but has a potential for greater numerical growth.

6.19 **Nyamuzizi**

A vast geographical parish but of very little achievements. They also have no parsonage or any church building. They are now three years with a church site but have been slow in putting plans together for the construction of the church. This circuit has four stations and 3 preaching points sparsely located. The distance in between stations makes it difficult for this circuit to effectively run as a unit. Its membership is 393. And they have put together 15 000 bricks for their parsonage.

6.20 **Nyamuzuwe:**

Another charge that includes a mission centre, Nyamuzuwe which has just the High School. Currently is a five-point charge but only the mission station has a sanctuary and that's where the parsonage is located. Two of its stations have been removed to join other charges to raise effective pastoral supervision of this charge. Their financial performance has slightly improved this year. There is serious need to motivate the whole mission centre residents and workers to effective witness on the Lordship of Jesus. Membership is 438. Nyamuzuwe High School is set for 'A' level year 2000.

6.21 **Uzumba:**

Another charge, which has been reorganised, one of its stations has joined with two from Nyadire into a new charge to be called Nyadire North. Uzumba has no parsonage but has two sanctuaries out of its 4 stations and two preaching points. They are currently planning to mould bricks for their parsonage. Their financial performance varies with relationship to the rain patterns because they depend mainly upon their fields' produce. This is also another pioneer area in the ministry by the Methodists in the area. Its membership is 519.

7 **Societies:** (RRW, MUMC and UMYF)

7.1 **RRW:**

Rukwadzano (RRW the Women's Wing) – as has always been the practice is led by the D.S.'s wife and a team of elected women. This group has pride in their work and they make sure every UMC woman becomes a member. They

have made society in general feel their presence. This year they paid school fees for 59 children at primary school level and next year they are looking at 60 primary and 20 secondary students able but of poor backgrounds. The women have taken upon themselves to mould bricks for churches e.g. at Chingwena, Masenda and parsonages e.g. at Kowo and Mutoko south.

On top of their individual financial contributions they have put together money to pay for the district assessments, electrify the district parsonage and offices and paid salaries to circuits which could not pay up their pastors. They also made a big contribution to the district's Centennial Celebrations. Their usual Friday session's programmes including visiting the sick, the aged and charitable organisations such as Mutemwa Leprosy Centre and assist with cleaning and giving occupants some clothing items. We have some deaf and dumb at Nyadire and the blind at Nyamuzuwe who have also benefited from the generous evangelical arm of this group. Of all our three societies this one is the best organised. They also have held workshops throughout the District to teach the women skills in Tye and Dye and the sewing of such material. This if they can discover a market then this will greatly improve their lives.

They are looking forward to start a dressmaking school and resuscitate their weaving and knitting projects. They would want to assume an active role at the up coming Home of Hope at Nyadire by giving money and various forms of donations. The women are urging their members to be tithers and contact Bible studies in their homes as a way of proper children upbringing. Their goal is to be the real mother worth of praise before GOD like Susanna.

7.2 The MUMC (Men's Wing):

Though few in numbers they are a very vibrant group. Their music at revivals even during the normal Sunday worship services is soul searching. They have made numerous contributions and paid their allocation of the district Assessment. In some circuits, Mutoko South and Kowo, they are offering their skills in building parsonages. During Easter they offer themselves to go out preaching and their efforts have added to the numerical growth of our membership. Just like the youth and women, they organise a district revival in one of our remote circuits. In order to encourage couples to live joyfully they organise a couples get together function, which was a great success.

Their main target is to win new souls for the Lord and to that effect they make sure every circuit organises a revival and home visitations in twos. They adopted a disabled child at Bondamakara and are paying for the Child's school needs. This group needs quite an amount of assistance in terms of organisation and programming their operations.

7.3 The UMYF (the Youth's wing)

By the nature of their age, this group has a lot of energy. They include in their programmes sporting activities just to stretch their muscles and that way they increase their fellowship. They emphasise white weddings but very few

manage to attain this honourous goal. There still exists the need to instil in them the importance of abstinence from sex until marriage.

The youth have also paid their district budget allocations and are paying school fees for some 5 primary school going kids. They like the men and women, held a successful district youth conference in preparation of their conference annual meeting. These youth are struggling to attain professional training of any kind that comes their way as a way of preparing for their future. Some of them are involved in self-help projects such as gardening, poultry and carpentry and if given enough assistance in management these small projects may grow into big enterprises. Already one benefited from the recently introduced Economic Empowerment skills training and shares that he sees very sound prospect in his carpentry. We hope that many more will benefit from this programme.

7.4 Challenges facing this District:

The district has expanded geographically and even numerically. But such growth has not been matched by the necessary infrastructure such as sanctuaries and parsonages. A diagrammatic comparison (show that we need 13 parsonages and 74 sanctuaries. There fore Construction is a major challenge. The other church leadership is male dominated but the general membership is about 85 per cent female. While globally the men seem to attract very little attention because they appear to be okay, it is not so in our district. There is need for intensive evangelism to the men. These powerful people of our society are languishing in sin - they need assistance.

The pastoral support and the general financial obligation of each member is another area for concern. Gone are the days where circuits should continue to receive assistance from beyond their circuits because those people have their own problems to attend to. So financial self-sufficiency is another challenge and this needs urgent attention.

The other area that has been ignored is Ministry to the Children, like adults, also desire to worship their GOD in average comfort. Their seating places and Sunday programmes need to be clearly worked out and defined well. For example it is common place to see children on the floor and adults on benches. This affects their attitudes to worship and it needs to be attended to.

We also need to identify potential leaders so that the church does not struggle with stale and outgrown leaders. We need leaders with the vision, zeal and desire to go forward. This in no way does not mean the current leadership is outgrown – but what is going to happen tomorrow is our major concern. We need to brew more leaders in waiting so we continue injecting new blood in leadership.

8. **Vision**

Where there is no vision the people perish. Currently the UMC looks the dominating church in this area but this fact is not supported by our statistical numbers - there is

therefore need to strengthen our Evangelism campaign that is both evangelical and kerygmatic. The circuits are generally geographically unmanageable circuit. Much of the congregations worship under trees or classrooms at best, pastors stay in borrowed accommodation, we therefore need an intensive construction programme for sanctuaries and parsonages. The church is growing but the provision of sensible infrastructure has to be treated with urgency.

Submitted by: **Rev. K. Marange, D.S.**
DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT

SOUTH AFRICA



Rev. John F. Munjoma, D.S.

INTRODUCTION:

Bishop and Conference, "Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ"

A time to re-evaluate our activities in the field is once more here, affording us with a chance to really be honest with ourselves Annual Conference is that time we assemble, assess, alter and count our sheaves in preparation for the great day of reckoning.

Like the latter, it is a time of great odds-apparent or subdued. Perhaps there has never been another Conference where this was more befitting than in this our Centennial one.

It is indeed in this great spirit of re-evaluation and re-assessment that this report was prepared.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND.

In the 70's a homeland government of the Transkei took over all the Methodist Church work within its borders and renamed the Church the United Methodist Church of Transkei. This name was later changed to more inclusive one – United Methodist Church of Southern Africa. However, it continued to use the Constitution and uniforms of the British Methodist Church with alterations here and there.

In 1983, a group broke away from this Church and registered their Church as the United Methodist Church of South Africa. They established contacts with the United Methodist Church - the Transvaal District under the Mozambique Annual Conference.

In 1988, the Africa Central Conference meeting in Kinshasa, (Zaire) accepted this group and assigned the supervision of the work thereof to the Zimbabwe Annual Conference which in turn created a District.

While these actions transformed the status of the breakaway group, that transformation was never noted in the Church circles in South Africa. Hence, many may regard us as a Church without a base. Under such circumstances our work is not that straightforward or easy at all.

On one hand we sweat to win souls to Christ, organise them into Churches but on the other hand we must convince our sister Churches, including our own members, that we are not who they think we are!

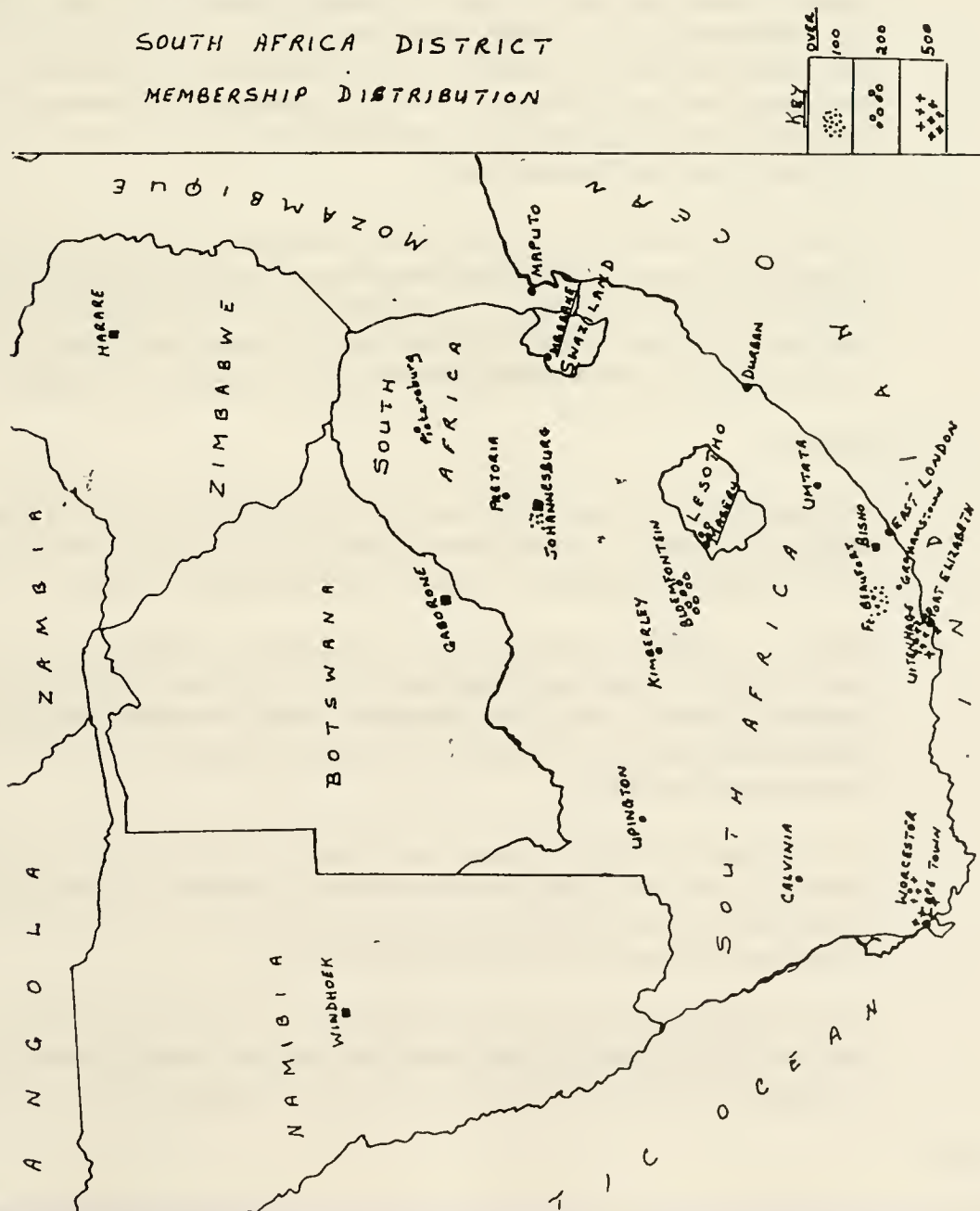
The task of demythologising parts of any theory is a long and hard process. Nevertheless, "Give us the tools and we will do the job."

THE STATE OF THE DISTRICT

1. Boundaries:

These comprise the Republics of Lesotho, South Africa and Swaziland. For convenience sake we further sub-divide these into FOUR areas namely Eastern Cape, Free State – Transvaal, Lesotho and Western Cape. From the feasible sub-divisions it is evident that there are areas we have yet to go to; such as KwaZulu-Natal.

MEMBERSHIP DISTRIBUTION: (Map)



2. Membership and Distribution:

The circuits and membership are concentrated in the Eastern Cape and Western Cape respectively. Of the 16 circuits, 8 are in the Eastern Cape but the majority of our members are in the Western Cape where there are only 4 circuits. The reason is that generally speaking congregations and circuits are smaller and more fluid in the Eastern Cape than elsewhere.

There has been a marked growth in the Beaufort area this year where a new congregation was established. We had earmarked this general area, the former Ciskei, for a program of Church expansion and consolidation as an Advance Special Request, but funds have not come forth as yet. We hope and pray that funds will be found and soon.

3. Church Support:

We continue to experience hardship in this area of our work. Most of it is due to the financial strains prevalent amongst our people. However, this can also be attributed to our questionable past where and when transparency was unheard of. In an effort to categorically improve the situation we have enforced the use of receipt books, taught and encouraged the use of budgets. We are beginning to experience a trickle of very encouraging results and therefore, intentionally plan to invest most of our time, money and talent in this area for some time.

We have also embarked on an educational programme on giving in general and on tithing in particular. Apart from being the basic biblical formula of giving, tithing is the fairest, if not the only way, the church can combat the financial strains prevalent amongst our members in that the few privileged ones can help cover for the less fortunate masses as they each give an equal portion of their varied blessing from the Almighty.

4. Clergy:

We thank God for the men and women who have faithfully served the Church. They have sacrificed their own lives for the life of Christ's Church. From almost nothing, they have (with constancy) given of their best to their respective flocks.

However, our work is greatly hampered by the lack of professionals in our rank and file here. It is one thing to use a local Pastor who is conversant with the polity of the United Methodist Church to set up and consolidate United Methodist congregations. It is yet another thing to use a local Pastor who is not conversant at all. The latter is our situation and has been ever since.

In an attempt to somehow improve this situation, group seminars and person to person sessions on our polity have been held and will continue to be held. Furthermore, the district plans to get all Pastors in need of basic training enrolled with the Theological Education by Extension (T.E.E.) Institute next year.

We are elated to report of two recent additions to our ranks: OWEN M. NTSONDWA and SIMON B NXUMALO who came to us from the Wesleyan Church. The former will be taking his second year studies at the Baptist Theological College, Cape town and the

latter holds a B.Th. Degree from the University of Natal. This boosts our ranks numerically as well as qualitatively. We hope and trust that they will feel at home in our midst and make the United Methodist Church their home.

5. Theological Training:

Our dominant aim continues to be the training of Pastors with a strong United Methodist Church orientation or bias. This is the best way we can ensure the future of our Church in the Region. We are convinced that the way to achieve this is by either training our future Pastors in seminaries where they will receive this kind of an orientation or by exposing those in the field to such an orientation.

Hitherto, we have no one with such a training but we do have only three (3) who have had some sort of an exposure. These could use another stint of a particularised nature while those who have had none need to get some.

We have high hopes that at least two or three at most of our young men will be enrolled at the United Theological College (U.T.C.) Harare next year. Our past dismal failures in this regard can only and categorically spur us on rather than deter us as time is not on our side and the need is inconceivable.

6. Infrastructure:

The absence of any permanent or basic infrastructure throughout the district contributes a great deal to our dizzy present situation. Physical structures do influence the way the public rates Churches in our region. Generally speaking, a denomination with basic physical infrastructure is rated higher and better than the one without. Hence, it is absolutely easier for the former than the latter to win members. Our constant loss of members is partly due to this phenomenon.

We are however, encouraged by the fact that there continues to be a wind of change that is blowing over the entire district as we see more and better temporary edifices erected. In all, we now have ten completed temporary structures: two on farms and the rest in the urban areas. Of those eight, two have electricity making evening meetings and functions possible.

There is an eleventh temporary Church building that is still under construction which must be singled out. Although it is one of the smallest ones it is worth singling out for three reasons:-

- (i) It is the first and the only one in the rural area
- (ii) The only one built of Sandstone and
- (iii) It has been under construction, on and off, for over ten years.

7. Programmes:

As a "Mission Field" it is often too difficult for us to be understood when we express our needs. This is because we are more often than not, judged as being "One of, if not the most developed Country on the Continent".

What people forget is, we work amongst a people who have been robbed of their self-esteem for centuries. A people who have been stripped bare by the inhumane practice of apartheid governments of the past. One has to see or experience this for oneself to begin to perceive and conceive our needs.

(a) FUNDED PROJECTS:

We are grateful to the General Board of Global Ministries for coming to our aid through the Advance special Request Programme. We have received funds for Women and children Ministries, Youth Ministries and the United Methodist Xhosa Hymnal.

The co-ordinators are in the field. As would be expected, most of their time and energy are spent on teething problems. We are looking forward to getting more programmes that are of a specific nature from them sooner than later.

The Xhosa Hymnal project is slowly taking shape. (See recommendations). The funds that are now available are only a drop in the bucket. Printing prices have gone up and continue to do so. Nevertheless, where there is a will there is a way!

(b) PROJECTS THAT NEED FUNDING:

The following projects are listed here for record. They have been submitted to the Projects Officer. We hope that they will also be funded as the other for life and future of our Church in the Region is greatly depended on results from such projects as these:

- (i) Planting, organising, consolidating and nurturing of new congregations – in such areas as the former Homelands – Ciskei to be specific.
- (ii) Reviving and revitalising those dormant congregations – in such Towns and Cities as Kimberly and Botshabelo, respectively.
- (iii) Theological enrichment of our present Pastors who have received no training. We can enrich them through T.E.E. and special seminars run by the Conference's own Theologians and educators in disciplines other than Theology (See Item No. 5 above).
- (iv) **One all-purpose hall:**
We at least need a single permanent structure: Would you believe it? We need it yesterday! (See item No. 6 above).

As already pointed out earlier on, these projects may not appear, to the donors, to be as appealing as those that were funded, but to us they are just as important here. "Give us the tools and we will do the job," folks!

HIGHLIGHTS:

(a) EPISCOPAL VISIT:

Last May, Bishop Christopher Jokomo was able to include us in his very busy schedule and paid us a flying visit. We had been hoping to snatch at least two weeks out of his schedule to wine and dine them, i.e. he and his entire family as we had humbly suggested last year. Maybe we were too modest.

Nevertheless, our Bishop made an unexpected appearance, towards the close of our United Methodist women district Conference in Cape town. Judging themselves as the most fortunate and therefore favoured they showered the Bishop with gifts! They were saying in kind:-

“Cogretaulations, siya kuncoma, Reya ho lebohela, Veels geluk, Amhlophe, Makorokoto!”

for your re-election, Bishop.

We want to remind Bishop Jokomo of this fact:-

“We are the only district in your Episcopal Area that boasts of having two Seashores!”

We are the ideal place for vacation and relaxation. Any time of the year, “Sizokuamkela nezandla zishushu!” We hope that the next time you come to us, you will come with your whole family!

(b) WARM RELATIONAL TALKS:

In February of this year, Revs. Magojo and Rabi both representing the United Methodist Church of Southern Africa (See Historical Background) and the Revs. Tobie and Munjoma, representing our Church met in a friendly atmosphere to compare notes and exchange ideas in Cape Town.

What then was “One small step for man” became “A giant leap for humankind” as the same representatives of our Church met with the President, the Rev. S.P. Madokwe and others in June in Durban, KwaZulu-Natal.

They were well received, wined and dined as well as roomed in one of Thekwini’s Hotels. We are all very excited about these recent developments between our two sister Churches. In fact, after nasty experiences of our past, this is too good to be true!

Really, “God moves in a mysterious way, His wonders to perform. He plants His footsteps in the sea, and rides upon the storm.”!

(c) ST. JAMES UMC (MUTARE) IN BLOEMFONTEIN:

The Rev. Maxwell P Chambara fulfilled his promise to the Bloemfontein United Methodists when he said to them last year: “I shall return”. Bringing with him part of

the St. James church Choir the Rev. Chambara descended on the peaceful city of Bloemfontein during the last weekend of August. They conducted a wonderful programme of song and word. That is, the Choir provided special hymns and anthems while the Rev. Chambara and others preached the word. This was an Evangelistic effort aimed at boosting the status of our Church locally. While results may not be visible or measurable now, we are confident that this put a beginning on our situation there and we are most grateful to all those who were involved in this venture. To Rev. Chambara we say, "Thank you. Please come again."

STRATEGIES FOR DEVELOPMENT:

Given the Geographical, Political and Social set-up of this District, Conference status is inevitable! Therefore, it is imperative that we categorically strategize even now.

Whereas many of our people can hardly wait for the day we will be a Provisional Annual Conference, yet many more do not understand what it takes to be one. Therefore, education of the masses is inevitable and very necessary now in order to avoid the dilemmas that we have witnessed in the entire Region. To this end lay and leadership trainings at all levels will be organised and run. We invite the Conference to pitch in on this.

Another strategy that we can employ in the interest of our own development is the education of the Clergy. We will attempt, beginning this year, to get all our untrained Pastors enrolled with T.E.E. and to continue to provide seminars, at least once yearly, to get all our Pastors conversant with our polity. We intend to seek both general and particular types of exposure for individual Pastors from time to time to enhance the orientation they need.

Furthermore, it is imperative that we step-up our recruitment and training of young people for the Ordained Ministry. No person can serve more than his/her own generation! If we think otherwise in this regard, we really need to repent here and now!

In all these things we shall need the unflinching support of all Conference Boards, Committees, Councils, and Personnel that we have hitherto enjoyed.

Last but not least, as a district we need to leave no stones unturned in the promotion of fellowship or even mergers with any of our sister Churches – viz. other United Methodist. For we are absolutely convinced that our fragmentation greatly inhibits the development and ministry for the United Methodist Church in our entire region.

As in other matters, we shall always be in touch with the Area Office in this regard so that it is aware of all the developments and give us the necessary guidance that it alone can give. It is our hope, therefore, that the Conference does support us to the hilt in this matter.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. To enhance the programme of orientation in as far as Pastors are concerned we recommend that at least one elder, preferable one who is fluent in Sindebele be appointed to the district next year or whenever it is possible.
2. For the promotion of both continuing education and a programme of orientation for our clergy, we recommend that continuing education Seminars, designed and run by BOOM with the assistance of our DCOOM be held once a year until Provisional Annual Conference Status (PACS) is attained.
3. We recommend that at least two (2) of our Pastors per year receive some sort of exposure for 2 or 3 months until PACS.
4. We recommend that at least two (2) of our candidates be enrolled at UTC, Harare next January.
5. We request the assistance of the Board of Publications in seeking permission from:-
 - (a) Bible society (S.A.) to allow us to use their new Xhosa translation of the Bible based on the TEV (Today's English Version) in our Psalters of the United Methodist Xhosa Hymnal (UMXH)

- (b) The Dutch Reform Church for the inclusion in our UMXH the following hymns from their Hosana, Xhosa Book of Hymns: Numbers:-

2; 4; 10; 20; 27; 28; 32; 34; 36 38; 38;
41; 44; 46; 47; 49; 51; 53; 60; 64; 65; 68;
74; 76; 77; 81; 84; 85; 87; 89; 90; 91; 92;
94; 100; 102; 104; 106; 112; 116; 119; 142; 143; 146;
147; 151; 154; 164; 166; 168; 171; 172; 181; 190; 191;
204; 211; 214; 217; 219; 220; 223; 224; 225; 229; 230;
232; 236; 246; 251; 252; 255; 261; 263; 267; 268; 283;
287; 289; 294; 296; 297; 299; 307; 314; 324; 328; 335;
359; 361; 365; 367; 368; 370; 372; 383; 385; 387; 388;
402; 402; 405; 407; 408; 409; 410; 412; 416; 424; 431;
433; 436; 446;

- (c) The Methodist Church (S.A.) for the inclusion in our UMXH from their Amaculo AmaWesile the following Numbers:-

9; 11; 14; 18; 40; 45; 49; 50; 57; 64; 65;
67; 78; 86; 96; 98; 115; 116; 118; 141; 158; 161;
170; 178; 179; 183; 185; 186; 192; 195; 201; 206; 212;
220; 221; 225; 227; 257; 258; 259; 262; 265; 2762; 273;
274; 277; 278; 282; 283; 288; 289; 305; 314; 315; 317;
324; 333; 372; 377; 383; 372; 377; 383; 384; 390; 405;
407;

- (d) The Seventh Day Adventist (S.A.) for the inclusion in our UMXH from their own Xhosa Hymnal the following Numbers:-

3;	10;	12;	18;	20;	24;	25;	26;	30;	31;	33;
63;	64;	65;	67;	71;	74;	75;	77;	84;	85;	88;
98;	100;	101;	111;	113;	115;	117;	130;	132;	134;	136;
137;	143;	144;	148;	162;	164;	172;	175;	177;	184;	190;
191;	202;	204;	207;	211;	221;	223;	224;	227;	228;	239;
241;	242;	244;	250;	255;	268;	284;	285;			

N.B. These three sets of hymns are found in both our Ngoma (Shona) and United Methodist Hymnal (English) which are already in SiXhosa. Instead of making our own translation of same thus taking a very long time we have opted to do it this way.

CONCLUSION:

Someone has said; “It is the great past, not the dizzy present, that is a door to the future”. If this report has shown us anything at all, it is that both our past and present are dizzy. What is therefore needed is the transformation of this great present, which will in time become “The great past” that will usher in PACS and beyond.

This great and demanding task cannot be left to us alone. Indeed the entire denomination – conference and the General Church have to be seem to be concerned and involved here. “Give us the tools and we will do the job”.

May the God who has sustained us thus far “Grant us wisdom, grant us courage for the living of these days”.

Submitted by: Rev. J. Munjoma
DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT

CONFERENCE LAY LEADERS' REPORT

THEME: "THOSE WHO WAIT UPON THE LORD SHALL RENEW THEIR STRENGTH....." ISIAH 40 V 31

INTRODUCTION - GREETINGS.

Grace and Peace to you all our brothers and sisters in Christ. We, your lay leaders, feel more than pleased and honoured to welcome you to this special, historic annual conference of our church in Zimbabwe.

Firstly we welcome and greet our dear Bishop and Mrs C. Jokomo and the whole family. Another year under your leaderships has been a blessing. We greet all our District Superintendents and their spouses and families. Our clergy and fellow lay persons. We thank God Almighty for His love, care and protection. Despite the diseases, deaths and other hardships God has granted us life and security, opportunities and responsibilities in His Vineyard.

RECOGNITION AND GREETINGS TO BISHOPS.

This session of our conference has an exciting element of a re - union, blending together the past and the present to give us hope for the future . We are delighted that our founder members and the episcopal leaders are here with us and will join us for the celebrations. We do not only thank God for their lives. Many bid farewell to this world but God spared these to be with us during this special occasion, the centennial celebrations .

BISHOP RALPH DODGE.

We warmly greet Bishop and Mrs R Dodge. Unlike one of his books, "The Unpopular Missionary", Bishop R. Dodge was popular for many things among which is the orientation of the church and the nation towards African (indigenous) leadership. During your time, blacks seemed to have revived the slave trade route when many left for studies overseas. Today the nation is proud and grateful for what you did and what you have continued to offer to us.

BISHOP AND MRS ABEL T. MUZOREWA

Our warm greetings go to Bishop and Mrs A.T Muzorewa. When your predecessor Bishop R. Dodge surrendered to you the robe of office, it was an acid test for the true

Africanization of the church leadership - wise. Very few African leaders have so graciously gone into retirement like you did. We know that you are not tired. Continue to lend your support and advise.

BISHOP AND MRS KENNETH MATHEWS.

Though your time was a very short one as our episcopal leader, we recall your leadership, your devotion to duty, and sound administration. We cordially greet you and ask you to celebrate with us as we say "Jesu Tava Pano" (Jesus we are here for you).

BISHOP AND MRS FELTON MAY.

Our warm greetings go to Bishop and Mrs F. May , our Centennial Preacher. We recall your blazing path of fiery sermons during our conventions at Chiringaodzi, Nyadire camping grounds and other places. We feel greatly honoured to have you during this occasion and to have you as our guest preacher for the Centennial celebrations. Thank you for accepting our invitation.

THE GENERAL BOARD OF GLOBAL MINISTRIES.

This conference has been greatly honoured by the presence of members and representatives from various Boards, Commissions and Agencies of the Board of Global Ministries. We are proud and grateful for the warm relationship that has continued to exist between our conference and the various organs of the Board. We are most grateful for the provision of both human and material resources for the development of our conference. The Women's Division has given us tremendous financial support for programmes for women and children especially. The General Board of Higher Education and Ministry made it possible to realise the African Initiative by supporting and financing the Africa University Project.

As we move into the next 100 years, we hope that we will strengthen our relationship with other boards like the General Board of pensions, the general communion on archives and history, the general board of discipleship and many others. Accept our heartfelt greetings and gratitude. Without your support our conference could not have been what it is today

We extend our warm greetings to guests and visitors from across our Conference boundaries. Please feel at home brothers and sisters. Our traditional leaders, the chiefs, have graced our annual Conference and Centennial celebrations. Were it not for their love for God and His church, they could not have set aside land in their areas for church buildings and our church schools. Where the chiefs said "No" to the Gospel, most of their people did the same.

Civic leaders from Mutare City and other cities are among the dignitaries who have come to join us. We greet you sincerely and thank you for coming and for helping us in many ways not only during our preparations for the centennial celebrations. Thank you for coming.

Observers and friends are also in our midst . We feel greatly honoured by your presence to this conference session. We greet you all in the name of our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

FRATERNAL DELEGATES.

Our fraternal greetings go to our dear brothers and sisters in Christ who have spared their precious time to be with us during this special occasion. Our history is that of a continued relationship with your various denominations and organisations.

OBITUARY

We are deeply saddened by the death of Mr Naison Kaseke our former conference lay leader. Mr Kaseke served our conference in various capacities as head of our former primary schools Manyika and Chikuhwa . Our deep condolences go to the whole family. May he rest in peace.

We also learned with great shock , the death of Mr C. Mutasa our conference chancellor for many years. Mr C. Mutasa offered us as a conference free services as a law practitioner. We most indebted to Mr C. Mutasa. We join his family in moaning his death. May he also rest in peace.

OUR 1997 CONFERENCE REPORT.

Glory to God for enabling us to go through 1997 and for allowing us to work together in His Vineyard. We are pleased to report that the United Methodist church remained a vibrant and growing church. After God had given us abundant rains, most of our people responded well with faith and church support. We would like to thank our clergy for their hard work and spiritual leadership. Bishop C. Jokomo has continued to provide the episcopal leadership that has taken our conference to greater heights. His devotion to duty, his faith and his deep love for the church of Jesus Christ and its people have been our source of inspiration. Our prayerful mother, Mrs E. Jokomo has rendered invaluable service to our church, and to our families. She has given us the comfort and leadership for which we all yearn. THANK YOU MUM.

The laity remained committed to their ministry. During our visits to various gatherings, districts conferences, conventions and administrative meetings, we were pleased to note progress and growth in church membership, through effective evangelism, self support, though well planned funding and giving. The multitudes who attended our conventions are witnesses to the mission of spreading good news of salvation through Jesus Christ. The excitement and enthusiasm generated at the local church and district level during their centennial celebrations set a high tone for the whole conference which already is in a festive mood of worship and celebration.

An excellent job was done during Harvest Thanksgiving celebrations. MAKOROKOTO. AMHLOPE. CONGRATULATIONS. We even exceeded our target and gave more than \$5 million. Pastoral support has continued to improve and we hope that subsidies will be a thing of the past. As we enter the next millennium, we need to ensure that salaries will not only be payed in full but on time as well. Most of our church programmes were fully supported financially and morally, despite the cash flow pattern which is not always smooth. We are making every effort to meet budgets apportioned.

We remain committed to the new scheme of the common pool. We are again pleased to report that there is tremendous, even unanimous support for this new direction. As Bishop C. Jokomo has often put it, our church is like a plane at a take - off stage. Trying to change, or slow down and make a kind of forced - landing is not only very dangerous but suicidal.

Keep on going Zimbabwe Annual Conference! As we continue to wait upon the Lord we will one day fly with the eagles, run and never get weary.

Below are highlights for the various districts, organisations and councils:-

SOUTH AFRICA DISTRICT

Progress is quite steady. It is a self - supporting district. The idea of becoming a Provisional Conference by the year 2 000 stays part of our vision and hope. The conference calendar has become congested to the extent that visits are not as regular as before.

MASVINGO DISTRICT

There is significant progress in Masvingo. The District Superintendent has no vehicle. This is a sad state of affairs. We urge the young district to strive hard to resolve this predicament. The idea of a common pool would help in cases like this. It is pleasing to note that the laity is very supportive. Some offer transport to various meetings. Their harvest rose to \$111 000. The spiritual life of the church is evident. Thank you for a good start.

BULAWAYO MIDLANDS

The district is mainly urban. It did well generally. It is hoped that the district will move up and compare well with other urban districts. The district should strive for a district car. They have paid their budgets constantly in full. Their harvest was \$..... WELL DONE.

MUTARE SOUTH DISTRICT

It is a district which is mainly rural and a greater part of the district is virgin land to Methodism. Buhera area has done well. We join the district in moaning the death of chief Sam Mutambara whose reaffirmation of his faith had helped strengthen the church around Mutambara. Stewardship and evangelism should continue to be intensified. They are working hard to meet their conference dues.

MUTARE DISTRICT.

With new blood in the reins the district is well coordinated and united their team spirit is a source of joy. Support for the D.S. is tremendous. The office has been transformed and improved through free - will gifts to a large extent. There is inspiration. Giving has continued to rise and \$1000000 had been realised up to August report. We urge the district to keep the flame burning. Recapture your leading role in the past. Budgets were paid in full.

MAKONI - BUHERA DISTRICT.

Further gains and improvements have been made. They have continued to be on the rise. They have paid their assessments in full for the first time. They deserve our congratulations. Rusape urban should aim high and rich the level of the other urban circuits. Again there is a great deal of emphasis on evangelism. The level of a subsidy has gone down. We wish they could sustain the trend. They realised \$..... for harvest Thanksgiving. Press on.

MUTOKO MUDZI DISTRICT.

History was made in Mutoko - Mudzi district this year. In the past they called themselves " a district on the move" yet there was little movement. However, this year they seem to have gone through the Altergate experience. Team work has paid great dividends. Their harvest short from \$14 0000 + or - in 1996 to near \$400 000. Well done Mutoko - Mudzi District. Take your place among those of your level. Recall what our lay leaders have always said about your potential.

MUREWA DISTRICT

There has been very little change from the sad situation noted last year. The rate of payment of assessments is slow. Murewa raised about \$2 000 000 for harvest Thanksgiving. There is need for unity and co-operation. The top leadership is motivated and committed. Centennial Celebrations were well organised in Murewa. District has to bear in mind they are in some way a test case. Do not fail the Bishop and the conference. NYIKA NYORO, PRODUCE FRUIT.

MUTASA NYANGA DISTRICT.

We recall that you were once the "pisa pisa" district. This district has improved from last year. Harvest is around \$3 000 000. Centennial celebrations were exciting. Mutasa Nyanga district has a lot of potential. The gift of Honde valley is not for others outside the church. How can you harness that potential? Mrs Chikuni, the only women lay leader at the moment, has worked hard to resuscitate and keep the spirit of the laity warm. They have worked very hard as hosts for the centennial celebrations. Thank you for that selfless spirit.

HARARE WEST DISTRICT.

In their second year of existence Harare West District have clocked over \$2,3m for harvest. Financial support for the church is strong. A combination of prayer and administration is paying well. The district has many members in the high income bracket. The district has saved us well by paying their assessments on time if not earlier than expected. Thank you very much.

HARARE EAST DISTRICT

D.S. Rev F. Kadenga handed over the robe of office to a young man D.S. Rev C. Chikoore. The district has continued to work hard and improve. It is very pleasing to note that though they have a membership close to half of that of Harare West, they have the same budgets and they are paying in full and on time. They have heavy church construction programmes. A district car is needed sooner than yesterday. Keep it up Harare East.

ORGANISATIONS:

THE U.M.Y.F

We thank our youth for continuing to be an active force within our church. They are following their programmes very well. We compliment the youth for joining hands with U.M.V.I.M.S from overseas to complete various projects around the conference. As a follow up active local VIM groups have emerged. The youth VIM group in Murewa District did very well by carrying out projects at Darangwa and other places. The youth have paid their budgets in time. We thank very sincerely Mr and Mrs Samson Katsande popularly known as Mapereke for offering a vehicle for use by the youth director Rev R. Masamba while Rev R. Masamba remains in office.

M.U.M.C

Finally the men have discovered their strengths and talents. They have paid their budgets. We are pleased many M.U.M.C choirs have recaptured and revived the old spiritual songs. Their

cassettes are selling fast. Thank you for that. We are very hopeful that the M.U.M.C. will never look back but continue to reach the stars by waiting upon the Lord. Joint conventions with R.R.W were very successful.

R.R.W.

Year in year out our R.R.W continue to move forward and reach greater heights. The spirit of noble competitions continues to spur them on. They have maintained their custom of paying in full their conference dues and supporting programmes at their own initiative . Their Kingaroy project is on course and nearing completion. Our mother , Mrs E. Jokomo has continued to to inspire not only the women but the whole church.

COUNCILS:

COUNCIL ON MINISTRIES.

The council has continued to be guided by a very clear vision and mission. A lot was achieved during the year. The organisation of Centennial Celebrations at district and at circuit level, successful crusades held and the increase in church membership is a clear testimony of the fruit of their labour. We compliment the Council on Ministries for a job well done.

COUNCIL ON FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION.

One of the most difficult councils to lead is the Council on Finance and Administration (CONFAD) . Dealing with people , policy , following and monitoring their practices is no mean task. Our dedicated men and women had continued to serve our church in the council. Sound fiscal policies, new methods of funding and programmes have been drawn and followed . The use of external auditors and plans to create a central purchasing authority should be given support. We are most indebted to Mrs Beatrice Mutasa who chaired the Council for almost a decade and laid a strong foundation. Despite the cash flow problems the life programme of the church was adequately funded. The vehicle issue became a sad experience for us. We need to reserve funds for such eventualities so that we do not cripple the highest office in our church. We thank Bishop and Mrs Jokomo for their patience and humility. We also thank CONFAD for the arrangements made as a top - gap measure.

NEW CONFERENCE TREASURER

At last a conference treasurer was identified and engaged. We warmly welcome Mr Solomon Chiripasi as the new conference Treasurer . Once again we salute Mr Rhodes Chimonyo for such a splendid job for such a long time - way beyond the retirement age. We wish both of them joy in their new positions.

COMPUTERISATION OF UNITS

We are delighted to note that technology is being introduced into our school systems. The computerisation of our centres and other units was long over due.

THE CENTENNIAL CELEBRATIONS STEERING COMMITTEE.

1997 seems to have been a year of centennial celebrations for many institutions and organisations like cities and church denomination. It appeared as though the celebrations which preceded our celebrations had stolen the lime light from celebrations. To the contrary, these turned out to be curtain rays for our big event. Our Centennial Celebrations Steering Committee headed by Rev C. Chikoore and Rev G. Machinga and assisted by Rev T.

Muhomba deserve a standing ovation from this conference. Meticulous planning and organisation were done. The level of creativity and innovations shows the talent lying idle in our church. Fundraising functions again revealed that we have people with the love of the church at heart. Our guests of honour and patrons made generous donations to boost our coffers for this function. Above all we would like to thank Bishop Jokomo for instituting the committees, selecting and guiding the committee members and for giving his total support and confidence to the committee.

OUR VISION FOR THE FUTURE OF THE ZIMBABWE ANNUAL CONFERENCE.

One hundred years of our Ministry have come and gone. The big question lingering in our minds may be which way Zimbabwe Annual Conference ? In the next millennium 1997 to 2097, what do we plan to do ? While there is no single and simple answer, we need to sit down and create that vision.

HISTORICAL STATEMENT

The United Methodist Church in Zimbabwe has gone through three major phases. It started as a mission and controlled church. Missionaries provided the greater part of the leadership decision making and it rests on the shoulders of the laity and clergy. Through the years one of the major tasks of the lay leaders has been to conscientise the laity about its role as far as the ministry of the laity is concerned. We are grateful to our forerunners in this field who laid a solid foundation on which the church has been able to stand develop and weather various storms. Among the many conference lay leaders who steered the ship cautiously over the years are the following:

NAMES OF CONFERENCE LAY LEADERS	PERIOD OF SERVICE
1. MR JASPER MACHIRI	
2. MR ENOCK CHIEZA	
3. MR ISAAC MASAMBA	1962 - 1965
4. MR WILLIAM FAMBAI MARIMA CONFERENCE LAY LEADER, MR NAISON KASEKE: VICE CONFERENCE LAY LEADER	1966 -
5. MR NAISON KASEKE: CONFERENCE LAY LEADER MR WILLIAM FAMBAI MARIMA : VICE CONFERENCE LAY LEADER	
6. MR WILLIAM MARIMA CONFERENCE LAY LEADER. MR PEDZISAI KANGARA VICE CONFERENCE LAY LEADER	- 1992
10. MR JOHN ZVINOIRA CONFERENCE LAY LEADER MR PEDZISAI KANGARA VICE CONFERENCE LAY LEADER	1993 - TO DATE

TRIBUTE

The whole conference will join us in honouring and remembering the outstanding contribution made by our immediate ex - conference lay leader, Mr W.F Marima who is a man of many talents and rare disposition. He devoted his life resources and concerns to the church and raised the status of the laity to that of an active participant and owner of the church through church offerings, pledges and finally introduced tithing . One other outstanding feature, which was highlighted, was Harvest Thanksgiving for which the conference is a leading church not only in Zimbabwe but in Africa Central Conference as well. Though retired Mr Marima still continues to be active. We are more than indebted to Mr and Mrs Marima for their exemplary lay leadership. Continue to give us support, advice and your wise counsel.

CHURCH EXPANSION.

From that small congregation of 35 people attending the first service in Mutare, today we talk about 10 districts and close to 150 circuits. We should resolve to keep the pace of church expansion going. By the end of the next 100 , years we hope to have 8 conferences including South Africa U.M.C, Zambia, Malawi and five in Zimbabwe.

CHURCH BUILDINGS.

Rapid membership growth over the years especially over the past 25 years has caused serious strains on facilities like sanctuaries, parsonages, committee rooms and even camping grounds. We are deeply concerned about the state of our parsonages. We need to focus on these issues in the next two years. By the end of the next decade we should have succeeded in implementing the shelter for all (pastors) by the year 2 0000 as declared by even the state. The provision of the descent accommodation should be an important condition of service.

PASTOR - CONGREGATION

The current plight of our pastors going around and managing up to five to eight preaching points/ congregations/ churches will have been improved to a level were we will have one pastor or more to a church/ congregation.

Districts: Within Zimbabwe our districts will almost follow the political demarcations so that we will talk of Pfungwe U.M.C District, Marange, Mutambara etc. Large districts will be split into two or more districts. District superintendents will have smaller geographical areas to cover and become more effective.

EDUCATION

In the last hundred years we managed to end up with a single university - Africa University. It is our hope that by the end of the next millennium, we will have turned all the big High schools into universities e.g Mutambara, Murewa, Hartzell, Nyadire, Nyamuzuwe and Marange will have attained that status . Perhaps we will have st up similar institutions in our major cities to enable our flock in such places to have easy access to institutions offering quality value - entered education. We must go further than the physical structures and formulate a curriculum that will provide productive skills to school leavers who have now become a real burden and eyesore on the streets. Skills to provide self reliance and job creation should be in place in our institutions. A deliberate effort should be made in collaboration with the General Board of Higher Education to set up Technical colleges or departments in our schools. It is pleasing to note that because of the realisation by many parents and communities that value - centred education has no alternative,

many communities have invited the United Methodist Church, because of its proven record, to be the Responsible Authority for their institutions like Dendera High School being set up in Mudzi, Dindi secondary school reverting to church authority, the new school in Masvingo Chambuta area, Mount Makomwe again coming back under the United Methodist Church and others on the cards, just to name a few .

HEALTH

It is sad to note that the health delivery system leaves a lot to be desired. Today the effects of the pandemic AIDS are ghastly to imagine. Other related diseases like T.B , HIV, are threatening the greater part of the young . We call for a concerted effort in providing proper teaching to the nation. The core of the message to all should be CHANGE OF BEHAVIOUR. Immorality, prostitution and infidelity should be fought against with even greater force. NO LIBERALISM. Effective primary health CARE and preventive medicine, dental care and general health should receive priority consideration. Is it going to be far fetched to think in terms of church hospitals in urban areas to provide to the needy and poor that quality service which has become rare in too many institutions today.

CREATIVE RETIREMENT.

Our church has been a leader in many matters of social concerns. Our layworkers retirement scheme and the pension scheme for our clergy have been praised by many. However this is far from being adequate and worthwhile especially the pastors pension scheme. As a result retirement causes stress and nightmares to most of our people. We need to challenge Council on Finance and Administration to continue to hatch ideas and schemes to provide a lucrative package for those who will retire. The provision of information on creative retirement should be well organised so that people will look forward to the great day they will retire. It is our hope that the General Board of Global Ministries with its relevant boards and agencies, Board on Pensions will be willing to play a part in this scheme. We need to make a strong appeal for an attractive scheme.

GENERAL STANDARD OF LIVING.

It is our sad observation that the general standard of living is unacceptable and poor. The majority of our people are below the P.D.L poverty datum line. Those concerned , the powers that be should focus attention on this crucial matter. Poverty alleviation should be a matter on our agenda in the coming millennium. Land degradation is worsening by the day. There is soil erosion, deforestation and siltation. Look at Save River. As a church we must come up with strategies to reverse this damage.

RECOMMENDATIONS.

1. Our cash flow pattern should be improved . We recommend that all our urban districts and main centres should pay their budgets in two portions as follows : the first half by January 20 and that last half by July 20 each year. All other circuits should pay their quarterly budgets at the beginning of each quarter.
2. Poverty alleviation and the general improvement of the socio - economic life of all categories be given priority in our plans of action.

3. There will be more emphasis on creative retirement for all your people and that the General Board of Pensions be requested to help us set a solid base for a pension scheme for all our workers.
4. To combat and reduce unemployment, we strongly recommend that funds be sought and set aside for skills training and job creation and institutions be provided with relevant - curricular for job creation and self employment.
5. We recommend that in the next millennium our High Schools should be developed into universities and colleges.
6. We recommend that within the next decade the pastor - congregation ratio further reduced to 1:1.
7. We further recommend that a blue print be reduced to guide the church in the creation of new conferences and districts in the next decade.

Submitted by: J. Zvinoira

CONFERENCE LAY LEADER

P Kangara

VICE CONFERENCE LAY LEADER

EPISCOPACY REPORT

INTRODUCTION

Welcome to you all to this grand occasion, a true witness of God Almighty's grace and glory. Let us multiply our joy by uniting to sing and talk that God is love! A unique event that has attracted many believers from across the world.

1. Bishop and Conference, God's new plan and arrangement to Christianize the African soil in the southern hemisphere, brought with Him Bishop Joseph Crane Hartzell to Christ's ministry in the United Methodist Church in 1897. The first gospel word was delivered by this visionary episcopal leader at Mutare, witnessed by the maiden congregation of about 40 worshippers. This was followed by the first ever Annual Conference at Old Mutare in 1901.

A succession of bishops followed this extra ordinary pioneer and great works of opening up new areas and winning more members to Christ were performed until we came to a great turning point when Africans elected Bishop Ralph Edward Dodge for Africans in 1956. His powerful ministry and effective programme focussed on the Africanisation of the Church. As a result of this programme, we witnessed the hatching of the first African Bishop being elected to episcopacy – Bishop Abel Tendekayi Muzorewa in 1968. Bishop Muzorewa exposed his great concept of "*Salvation for the total person*" brought great conscientiousness and awakening of our rightful place in society.

A strong consolidation of the church's programmes and our Christian faith was brought in by the new resident Bishop Christopher Jokomo (elected and consecrated in 1992, a great pastor, teacher administrator and father. His programme or "*Abundant life in Jesus Christ*" brought a great insight about god's purpose for man and one's awareness to one's short or long journey to Heaven.

We highly commend the manner in which successive, bishops, pastors and church leaders have upheld the heritage (vision and dreams) of the founding fathers and mothers.

Whoever we may be, whatever we may do, wherever we may be/go, raise high the Cross of Jesus in an evangelistic manner that we are true witness to this and our most eventful celebration Let us celebrate in partnership with the Saviour who is the invisible observer and the silent listener. The UMC has stood rock-solid in the historical continuity of the pioneer work done through one of the most formidable spiritual movements on African continent.

MISSION STATEMENT:

The great commission Matthew 28:19-20 "Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptise them in the Name of the Father the Son and the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe everything that I commanded you and remember, I am with you all the days until the end of this age."

Preaching to them that they may reconcile with God Pro. 3;12 teaching them God's purpose for man Gen. 1:26 Healing them so that they may have abundant life in Jesus Christ.(John 10:10)

The future of Zimbabwe Annual Conference does not lie in great numbers in membership but in greater spiritual maturity guided by love which is God like and commitment to service which is Christ like.

This committee which has the direct impact on the life and work of the Bishop wishes to share its greatest satisfaction with the whole Conference in the rapport that exists between the Bishop and his Conference Committee on episcopacy. Our pleasant relationship with the Bishop 's family and high sense of direction the Bishop works with his Cabinet.

We do admire the Bishop's leadership when we see him putting principles before power and caution before costs. Bishop, the Conference has seen you walk the longest distance in your spontaneous Superintendency, from you to the next person individuals and groups. May the Lord restore more tireless energy as you support and serve your Conference.

We will dearly continue in the next quadrennium:-

- (a) To be sensitive and responsive to the welfare needs of the family of the Bishop
- (b) To advise the Bishop on the ministry and spiritual needs and to help the conference and all its agencies understand fully the nature and functions of the Episcopal office.
- (c) To continue linking our services with those of the PPR's and Superintendency committees.
- (d) To co-ordinate our operations in the temporal affairs of the church with CONFAD, Board of Trustees and CCOM.

2. CHURCH GROWTH:

From the first handful membership of about 2 scores in 1897 in Mutare, to over 70 000 within a 100 years, our UMC Church in Zimbabwe has spread its great influence into South Africa, Zambia, Botswana and Malawi. From one district in 1901, we are proud to report of a rapid growth to 11 districts with a greater potential to re-divide the existing districts. There is even the growing hope that we can have two conferences in Zimbabwe in the near distant future. From hut or shed sanctuaries to modern large and beautiful churches all over our country side towns and cities. Large primary, high schools, clinics and hospitals, training colleges, and a university manned by our people is clear evidence of a wonderful growth.

The gift of the church has been seen to raise our people and place them in positions of good leadership in the secular world. The church has continued to multiply its institutions and manpower.

Of great significance, is the growth in stewardship where we used to have a few dollars during Sunday collection to thousands per week and nearly over five million dollars at harvest thanks giving in 1997.

3. **OUR EPISCOPAL LEADER – BISHOP C JOKOMO**

4.

From a devout and lone missionary in Bishop Hartzell in 1897 to two African Bishops. Within a relay of three decades many people and families have been won to Christ and this will be our major cause of jubilation in these momentous celebrations.

Bishop, we wish to share with this conference, of your candid leadership with the entire church. The church sees you as an intelligent and visionary leader whose apt administration has a strong depth of originality of ideas. The church benefits a lot on your church programmes which are clear and highly organised and your continuous support of the church's work through committees.

Bishop Jokomo, you have seen this centennial period of the church's mission in our society come to a very fruitful end. Now the church in Zimbabwe and the global community looks upon your wisdom (guided by The Holy Spirit) enable you to **chart** a vigorous plan and course of our church's continuous mission and strategies in our land. The young generation, which forms the greater percentage of our members, is more than willing to take up this challenge of the church's indispensable role in our midst.

We have admired your ability to interpret the presence and work of the Holy Spirit and Christ's indwelling power when you understand our people in their unique environments and situations.

You have ably identified the potentials and talents in our pastors and laity as we see them perform their duties with zeal and purpose. There is strong evidence that our Christians have drawn the church very close to the people.

Your prayerful approach to issues and situations continue to inspire us the more as we raise the cross to save this world from sinning.

5. **COURSE OF ACTION: - FOCUSSED**

To make all this work possible, we encourage a proper stewardship of resources and ask all members to make a greater financial contribution to promote dynamic church programmes that aim at supporting selfhood of the growing church. Our aim is to enable everyone to play a full part in our services to God and His Church. Priority should go to- **Capacity Building** where human resources are stimulated and motivated to squarely face the challenges that lie ahead of us.

APPRECIATION

A most welcome and congratulations to the new district superintendents Rev. Gift Machinga of Mutare district and Rev. Christopher Chikoore of Harare East district. Let the Lord guide you! The appointment of Mrs. Martha Mashonganyika as Bishop's Secretary has strengthened your office and the selection of Mr. Solomon Chiripasi as our new Conference treasurer after Mr. R.E.J. Chimonyo is a fitting choice.

- 1 Bishop allow us to express our deepest gratitude to the numerous activities that have taken place in our Centers, circuits and districts- physical growth is taking new dimensions as well as new members are doubling our figures.
2. We thank groups from overseas who have come to lend a hand in the propagation of our programmes as a conference.
3. A wonderful response to the buying of a four-wheel drive Episcopal vehicle by conference gives us delight. We now can have the Bishop touch every corner of the Conference even districts and mission areas beyond our borders. His presence service adds a lot of dignity to our church..
4. District Superintendency and Pastor Parish Relations Committees who have brought a new look and sentimental feeling to the work and welfare of our Pastors and Superintendents. We are humbled by this growing attention towards our shepherds – some of whom have been given special treats.
- 5 Behind the Bishop's success in his work is Mrs. Edith Jokomo, a prayerful and spiritual woman. We thank you Mai for your support and also your leadership in the women's organization. She is a great inspiration and a great unifying force whenever she interacts with groups or organizations.

RE-FOCUS ON MAJOR THRUST

1. A vigorous campaign to recruit more Pastors to be fielded into the ever-expanding vineyard. Re introduce the B I at Old Mutare – the existing advantage of it IS being closer to Africa University where references and resource persons can easily be drawn or linked.
2. Take a deliberate exercise to improve on our Pastors' salaries, Pensions Scheme, and means of transport so that there is a look and feeling of satisfaction amongst our shepherds. We observe a very sad situation after the Pastor's retirement when one plunges into ever rocketing cost of living.
3. The Bishop revisiting all groups, men, women, youth and children in their own groupings and enable him to familiarise himself with all age groups style of life and needs.
4. Establishing consultancy in and inspectorate in such areas like buildings, health, education, agriculture and Human resources.
5. Spent our resources in human development who will in turn man our programmes effectively. Re-emphasise in Evangelism, Christian Education and Stewardship towards a designed capacity building.
6. Turn some two or more of our high schools into strategic universities and/or technical colleges.

7. Create more circuits, districts and finally have five or more conferences at the turn of the next century.
8. Selfhood of the church reliant on its people supporting all spiritual and temporal programmes.
9. Re-introducing the Bible Institute at Old Mutare, which is very close to Africa University, whose manpower can be used to compliment the staff's programmes so that we meet the growing expansion in membership and leadership.
10. Continue on management skills training in the existing personnel.
11. Refurbishing of the Episcopal residence structures, equipment and grounds.
12. We hope to see the church getting into productive business in the service of the communities where the church exists.

CONCLUSION

Let the Holy Spirit lead us as He wishes when we celebrate the ministry of the church for the past hundred years. Ecclesiastic achievements are our pride today and hope for the future. (Tiwone Mbiri yaMwari)

We wish you God's Grace and Mercy at Christmas and the coming new year.

Denham A Chidiya
CHAIRPERSON

Virginia Kagoro (Mrs)
SECRETARY

ZIMBABWE ANNUAL CONFERENCE CALENDER – 1998- DRAFT

JANUARY:

01 New Year's Day
24 CONFAD
Schools Beginning of Term one: January 13, 1998
8 Board of Ordained Ministry
9 CCOM Executive
17 CCOM Committee Meeting
30 Jan-Feb 1 District Lay Trainings

FEBRUARY:

4 COM Staff
11 **ASH WEDNESDAY**
16 - 27 Feb RRW Tailoring Workshop
20 - 22 Feb MUMC Leadership Training
20 - 22 Feb South Africa District Lay Training
27 - 28 Exeat Holiday

MARCH:

1 - 2 Exeat Holiday
06 World Day of Prayer
14 Conference Music Workshop
15 RRW Sunday
21 Board of Trustees
23 - 29 Ministry of Women, Laity and Children's Week
29 Africa University Day

APRIL:

05 Palm Sunday
06 - 12 Holy Week
10 Good Friday
03-05 CONFAD
Schools End of Term one: 8 April 1998
12 Easter Sunday
20 - 24 Pastor School
20 - 24 RRW Leadership Training
29 - 30 Board of Ordained Ministry

MAY:

05 - 06 CCOM Executive
01 - 03 UMYF Conference Revival
10 MUMC Sunday
Schools Beginning of Term two: 12 May 1998
13 CCOM Staff
15 - 17 South Africa Joint Convention/MUMC Revival
25 - 29 Health and Welfare Week
29 - 31 MUMC South Convention

JUNE:

01 - 07 UMYF Week
06 CCOM Meeting
07 UMYF Sunday
15 - 21 Church and Society Week
21 Nherera Sunday Alms giving
26 - 29 Exeat Holiday

JULY:

01 -31 Stewardship and Temperance
26 Harvest Sunday

AUGUST

02 UMSSA Games
Schools End of Term two: 6 August 1998
08 CCOM Executive
05 - 09 RRW North Convention
12 - 16 RRW South Convention
19 - 23 RRW West Convention
27 - 29 Dumba-RRW,MUMC,UMYF

SEPTEMBER:

02 - 03 Board of Ordained Ministry
05 CCOM Meeting
Schools Beginning of Term three 8 September 1998
11 - 13 Masvingo,Bulawayo, Makoni-Buhera,Mutare & Mutasa-Nyanga District Conferences.
18 - 20 Mutoko-Mudzi, Murewa, Harare East,Harare West, Mutare South & South Africa District
Conferences.
22 - 23 CCOM Staff
24 - 25 CCOM Executive
26 CCOM Council

OCTOBER:

01 International Day of Elderly
02 - 03 CONFAD
04 World Communion Sunday
18 Laity Sunday
23 - 25 Malawi Mission Area Annual Meeting

NOVEMBER:

01 All Saints Day
13 RRW Tailoring Show
20 - 22 Zambia Mission Area Annual Meeting

DECEMBER:

Schools End of Term three: 3 December 1998
06 Bible Sunday
09 - 13 Zimbabwe Annual Conference
25 Christmas Day

JANUARY 1999:

Schools Beginning of Term one: 12 January 1999.

CONFERENCE COUNCIL ON MINISTRIES REPORT

1. QUADRENNIAL THEME: Isaiah 40:31

“But they who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength. They shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.”

2. MISSION STATEMENT:-

“Our mission is to summon all people to experience the justifying and sanctifying grace of God, to encourage all people to grow in their faith, knowledge and the Love of God, to be evident in their individual and corporate lives, to preach the Gospel for spiritual development, personal well-being and soul responsibility, to heal the sick, to proclaim freedom to the captives and to restore sight to the blind”.

The task of Council on Ministries: -

- To stimulate creativity and discovery,
- To nurture the whole person mind, body and spirit without regard to race, gender, national or ethnic origin.
- To provide a setting in which faith and works are integrated
- To come up with local theological interpretations that reflect a sense of maturity and make our work relevant to local needs.

3. INTRODUCTION:

In his letter to the church in Rome the apostle Paul greeted the church as follows: “To all God’s beloved in Rome, who are called to be saints, Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ”. Romans 1:7. In the same spirit Conference Council on Ministries greets our Resident Bishop C. Jokomo and Mai E. Jokomo, all the distinguished visitors and delegates to this eighteenth session of our annual conference.

Conference Council on Ministries takes cognisance of the fact that the century that has just passed has seen tremendous expansion and growth of the church from its humble beginnings at Old Mutare. The year 1997 is special as we celebrate 100years of ministry to the people of Zimbabwe. As we celebrate in Great Spirit of jubilation we must take stock of our activities in God’s vineyard and dream of a new vision for our future generations. It is time to incubate and hatch a new vision for the next century. Proverbs 29:18.

4. CELEBRATING 100 YEARS OF MINISTRY (1897-1997)

As Council on Ministries we pose to think about celebrating. “WHAT IS IT?”

It is marking an event with festives and rejoicing in jubilation. The Psalmonist says “May we shout for joy over your victory and in the name of God set up our banners. May the Lord fulfill all your petitions” Psalm 2:5 we heartily congratulate the Bishop and the Zimbabwe Annual Conference for the celebrations that were held throughout the

conference through the worship services conducted, revivals held, crusades, seminars, workshops, laytrainings held and many other celebration gatherings held. Council on Ministries firmly believes that our celebrations will continue because the story for which we are celebrating is a continuous story of salvation for the people of God through our Lord Jesus Christ. The scriptures tell us that "For God so loved the world that he gave his only son so that whosoever believes in him will not perish but have everlasting life" John 3:16. The celebrations are about the 'GOOD NEWS' of the salvation of God's people. Our conference is celebrating the preaching and teaching of the Gospel of Jesus Christ from 1897 to 1997 by the missionaries the local people, men, women and the youth. We are celebrating salvation from sin, ignorance, hunger, diseases, political oppression and all social ills.

As a conference we have every reason to celebrate the salvation which the United Methodist Church brought to the people of Zimbabwe through the establishment of schools, hospitals and clinics, agriculture projects, training colleges, churches, the university etc. These institutions from 1897 to 1997 have and continue to minister to the thousands of lives. Many of the graduates from these United Methodist institutions have become prominent persons in the civic, political, social, and ecclesiastical affairs of our society.

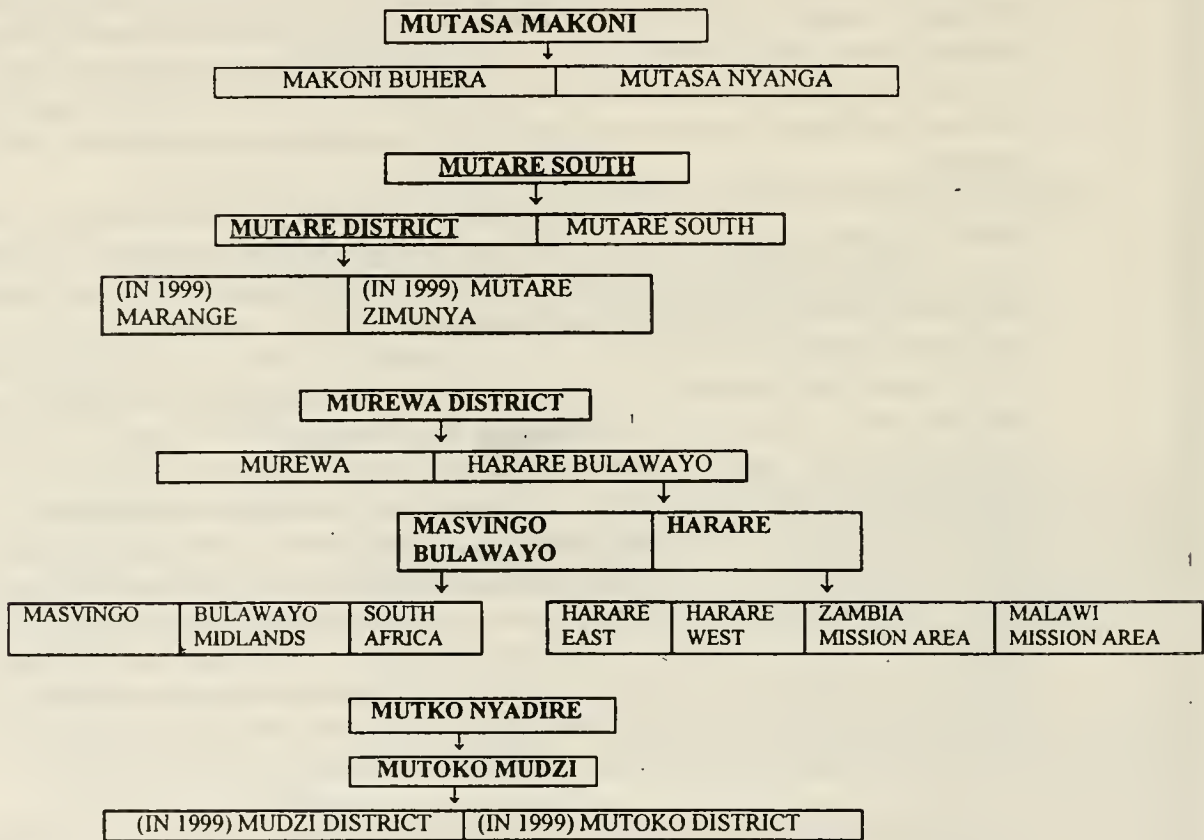
Bishop Abel T. Muzorewa (the first black bishop) in our church Bishop C. Jokomo our current resident bishop, Dr J.Z. Kurewa the Vice Chancellor Africa University, Dr. Simba Makoni, Dr Olivia Muchena, Mr Alois Mangwende, Mrs Susan Dangarembwa (the first woman university graduate in Zimbabwe) only to mention a few, are products of our United Methodist Institutions. As we celebrate our 100 years of ministry we need to look forward into the future. What is our vision for the 1997 to 2097. But before we do that we need to enumerate the challenges that face the church today. The problems of AIDS/HIV, the many children orphaned as a result of AIDS/HIV, the high unemployment rate in our country, the very harsh economic situation that many of our people face daily, the disintegration of the family unit and the high divorce rate and domestic violence, the homeless people, the single parent families, corruption in high places and many other problems that our people face daily. The church and indeed the Zimbabwe Annual Conference must face up to these challenges squarely and head-on. The task is big and overuse but this is the world into which Jesus commissioned us into when he said, "See, I am sending you out like sheep into the midst of wolves, so be wise as serpents and innocent as doves----" Matthew 10:16ff

5. A REFLECTION ON THE LAST 100 YEARS:-(THE VISION OF OUR FOUNDING FATHERS)

The coming of Bishop Joseph Crane Hartzell to Zimbabwe (Rhodesia) in 1897 saw the introduction of "American" Methodism in Zimbabwe. The first sermon in Umtali (Mutare) acted as the mustard seed that today 100 years latter, has grown to bear such fruit as 10 districts, several schools, hospitals and clinics, a teachers training college and a university. The relocation of the town of Umtali (Mutare) to the present site in 1897, the old site was given to Bishop J.C. Hartzell and it became the springboard for the spread of "American" Methodism in Zimbabwe. From the top of Mt Chiremba, Bishop J.C. Hartzell look down at the site below and had a vision a might mission center which would become the springboard for the "American" Methodism. Indeed the following center were established from Old Mutare; Nyakatsapa Mission in 1907, Mt Makomwe

Centre in 1905, Mutambara Centre in 1908, Glenada Farm in 19 , Arnoldine Mission in 19 , Headlands in 19 , Murewa Mission in 1909, Nyadire Mission in 1922, Mutoko Centre in 1916 and Dendera in 19 .

The founding missionaries adopted a holistic approach to the spread of the Gospel. This approach entailed the development of the total person-physically, mentally and spiritually. As Methodism spread and increased in its membership the need for more clergy became apparent. The indigenous people answered the call of Christ to spread the Gospel. Thus in 1932 the first African David Mandisodza was ordained. These early pastors were both spiritual leaders as well as educationist. They were trained as Pastor-Teachers . Today we have over 100 ordained pastors in our conference. Today we boast of 10 pastoral Districts from the humble beginnings at Old Mutare. Work has also spread beyond the borders of Zimbabwe to Malawi; Zambia and South Africa. The most *recent geographical expansion can be illustrated below.



The establishment of schools has made a mammoth contribution to the nation's manpower needs. By 1901 the boys school was established at Old Mutare and a Girls School in 1903. These schools started with an enrollment of 24 students. Today as we celebrates 100 years the church boasts of 10 Primary Schools, 10 Secondary Schools 1 Teachers College, 1 Technical Training Centre (MRID) 2 Nursing Schools and 1 University. these have a combined student enrollment of over 18000 students and over 500 teaching and non-teaching staff.

It is pleasing to reflect on the fact that the first woman a university graduate-Miss Susan Ngonyama (now Mrs. S. Dangarembwa) was the product of Old Mutare Mission. The

first African Bishop Abel T. Muzorewa was a product of Old Mutare and many other examples. These examples fulfill the vision of the founding missionaries. Today we reap the fruit of this vision some 100 years ago.

In the field of health the church has made great strides. From that day when chief Mangwende's close relative was treated by Dr Gurney at this incident paved the way for the establishment of health centers in our conference. The church now boasts of 3 hospitals, 2 nursing schools and over 15 clinics. we today reap the fruits of the vision of our founding fathers. Many sick people have been healed and primary health programmes have been fostered in the rural areas.

In Agriculture the church has played a prominent role in transforming the lives of the Zimbabwe's peasant community. The Methodist Rural and Industrial Development Programme (M.R.I.D.) This program which included the teaching of good farming methods to the rural people as well as the popularly known "Butcher-shop in the Backyard" a programme of intensive mixed agriculture. The use of the plough introduced and first used by Baba Abraham Kawadza transformed the lives of many people in Zimbabwe.

Training programmes where people were invited to the mission centers as well as the agriculture extension programme was intensified. Important missionary names like Mr Finister at Dendera and Rev Bloumquest at Old Mutare and many others.

Self-reliance in church support was one of the vision of the first missionaries as well as the first African church leaders. Bishop R.E. Dodge spearheaded the idea of passing on the reigns of leadership to the indigenous people as a way of winning the church from overseas for training. Today many of these people are in important leadership positions in the church and in the country. Bishop Abel T. Muzorewa trained up with Mr Fambai William Marima (Conference layleader for 18 years) to propel the church towards self-reliance in financial support. Their efforts were also complimented by Rev Charles Miller with his "KURONGA" and "KUPA KURI PAMUSORO" programme.

Today we celebrate our church's ability to raise over \$6 million dollars through the Harvest Thanksgiving Programme. Our members celebrate this act of giving which is an act of worship. Harvest Thanksgiving season/month has become a period of re-affirming of one's faith.

6. OUR VISION FOR THE NEXT 100 YEARS **"THE CHURCH'S STRATEGIC PLAN"**

We on our part do realize that to enter into our second century without a clear vision or plan of action would be a serious betrayal of our Christian heritage. For this reason we are happy to present our vision and strategic plan for the next 100 years.

6.1 OUR VISION

We see in our minds and hearts that in the next century, the United Methodist Church in Zimbabwe will be an ever-widening web of inspired and developing Christians who are bound together by the selfless and inclusive love of Jesus Christ, who live their daily lives in onerous responsibility to God and the world as they walk their way to abundant

life in Jesus Christ for the realization of this vision we solemnly bind and recommit ourselves to a spirited and multifaceted missionary enterprise.

6.2 THE CHURCH'S MISSION:-

In order for the United Methodist Church to realize its new vision during the next century, it calls upon itself to carry our specific mission among the people of Zimbabwe.

i. Mission to the Human Spirit:-

The church believes that the soul (spirit) of a human being is infinitely precious as an image of God. In the next century this spirit will be severely pressured in the expected social, economic and psychological struggle. The United Methodist Church seeks to minister more meaningful to the embattled spirit.

ii. Mission to moral life:-

The United Methodist Church in Zimbabwe is conscious of the progressive decay in the moral fibre of its members and in society as a whole. The church seeks to address this trend directly.

iii. Mission to the Intellect:-

The church believes that the intellect of the human being is a precious and priceless gift from God and a total to be used in the redemption of the world. The church, therefore, calls upon itself to intensify, widen and deepen its commitment to the discipline of this faculty through education in all its forms.

iv. Mission to Health:-

The church is aware of the great strides already made in the field of Health in Zimbabwe. However, health facilities and services have become more and more expensive and therefore, inaccessible to a growing number of persons, especially the poor. The church's mission in this area will be needed more than ever before in the next century.

v. Mission to the Economy:-

The church is aware also of the importance of economy in the life of an individual. In United Methodism a healthy person is expected to live responsibly by working to sustain oneself and to promote the work of the church. Present trends indicate extremely difficult times lying ahead in the next century, and the church pledges itself to come to the aid of the needy and to see that economic justice is done.

vi. Mission to Social Well-being:-

The church is aware, too, that the Christian faith involves, quite inescapably, not only the vertical relationship with God, but also the horizontal (social) relationship of one person with another, and that one must love one another as oneself. As the struggle for survival intensifies in the next century and the scourge of new diseases is unleashed on citizens, social relationships will be severely strained. The church seeks to establish creative ministries to meet the looming spectra of social disintegration.

vii. Mission Towards Abundant life in Christ:-

From its inception in 1897, the overriding content of the United Methodist Church's vision has been "Abundant life in Christ" for all under the gracious selfless love of Jesus Christ. The church during the new century, seeks to continue the holistic approach to salvation among its members and beyond.

6.3 CORE CHRISTIAN VALUES:-

In order that both vision of the church and the mission's necessary for its realization become a reality during the next century, we find ourselves under compulsion to uphold and commit ourselves irrevocably to the following Christian values and virtues.

- (1) FAITH
- (2) SELFLESS LOVE
- (3) UPRIGHTNESS AND PERSONAL INTEGRITY
- (4) FORESIGHT AND INNOVATIVENESS
- (5) STEWARDSHIP (INCLUDING MANAGEMENT, ACCOUNTABILITY AND TRANSPARENCY)
- (6) JUSTICE FREEDOM AND PEACE
- (7) PASSION FOR ORDER AND ORDERLINESS
- (8) SENSITIVENESS TO HUMAN NEED
- (9) RESPECT FOR DEMOCRACY
- (10) FRIENDSHIP WITH OTHER COMMUNITIES OF FAITH

We hold these values to be essential for our new vision and mission.

6.4 THE CHURCH'S CORE COMPETENCE:-

In order for the vision and mission of the church to be realised, not only must we live out our values, but we must also show the ability to perform the various tasks as required in all the missions. To further the new vision and mission of the church, the following skills (abilities) will need to be developed to the full in all the members of the church for effective maximum participation.

i. Thinking for Oneself:

Members of the church and not just leaders, are called upon to be courageous enough to practice thinking out their thoughts as individuals, critically and constructively. This requires constant training.

- ii. Planning as Practice:
The church recognises that unless leaders can plan their work as a matter of course, chaos will result. Planning involves foresight and is indispensable to effective leadership.
- iii. Leadership Skills:
Leaders who are capable of leading by example, by intuition, and by commitment and ability will need to be discovered, trained and placed at the disposal of the church if the mission of the church in the next century is to bear abundant fruit. Particular emphasis will be placed on the training of clergy leadership.
- iv. Training of Trainers:
Similarly, capacity and ability to train trainers is also essential. The church's "ever-widening web of believers" will need thousands of trained leaders to nurture them. Unless the church is able to train trainers and leaders, its vision and professed mission will remain a pie in the sky awaiting dissipation.
- v. Stewardship Ability:
The practice of the stewardship of the whole of life will be an essential ingredient and knowledge and skill in the management of resources, their development, use and protection will enhance both the mission and vision of the church immeasurably. The modern church will need to harness intelligence and practical expertise in the pursuit of its vision in this area more effectively to ensure success.

6.5 STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES:

But how is the mission of the church to be accomplished in the next century. The following strategic objectives will be pursued among others.

1. Spiritual Objectives:

To preach the good news effectively and efficiently as far a field especially in new areas of Mashonaland West and Central as well as in the rural Matebeleland area.

- a. To plant congregation in every growth point in the country and aim at creating at least eight conferences by the turn of the next century and to increase the church's membership from the present 85 000 to a membership of 500 000.
- b. To nourish and nurture sustainably the souls of all members of the church.
- c. To offer members of the church better pastoral care through highly trained pastors.
- d. To provide regular and qualitative training for an effective ministry to the human soul.

2. Intellectual Objectives:

- a. To ensure that every congregation will establish a pre-school at its church.
- b. To establish at least one vocational and technical school every four years and to participate in the design and provision of basic education to as many children as possible.
- c. To ensure that full time school chaplains provide guidance and counseling services for all our children.
- d. To design and assist the Government in the design and provision of secondary and vocational/technical and higher education to meet the various natural capacities and aspirations of youths.
- e. To design and provide opportunities and avenues for continuing education for the whole community by providing and establishing loan and scholarship funds especially in areas of critical shortage like Medical Doctors, engineers, surveyors, architectures, business consultancy etc.

3. Moral Objectives:

- a. To make the Christian view of right and wrong common knowledge among all the members of the church.
- b. To help leaders and all members of the church lead by the force of good example in the church, at home, at work and in the community at large.
- b. To enforce church discipline more equitably in matters relating to immoral behaviour by members of the church.
- d. To encourage and help members of the church participate to influence good Christian moral behaviour in the general community.

4. Physical Well-being:

- a. To compliment Government efforts in the design and provision effective primary health care at community level.
- b. To support the less fortunate members, i.e. the young and the elderly, in their physical needs.
- c. To participate in the training of health personnel through the provision of loan and scholarship funds. We envisage the training of at least 20 medical doctors and to provide incentives to retain our personnel.
- d. To build at least three more hospitals and at least 30 clinics in the next hundred years.

- e. To encourage the local churches to establish medical aid schemes for its less privileged members.
- f. To promote sports and recreation for numbers of the church and the community at large.

5. Economic Objectives:

- a. To design and provide environment-friendly ways of improving agriculture in the rural areas as well as on mission forms. Provide agriculture extension centres in all the districts.
- b. To design and provide environment-friendly and sustainable economic ventures and entrepreneurship among the interested and needy young people .
- c. To establish a revolving fund to be used as a soft loan for our members especially our youth and women.
- d. To design and organise ways and means to achieve economic self-reliance for the church.

6. Social Objectives:

- a. To consolidate family life in the church as the blessed primary Christian social institution.
- c. To design and provide occasions when and where church members meet as a social gathering to promote healthy social relationship among the young, the old man and women.
- c. To design and provide opportunities for the church to relate with other social organizations and institutions in the community.

We present this vision and strategic plan to you Bishop and the Conference as our vision and strategic plan for the next 100 years.

7.0 1997 WORK AREA REPORTS

7.1 EVANGELISM:

This year has been a special year as we celebrated our 100 years. The evangelism programme was up lifting and spiritually nourishing for our members through out the entire conference.

- 1. All our districts managed to hold crusades in their respective areas. All the crusades were a blessing to many as souls were won to Christ. Mighty works of God were performed at these crusades especially in Mutare, Mutare South, Harare East and Masvingo to mention a few. Many of our school children in our mission centres were uplifted by the dynamic sermons preached by the great

evangelists from the U.S.A. We would like to thank the Rev Gale Wetzel, Dug Peppar, Hugh Maclellan and the others for the wonderful work they did during the crusades in the Districts and at our mission centres. A total of over 2000 people were won to Christ during these crusades. New outreach areas were opened during the crusades e.g. Fern Valley, Gokwe, Lupane, Chikomba, Fombe etc.

2. We are happy to report that more than 6000 new won to Christ this year .
3. All circuits in the conference managed to hold at least four revivals.
4. Evangelism Week was observed by over 90% of our circuits and emphasis was on:-
 - John Wesley's concept of evangelism
 - Evangelism in Early Methodism in Zimbabwe
 - The growth and expansion of United Methodism in Zimbabwe.
4. The Easter Week was enriching to many of our members.
5. Holy Communion was celebrated at once every month in all our circuits.
6. Many local preachers were trained and commission in all our respective districts.
8. Our Camping grounds are being developed. Two 10hole toilets were built at Chiringaodzi, Camping tents were purchased for use by our conference dignitaries.
9. We will celebrate the creation of over 13 new circuits as our wor continues to expand.

7.2 CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

We have continued with the teaching ministry of the church to enable all Christians at the local church to be nurtured and grow in their faith.

1. The Christian Education syllabus was prepared and distributed to all circuits. The lessons focused on:- the History Methodism, Bible Study, Christian Management and Leadership Skills Training.
2. Three Pastors Schools were held this year with a view to equip Pastors with the centennial information to be used for their teaching at the local church level.
3. Almost all our circuits throughout the conference observed Christian Education Week (3-8 February 1997) Some of the topics covered were: -
 - a. The life of John Wesley, Bishop Joseph Hartzell, Bishop R. Dodge, Bishop Abel Muzorewa, Rev David Mandisodza, Mbuya Lydia Chimonyo to mention a few.

- b. Sussana's influence on the family's spirituality.
 - c. John Wesley's teachings on-Grace, Love, Forgiveness, Salvation etc.
 - d. The journey of Methodism in Zimbabwe from Bishop Joseph Hartzell to Bishop C. Jokomo.
4. All our Districts held Lay Training Workshops and the following topics were covered: -
 - a. Church Administration
 - b. Leadership Skills
 - c. Holiness in daily living at home and at work.
 - d. The role of the class leader and local preacher
 - e. The history of our church in Zimbabwe.
 4. 95% of our circuits have class meetings and Sunday School Classes. This programme continues to nurture our members.
 5. All our educational institutions have Sunday school programmes for the students, but there is need for Sunday School teaching materials to be produced.
 7. Bible study classes were conducted on the following books:-Genesis, Isaiah and Acts.
 8. We invite all our members who have the talent to write Christian Education materials to come forward. We applaud the efforts of Rev P. Hlahla who produced some materials on the history of our church, notes on the various Council Ministries Committees etc. Your comments on these notes are welcome.

7.3 STEWARDSHIP AND TEMPERANCE

Your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit. 1 Cor 6:19

1. The Stewardship and Week (7-12 July) was observed by 95% of our circuits throughout the conference. The following topics were covered:
 - i. John Wesley's teachings on Stewardship and Temperance
 - ii. Tithing as an act of worship
 - iii. Alcohol and drug abuse
 - iv. Use of solar energy
2. Many circuits through the Stewardship programme were encouraged to give and tithe and we currently have over 2100 tithing members.
3. Districts were encouraged to start Investment Fund programmes to support the programme life of the church. Mutasa Nyanga and Harare West Districts have already started the investment fund.

- District Task Force Committee in all districts cultivated and promoted the spirit of giving and the spirit of giving is growing. As a conference we raised \$ as Harvest Thanksgiving this year 1997. Join us in our celebration.

<u>DISTRICT</u>	<u>AMOUNT RAISED</u>
4. Bulawayo-Midlands	\$390 119.93
5. Harare East	
6. Harare West	
7. Makoni-Buhera	\$174 790.00
8. Masvingo	\$100 700.00
9. Murewa	
10. Mutare	\$1,328 460.13
11. Mutare South	\$176 457.41
12. Mutasa Nyanga	\$285 805.00
13. Mutoko Mudzi	\$360 000.00
11. South Africa	(Rands-----) ZW\$-----

TOTAL

Our mission areas could not be left behind.

Zambia Mission Area (Kwacha-----) ZW\$-----

Malawi Mission Area (Kwacha-----) ZW\$-----

GRAND TOTAL

- Church support has also improved greatly in the past year.

7.4 CHURCH AND SOCIETY

- During the past year the church has continued with its acts of benevolence towards the marginalized, underprivileged, homeless, the orphaned, the sick and the bereaved. It has also addressed issues social justice, economic empowerment and strengthen the arm of the weak.
- During the Church and Society Week (16-21 June 1997) various topics were taught to our members:
 - Strengthening the family as the basic human social unit.
 - Abstinence from alcohol as a faithful witness to God's liberating and redeeming love for all.
 - Justice and the law
 - Children and Women's Rights
 - Domestic violence
 - Rape and child abuse
 - The church and state
 - Means and ways to eradicate poverty
 - AIDS/HIV awareness and Home Based Care

3. Throughout the conference many works of charity were shown to the needy. Over \$1 800 482 was raised to help the sick, the orphans, the elderly, the bereaved, the homeless etc.
4. Over 3/4 of our circuits throughout the conference observed the 'NHERERA SUNDAY' (22 June 1997) special focus was on the AIDS orphans. Over \$30 000.00 and clothes, blankets etc were distributed to these needy children. It should be noted that some of these clothes were given by our friends from Britain, the U.S.A. and from Europe.
4. Over 70 circuits throughout the conference pay school fees and other school needs for gifted but disadvantaged children. Over 90 students are on this programme.
6. Our churches throughout the conference have affirmed the practice of homosexuality is incompatible with the teachings of Jesus Christ.

7.5 WORSHIP

"God is spirit, those who worship him must worship him in spirit and in faith"

1. Ash Wednesday on 12 February 1997 was observed and its meaning was taught.
2. More than four of our congregations had the opportunity to conduct a worship which was broadcast over the national television station i.e. Bulawayo North Circuit, Bulawayo Central Circuit, Craneborne Circuit, Glen View Circuit and others.
 1. Seke South Circuit choir songs were recorded and broadcasted on the Z.B.C. TV programme "Psalmody".
 2. Harare West District MUMC, Mutare District MUMC and Bulawayo Central Circuit MUMC Choirs have recorded special songs on tape for the public ministry through songs.
 3. Our worship services have been enriched by the music provided by our choirs.
 6. Choirs have composed songs for the centenary celebrations and these choirs will make the 1000 voices choir to sing during our celebrations which will be led by Mr Kuture the Conference Music Director.
 7. All our congregations celebrated Holy Communion on average once every month.
 8. Visitors Hymn Books and Bibles are available in some of our churches.
 9. Most circuits observe the Christian seasonal colours and lectionery.
 10. Most of our choirs are visiting each other and pastors exchanged pulpits.

11. Most of our circuits continued with "praise and worship" times before the church service begins.
12. Most of our Pastors conducted several lessons on the Methodist ways of worship, rules, doctrines, beliefs and faith in an effort to recapture our ways of worship.
13. Punctuality for Sunday Services is being encouraged throughout the conference.
14. Most of our churches are encouraging our members not to work on Sunday and is improving.
15. We are happy to report that the blending of musical instruments like hoshos, ngomas etc. with voices are continuing to improve in our churches.
16. Most of our sanctuaries are being decorated to give a worshipping atmosphere.

7.6 HISTORY AND ARCHIVES

1. An understanding of the past helps us to shape our present and plan for the future.
2. More than 75% of our circuits have written notes on the history of their churches.
3. Each of our districts have written some notes on the establishment and growth of their district.
4. Important events such as Harvest Thanksgiving, District Conferences, District Laytrainings and the Centennial Celebrations were video taped for posterity.
4. Centennial Celebrations were organised through the History and Archives Committees throughout this year.
6. There has been an increase in the keeping of historical records through photographs, video tapes, cassettes etc.

7.7 ECUMENICAL AND INTER-RELIGIOUS CONCERNS

In the end we shall all bow before Christ the Lord of the universe and dwell in the same Heaven.

1. In all our circuits and local churches the R.R.W. Society is attending
2. Some of our circuits are having interdenominational pulpit exchanges.
3. 60% of our circuits participated in interdenominational World Day of prayer on 01 March 1997.
4. The majority of our pastors are elected to lead fraternal associations in our cities.
5. Some of our church members have attended workshops organised by Z.C.C.

6. Ecumenism is also being witnessed in funerals, weddings, class meetings and other gatherings.
7. Some of our circuits observed the Human Rights Week which was organised by the Z.C.C.
7. Our conference lay leader, Mr J. Zvinoira, D.S. Rev G.K. Machinga and other delegates attended the Centennial Celebrations of the U.C.C.Z held in Chipinge.
9. Our church is participating in the following ecumenical institutions:
 - i. United Theological College
 - ii. Zimbabwe Council of Churches
 - iii. Christian Care

7.8 COMMUNICATIONS REPORT

Unless the word is communicated properly and effectively, they will not repent.

2. Some of our districts and circuits are publishing news letters time and again eg. Mutare District, Bulawayo-Midlands District etc.
3. Most district and circuit offices have telephones to facilitate
4. Most circuits have Post Office Boxes and public address systems.
5. Some districts and circuits have hired full time secretaries in their offices.
5. We have managed to establish a communication desk through appointing a part time Communication Director.

"THE RECORD" OCTOBER 29 1997 "UPDATE"

"The Record", a quarterly, is thankful to God for the good health to its staff, including the COM Directors and correspondents dotted through out the conference's 11 districts. These newshounds, honestly, have been supplying the desk with the much needed raw material, the news, to satisfy the literature needs of the customers, the readers, at the right time, quality and places.

The desk has published one edition, Volume 3 Number 1 because the full-time journalist was on sick leave for seven months. Nevertheless we still hold to our commitment of trumpeting the Good News to all, that includes non-Methodists and linking Christians the world over into a global village.

This year, 1997, is a unique year to the desk, like it is to the United Methodist Church, because around 10 000 people are anticipated to congregate at Old Mutare, the place in which the U.M.C was launched on December 10, 1997 by Bishop Crane Hartzell when he arrived the place socked

to the marrow, riding on a horse and be splattered mud, to celebrate the achievements of the church over the first 100 years.

“The Record” will have the opportunity to unearth and trumpet the news about the treasure(s) that the late local and foreign forefathers-in faith and the current energetic Thinking Tank and laities have scored over the past 100 years. A juicy and mouthwatering Centennial Special Edition is expected to be available for consumption at Old Mutare. The menu includes the indisputable success stories that the Ministries of Education, Health, Agriculture and Evangelism have contributed to Zimbabwe’s Human Resources in both public and private sectors. Lets make a date!

In the meantime the Centennial Steering Committee coordinated by the energetic Warren Park Pastor-In-Charge, the Rev Thomas Muhomba has advertised the historic event through the local media-the radio and television stations. Clothing and utensils, exhibiting the U.M.C black and red emblem and centennial well-though messages have been sold to everyone, Methodists and non-Methodists. Are not you aware of this news that has become the talk of the country?

“The Record” wishes the Thinking Tank, delegates - the Top-most opinion makers, good health as we enter the last lag. May the Holy Spirit guide them as the Bishop, ZAC Chairperson will lead the church in piping through the galaxy into the distant future.

As they gather to audit the past, present and linking it with the future, its our hope that we will publish the first edition next year full of the vision(s) that emerge from the occasion that will draw people from all works of life.

Don’t we leave between the memory and hope, will you not fail to witness the life-time event that appears once, like hails comet?

BOARD OF EDUCATION

INTRODUCTION:

TOWARDS A NEW ERA: REFLECTION IN EDUCATION IN 21ST CENTURY

Our vision on education in the 21st century is guided by the overriding goal for schools and colleges to foster growth in the understanding of the world and others; in the understanding of spiritual and cultural differences; and growth in greater sense of responsibility; growth in self-reliance and in prosperity.

The major danger in the 21st century is that of a gulf opening up between a minority of people who are capable of finding their way successfully about the new world that is coming into being (the haves) and the majority (the have-nots) who feel that they are at the mercy of events and have no say in the future society, with the dangers that entails of a setback to democracy and widespread revolt.

Education would be guided by the utopian aim of steering the world towards greater mutual understanding, a greater sense of responsibility by providing access to knowledge for all. Education would have the universal task of helping people to understand the world and to understand others.

Education would have a relevance to the way of life. In short, the type of education we are going to provide would influence what type we want society in Zimbabwe to be.

Education would stress learning to live together;

- by developing understanding and appreciation
- by learning to manage conflicts
- by carrying out joint projects
- by acquiring broad general knowledge and by studying some subjects in depth

Education would also stress learning to do

- by giving occupational skills
- by developing competence in dealing with difficult situations
- by engaging in work that serves society

Schools would also teach learning to

- by holistic approach to personality development
- by developing communication skills
- by acting with clear judgement and responsibility

Stress would be made

- on pupil-teacher relationship
- small classes would be emphasized
- on personal responsibility and team work
- on upgrading, updating of teachers
- on collaboration with family, individuals and business
- on exchange of teachers
- on guidance and coaching to make equality of opportunity possible

REFLECTION AND DISCUSSION ON CURRICULUM

1. In any consideration for a future education system it is essential to consider the real needs of children.

The needs of children

- a home, a family, a sense of belonging
- security in the home and at school
- proper teaching and learning environment
- a syllabus that considers the child's perspective
- more interesting school, where content is related to reality
- basic moral, spiritual values
- ability, skill to discern/to choose
- reading, writing, numeracy
- practical skills
- resources and appropriate technology
- need to succeed, appropriate promotion
- social needs, skills to interact

2. An education system that would address these needs would have to consider offering

- academic and practical skills
- appropriate technology
- spiritual, moral, cultural values for individual, family, society
- education for self reliance, self-employment, for life
- syllabi that cater for creativity and continued education
- respect for human dignity, appreciation of nature, art, culture, aesthetic beauty

3. Primary Education

Grades 1 and 2

- use of one language
- mastery of reading, writing and numeracy
- proficiency in story telling, art, creativity
- sports

Grades 3-6

- introduce other languages
- introduce practical subjects
- develop further the essential listed under Gr 1 and 2

Grade 7

- introduction to careers and identify job inclinations and level of ability i.e academic strength and probable practical subject inclinations/talents
- examination to be more comprehensive in writing skills, reading skills, creativity, practical skills.

4. Secondary Education

- ZJC, basic education of 3 years
- Maths, 2 languages, Science, 2 practical subjects (project based), Geography, History, Sports extra curricular activity for talent identification

ZJC would be the qualifying examination before streaming for 'O' level

ACADEMIC STREAM

2 languages
 Pure Maths
 Pure Science
 Accountancy

TECHNICAL STREAM

2 languages
 Applied Maths
 Applied Science
 Subjects offered determined by availability of resources, at least 3 practical subjects Business studies, management, Certificate for employment e.g. NCE

Vocational Training 17 years old onward

Essential elements to be contained in curriculum

- .ethic/religion/culture
- .basic literacy and numeracy
- .practical/technical skills
- .social skills
- .geographical (inclusive of environmental) and historical awareness
- .applied science
- .training in responsibility and service (projects)
- .creativity and self-reliance
- .family values

1997 PRE-SCHOOL ENROLMENT:

NAME OF SCHOOL:	BOYS	GIRLS	TOTAL
Hartzell	23	29	52
Murewa	41	42	83
Nyadire	44	31	75
Nyakatsapa	20	28	48

1997 PRIMARY SCHOOL ENROLMENT:

NAME OF SCHOOL:	BOYS	GIRLS	TOTAL	% BOYS	%GIRLS
Hartzell	467	431	899	52	48
Murewa	670	572	1242	54	46
Nyadire	408	386	794	51	49
Mutoko	667	704	1371	49	51
Nyakatsapa	292	323	615	47	53
Mutambara	355	373	728	49	51
Mt. Makomwe	256	252	508	50	50
Arnoldine	255	228	483	53	47

1997 HIGH SCHOOL ENROLMENT

NAME OF SCHOOL	BOYS	GIRLS	TOTAL	% BOYS	% GIRLS
Hartzell	507	382	889	57	43
Murewa	595	485	1 080	55	45
Mutambara	401	356	757	53	47
Nyadire	291	257	548	53	47
Nyamuzuwe	311	288	599	52	48
Lydia Chimonyo	-	624	624	-	100
Nyakatsapa	276	224	500	55	45
Marange	371	366	737	50	50
Dindi	183	126	309	59	41
Dendera	242	144	386	63	37

1997 COLLEGE ENROLMENT

NAME OF COLLEGE	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL	%MALE	%FEMAL
Nyadire	388	451	849	46	54

1997 STAFF DETAILS FOR PRIMARY SCHOOLS

NAME OF SCHOOL	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL	%MALE	%FEMALE
Hartzell	12	15	27	44	56
Murewa	10	23	33	30	70
Mutambara	7	12	19	37	63
Nyadire	8	14	22	36	64
Nyakatsapa	9	6	15	60	40
Dindi	10	5	15	67	33
Arnoldine	8	6	14	57	43
Mutoko	14	21	35	40	60
Mt. Makomwe	5	8	13	38	62

1997 STAFF DETAILS FOR HIGH SCHOOLS

<u>NAME OF SCHOOL</u>	<u>MALE</u>	<u>FEMALE</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>%MALE</u>	<u>%FEMALE</u>
Hartzell	29	10	39	74	26
Murewa	31	16	47	66	34
Mutambara	23	6	29	79	21
Nyadire	15	8	23	65	35
Nyamuzuwe	13	9	22	41	59
Lydia Chimonyo	9	13	22	41	59
Nyakatsapa	15	4	19	79	21
Marange	27	9	36	75	25
Dindi	11	1	12	91	9
Dendera	8	6	14	57	43

1997 STAFF DETAILS FOR THE COLLEGE

<u>NAME OF COLLEGE</u>	<u>MALE</u>	<u>FEMALE</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>%MALE</u>	<u>%FEMALE</u>
Nyadire	27	7	34	79	21

PRIMARY SCHOOLS 1996 EXAMINATION RESULTS ANALYSIS A. PASS RATE FOR UP TO 20 UNITS

SCH.	4	5-8	9-10	11-12	13-16	17-20	21-24	25-32	% PASS	POS
MUREWA	9	100	31	31	30	9	1	1	99.1	1
HARTZELL	2	69	27	19	14	4	1	1	98.5	2
NYADIRE	2	22	21	18	33	16	9	5	89.9	3
NYAKATSAPA	0	13	6	9	23	22	12	5	82.4	4
MUTAMBARA	1	10	13	9	31	19	16	7	80.9	5
ARNOLDINE	0	8	9	6	21	14	10	8	76.8	6
MUTOKO	0	12	18	23	46	29	36	17	70.7	7
MAKOMWE	0	2	4	7	7	15	25	21	44.3	8
DINDI	0	1	1	5	2	14	17	25	33.8	9

Mutoko Primary School has been awarded the Secretary's Bell. Congratulations on this great honour.

HARTZELL HIGH SCHOOL 1996 'O' LEVEL RESULTS ANALYSIS

GRADES

SUBJECT	NO. OF CAND	A	B	C	D	E	U	%PASS
ENGLISH	151	13	56	43	27	12	2	72
ENGLISH L	46	12	13	15	1	2	3	87
SHONA	150	47	69	29	5	0	1	74.7
MATHS	150	11	39	40	6	8	47	58
SCIENCE	160	73	36	19	21	7	1	81.9
SC. BIO&CH	39	22	16	1	0	0	0	100
SC. PHY&CH	41	14	12	12	2	1	0	92.7
BIOLOGY	43	8	21	13	0	5	0	97.7
PHYSICS	40	1	24	14	1	0	0	97.5
HISTORY	71	1	15	26	13	8	8	59.2
GEOGRAPHY	160	38	54	46	9	10	2	86.3
B/K	99	26	25	24	9	8	7	75.8
AGRICULT.	131	14	70	33	8	4	2	89.3
WOODWORK	16	3	5	4	3	1	0	75
ART	19	1	2	14	2	0	0	89.5

MUREHWA HIGH SCHOOL 1996 'O' LEVEL RESULTS ANALYSIS**GRADES**

SUBJECT	NO. OF CANDIDATES	A	B	C	D	E	U	% PASS
ENGLISH LANGUAGE	167	12	37	66	31	14	7	68.8
ENGLISH LITERATURE	18	4	7	6	-	1	-	94.4
MATHS	158	20	17	29	8	11	73	41.7
SHONA	166	20	59	63	15	3	6	85.5
GEOGRAPHY	-	33	48	47	22	7	2	80.5
B/KNOWLEDGE	104	10	27	36	12	10	9	70.1
PHYSICAL SCIENCE	8	-	2	2	-	2	2	50.0
PHYSICS	28	5	12	4	3	3	1	75.0
CHEMISTRY	29	2	12	8	2	2	3	75.9
BIOLOGY	28	4	6	9	5	2	2	67.9
CORE SCIENCE	156	59	36	32	17	7	5	76.5
FASHION & FABRICS	12	-	5	7	-	-	-	100
FOOD & NUTRITION	18	3	13	2	-	-	-	100
WOOD WORK	33	12	11	10	-	-	-	100
T.G	9	1	4	5	-	-	-	100
BUILDING	8	1	1	3	3	-	-	62.5
HISTORY	67	1	10	21	11	15	9	47.7
COMMERCE	79	5	22	29	8	7	8	70.9
ACCOUNTS	75	8	17	27	9	4	10	60.3

MUTAMBARA HIGH SCHOOL 1996 'O' LEVEL RESULTS ANALYSIS

GRADES

SUBJECT	NO.OF CANDIDATES	A	B	C	D	E	U	%PAS
ENGLISH LANGAUGE	125	9	28	26	30	22	10	50.4
ENGLISH LITERATURE	33	0	5	10	8	4	6	45.4
SHONA	116	16	35	37	15	10	3	75.8
MATHEMATICS	96	4	8	16	7	5	56	29.1
ADD MATHS	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0.0
GEOGRAPHY	123	4	23	27	31	18	16	43.9
PHYSICAL SCIECNE	28	6	13	4	2	1	2	82.1
BIO-CHEMISTRY	3	0	3	0	0	0	0	100
BIOLOGY	32	5	11	11	0	2	3	84.3
CORE SCIENCE	105	20	17	21	22	15	10	55.2
EXT. SCIENCE	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	100
AGR. SCIENCE	11	2	6	3	0	0	0	100
COMMERCE	45	7	19	7	2	2	8	73.3
AGRICULTURE	32	1	4	17	8	1	1	68.7
FASHION & FABRICS	22	0	2	4	8	4	4	27.2
WOOD WORK	12	0	1	7	2	2	0	66.7
HISTORY	46	1	6	15	7	6	11	47.8
BBIBLE KNOWLEDGE	117	20	27	31	6	13	20	66.7

NYADIRE SECONDARY SCHOOL 1996 'O' LEVEL RESULTS ANALYSIS

GRADES

SUBJECT	NO. OF CANDIDATES	A	B	C	D	E	U	%PAS
ENGLISH LANGUAGE	112	0	14	39	27	23	9	47.7
ENGLISH LITERATURE	39	6	17	12	4	0	0	89.7
GEOGRAPHY	109	16	27	32	14	10	10	68.8
SHONA	108	5	44	43	9	3	4	86
MATHEMATICS	104	4	8	19	13	6	54	29.8
CORE SCIENCE	108	15	19	27	27	14	6	56.5
AGRICULTURE	95	32	36	20	3	2	2	92.6
BIOLOGY	31	5	10	12	3	1	0	87.1
PHYSICAL SCI	31	7	5	10	9	0	0	71
HISTORY	76	1	9	24	16	10	17	44
FASHION & FABRICS	10	1	5	2	1	1	0	80

LYDIA CHIMONYO HIGH SCHOOL 1996 'O' LEVEL RESULTS ANALYSIS

GRADES

SUBJECT	NO. OF CANDIDATES	A	B	C	D	E	U	% PASS
ENGLISH	119	7	40	35	20	8	9	68.9
ENGLISH LITERATURE	37	12	15	9	1	0	0	97.7
BIBLE/KNOWLEDGE	87	6	24	23	9	12	13	60.9
HISTORY	103	0	16	35	19	15	18	49.5
GEOGRAPHY	120	9	34	26	18	18	14	57.5
SHONA	116	12	48	48	3	1	4	93.0
MATHEMATICS	72	1	10	14	11	3	33	34.7
SCIENCE	120	29	20	25	24	11	11	61.7
BIOLOGY	32	3	8	12	5	1	2	71.9
PHY & CHEM	11	2	2	5	2	0	0	81.8
COMMERCE	40	0	2	12	3	4	19	35.0

NYAKATSAPA HIGH SCHOOL 1996 'O' LEVEL RESULTS ANALYSIS

GRADES

SUBJECT	NO. OF CANDIDATES	A	B	C	D	E	U	%PASS
ENGLISH LANGAUAGE	108	1	5	13	22	29	38	17.6
ENGLISH LITERATURE	20	0	6	12	0	2	0	90
BIBLE KNOWLEDGE	87	3	6	16	14	22	26	28.7
GEOGRAPHY	102	0	10	15	23	19	35	23.5
SHONA	108	3	18	47	20	9	11	58.3
MATHS	71	0	1	5	6	11	48	8.5
SCIENCE	108	6	13	23	25	22	19	38.9
EXT. SCIENCE	23	0	9	11	1	0	2	87
AGRICULTURE	107	1	20	44	13	16	13	61.5

MARANGE HIGH SCHOOL 1996 'O' LEVEL RESULTS ANALYSIS

GRADES

SUBJECT	NO.OF CANDIDATES	A	B	C	D	E	U	% PASS
ENGLISH LANGUAGE	141	0	18	30	40	32	21	34
ENGLISH LITERATURE	34	8	15	9	4	2	2	82.1
HISTORY	74	0	21	30	12	4	8	68.9
GEOGRAPHY	140	4	33	42	33	16	12	56.4
SHONA	136	14	65	46	10	1	0	91.9
MATHS	138	4	11	18	12	8	85	23.9
EXT. SCIENCE	38	7	15	10	2	1	3	84.2
CORE SCIENCE	141	49	36	21	19	11	5	75.2
AGRICULTURE	137	28	68	31	7	2	1	92.7
FASHON & FABRICS	63	5	17	22	13	3	3	69.8
BUILDING	59	29	22	7	1	0	0	98.3
COMMERCE	14	0	1	7	2	2	2	57.1

Only two schools entered for the June Examination (Optional). The following are their results.

HARTZELL HIGH SCHOOL JUNE 1997 EXAMINATION RESULTS

GRADES

SUBJECT	A	B	C	TOTAL PASSED
ENGLISH	0	5	9	14 OUT OF 25
MATHS	0	0	3	3 OUT OF 10
SCIENCE	5	1	2	8 OUT OF 12

MUTAMBARA HIGH SCHOOL JUNE 1997 EXAMINATION RESULTS

GRADES

SUBJECT	A	B	C	TOTAL PASS
ENGLISH	0	9	23	32/72
MATHS	0	1	0	1/5
CORE SCIENCE	1	1	1	3/7
COMMERCE	3	6	0	9/13
GEOGRAPHY	0	0	1	1/6
HISTORY	0	0	1	1/2
ACCOUNTS	0	1	0	1/1

CHISAMBA/HILLTOP 1996 'O' LEVEL RESULTS ANALYSIS

GRADES

SUBJECT	NO. OF CANDIDATES	A	B	C	D	E	U	% PASS
ENGLISH	64	0	1	13	26	8	16	22
SHONA	35	1	5	13	4	3	9	54
MATHEMATICS	36	0	0	7	4	3	22	20
COMMERCE	43	2	7	16	6	3	7	58
H/SO. BIO.	30	0	4	5	1	6	14	30
B/KNOWLEDGE	28	1	6	5	4	4	8	43
HISTORY	21	0	2	7	4	2	6	43
GEOGRAPHY	45	1	0	4	9	9	22	11
ACCOUNTS	16	0	1	4	1	2	8	31
SCIENCE	29	0	7	5	5	6	6	41

COMPARISON IN NATIONAL RANK ORDER OUT OF 2 000 SCHOOLS

Hartzell	26
Murewa	56
Marange	67
Nyadire	78
Lydia Chimonyo	104
Mutambara	127
Nyamuzuwe	271
Nyakatsapa	323
Dindi	1 285
Dendera	1 376

HARTZELL HIGH SCHOOL 1996 'A' LEVEL RESULTS ANALYSIS
GRADES

SUBJECT	NO. OF CAN	A	B	C	% PASS
ENGLISH	15	1	1	6	100
HISTORY	16	2	0	4	100
GEOGRAPHY	45	14	10	10	97.2
DIVINITY	29	8	6	13	100
SHONA	36	9	11	8	100
MATHEMATICS	38	7	5	7	56.3
PHYSICS	11	2	3	3	100
CHEMISTRY	36	3	5	10	88.9
BIOLOGY	20	0	4	6	96.6
FURTHER MATHS	2	1	1	0	100

MUREHWA HIGH SCHOOL 1996 'A' LEVEL RESULTS ANALYSIS
GRADES

SUBJECT	NO. OF CAND.	A	B	C	D	E	O	F	% PAS
GEN. PAPER	82	1	0	16	9	14	21	21	74
ENG. LIT	17	0	0	5	10	2	0	0	100
DIVINITY	27	10	6	4	0	0	0	0	100
HISTORY	16	0	1	5	4	3	3	0	31
GEOGRAPHY	46	4	9	7	8	3	1	7	80
ECONOMICS	11	0	2	1	2	4	2	0	82
SHONA	28	4	8	8	8	0	0	0	100
MATHS	35	1	3	5	9	9	7	1	77
PHYSICS	17	2	1	2	0	0	1	0	83
CHEMISTRY	14	2	4	4	5	1	1	0	94
BIOLOGY	20	1	1	5	4	2	1	0	93
ACCOUNTING	21	5	1	7	3	1	3	1	81
MOB	15	0	4	5	1	1	0	0	100
ECONOMICS	11	0	2	1	2	4	2	0	82

MUTAMBARA HIGH SCHOOL 1996 'A' LEVEL RESULTS ANALYSIS

GRADES

SUBJECT	NO. OF CANDATES	A	B	C	D	E	O	F	% PAS
ENGLISH	14	0	0	6	3	5	0	0	100
SHONA	39	8	6	10	8	5	2	0	95
HISTORY	22	2	5	3	4	5	0	3	86
DIVINITY	34	12	10	7	2	1	2	0	94
GEOGRAPHY	57	17	14	12	9	3	2	0	97
MATHEMATIC	33	3	4	5	6	5	8	2	70
PHYSICS	12	0	3	2	2	3	2	0	83
CHEMISTRY	26	2	4	7	3	3	7	0	73
BIOLOGY	19	0	0	5	4	4	6	0	68
ECONOMICS	18	0	1	2	4	6	5	0	72
MAN. OF BUSINESS	2	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	50

NYADIRE TEACHERS' COLLEGE EXAMINATION RESULTS FOR 1996

THO HUNDRED AND SIXTY (260) STUDENTS WERE PRESENTED TO THE UNIVERSITY OF ZIMBABWE AND TWO HUNDRED AND FIFTY (250) PASSED, SEVENTEEN (17) STUDENTS WITH A MARK OF DISTINCTION DISTRIBUTED AS FOLLOWS:

TEACHING PRACTICE	12 DISTINCTIONS
THEORY OF EDUCATION	2 DISTINCTIONS
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION	1 DISTINCTION
SHONA	1 DISTINCTION
ART	1 DISTINCTION

MINISTRY TO WOMEN AND CHILDREN

Theme: Isaiah 40 vs 31 "But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run' and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint."

INTRODUCTION

It is gratifying to see how keen each woman is to have economic freedom, Education freedom and Spiritual fulfillment.

Many of our women have acquired some kind of skills for survival in various forms. Take for example in Harare, almost half of the women are involved in some kind of small business activities such as; tomato selling, weaving, sewing, stone caving, street sweeping, tie and dye textile processing and several others.

In this connection we are reminded of a well-known verse in the book of Proverbs, "Go to the ant thou sluggard consider her ways and be wise" that message seems to work wonders in the lives of women. (Proverbs 6 verse 6).

Indeed women are learning a lot from the hard work of this little creature. There is no idle time for the ant! Our hope is that our children will even work harder and more efficiently in the next 100 years.

ACHIEVEMENTS:

1. Tailoring Workshop:

This year instead of the usual Tailoring Workshop we had a Tie and Dye and Batik Workshop held at a Catholic institution, the Silveira House Training Centre about 30 kilometers North East of Harare along the Arcturus road. This was a textile processing technique.

Our thanks go to Mrs. Mapfumo and her staff who were our course facilitators. The facilitators worked tirelessly with us, not only did they teach us textile processing, but had a chance to share the morning and evening devotions. The sharing made a big contribution to our spiritual growth.

The one-week workshop proved to be very fruitful. Twenty-five delegates from all our districts attended the workshop. This included three special delegates from Zambia who joined us this year.

The workshop closed with a textile Bonanza where beautiful and colorful textile Products were displayed. We felt very good with our achievements. Feedback from the districts brings us success stories of individuals and groups who are already in business with Tie & Dye selling, their products, thus fulfilling our objective of empowering women. It

is fortunate that the revived Craft Shop in Harare could provide a useful outlet for selling their finished products.

It was amazing to see that even those women who had no barest orientation to this new art produced lovely and colourful patterns. It is our hope that the Zimbabwe Women UMW will be able to generate some income to help their families through this activity.

2. Tailoring Annual Show:

As a follow-up of the Tie and Dye-Batik project, each district prepared garments and Articles for competition at the Annual Tailoring Workshop Show. The show was held at the St. Paul United Methodist Church, in Harare on 14-15 November 1997.

Items made were as follows:

- (1) A Lady's suit-Tie & Dye
- (2) A Man's Shirt-Tie & Dye
- (3) A family wall hanging-Batik
- (4) A free child's wear

3. Third Global Gathering:

In April we were represented by three women who participated in the Global Gathering Celebrations held in Kansas City in the USA. The three were:

- (1) Mrs. Edith Jokomo
- (2) Mrs. Cready Makwembere
- (3) Mrs. Ella Makunike

It was a rich experience in which people from all over the Globe gathered to celebrate our Christian faith. The whole world met to discuss this short but complicated question - WHOSE CHILD IS THIS? Answers were reflected in drama, music, meditation, sermons, pictures and poems etc. Memories of that event will be cherished by many for a long time to come.

4. 1997 Leadership Training:

Date:	13 - 17 April
Venue:	Murewa Mission Centre
Host:	Harare East District
Number of Delegates:	200
Number of Executive: (RRW)	17
Number of invited Guests:	15
Total Participants:	232

It was a joint meeting with the Pastors' School. We were blessed with the many rich experiences. On this note let me thank all the speakers who responded to our invitations. It was at the leadership training that the centenary celebrations was launched.

We join our Church in the spirit of the centennial celebrations.

PROJECTS:

(a) Craft-Shop

It is a joy to report that the Women's Craft-Shop located at the United Methodist Head Office is now in full operations and is doing very well.

A full-time sales lady-Ms C. Kamusikiri was hired. She has started her duties with a big bang. She came to us with a wealth of past experiences. We are now able to bank money from the Craft Shop at a weekly average of \$2 448 a break through indeed.

(b) The Women's Training Centre

We have made big strides in our goal for the Women Training Centre project. We would like to give compliments to the Task Force Committee which is working tirelessly.

However, the work has almost come to a stand still as funds became less available. The detailed funds report will be read by our Task Force Secretary Mrs. S. Muzorewa, to show you how we stand. It should be noted that some funds amounting to \$44 958.65 from the Women's Work Budget was also used. We are grateful for our friends overseas who made this possible.

(c) Arnoldine Project

The Coordinator had the opportunity of taking part in an MRID Workshop/Seminar held from September 9-20 at the Arnoldine Mission Centre. It was a joint venture with Team Africa from Florida in U.S.A.

This Supermarket-Workshop/Seminar included Solar Cooking, Nutrition, Sewing, Gardening, Orchard Planting, Health Education and Re-Forestation.

The Solar Cooking Project captured the interest of many participants. A detailed course was held on the Advantages and Disadvantages of Solar Cooking. Booklets and the Solar Cooker could be obtained at the University of Zimbabwe as per arrangement with interested groups. Courses on the Solar Cooking for United Methodist districts could be arranged with the Coordinator of Women's Work. Our office will be more than pleased to give demonstrations to the interested districts.

(d) Girls Hostel Schools Projects

As we celebrate the United Methodist Church's centennial, we have reason to celebrate the birth of girls institutions where most of our girls obtained various trainings.

Allow me to mention a few such as: Old Mutare popularly known as Fairfield Girls School; The Villa Mutambara popularly known as The Copy, then Nyadire Girls School, Murewa girls School and Lydia Chimonyo Girls School.

As it can be appreciated that with the coming of the liberation war, these institutions went through difficulties and the conditions left a lot to be desired, broken toilets, dilapidated conditions.

Thanks to the United Methodist Women's Division who donated funds to reverse the condition. The funds were designated for re-painting the dormitories, repair the toilets, repairing of beds, improving the cooking and catering facilities. New curtains were introduced and the upper forms dorms study desks lights were instored.

We thank the Implementation Committee comprising of:

Mr. Alec Chibanguza (Dr)-Education Secretary
Rev Irene Chitsiku-Headmistress
Mrs. Ella Makunike-Coordinator of Women's Division
Maxine West General Board of Global Ministries Women's Division Staff
Elizabeth Calvin-Ministry to Women, Youth and Children-World Division

As we celebrate our Centennial we continue to be grateful to:

1. Women's Division of the General Board of Global Ministries

The Women's Division and Institutional Ministries Mission Programme Area of the General Board of Global Ministry of the United Methodist

3. Women Division and Mission Context for the support throughout the years
4. Joint Committee of General Board of Global Ministries

Now our Girls Boarding dormitories are back in good shape. Old toilets were renovated and new ones constructed. Beds were purchased and old ones repaired. Dormitories were repainted and renovated. Even cubicals were introduced in some dormitories to provide for privacy. Individual study desks with appropriate lighting were introduced in the upper classes so that students could prepare for the Examinations comfortably. This was an effort to improve the quality of Education for girls in Zimbabwe.

A LOOK INTO THE FUTURE

- a) That more Solar Cooking demonstrations be administered at district level, accompanied by Nutrition Education to Women.

That Seminars be organized at district level on why churches must be in solidarity with women as a preparation for the Ecumenical Decade Festival to be held on the 3-7 September 1998 at the Belvedere Technical Teachers' College in Harare.

That we continue upgrading the standards of living for families through women education in the skills for survival.

- d) That we continue dreaming, doing and talking about "The need to construct the Women's Training Centre at Kingaroy Farm. Where there is a will there is a way."

The whole United Methodist Women's body join unreservedly in the centennial celebrations on December 12 1997.

SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMME:

We managed to award primary and secondary schools scholarships at the beginning of the year.

New guidelines of awarding these scholarships are still being drafted and will be announced later. The following students received some scholarship awards.

1997 PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIPS:

	<u>School:</u>	<u>\$</u>
1. Givemore Mafunga	Mutoko Central Sec. School. (4)	960
2. Pamela Garapo	Girls High School - (3)	700
3. Blessing Ngulele	Rukweza Government Sec Sch.(4)	782
4. Chipo Chirinda	Visitation High Sch. (1)	5 179
5. Kuda Dozva	Nyakatsapa Sec. Sch. (2)	500
6. Grace Masvodza	Nyakatsapa Pri. (Grade 7)	200
7. Enita Chiraramire	Nyakatsapa Pri. (Grade 6)	200
8. Lina Chimbo	Mucheke High Sch. (4)	1 300
9. Tsitsi Mukapondwa	Murewa High (1)	5 415
10. Collin Chirwa	Makumbi Sec. Sch. (4)	5 494
11. Simbarashe Mukwena	Mugoti Government Sec. Sch.(2)	395
12. Enuretta Nyamuda	Mutoko Central Sec. Sch. (3)	450
13. Patience Tema	Murewa High Sch. (2)	2 855
14. Clement Mahula	Churchill Boys High (4)	870
15. Brian Chirimerime	Murewa High (2)	5 405
16. Philip Tore	Nyakatsapa Sec. Sch. (4)	1 055
17. Deliah Charumuka	Nyakatsapa Sec. Sch. (4)	1 055
18. Shorai Masvodza	Nyakatsapa Sec. Sch. (3)	575
19. Freedom Muskwe	Nyadire Sec. School (3)	5 850
20. Phoebe Chirenda	Nyadire Sec. School (4)	5 850
21. Pedzai Kurewa	Nyadire Sec. School (4)	5 850
22. Nyarai Kalinde	Nyadire Sec. School (2)	5 850
23. Lameck Gadziso	Ellis Robins School (Grant)	300
24. Simba Dumba	Samanga Pri. Sch. (Grade 5)	200
25. Clemence Kafumeya	Mutambara Pri. Sch. (Grade 5)	190
26. P Mukonowatsauka	Mutambara Pri. Sch. (Grade 6)	185

27. Tandiwe Muyambo	Mutambara Pri. Sch. (Grade 7)	185
28. Tatenda Bwawa	Hartzell High School (3)	3 050
29. Tendai Jakachira	Nharira Sec. School (1)	745
30. Ester Ngwarai	Matendeudze Pri. Sch. (Grade 2)	303
31. Pardon Chinonzura	Matendeudze Pri. Sch. (Grade 5)	425
32. Shorai Munjoma	St. Augustine's Sec. Sch. (6)	3 720
33. Mutsago Haatsari	Hartzell High School (4)	4 565

UNIVERSITY LEVEL:

1. Florence Mariyacha - B. Ed. at the University of Zimbabwe

MEDICAL REPORT

OLD MUTARE HOSPITAL

INTRODUCTION

Old Mutare Hospital is a 70 bed hospital whose catchment area consists of commercial farming communities surrounding the mission site, nearby communal areas such as Zongoro, Mundenda, Jechera, Mapara, Mutasa, Odzi and Gandanzara. Some patients come from as far afield as Honde Valley, Nyazura, Bocha and Mutare urban seeking the medical services available at the hospital. Students from Hartzell Primary and High Schools, Africa University use the hospital as their second level referral centre. The existing facilities at the hospital were meant for a population of about 5000 people. The catchment population has risen to over 40 000 leading to the overstretching of the existing facilities and staff.

MATERNITY

The hospital features an active maternity programme with over 1000 deliveries done per year. The hospital offers antenatal, post natal and under-five clinic services. Because there is no separate facility for maternal and child care, those who need this service use the existing maternity services. This has resulted in overcrowding in the maternity unit. There is need for a separate Maternal and Child Health Unit for proper and effective delivery of services. We appeal for funds for the building of this unit.

OUT-PATIENTS DEPARTMENT

This is the busiest unit at the hospital with up to one hundred patients going through it on a daily basis. It is now too small for the increased patient load. The space for screening, watching and treatments is now inadequate. The Health Authorities have recommended that this unit be expanded. We therefore appeal for funds to enable us build a new out-patient unit which is to house a bigger waiting area, examination and treatment rooms, medicine room and dispensary, a laboratory and xray rooms, administration offices.

Hospital Wards

There are three wards; male, female and pediatric wards. There is need to renovate the existing toilet facilities. Patients have difficulties in situations of diarrheal epidemics. The pediatric ward is meant for 6 children only and yet at any one time we have no less than 10

children only and yet at any one time we have no less than 10 children. There is therefore need to improve on this unit.

Kitchen

The hospital has a kitchen which uses electricity for cooking . For years now we have not been using this facility because of the high electricity costs. Given our difficult financial position at the moment we have had to resort to firewood cooking which is cheaper. The unit presently being used has been condemned by Health Authorities. The best we can do is to renovate this existing unit but our wish would be to have a new one built.

Ambulance

The hospital has an ambulance which is old and it breaks down easily. The repairs to this ambulance are deigning a lot out of the United Hospital Finances. There is an urgent need for a new ambulance. It is this same vehicle which is used for hospital supplies and to transport patients, a situation which is not quite healthy.

Outreach Work

The hospital continues to coordinate outreach work at four United Methodist Clinics in the province; namely Gatsi, Nyangombe, Chinyadza and Arnoldine. Patients with chronic illnesses and on long term medications are seen by the visiting team and supplies given. Outreach work is done jointly with the dental team. Outreach work has made Old Mutare Hospital popular. Gandanzara community is intending to set up a health centre in their area and they wish to have it supervised by the hospital.

Some of these health centres incited are located in different from the one the hospital is located. With the decentralisation process being promoted, there is pressure on the hospital to stop the regular insists to those centres located in other districts; leaving that responsibility to the concerned district hospitals. A decision still has to be made by the Health Committee of CCOM about the visitations by church hospital staff to UMC Clinics located in other districts.

1. **Arnoldine Clinic** is an important facility to the community . A new MCH unit is presently being constructed there. Thanks to ZACH for this important unit. Water supply still need improvement. There is need for another staff house.
2. **Gatsi Clinic** is also on the ZACH coordinated programme for a new MCH unit. This clinic still has water supply problems made worse by some community people who disrupt water supply to the clinic every now and then. There is need for a staff house as the existing one is inadequate and old.
3. **Chinyadza Clinic** is an important unit in the community. Water supply is good. The housing situation is much better than at the other clinics. The existing clinic is old and if all go well the community may soon benefit from a new clinic being built by ZACH. We pray that this dream will be realized. There is need for a telephone at this clinic.

4. **Nyangombe Clinic** is the furthest clinic (about 170 km from the hospital) yet the staff and community are a joy to work with. There is still a lot to be done at the clinic and staff houses. The clinic needs repainting, burglar bars, solar supply and a reliable water supply. The staff houses need repainting too. There is need for another staff house. There is an urgent need for telephone at the clinic.

Dental Programme

Dentistry is part of the hospital work. A lot of patients have been treated at the new dental clinic.

Fairfield Orphanage

This unit is affectionately known as the "Baby-fold". It operates under the supervision of the Zimbabwe Department of social welfare. It accepts newborn babies and infants and keep them up to age of about 5 years. The new-borns are kept in the nursery unit until they reach the weight of about 7kg. Many of the babies admitted into the orphanage are abandoned or "dumped" babies.

The capacity of the Babyfold is full at 40 although sometimes the facility has housed 45 infants and toddlers. We are thankful to the donors who have donated clothes, footwear, and money. They have kept this unit going.

PROBLEMS

1. **Finances:**

The hospital continues to have financial constraints, which have sometimes made it difficult to plan. We are however grateful to the church for their help.

2. **Accommodation:**

There is an urgent need for more staff houses. We cannot get more staff to help the already overworked available because we don't have accommodation. At least five more houses may help the desperate situation we are in.

3. **Ambulance:**

There is an urgent need for a new ambulance. Only God knows what will happen when the existing one is grounded.

4. **Roads:**

The road to the hospital needs maintenance. The situation is quite bad during rainy season as the soil is slippery.

5. Medicines:

1997 has been the worst year as far as medicine supplies are concerned. We have run out of medicines at the hospital and it is quite difficult to operate under those circumstances. Outreach work has had to be suspended because there are no medicines to give to patients. This is a real problem.

STATISTICS (YEAR SEPTEMBER 1996-AUGUST 1997)

TOTAL OUT PATIENT VISITS (ADULTS/CHILDREN)	-23 285
TOTAL INPATIENTS (ADULTS)	-16 328
TOTAL MATERNITY DELIVERIES	-
TOTAL CHILDREN INPATIENTS	- 2 509

NYADIRE UNITED METHODIST HOSPITAL

The Lord has been faithful in His promise to uphold us as we continue to serve Him and His people here at Nyadire United Methodist Hospital. We come to you with thankful hearts and Praise to the Lord for His goodness to us this past year.

Despite the loss of two other doctors and improved government hospital facilities in the area, the census of patients at Nyadire continues to rise. When I ask patients why they have bypassed other closer healthcare facilities to come to Nyadire Hospital, they tell me that they are cared for so much better at Nyadire Hospital. This is not meant only in a physical and medical sense but more in the attitude of the nursing and other staff toward the patients; that they are treated with greater necessarily offer better medical services but offers medical care in an environment of Christian love, concern and support. What an honour to be able to serve God in this capacity!

We said good-bye this past year to John and Nancy Buterbaugh and wish them God's blessing as they continue to minister in the States on an Indian reservation in Arizona. Mr Makamba (45 years), Mrs Kowa (40 years) and Mr Rutsito (22 years), retired after many years of loyal service to us. The Loveland family also returned to Norway and will be greatly missed. We are extremely grateful for the nurses who continue to help us on relief leave from other hospitals and would like to extend our great appreciation to Mr Stephen Murphree (General Surgeon) and Ian Ternouth (Physician) both from Parirenyatwa Hospital, as well as to the various visiting doctors and the doctors at Mutoko Hospital who have provided Dr. Murphree with assistance and backup during this difficult time of being the only doctor at Nyadire.

We continue to staff and service five rural clinics and operate an active immunisation outreach team in addition to full hospital services. A new X-ray machine and developers has been installed as well as a new Ultrasound Machine. Through a generous donation from the United Methodist Women (U.S.A), we have re-furbished our paediatric and maternity units, acquiring much needed new linen and equipment. The Bread for All grant (Switzerland) continues to support us and enabled us to re-paint the hospital this year. Gifts from the Western Pennsylvania Conference (USA), have contributed to the building of a new hospital staff house. The Wyoming Conference (USA), Sycamore UMC, Illinois (USA), and other churches have continued to support us with gifts of equipment and money. A container of medical equipment from the United States Defence Department, provided us with many valuable items. Support and gifts from Inner City UMC in Harare and the Catholic students group at the TTC here on the mission, has been warmly received.

With costs rising and government and other donor funds becoming less, we have started to look into the role that Nyadire Hospital must take in the future. We must take an active role in order to be able to fulfil our vision of providing medical and spiritual care to our community. We anticipate many changes at Nyadire Hospital in the next few years and would be grateful for your prayer support as the Church and staff of Nyadire Hospital in the next few years and would be grateful for your prayer support as the Church and staff of Nyadire Hospital move forward on future plans this coming year and as Nyadire Hospital enters its 75th anniversary year of serving this community.

Healing is of Christ to whom we owe our best.

MUTAMBARA UNITED METHODIST HOSPITAL

First of all we would like to thank our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ for his help. Without his help we could help we could not manage.

We express our appreciation and gratitude to all donors who have provided funds which have helped us to improve the hospital bit by bit.

Thank you to all the staff of Mutambara Hospital for their hard work.

INTRODUCTION

Mutambara Mission Hospital is the designated district hospital for Chimanimani District. It is a first-line referral hospital for 21 clinics and 4 rural hospitals. It serves a population of about 120 000. The hospital has 120 beds and is the only hospital in the district with theatre facilities.

Staff Situation

Dr Becks from Holland left beginning of April and was not replaced. Dr Rudy left for a four months leave mid June. His return has been post-poned due to illness of Mrs Rudy. Our prayers are needed. At the moment Mutambara has no doctor but patients are still referred to us from the clinics. Daily, we refer patients to Mutare General Hospital. Dr Manyeza from Old Mutare visits our hospital once a week. This is a big help. We are very grateful.

STAFF ESTABLISHMENT	ESTABLISHMENT	POSTS FILLED	POSTS VACANT
Doctors	2	1 On leave	1
Matron Grade III	1	0	1
*Sister-in-Charge	2	0	2
Administrator	1	1	0
Food Service Supervisor	1	1	0
SRN/SCN	25	24	1
Nurse Aids	9	9	0
General Hands	19	19	0
Rehabilitation Technician	1	1	0
Driver	1	1	0
*Tutor	1	0	1

The following posts are paid by the hospital as they are not on the establishment but the cadres are needed.

Second driver	1
Clerk	1
Typist	1
Statistician	1
Cashier	1
Hospital Chaplain	1
Tailor part-time	1

School of Nursing

We had 16 students who completed the one year up-grading course end of March. All passed successfully their final examinations. It is a pity that the school is closed at the moment as there is not tutor.

Sr. Delphine Jewell left beginning of April and was not replaced. With the one year up-grading programme a qualified tutor with a diploma in nursing education is required.

STATISTICS FOR THE PERIOD 1-09-96 TO 30-08-97

Attendances in O.P.D.	24 187
Hospital Admissions	4 074
T/F out to Mutare General Hospital	159
Deaths	239
Minor Operations	799
Major Operations	127

Maternity

Admissions	960
Confinements	899
T/F out to Mutare General Hospital	61
Babies born	927
Live Births	897
Still Births	30
Neonatal deaths (within first 7 days)	12
Maternal deaths	3
Cesarean section	107
Vacuum Ext.	30
Breech delivery	32

M.C.H.

1st visit Antenatal	469
Repeated visits Antenatal	2983
Post natal	247
Children weighed under five	3726
10% are under the line	359
Family Planning new clients	205
Repeat visits	963

COMMENTS

Death from T.B and HIV/AIDS are an increase.

More patients are transferred to Mutare General Hospital because we have a shortage of doctors.

Infrastructure

The waiting mother shelter is almost complete, funds from U.S.A. have enabled us to construct a new building. Most of the time we have 20-30 mothers waiting for delivery and the present accommodation were too small.

A small duplex with 2 rooms each was constructed for the nurse aids. Swiss funds left from the maternity renovation were used. The dining room and kitchen were painted. Some other nurses accommodation have been renovated. The bath-rooms and toilets in male and female wards were divided and painted.

Future Plans for some funds are needed.

-Danida has promised to up-grade our laboratory.

-The laundry needs improvement up to now all the laundry is washed by hands which is a health hazard. Laundry machines are needed once Z.E.S.A is here.

Kitchen: New stoves and cooking pots are needed the present once are in poor condition.

Electrification: We hope by beginning of 1998 Z.E.S.A. will be at Mutambara. Funds will be needed for electrification as the present lines are in poor condition. Electricity is a big problem especially at night to work with a paraffin-lamp or gas-lamp is difficult. Some of the apparatus at the hospital can not be used without electricity.

PROBLEMS/CONSTRAINTS

Need of Doctors

1. These days our ambulances are almost always on the road, collecting patients from a clinic/hospital who calls for an emergency or very sick patient. Almost everyday the ambulance goes up to 3 times to Mutare with patients, since we have no doctor. The cars are used too much and will be worn out quickly. Most of our current expenditure goes to pay for mileage and servicing of the 2 ambulances.
2. Accommodation
There is not enough decent accommodation for the staff, some are sharing. Some of the houses need renovations. In order to recruit staff we need good accommodation. We need about 10 more houses (5 duplexes).
3. Salaries
The hospital is responsible for salaries for 7 people. These people are not on the establishment but the posts are needed. Most of our patients do not pay therefore our institution is not an income generating one. This is a constrain on the hospital budget.
4. Milk for Orphans
We used to get help from Nestle with free milk for orphans but this was stopped. Now the hospital has to buy the milk and this becomes a burden on the budget. Within the AIDS problem there are more and more orphans. Often, there are relatives

to look after the child but they can not afford to buy the milk. Help is needed to buy milk for the orphans, and other children whose mothers does not have enough milk.

5. **Home Based Care**

It is one of our targets to establish a programme with the community involved. Transport and staff will be needed for supportive visits.

UMC DENTAL CLINIC

DENTAL PROGRAMME HIGHLIGHTS

Staff

There has been a little change in our staff. One of our therapists left us at the end of May 1997 and we have since been joined by another therapist, Mr. O Machivenyika.

Harare Clinic

Harare clinic has remained the back borne of the dental programme. Salaries for local staff both at Harare Clinic and for the preventive are being paid by the clinic. We have been meeting 21% of the dentist's Salary.

Preventive Programme

This important mission has been going on very well in the past year. Close to 40 000 school children were informed and up to 10 000 patients were treated free of charge. This programme serves as evangelism for the church as well as supplementary help for the government.

Finance

The programme has an income budget of \$1,9 m against an estimated expenditure of \$1,8m leaving only \$100 000.00 for commercialization of the clinic

AGRICULTURE REPORT

M.R.I.D

The objective of the M.R.I.D is to set up an institution at Arnoldine to assist communal and resettlement and other less fortunate urban people to adopt, adapt, and share technologies which are appropriate to their own needs. For this ambition to be realized the United Methodist Church has to introduce and manage technologies at this centre for the benefit of its people. The M.R.I.D institute must be exposed to all available technology choices, it needs to be able to make decisions about where technology will hold up value to their productive activities, learn new skills both technical and managerial, identify constraints and communicate them to those who are in a position to assist and locate further sources of information which will help them achieve their objectives.

The Florida Annual Conference UMVIM team led by Tom Griner is helping us to realise our objectives. A factory with the necessary machinery for welding and carpentry has been set up at Arnoldine. Bishop Jokomo dedicated this factory in the presence of the Florida UMVIM a dormitory is being built at Arnoldine with the help Florida UMVIM which will help us accommodate the people help accommodate the people who will be coming for short courses and when the Florida UMVIM is here.

The Committee and the Bishop is working flat out to see to it that , the M.R.I.D project gets off the ground and be able to support/run itself and not depend on outside help.

R.R.W. REPORT

THEME: Isaiah 40:31

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

R.R.W. continues to emphasise the need to serve Christ and to share Christian love with others as well as to seek every opportunity to make Christ known and accepted as a personal Saviour.

1997 Achievements:

1. A very successful Tie & Dye Workshop was held at Silveira House and many participants to this workshop are already making out of the skills learnt.
2. A very successful R.R.W. Conference "Dumba" was held at Old Mutare Mission and \$236 319.40 was raised.

Harare West	\$55 090.80	Mutasa Nyanga	\$15 850.00
• Harare East	\$53 983.00	Makoni Buhera	\$15 000.00
Murewa	\$25 000.00	Mutare South	\$13 351.00
Mutare	\$26 600.00	Masvingo	\$12 236.00
Mutoko Mudzi	\$19 000.00	Bulawayo Midlands	\$10 202.00

3. R.R.W. paid its share of 1997 Conference Assessments of \$25 000.00 in full.
4. R.R.W. completed the renovation of the Craft Shop and business is already operating with an average monthly income of \$9 792.00.
5. Over 1009 R.R.W. members a tithers with Harare East with the highest number of R.R.W. has participated fully in the Centenary Celebrations that took place at the local church, circuit, and district level during this year.
6. A 2 classroom beach has been completed at Kingaroy Women's Centre and a dormitory nearing completion. R.R.W. have contributed \$10 000.00 towards this project.
7. Most circuits were involved in mission work through the following programmes:
 - (a) Pairing weak circuits with stronger ones
 - (b) Visiting disadvantaged circuits within and beyond the respective districts.
8. The R.R.W. visited retired Pastors' Spouses as well as Pastors' Widows in Harare East and West and Mutasa Nyanga to fellowship with them and gave them some gifts, \$5 736.00 was used on this programme.

9. R.R.W. contributed \$2 000.00 towards the Old Mutare Orphanage and circuits and District R.R.W. continue to help orphans in their respective areas in cash and kind.
10. Two R.R.W. representatives from our Zambia mission area presented their report at our Annual Dumba and have resolved to wear the same uniform.
11. R.R.W. hosted a Christmas Party for Bishop and Cabinet at the Kentucky Hotel in December 1996 and gifts were presented.
9. R.R.W. has continued to celebrate the birth days of Pastors and Pastors spouses.
10. R.R.W continued to encourage women to fast as an act of prayer.
14. R.R.W. participated in this year's "World Day of Prayer" and contributions raised during this day of \$1 810.25 were send to the natural World Day of Prayer Committee.

BRIEF DISTRICT ACTIVITIES

Mutoko Mudzi

- a. R.R.W in this district raised \$6 181 towards pastoral support in their district with \$4 375.00 having been contributed by Chingwena Circuit.
- b. Paid school fees for 51 primary school children and 2 secondary pupils.
- c. 48 new converts were won to Christ.
- d. Raised some cash and kind towards the new orphanage to be built at Nyadire. "Home of Hope"

Harare East

- a. 354 new converts were won to Christ.
- b. Bought curtains worth \$6 000.00 for the district.
- c. Contributed towards the construction of the District Parsonage.

Bulawayo Midlands

- a. Budget utensils for their district i.e 280 plates, 308 cups, and 148 spoons

Mutare District

- a. Paid school fees for 3 girls in High School.
- b. Held a workshop for single parents.
- c. Initiated and facilitated the establishment of income generating projects like selling of flowers and peanut butter production.

Mutasa Nyanga

- a. Contributed \$864.00 towards the construction of a Parsonage.
- b. Contributed \$5 000.00 towards the construction of a house for Mbuya naSekuru Simu.

Murewa

- a. Visited and fellowshipped with the old in their district.
- b. Contributed \$1 600.00 towards the Orphans Scholarship Fund.
- c. Contributed \$2 000.00 towards pastoral support.

Mutare South

They have a goat rearing project. Currently they now have 6 goats.

Harare West

- a. 120 new members were won to Christ.
- b. Visited the prisoners and gave gifts worthy \$8 000.00.
- c. Bought district utensils, Holy Communion Cups, curtains and sheets worthy \$5 840.27.

MUMC REPORT

THEME: Isaiah 40:31 "Those who trust in the Lord for help will find their strength renewed."

OBJECTIVES

1. Target for new converts -1000.
2. To establish an MUMC Conference Choir.
3. To establish a Chicken Project at Mufusire.
4. To visit all the districts in order to assess the MUMC work in these districts.
5. To put together a very strong choir capable of venturing into an income generating musical project.
6. To undertake various UMVIM projects in the Conference.
7. To intensify efforts in our chosen outreach areas.
8. To participate fully in arranged circuit, district and Conference Centenary Celebrations
and to write up relevant MUMC Conference History.
9. To visit and pray with our civic leaders and chiefs.
10. To assist in repairs and building of churches.

ACHIEVEMENTS

1. A total of 416 new souls were won to Christ.
2. A 100 member conference choir has been put into place, this choir shall participate in Mutare during the Centenary Celebrations.
3. Our Mufusire chicken project is now underway. The business plan has been developed and applications for funding have been submitted to the Zimbabwe Council of Churches.
4. All the districts have been visited by the chairman and his executive and assistance was rendered where necessary.
5. Two of our districts have managed to put in place strong and capable choirs to venture

into an income generating, musical projects, ie. Harare West District has so far recorded two cassettes and LP's entitled MWARI MUBATSIRI WANGU AND MURAPI ARI PANO which are already on sale. A five year recording contract has been signed with RTP. Bulawayo Midlands District has also recorded a cassette entitled TENZI TAUNGANA. A total of \$29 932.12 has been raised from the sale of the musical cassettes and LP's.

6. Most of our districts are engaged into UMVIM projects eg. two temporary toilet structures and four janitors temporary structures were erected in Norton. The MUMC in Chegutu are building a toilet block etc.
6. The following outreach areas were visited, Smith Form, Chitomborwizi, Relawynney, Nenguwo, Murambinda, Dorowa, Zviyambe just to name a few.
7. Conference, Districts and Circuits have been encouraged to arrange teachings for their members in preparation for the centenary celebrations. Most districts and circuits have developed their own items for sale during and after the celebrations.
8. Prayers with some chiefs and civic leaders were held successfully in the conference, eg. Mambo Chinyerere kuPfungwe and the Provincial Chairman of ZANU PF for Mashonaland East just to name a few.
9. Church buildings are being build and repaired in the conference through the help of the MUMC groups.
10. We have managed to visit and pray with the less privileged like the Jairos Jiri, Bumhudzo Old People Home, Tariro halfway home and gave donations of our \$4 500.00.
11. Five couples in Kariba were helped to wed by the MUMC, wedding gowns, cakes and donations of \$400 were given to the couples.
12. We have paid all our dues to the conference.
13. Organised circuit pulpit exchanges were successfully done in most districts on the MUMC day.
14. In preparation for the centenary celebrations about 10 000 licence holders will be available for sale, we are busy making them, neck ties are also already being made and will be available for sale before, during and after the celebrations.
15. 10 audio cassettes were donated to the Bishop so that he could send them to U.S.A. conferences.
16. The sick, newly weds, bereaved and the spiritually weak were visited and prayed with throughout the conference.

MEMBERSHIP

Full Members	2 358
Probationers	<u>1 257</u>
TOTAL	<u>3 615</u>

FINANCIAL REPORT

Total Income	107 047.78
Less Total Expenses	<u>94 392.11</u>
BANK BALANCE	<u>12 655.67</u>

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CONCLUSION

Many thanks goes to my Executive for supporting the MUMC programmes. I also want to thank the Bishop and Cabinet for the support they also gave us.

U.M.Y.F. REPORT

THEME: Isaiah 40:31

INTRODUCTION

Indeed we praise the name of the Lord for a wonderful year that has been full of miracles. 1997 was one of the most outstanding years to go down in history of our church as reflected in this report. We owe the achievements to our hardworking and visionary Youth Director Rev R. Masamba.

Our appreciation go to our President R.T. Kabungaidze and his entire executive for a job well done. We also give our thanks and appreciation to our District Directors, our advisors, the Conference Council on Ministries Director Rev G. Kapfumvuti and to your our dear Bishop for your support.

OBJECTIVES

- To win, nurture and revive our members through various programmes.
- To create employment and start self sustaining projects that will help our members and the church at large.
- To encourage all districts to participate fully in the Centenary Celebrations through a variety of activities.
- To raise funds towards the purchase of a U.M.Y.F vehicle and to establish a U.M.Y.F. office.
- To manage the U.M.Y.F. finances in accordance with laid don accounting rules and regulations as well as to pay all conference dues.

ACHIEVEMENTS

1. A Leadership Training Workshop was successfully held for Circuit Advisors, District Directors and Conference U.M.Y.F. Leadership at St Johns U.M.C.
2. A finance seminar for Circuit Finance Chairpersons was held. Thanks to Mr D.W. Chitambo and Miss S Maoneke who were our resource persons.
3. We were able to produce a quarterly Newsletter.
4. We successfully held our U.M.Y.F Annual Conference.
5. We raised \$682.97 towards retired pastors pension, \$1600.00 towards the UZ Chaplains salary and donated \$10 000.00 towards centenary celebrations.
6. We raised funds through a number of fund-raising projects as reflected on the attached report.
 - We paid our Conference Assessments of \$5 000.00 for 1996 and \$6 000.00 for 1997.
 - We contributed \$10 000.00 towards the Bishop's appeal.
 - We raised some money towards the U.M.Y.F Vehicle Fund.
7. We collected a number of items for the "WISH LIST PROGRAMME"

8. We set up committees to co-ordinate the district Centenary Celebrations, the Youth Week Programme and a Youth Centre Research.

9. **District Activities and Achievements**

ZONE A

Bulawayo Midlands:-

- have 15 local preachers
- contributed \$250.00 towards their "Wish List Programme"
- had 16 revival meetings where 63 were won to Christ, 600 were revived, 11 were healed and after prayers to get employment 10 members were employed.
- Have paid their Conference Assessments of \$3 500.00 in full and have 26 tithers.
- Have paid \$664.00 Rupawo.

Harare West:-

- Built a toilet at Banket through their UMVIM programme.
- Held an anti-AIDS campaign march jointly with Harare East on 7 July 1997 and donated \$1 494.57 and clothes worth \$1 500.00.
- Raised \$22 489.00 towards church construction and \$21 996.21 for Harvest.
- Had 17 weddings
- One of their members joined the ministry.

Murewa:-

- Paid their Conference Assessments \$8 830.00 and their Rupawo-\$959.00
- Has 20 local preachers.
- molded 10 440 bricks and dug a pit toilet for and at Darangwa
- Took part in the Anti-AIDS Campaign march on 7 July 1997 and went to sweep and clean at Murewa Hospital
- are involved in the quarry making and sand gathering project at Kaseke and Chinono and raised \$2 000.00 and \$8 375.00 respectively.

Mutare:-

- Has 20 local preachers
- Held an Anti-AIDS Campaign march during the Youth Week on 22 September 1996.
- contributed \$1000.00 towards the rural pastors salaries
- made 25000 bricks at Mt Makomwe and dug a foundation as part of their UMVIM programme
- Paid their Conference Assessments of \$8 375.00 in full.

Harare East:-

- Held outreach crusades in Chivhu, Melfort, Broomely, Dema, Wedza and Beatrice.
- 3320 new souls were won to Christ.
- 26 members are tithers.
- Held an Anti-AIDS Campaign march jointly with Harare West on 7 July 1997.
- Paid their Conference Assessments of \$11 400.00 in full including arrears.
- The District adopted Moses an orphan at Old Mutare Mission and goods worth \$4 000.00 were donated to Old Mutare orphanage.

- Painted the District Directors house and the District Parsonage at a cost of \$2 006.00 and \$2 000.00 respectively.
- Plaited 20 trees during the Natural Tree Planting Day.
- Held a successful Business Expo.
- Raised \$7 300.00 through a dinner.

ZONE B

Makoni Buhera:-

- Has 6 local preachers
- Made 10 000 bricks for the MRID project at Arnoldine through the UMVIM programme
- Held an Anti-AIDS campaign march during the Youth Week.
- Paid \$5 700.00 as Conference Assessment including arrears in full.

Mutare South:-

- Has 7 local preachers
- Held a successful district laytraining
- Held a sports gala

Mutoko Mudzi:-

- Had a clean-up campaign at Mapambo Township.
- Contributed a bookshelf, a broom and a mop towards the "WISH LIST PROGRAMME"
- Gave help at Mutema Leprosy Camp and at Mother of Peace during the Youth Week.
- Have started a "Skills Training Centre" for training the unemployed youths at Kanyongoro Business Centre and have raised \$1 800.00 towards the project.

Mutasa Nyanga:-

- Has 8 local preachers and 2 have joined the ministry
- 105 new converts were won to Christ.

Masvingo:-

- Held a successful all night prayer with Mutare District in Masvingo.
- Paid \$2 000.00 towards their Conference Assessments leaving a balance of \$1 500.00.

POINTS OF INTEREST

1. We thank the Lord for the invaluable contribution made by S. Chimwara to our work.
2. Congratulations to Tracy Matenga our Vice President who tied the knot with Gwinyai Mutsongodza. Our best wishes for them.

STATISTICS 1997

DISTRICT	FULL MEMBERS	PROBATIONERS	DROPOUTS	WEDDINGS	NEW COMERS	HARVEST	RUPAWO	ASSESSMENTS	TITHERS	DEATHS
Mutare South	38 (59)	46 (133)	45	9	114	1 009.00	408.00	2 841.00	-	-
Murewa	126 (94)	145 (179)	27	9	-	-	959.00	8 830.00	-	-
Makoni Buhera	67 (90)	53 (324)	23	6	141	1 741.00	494.00	4 738.50	-	6
Harare East	259 (78)	423 (240)	26	28	221	1 438.00	208.00	-	26	-
Bulawayo Midlands	110 (22)	35 (64)	8	9	63	-	933.00	3 500.00	26	1
Mutasa Nyanga	80 (88)	117 (93)	24	15	105	-	374.00	4 663.00	-	-
Mutare	297 (173)	317 (449)	77	35	311	-	1 159.00	8 375.00	-	-
Mutoko Mudzi	209 (236)	233 (219)	-	-	13	-	542.25	3 548.65	-	-
Harare West	351 (180)	339 (488)	54	17	257	3 145.48	-	-	-	2
Masvingo	31 (47)	48 (25)	7	1	8	-	282.0	2 000.00	2	-
Z.A.C. UMYF TOTAL	1 568(1067)	1 756(2214)	291	129	1 233	7 333.48	5 359.00	38 496.15	56	9

*Figures in brackets reflects Non-Active members in districts.

N.B. Main reasons for dropouts were stated as change of denomination, pre-marital pregnancies/ceremonial marriages or elopement.

COUNCIL ON MINISTRIES PETITIONS:

Mutasa Nyanga District

1. MUNDENDA CIRCUIT

Whereas Mundenda has increased its membership of 890,
Whereas there is provision of a second parsonage at Marara local church,
Whereas the circuit has managed to support financially the assistant pastor appointed to it,
Whereas the circuit is financially healthy
Let it be resolved that the circuit be split into two circuits as follows:

a. **Marara Circuit**

Consisting of Jenya, Marara, Jechera, Mwandimbira and Chikanga local churches-with a total membership of 460

b. **Mundanda Circuit**

Consisting of a total membership of 430, having a parsonage

2. MUTASA CIRCUIT

Whereas Mutasa Circuit has increased its membership to 660
Whereas the circuit is financially healthy,
Whereas there is a provision for a second parsonage located at Vumbunu local church,
Whereas the circuit has supported financially the assistant pastor appointed to it,
Let it be resolved that Mutasa circuit be split into two as follows:

a. **Mutasa West Circuit**

Consisting of Vumbunu, Madhanda, Mukubva locals with a total membership of 355. The parsonage is located at Vumbunu local church.

b. **Mutasa East**

Consisting of Sarupinda, Zinyembe, Domboremushonga, Mutasa Growth Point and Bonda with total membership of 305 and a parsonage located at Sarupinda local church

3. NYANGA WEST

Whereas Nyanga West has grown in membership, has supported two pastors, is financially able and has a second parsonage at Nyajezi church let it be resolved that Nyanga West be split into two circuits namely:

a. **Nyanga North**

Consisting of North Shapora, Musongwe, Bende, Mapora, Chitururu, Nyajezi, Nyatate and Nyatondo.

b. **Nyanga West**

Consisting of Nyanga Church, Nyarimvurwe and Tombo locals with effect from 1 January 1998.

4. **HARARE WEST DISTRICT**

Whereas Concession local church falls under Innercity Circuit,
Whereas there have been administrative problems due to the distance,
Whereas Concession local church can provide a parsonage and is financially able,
be it resolved that Concession local church be constituted into a circuit with effect 1 January 1998.

Whereas Mt Darwin local church falls under Bindura Rushinga Circuit,
Whereas Mt Darwin local church is able to provide a parsonage and is financially viable be it resolved that Mt Darwin constituted into a circuit with effect from 1 January 1998.

5. **MUTOKO MUDZI DISTRICT**

Whereas which falls under and has a membership of 192 (92F and 100P), has an average monthly income of \$2 500.00 and have a parsonage, be it resolved that be constituted into Mudzi West circuit with effect from 1 January 1998.

Whereas which falls under and has a membership of 157 (96 F and 61P) has an average income of \$2 800.00 per month and have secured a parsonage be it resolved that be constituted into the Mudzi West Circuit with effect from 1 January 1998.

Whereas which falls under and has a membership of 189 (98 F and 91P) has an average income of \$2000.00 per month have secured a house to use as a parsonage, be it resolved that be constituted into a circuit called Nyadire North Circuit with effect from 1 January 1998.

6. **BULAWAYO MIDLANDS DISTRICT**

Whereas Kwekwe Innercity Church which falls under has a membership of 110, has acquired a church stand on a 99 year lease, has acquired a parsonage and is financially viable be it resolved that Kwekwe Innercity Church be constituted into Kwekwe Innercity Circuit with effect from 1 January 1998.

Whereas St John Church which falls under the Mkoba Circuit has a membership of 127, has purchased a church stand for \$27 100.00, has secured a rented parsonage in village 16, is financially viable as evidenced by their Harvest of \$11 000.00 be it resolved that St John Church be constituted into Mkoba North Circuit with effect from 1 January 1998.

7. **HARARE EAST DISTRICT**

Whereas Ruwa/Tafara Circuit has a membership of 335 is financially able to support two pastors (ie. Ruwa \$12 500 and Tafara \$11 500) the distance between the local churches makes it difficult for both communication, both local churches are able to provide rented accommodation be it resolved that Tafara and Ruwa constituted into two circuits namely Tafara Circuit and Ruwa Circuit with effect from 1 January 1998.

Whereas Marondera Circuit has grown in membership, has a health bank balance of over \$30 000.00 and has a second parsonage at 9 Wattle Groove Avenue be it resolved that Marondera Church and Innerscity Church be constituted into two circuits with effect from 1 January 1998.

8. MASVINGO DISTRICT

Whereas Innerscity has grown in membership to 116 and is financially able and has secured rented accommodation let be resolve that Masvingo Innerscity be constituted into a circuit with effect from 1 January 1998.

CCOM RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That beginning 1998, there be a deliberate effort to include temperance programmes and teachings in our Stewardship and Temperance Week.
2. That there be a thorough revision of our Mission Centre staff recruitment policies and procedures to equip our centres with relevant personnel for ministry and general church programmes.
3. That the teaching of catechism be reintroduced as a compulsory programme for students in our mission centres and the church in general.
4. That the teaching of catechism be part of R.R. W. programmes at every church and also other societies.
5. That we reiterate that beer-drinking and smoking be prohibited in our mission centres and these be emphasized whenever recruiting new staff as well as enrollment of students in our schools, college and hospitals.
6. In line with Mrs Suzzana Wesley's way of bringing up children, we recommend that programmes be set up for educating and involving young children (0-18 years) in church programmes so that they may not be attracted to the negative environmental influences such as gangs and media.
7. That the significance, importance and methodologies of fasting be taught and encouraged in our churches.
8. That Mutare District prepare itself for the creation of Mutare and Marange Districts in 1998.
9. That Mutoko Mudzi District prepare itself for the creation of Mutoko and Mudzi Districts by the year 1999.
10. That the terms of office for R.R. W. leaders be adhered to strictly as per "Rumano".
11. That the R.R. W. orphanage contribution be raised to \$5.00 per member with effect from January 1998.
12. That \$600.00 per district be raised by the District U.M.Y.F. towards the retired Pastors Pension Scheme.
13. That the Conference Auditor prepare financial manual for use by our financial officers within the conference.

SUBMITTED BY:

**REV JAIROS W. MAFONDOKOTO
CHAIRMAN**

**MR TAFADZWA MUDAMBANUKI
SECRETARY**

**REV. GLADMAN KAPFUMVUTI
CCOM DIRECTOR**

COUNCIL ON FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION (CONFAD)

Greetings:

Our Distinguished Guests, we greet you in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

We **acknowledge** the spiritual presence of **Bishop Joseph Crane Hartzell**, the Child of God whose vision and hard work we all celebrate today.

We **greet** you **Bishop Ralph E. Dodge**, the son of God, whom, as an Annual Conference, we celebrate the memories of your visions to upright the educational standards of the laity in our Conference, as one of your outstanding achievements. this visionary policy expedited the indiginization of Church leadership. Thank you, Bishop.

We also **greet** you **Bishop Abel T. Muzorewa**, the great Preacher or evangelist, who kept the annual conference spiritually vibrant, uplifted the clergy, especially the clergywomen and pastoral support and a great teacher on self-reliance. Thank you for your holistic approach to the Gospel.

We **greet** you, **Bishop J. Matthews**, a career missionary who has great interest in Church ministry in Africa and other Churches outside USA. Thank you for your brief leadership to our Annual Conference.

Greetings, Bishop May, your great pulpit messages at our conventions etc. has rekindled our spiritual growth. Thank you for your initiatives in establishing the Sister-Conference relationship between Wyoming - Zimbabwe Annual Conferences. You are a man who is sensitive to the needs of the poor.

Greetings , Bishop C. Jokomo, a man full of determination and zeal to improve the administrative machinery of the annual conference. A great Christian Educator whose devotions are full of insights into the Bible.

Greetings to you our predecessors, Conference Layleaders.

Mr. W F Marima, we cherish your great stewardship, thrust that conscientise the indigenou membership to seriously support self-reliance efforts. Your Conference Harvest thanksgiving data was a measure of our growth.

Greetings to you the Conference Layleader Mr. J R Zvinoira, continue to remind the Laity about self reliance.

Greetings to you the **Centurions** with us today. Give us the courage to press on the work you started.

As we celebrate, it is CONFAD's belief that given God's guidance and assurance, this annual conference will be a better annual conference in the bi-centennial coming and into the millennium.

“Hymn No. 236 - Mwari Baba Munenyasha Huru”

“Hymn No 8 - God of Grace, God of Glory”

1. Introduction:

1. Praise be to God Almighty, the creator of Heaven and Earth, who has enabled the Zimbabwe Annual Conference to take the challenge of self reliance. We thank God for the abundant life we enjoy spiritually, physically and economically during the course of this very busy year. It is through God’s Grace that we are able to participate together, with very few centuries, the birth of United Methodism in Zimbabwe.
2. Bishop, we thank you for your visionary and participatory support in the affairs of CONFAD. Thank you for your trust and confidence in CONFAD members as we deliberated even on very challenging issues. We will continue to pray for wisdom and spiritual growth among CONFAD members because they have unusually challenging tasks ahead in this quadrennium.

2. Historical Background of CONFAD Activities:

It is important that as we celebrate the founding of United Methodism in Zimbabwe, we should appreciate the history of CONFAD and its predecessors.

The Zimbabwe Annual Conference (Z.A.C.) and its predecessors was to a greater extent wholly funded from overseas to the extent of 60-90% while the indigenous contributions was 10-40% for a long time from the then Rhodesia Mission Conference (1916-1930) to the Rhodesia Annual Conference (1931-1979). The Capital Development Programme of the annual conference was primarily supported from overseas funding while pastoral support was left to the indigenous population. The Zimbabwe Annual Conference and its predecessors found themselves in a dependence syndrome for support on Church construction. The then Board of Finance and Co-ordination (BOFAC) which was dependent on overseas funds was the receiving and disbursing agent.

3. Harvest Thanks-Giving Initiatives:

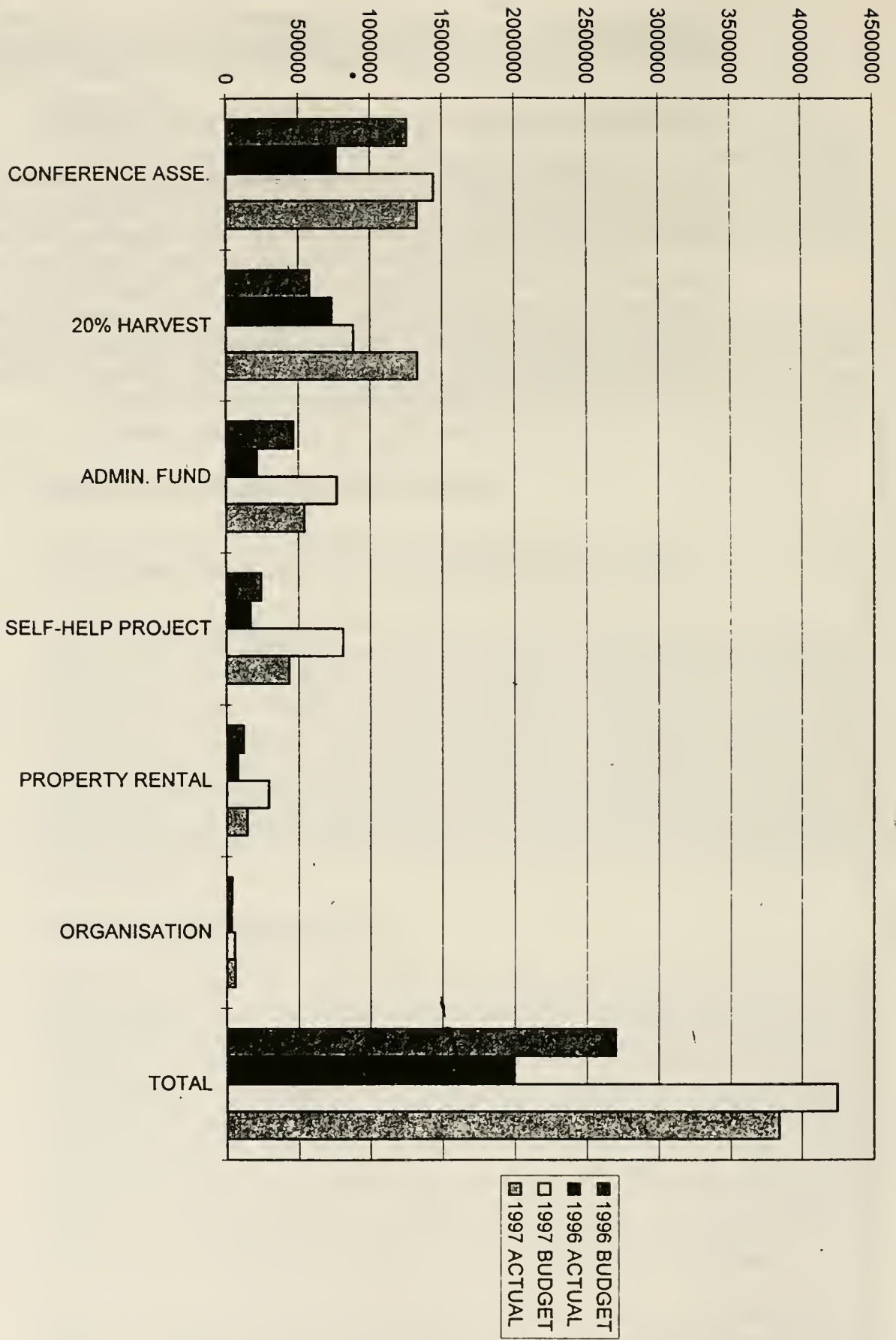
During the period of (1931 – 1979) the annual conference leadership observed that the pastoral support was primarily financed from indigenous initiative right from 1901. It was therefore important that the indigenization of financing Church programme was intensified. The task was made easier by the leadership combination of Bishop R. Dodge, Bishop A. T. Muzorewa, Rev. Charles Miller and Mr. W. F. Marima over the years. Bishop Muzorewa a true evangelist, embarked on serious spiritual cultivation. His greatest theme “ZIMBABWE ANNUAL CONFERENCE is a sleeping giant”, and “would rather be poor financially but rich spiritually”. These messages kept the Zimbabwe Annual Conference as a spiritually vibrant Church. Mr. W.F. Marima, as Conference Lay-leader, his theme was “Action! Action!” His stewardship teaching thrusts complement the great preaching messages of Bishop A. T. Muzorewa.

Table 1 show the rapid improvement in Harvest Thanks-giving and Pastoral Support (Journal 1975-1992). The spiritual vitality has continued among the Church districts as can be seen from the standard of giving amounting to \$6.0 million in 1997.

This growth of Harvest Thanks-giving is a measure of spiritual vitality which has enhanced the development of self-reliance in the Zimbabwe Annual Conference.

4. Separation of the Zimbabwe Annual Conference Books of Accounts:

The 1994 Zimbabwe Annual Conference through the able leadership of Bishop C. Jokomo, took the challenge of paving the path of self-reliance by initiating the separation of the Zimbabwe Annual Conference Books of Accounts from those of the United Methodist Church overseas Books of Accounts. This move was a clear commitment of the annual Conference members to the indigenisation of the Church administration and operational funding. This was a visionary move as it revealed the potential and spiritual vitality or vibrancy of the annual conference. CONFAD had to develop more strategic methods of cultivating and raising funds. The performance of the annual conference has been remarkable as shown on Figure.....



5. **The Financial Base of the Church:**

1. The annual conference financial strength is based on the ever increasing membership, the immovable property portfolio and the spiritually vibrantly or vitality. These factors are essential ingredient for a good beginning of the bicentennial of our Church.
2. In deed the financial potential of the Zimbabwe Annual Conference (still a sleeping giant) is yet to be realized. The realization of our being giants can be achieved if CONFAD develop challenging cultivation and promotion initiatives. We quote Mr J. Salley visionary statement that "if the Church is a Church, the people are ready to give". CONFAD challenges all preachers to preach the word lest we loose spiritual growth among our members and our children.
3. The Zimbabwe Annual Conference will need to increase its immovable property portfolio as we begin to develop the heritage for those who will celebrate the bicentennial in December of the year 2097. CONFAD is making enough plans to develop a stronger property portfolio.
4. As the conference membership increases, through the Evangelism work of our ministry, the Church's main financial base will become stronger. Our hope is in cultivating our members to become tithers. This relationship of increased membership and the tithing teaching initiatives will be fundamental to the financial strength of the Church. CONFAD has taken the challenge to cultivate members towards tithing.

6. **Tribute to CONFAD Leaders:**

As CONFAD, we owe a lot and are most grateful to the leaders of BOFAC and CONFAD who saw the need to move from receiving and disbursing (BOFAC) to generating revenue manage, and administer the finances (under CONFAD). Thank you Bishop Muzorewa, Rev. E Mumbiro and Mrs. B. Mutasa for your role in developing a rich heritage within CONFAD which we current leaders now enjoy.

7. **Highlights for 1997:**

1. Conference is aware that Mr. R. E. Chimonyo who served for 24 years faithfully and selflessly as the Annual Conference Treasurer retired 4 years ago. CONFAD had difficulty in finding another suitable candidate for the position as a result, Mr. Chimonyo was requested to continue until such time that his successor was found. Thank you Mr. R. E. Chimonyo for your dedicated call to ministry.
2. CONFAD is happy to announce and present to you, Mr. Solomon Chiripasi who is 33 years and has a B.A. general Degree and a Graduate Certificate in Education, a diploma in Education and 8 1/2 years teaching experience. Currently, he is the Central Conference delegate to General Council on Ministries, Zimbabwe Annual Conference, Youth Advisor, a member of the Conference Council on Ministry and MUMC. Mr. Chiripasi is married with 2 children. We believe God called this young man just like he called Peter, John and other disciples who were big time fishermen. We wish him well in his new call to ministry.

3. CONFAD held a strategic planning seminar. The purpose of the seminar was:-
 - to solicit visionary opinion on Financial, Physical and Human Resources needs of the Zimbabwe Annual Conference by the year 2004.
 - to solicit opinions that will assist in strengthening the financial base of the Zimbabwe Annual Conference.
 - to produce strategic plans that are specific sustainable, realistic and achievable within the next two quadrenniums.
 - to produce development plans that will weather the test of time.
4. CONFAD celebrates a whole century today on the existence of the United Methodist Church in Zimbabwe. Praise be to God the creator of heaven and earth.
5. The Zimbabwe Annual Conference is now exempted from Income Tax. and withholding Tax on all matter of finance of the annual conference

8. Centennial Organization and Funding:

1. CONFAD and Cabinet resolved that in the interest of efficiency in the organisation and planning of the centennial celebrations, it was important to set up a Steering Committee on Centennial Celebrations chaired by the CONFAD's Policy and Personnel and Scholarship sub-committee chairperson, district superintendent Rev. C. Chikoore. We thank the Steering Committee for a job well done. Thank you DS Rev. C. Chikoore.
2. Furthermore, CONFAD resolved to open a special bank account for handling all the centennial celebration funds. The account signatories are the usual CONFAD signatories. CONFAD's view was that the financial activities of the centennial celebrations should not interfere with the normal operation of the annual conference. CONFAD made a clear policy and directed the Steering Committee on Centennial Celebrations that the centennial activities should not leave the Church in deficit.

9. Evaluation of the Financial Performance:

1. The annual conference has performed well above expectation of many in terms of meeting its financial obligations. This view is supported by the fact that the conference members who have gone through difficult times due to inflation, general economic hardships resulting from high taxation, ESAP, retrenchment etc. have supported the self-reliance initiatives very well.
2. Bishop and Conference, St Paul's message to the Corinthians (2 Corinthians vs. 1-2) was "our brothers we want you to know what God's grace has accomplished in the churches in Macedonia. They have been severely tested by the troubles they went through, but their joy was so great that they were extremely generous in their giving even though they are poor..." St Paul's message is very appropriate for our Conference members, Bishop, because we raised \$6.3 million in Harvest Thanksgiving inspite of the difficulties faced by our members such as:-

- The higher rate of inflation (18% per annum as of August 1997 and is expected to rise to 20% by end of the year according to the Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe. This means the Zimbabwean dollar is increasingly purchasing fewer goods due to increase in general price levels.
 - The high interest rates on loans (up to 38% p.a.) as at August 1997 and expected to rise as inflation increases are affecting our annual conference members.
 - A good number of our members are unemployed, and the high rate of inflation and interest rate are reducing the income of those working and those relatives who are unemployed.
 - Some 62% of the Zimbabweans are living below the poverty line as defined in this country and the poorest province being Manicaland, yet the members in Manicaland raised 35% of the Total harvest thanksgiving.
 - The per Capita income analysis of Zimbabwe compared to Botswana, Zambia and USA shows that a Zimbabwean lives on US\$ 1.48/day while the American lives on US\$73.9/day and that the Botswana people live on US\$8.22/day and the Zambians US\$1.10/day.
 - Bishop, if St Paul was here today, he would praise the Church in Zimbabwe with same Joy, as he did with those in Macedonia.
3. This good performance by the annual conference was mainly due to the spiritual motivation and growth among members. The vibrant growth of the Church due to the continued spiritual cultivation is one of the major factors that has made the annual conference take the challenge to self-reliance easily.
 4. CONFAD wishes to thank some clergy and lay preachers who have delivered good pulpit messages that have become the cornerstone to spiritual cultivation and growth among members. We continue to challenge preachers to deliver challenging messages as Jesus would like and as St. Paul would have preached. Yes, "if the pulpit message is the pulpit message, then the people will give". Remember that, spiritual growth has direct relationship to improve financial strength.
 5. The most important achievement of our self-reliance initiatives is the ability to finance our recurrent expenditure. We now challenge members to increase our efforts towards financing capital expenditure.
 6. The districts that had good co-ordination and effective task-force performed very well and achieved their targets or financial obligations. Those districts that were not so motivated to cultivate and promote stewardship programmes were not so successful.

10. **Budgetary Performance Analysis:**

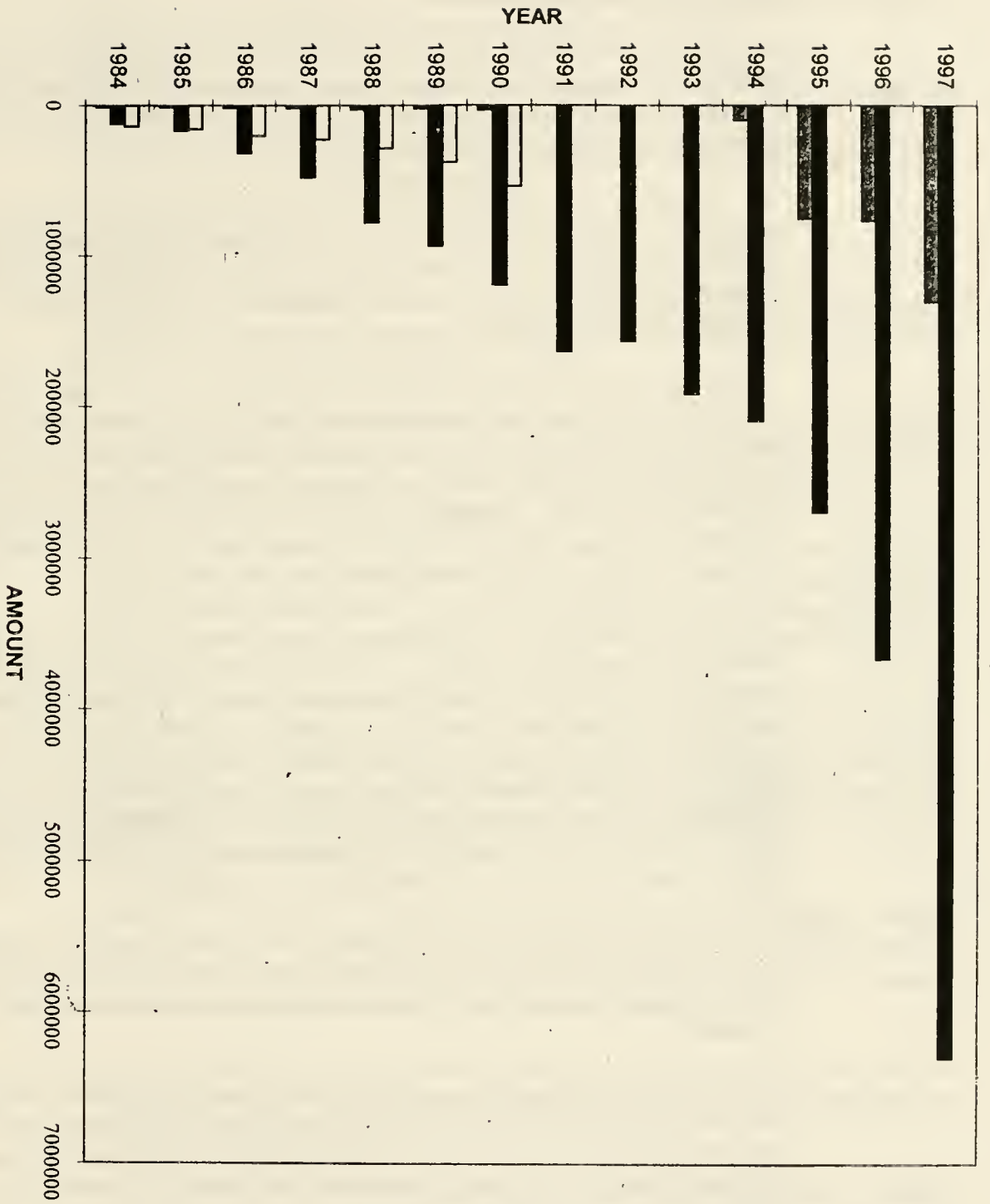
1. Since the separation of the Books of Accounts of the Zimbabwe Annual Conference from those of the United Methodist Church overseas, there has been a definite and clear indication that the annual conference has the commitment to support the self-reliance initiatives.

2. Our Conference Assessment actual payments against budgeted amount have improved from 60.9% in 1996 to 92.0% in 1997. There were serious arrears on 1996, however, in 1997, most districts were motivated enough to have paid up their arrears.
3. On the 20% Harvest Thanks-giving, the Budgeted revenue has always been exceeded by the actual harvest thanks-giving given. This is a clear sign of spiritual growth among members.
4. The revenue from the administration funds continue to lag behind budget estimates, not because there is no money but because the budget holders are not motivated enough to meet this commitment. In 1996, revenue received was 46.3% of the budgeted and in 1997, revenue was 70.9%. There is room to change as budget holder change their attitude.
5. On the whole, the annual conference financial performance showed great improvement because in 1996, our total actual revenue was 73.0% of the budgeted estimate while in 1997, the actual revenue was 90.4% of the budgeted estimate.
6. CONFAD will have to develop a financial strength rating criteria for districts etc. which will assist CONFAD in increasing the collection of revenue determination of opportunities and indicated districts that need a high level of cultivation.
7. CONFAD is happy to announce that annual conference did not incur or operate on a deficit during 1997.

11. Cultivation and Promotion of Giving:

It has been observed that there is need for an effective method of cultivation of giving and for seriously promoting fund-raising projects of the annual conference so as to sustain self-reliance. CONFAD therefore, resolved to create the position and recommend to Cabinet the appointment of an associate director of cultivation and promotion of the Stewardship Ministry who shall:-

- cultivate and promote Pension Fund build up campaigns.
- cultivate tithing, second mile giving and other forms of giving among our members.
- promote the generation of scholarship funds.
- cultivate and promote the funding of the Head-Office building construction etc.
- liaise with investors and hold investment seminars



□ PASTORAL SUPP.
 ■ HARVEST THANKS.
 ■ CONFERENCE ASS.

12. Financial Management Strategy:

In line with the provisions of the Book of Discipline, CONFAD has seen the need to streamline the management of Church finances in our annual conference. In view of this, a number of recommendations have been made for the Mission Centres, schools, hospitals, districts and the annual conference.

1. It is CONFAD's view that the United Methodist Church should not portray an image of a poor Church when in fact it has tremendous opportunities and has potential to become one of the richest Churches in Zimbabwe. This can be achieved if Budget holders of units and Agencies could work together as the good stewards of God's resources.
2. CONFAD observed that most mission Centres have 4 - 5 savings accounts. It is CONFAD's view that only one savings account for each centre should be opened and one current account for each unit and where possible two units combined. CONFAD resolved that, districts, mission Centres, Fund Raising Projects and Organisations should consolidate their bank accounts and be encouraged to consider searching for high interest opportunities e.g. fixed deposits, Call Accounts etc. that are usually available in the money market.
3. The Church did well by centralising the purchasing of books and stationery through the fund-raising project, United Methodist Publications and Stationers Foundation. CONFAD observed and resolved that its time that other Church units and Agencies requirements are also centralised. These are things like school uniforms, food commodities, work clothes, cleaning detergents, building materials, tools and general hardware etc. This move will ensure the efficient utilisation of revenue received by the Church and its Units or Agencies. CONFAD further resolved that the supply of all requirements for our Church, Centres and units be done by the Publication and Stationers Foundation.
4. It is CONFAD's view that the office of the annual conference treasurer is available to be used by Units, districts, agencies and Church Organisations in sourcing and/or as an advisory office on good money market interest rate for their investments.
5. In an effort to maximise opportunities, the United Methodist Church Units, organisations, (MUMC, RRW and UMYF) and districts could invest their savings in a common account and have investors hold share certificates. The interest or dividend earned will be paid to the shareholders annually in proportion to their investment.
6. CONFAD considers that the standard of our accounting officers and auditors will need to be improved as a method of achieving good financial management of Church funds. This will be done through in-house training under the direction of CONFAD and External and Internal Auditors.
7. It is CONFAD's view that the standard of the Budgeting system at our mission Centres, districts and Fund Raising Projects etc. need to be streamlined. To

achieve this, the budget holders are required to submit quarterly cash flow projections based on budget structures approved by CONFAD.

8. CONFAD insist that accounting officers should, without fail, implement the auditors recommendations for the respective units. It
9. is CONFAD's view that the performance of each Treasurer/Bookkeeper or clerk shall be appraised by the External Auditors.

13. Audit Related Matters:

1. CONFAD's main objectives are to monitor supervise and ensure that proper financial and accounting system/procedures are being adhered to by all budget holders, accounting officers and internal auditors.
2. CONFAD resolved and recommend to the annual conference that all mission Centres, units, districts and fund raising projects shall have their own books of accounts audited by External Auditors chosen by the annual conference.
3. In view of the above, CONFAD resolved that the internal auditor should be trained by the external auditors through working with the external auditors, CONFAD further noted that it is more cost effective and more beneficial to the annual conference to have audits done by external auditors and internal auditors.
4. The two mission centre units namely Nyadire, Old Mutare were audited by external auditors and Murewa and Mutambara will be audited soon. The external auditors reports revealed serious weaknesses in the accounting procedures and a high level of incompetence by some staff. CONFAD made drastic changes in the management of funds at Nyadire and Old Mutare Missions that involved dismissals, transfers and system changes.
5. CONFAD is in the process of implementing the external auditors recommendations at all audited units of the Church. These audit recommendations will ensure efficiency and improved financial management and good governance of the United Methodist Institutions and Financial Resources.
6. CONFAD addressed the area where personnel engaged on matters that were in conflict with their duties in matters of finance and administration at Nyadire and Old Mutare Mission Centres.
7. It is CONFAD's view that the financial year end audit reports of the districts accounts; Projects and Fund Raising Activities; mission Centres and conference books should be filed in the conference office.
8. CONFAD's policy is that each audited unit shall bear its own costs. Budget holders are reminded that audit costs are directly related to efficiency or inefficiency of the accounting officers. No one should bear the costs of another officer's weaknesses.

14. Salaries and Conditions of Service for Clergy and Lay Workers:

1. The main objective of CONFAD is to ensure that Annual Conference Clergy and Lay workers are awarded equitable remuneration's and good conditions of service.
2. CONFAD resolved that all employees working for the annual conference or its units or agencies should have signed contracts of employment that is inclusive of conditions of service, job description and code of conduct.
3. CONFAD deliberated on the plight of retired pastors, widows and widowers who are receiving an average of \$106 per month respectively as pension income. CONFAD resolved that these deserving leaders of our Church leader should be paid a total of \$600 per month ad \$400 per month for pastors and widows and widowers respectively. This policy will remain in effect until such time that retired pastors' pension are considered reasonable. In appreciation of the plight of the retired pastors and widows/widowers CONFAD decided to pay pension cheques for November and December 1997 a the new rates.
4. CONFAD support the board of Pension observation and decision that a member's pension must be realistically related to one's salary at retirement and to the length of service. This will become our medium to long term goal due to current size of the pension fund.
5. CONFAD further supports the Board of Pension decision that the employee's contribution be raised to 7 1/2% of the member's salary and that the employer's contribution be 15%.
6. That the Clergy and lay workers conditions of service be reviewed and furthermore in appreciation of the service rendered be all those members of the Church who have selflessly given themselves to the church be awarded a 10% salary increment. The 10% is taking into consideration the 20% applied on restructuring the entry points on notches schedule.

A. Clergy Support:

The following is the package of appreciation to the clergy.

1. That the salary notches proposed as follows be adopted – see table below.
2. That clergy shall have provision for free housing.
3. That these clergy residing at their own house be given an allowance.
4. That parsonage should have a stove and refrigerator.
5. That education of children of pastor shall be free at United Methodist Church Schools.
6. That the Medical Aid shall be 50% contribution by pastors and 50% by salary paying agency.
7. That travel allowance shall be \$500 per month.
8. That pension contribution be 7 1/2% pastor 15% church.

B Responsibility Allowance:

The clergy are often appointed to senior positions. It is CONFAD's view that the responsibility allowance above one notched salary for those appointed to serve in senior positions shall be granted. These responsibility allowances shall only be benefited by individuals while in the above position.

C. Lay Workers:

1. That salary shall be based on Notches approved and a 20% salary increase.
2. That Medical Aid shall be 50% contribution by lay worker and 50% by circuit, district, or conference depending on appointment of lay worker.
3. That salaries be commensurate with their qualifications and experience for the job.

D. The Proposed Clergy Salary Entry Point and Notches for 1998:

GRADE	O YEARS	1-2 YEARS	3-4 YEARS	5-7 YEARS	8-10 YEARS	11+ YEARS
001	900.00	945.00	1039.50	1195.43	1434.51	1793.14
002	1200.00	1260.00	1386.00	1593.90	1912.68	2390.85
003	1350.00	1417.50	1559.25	1793.90	2151.77	2689.71
004	1500.00	1575.00	1732.50	1992.38	2390.85	2988.56
005	1650.00	1732.50	1905.75	2191.61	2629.94	3287.42
006	1800.00	1890.00	2079.00	2390.85	2869.02	3586.28
007	2100.00	2205.00	2425.50	2789.33	3347.19	4183.99
008	2250.00	2362.50	2598.75	2988.56	3586.28	4482.84
009	2400.00	2520.00	2772.00	3187.80	3825.36	4781.70
010	3000.00	3150.00	3465.00	3984.75	4781.70	5977.13
011	3240.00	3402.00	3742.20	4303.53	164.24	6455.30
012	3600.00	3780.00	4158.00	4781.70	5738.04	7172.55

KEY:

CODE:

DESCRIPTION:

- 001 Local Pastor
- 002 Trained Pastors through upgrading
- 003 Pastors Trained at other institutions and/through conference course of study.
- 004 Trained Pastors without 5 "O" Level
- 005 Trained Pastor with Diploma/Certificate but without 5 "O" Levels.
- 006 Trained Pastors with 5"O" Levels + Diploma &/Trained Pastors with UZ Diploma
- 007 Trained Pastors with 1st Secular degree
- 008 Trained Pastors with 1st Secular degree + Diploma &/Trained Pastors with 1st Theological degree
- 009 Trained Pastors with 1st Secular degree + Diploma &/trained Pastors with 1st Theological degree
- 010 Trained Pastors with Secular Masters
- 011 Trained Pastors with Theological Masters
- 012 Trained Pastors with Theological Doctorates

NOTES:

1. Basic with zero years, means the entry point of the relevant qualifications.
2. The years stated depict the number of years of service of each pastor in relation to her/his qualification.
3. Where the pastor changes status in Qualification, she/he will move to the relevant Notch-based on Number of years of service.

15. Scholarships:

The funds for scholarships have been rather limited during the course of the year. CONFAD is looking into ways and means of improving the flow of funds into this important part of our ministry. Due to the shortage of finance for scholarship in the financial year, very few scholarships were awarded. This fund will need to be supported and its funding cultivated and promoted in this quadrennium.

16. Policy and Personnel:

1. CONFAD's main objectives is to set policies that govern the recruitment, development and management of Conference Personnel and the General Administration of the Church
2. The Conference Policy Documents has been updated and CONFAD will continue to review it as new policies are resolved. The document which will be presented to Cabinet, CONFAD Members, budget holders of the conference units and agencies.
3. Contracts of employment that are inclusive of the conditions of service and Code of Conduct have been developed. All conference employees currently employed and future employees shall be required to sign three copies of the contract of employment as confirmation of their employment with the annual conference. One copy shall remain with the employee, the other filed at centre and another at the conference office.
4. CONFAD resolved that Human resources Development Training Modules should be developed jointly by COM and CONFAD for training the following station treasurers, bookkeepers, boarding matrons/masters' heads of schools, boarding cooks, projects manager/less, station chairperson etc. These officers shall benefit from the training twice per year.
5. It was resolved that the United Methodist Church Logo be protected against any misuse by any entrepreneur. CONFAD resolved that any person/organisation wanting to use these logo or patent should seek approval first from CONFAD and once approved shall be required to pay royalties. Any breach of the Policy would accrue penalties.
6. In an effort to improve accountability, it was resolved that the districts should have full-time district treasurers who shall handle the district superintendent's accounts, the district funds, MUMC, RRW and UMYF funds. These district treasurers shall be bonded by the Church and shall be audited by internal and

external auditors. This new policy will ensure efficiency and enable the Church to maximise on investment opportunities for Church funds as districts, organisations and units will put their resources together.

7. CONFAD has observed and deliberated on the need to change the financial year of the annual conference as necessitated by the change in the government financial year. CONFAD therefore, resolved that the annual conference financial year-end be changed from September 30 of each year to December 31 of each year. This means that annual conference now operates on the calendar year system. CONFAD will ensure that auditing of the annual conference accounts will be maintained.

17. **Projects and Fund Raising:**

1. CONFAD's main objectives is to monitor and review the operations of existing projects and to plan and implement new revenue generating projects.
2. CONFAD approved the establishment of **Real Estate Agents** as viable Fund Raising Projects, which should start operating any time this year. This project will be responsible for all the immovable property buying and selling business; property leasing etc. on a commercial basis. The Board of Directors have been appointed by Cabinet.
3. **Tariro Bus Service** operations have had serious problems during the year mainly due to economic hardships faced by the transport industry. The age of the buses have aggravated the problem due to high costs of repairs and maintenance. The new Tariro Board in its commitment to turn round Tariro into a viable transport business, has taken bold and drastic decision that will see the improved performance of the company. The Board intends to sell the older buses and any residue of proceeds would be applied towards purchasing new semi-luxury coach or luxury coaches. The audited accounts reveal that in the trading year ended June 1997, Tariro made a loss of Z\$125 349,00. Due to the financial problems, Tariro was unable to meet its budget to the annual conference. The management and bookkeeper have been relieved of their duties.
4. **The United Methodist Church Publications and Stationers Foundation** operating and management continue to improve each year. Their contribution to the annual conference budget has been steady through the years from \$10 000,00 in 1993 to \$225 000 in 1997. This has become a model Fund Raising Project. The books of accounts were audited and there were no anomalies detected. The project made an audited profit of \$202 000,00.
5. Fund Raising initiatives continue to be developed by CONFAD. There are already project documents, which have been prepared. The establishment of fund raising projects remains our goal towards self-reliance.

18. **Africa Church Growth and Development (ACG & D):**

This very important development agency continues to get support from Zimbabwe Annual Conference. The M.R.I.D. Project, which partly benefited from the ACG& D now at Arnoldine Mission will need continued finance.

19. **Episcopal Matters:**

At the 1997 annual conference, CONFAD resolved to purchase one vehicle each year in the quadrennium. We are pleased to inform you that CONFAD is making an all out effort to purchase Episcopal Vehicle. This vehicle will make transportation easy for the Bishop.

CONFAD observed that for a long time, the conference was using the Bishop's Office for all its business. CONFAD resolved to separate the conference office from the Bishop's office. The conference administration staff are now using the office. Thank you Bishop for your patience and bearing with the situation.

20. **Special Appeal within the Conference:**

1. We appeal to all the circuits, districts and institutions and organisations who have not send in their dues to the Bishop's Appeal to act on this special request.
2. We further appeal to districts, and units that are in arrears in their assessments, and harvest thanks-giving, to ensure that these amounts owed are paid up as it will reduce the burden on the conference operational budget.
3. That circuits and districts should pay their 1997 20% on harvest thanks-giving.
4. We also appeal to the districts to encourage their circuits to institute or continue to practice a system of regular payments of assessment NSSA, Medical Aid and Pension.
5. CONFAD has opened a Special Salaries endowment fund Account (Common Pool) in accordance with the Annual Conference resolution let us continue to support the fund.

21. **The 1997 - 2000 Year Quadrennium Plans:**

1. **Financial Strategies for Quadrennium:**

The following are the most important visionary strategies that CONFAD, at the strategic planning seminar considered would enable the Zimbabwe Annual Conference to improve the financial base or the capital base of the Church. The strategies will need to be implemented during the course of the quadrennium as and when Feasibility studies are completed and adopted by CONFAD and the annual conference.

2. **Development of Cultivation and Promotion Strategies:** It is extremely important to promote any programme or project that an institution might have. The Zimbabwe Annual Conference will need to develop such strategies if Zimbabwe Annual Conference members are to be kept aware of the needs of the

Church. CONFAD will need to develop stewardship materials on giving like video cassettes, booklets etc. which will be used by districts and circuits. Consideration to appoint full-time associate and assistant directors of COM will need to be done at conference and district levels respectively. This will bring great awareness of the need to giving, tithing and even second mile giving and to comparing for improving the clergy pension fund. This is a short term strategy with very long term benefits.

3. **Financial Institutions:** Zimbabwe Annual Conference through CONFAD will need to establish a financial institution in the 1997-2000 quadrennium. This financial institution would empower the needy in both rural and urban areas by improving their Christian living and at the same time enabling the United Methodist Church to generate on a sustainable basis revenue for the Zimbabwe Annual Conference.

1. **Goals and Objectives of the Financial Institution:**

The goals will be to promote economic, social and spiritual development of its members and to achieve financial self-sufficient and the main objective will be to offer shares as instruments of saving and mobilisation of funds.

To provide credit for poverty reduction projects for its members uses to its members to generate revenue for Zimbabwe Annual Conference.

The envisaged financial institution will be a corporate body under the Financial Institution Act.

2. **Operations of Financial Institution:**

The Church financial institution will raise capital through the issue of: -

1. shares to individual full members of the Church
 2. shares to circuits and districts.
 3. shares to friends in Zimbabwe and overseas.
 4. shares to projects and units of the Church
 5. shares to organisation like RRW, MUMC and UMYF.
3. The related administrative structure will create employment for core qualified and efficient United Methodist Church members while the rest would be on voluntary basis.
 4. The shares will be redeemable at par value but will earn dividends and those who wish never to redeem their shares and never to receive dividend can pool their holding with those of the Zimbabwe Annual Conferences as their contribution to the ministry of the Church.
 5. Assistance will be provided to members only for personal loans, based on share value consumption loans, real estate loans and productive projects. A group based lending will be recommended as its guarantees over 90% repayment.

6. In order to achieve long-term sustainability, loan will be provided at market related rate of interest. No subsidised rate of interest will be allowed.
7. Financial institution can invest in other suitable money market. This is a short to medium term project with very long term benefits to the United Methodist Church.

4. **Income Generating Projects:**

CONFAD will need to further develop feasibility studies for sustainable income generating projects like:-

1. Printing Press for all our Zimbabwe Annual Conference Books and Stationery either on franchise basis or not.
2. Trading company of the Church that does the procurement and wholesaling of commodities e.g. chemicals to hospitals, clinics, hardware supply to schools etc.

5. **Develop a Chartered Accounting Firm:**

CONFAD will consider the setting up of a Chartered Secretaries Firm as an income generating project. The firm would do company registration, secretarial services, accounting services, Human Resources Training Services and Auditing Services to a number of business projects etc.

Commercial Fees for services rendered will be charged as a method of revenue generation for the Zimbabwe Annual Conference.

6. **Human Resources Development Strategy:**

Human Resources are the most important resources in any organisation. It was observed that Zimbabwe Annual Conference is lagging behind in developing programmes and conditions of service for its employees. The following are some of the most important issues CONFAD should work on this quadrennium.

1. **Contract and Conditions of Service:**

There is a growing need for contractual employment agreements as they bring transparency to employees. CONFAD will work towards ensuring that all conference personnel and people working in conference institutions have contract of employment. These contracts of employment should include code of conducts for all grades of workers.

2. **Salary Schedules and Notches:**

The annual conference resolved to move towards a centralised salary system for clergy and lay workers. It is important that CONFAD develop a well structured salary schedule with notches for all grades of conference employees.

Salary increments based on performance appraisal will need to be developed as a means of improving of efficiency. The performance appraisal instrument will need to be developed for conference employees.

3. Human Resource Training:

The annual conference employed staff at all levels are going for long periods of time without in service training. It is CONFAD's view that Training Modules for all categories of staff e.g. heads of departments, cooks, boarding masters etc. should be developed.

1. The planned training modules can be done in collaboration with other institutions e.g. Hagai Institute etc.
2. CONFAD should consider employing a full-time Personnel Officer who shall undertake all the training co-ordination and general personnel matters for the workers of the conference

It is CONFAD's view that the annual conference should develop its own training centre, which will be managed on a commercial basis possibly, headed by the full-time personnel officer.

4. Human Resources Directory:

There is lack of information on the members of the Church who are scattered in the public and private sectors. CONFAD's view is that there is need to centralise such information which would be a direct benefit to the administration of the Church. CONFAD will endeavour to produce the "who is who" directory in the Zimbabwe Annual Conference.

5. Staff Recruitment Policy:

The Zimbabwe Annual Conference find itself in need of new blood in the Church Institutions and Agencies. CONFAD will need to develop a "succession plan" for the management of the Church Institution, Bookshops and Agencies. The policy of understudies or attachment need to be put in place.

7. Physical Resources, Institutional Development and Management:

With the rapid change of the economy in the world, the Zimbabwe Annual Conference needs to adapt to such changes by examining its property policies and management practices, if it is to continue to have meaningful existence. It must be remembered that immovable property appreciates in value and therefore CONFAD should therefore be able to:

- a). To acquire property in strategic locations or places and gainfully utilise it for the benefit of the Church both for operational purposes of the Church as per user needs as well as for profit.

- b). To maintain and upgrade, as necessary, property owned by the Church which will in turn enhance the image of the Church.
- c) To dispose of some property which is not profitable or useful to the Church.
 - ii. CONFAD should analyse the Church's strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and treats in our property development and management strategies.
 - iii. The development of the immovable assets will be the priority strategy.
 - iv. Architectural developments of clinics, private hospitals in major cities, office blocks etc. will create a stronger capital base.

8. **Proposed Way Forward in our Strategic Plans:**

CONFAD will have a four member strategic planning task force that will be appointed to consult, strategies and put into place a workable program guided by time lines.

It is envisaged that the task force be composed of a physical resource expert, human resources expert, financial/cultivation expert and a chairman.

Existing councils, boards, relevant committees and personnel should be at the disposal of the task force to provide required information, timeous opinion/advice and to carry out assigned duties.

The task force will be reporting to CONFAD Executive and the executive will report to full CONFAD Session, the Bishop and Cabinet and then to the annual conference on the progress in these quadrennium plans.

22. **Resolutions:**

1. In view of item... on salaries and conditions of service of clergy and lay workers, CONFAD wish it be resolved that the retired pastor's pension, widows and widowers who currently are receiving an average of \$106 per month and \$96 per month respectively, be reviewed and have them paid a total of \$600 per month and \$400 per month as pension respectively until such time that the retired pastor and widows/widowers pension are considered realistically related to the beneficiary's salary at retirement.
2. That the proposed new clergy entry points and salary notches be adopted.
3. That Contract of employment that are inclusive of the conditions of service and Code of Conduct be signed by all Conference employees currently employed and all future employees. Furthermore that copies of the contracts be filed at the conference and unit offices.

4. That there be full-time church employees employed as district treasurers who shall handle district superintendents accounts, district accounts, MUMC. RRW and UMYF. Furthermore, some large circuits can also make use of the district treasurer as their treasurers.
5. That the annual conference changes the financial year-end from September 30 to December 31 of each year.
6. That all-necessary support is given to CONFAD in its endeavour to establish fund raising projects that are sustainable and that will ensure a strong financial base of the Church.
7. That CONFAD look into centralisation of financial resources in our conference and mission Centres and make the most out of the investment available.

23. Appreciation:

1. We thank you Bishop C. Jokomo, for your leadership and valuable contributions to the affairs of CONFAD.
2. Thank you Zimbabwe Annual Conference for the 1997 bumper Harvest Thanks-giving of \$6 300 000 based on 20% paid to the annual conference.
3. CONFAD and the annual conference sincerely extend our appreciation to Mr. R. E. J. Chimonyo for his selfless service to the annual conference.
4. Thank you the districts that paid their arrears and current assessments, and the 20% Harvest Thanks-giving, pension, medical aid and NSSA and we also do encourage those that failed to be motivated and do so next year.
5. We also thank the Centennial Celebration Steering Committee for a job well done. We can also see the results of good planning.
6. We thank CONFAD members, both outgoing and those staying, for their hard work in committees, good attendance at meetings and for continuing to travel to CONFAD meetings at your own expenses.
7. We thank the Conference Treasurer and some unit treasurers for good financial management and also for insuring that good financial systems are maintained.
8. We thank the good working relationships with other conference boards and agencies.
9. Thank the Internal and External Auditors for recommendations that will ensure good governance of Church finances.

SUBMITTED BY: E. MUZOREWA
CONFAD CHAIRPERSON

C.G. SHAMU
CONFAD VICE CHAIRPERSON

COUNCIL ON FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION - 1998 BUDGET REPORT

Bishop and Conference, the Annual Conference Estimates of Revenue and Expenditure are hereby presented.

We would like to draw Conference's attention to the following: -

1. Our 1997 performance in terms of cash inflows was rather poor. Cash inflows were, on the whole, very slow.
2. We call for all budget holders to pay up all arrears to the treasurer by 31 January, 1998. Failure to do this will seriously impede your performance in 1998.
3. It is again our call that approval from the responsible authority should be obtained first before any funds are expended for unbudgeted items.
4. We would also like to remind budget holders that quarterly assessments are due at the beginning of each quarter and not at the end of the quarter. It will be appreciated tremendously if budget holders pay their assessments annually in advance.
5. All districts are requested to send into the Conference Administrative Secretary quarterly Financial reports for the attention of the budget committee.
6. Units will also be required to send in Trial Balances and Balance Sheets quarterly, Instruments to that effect will be sent to all budget holders.
7. Bishop and Conference CONFAD is confident that the 1998 Estimates of expenditure will be financed by our church and Christians. We continue to thank God for speaking to his people as they continue to give.

THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH PROPOSED REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE BUDGET FOR THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE FOR 1998

	SOURCES OF REVENUE	1997 BUDGET	1997 ACTUAL	1998 PROPOSED BUDGET
A	CONFERENCE ASSESSMENTS:	\$	\$	\$
1.	Harare West District	227 400,00	173 320,87	275 000,00
2.	Harare East District	227 400,00	227 400,00	275 000,00
3.	Masvingo District	20 000,00	20 000,00	25 000,00
4.	Murewa District	148 000,00	146 000,00	170 200,00
5.	Makoni-Buhera District	118 000,00	114 000,00	135 700,00
6.	Mutasa-Nyanga District	126 000,00	97 106,00	144 900,00
7.	Mutare District	208 000,00	199 500,00	235 000,00
8.	Mutoko-Mudzi District	164 000,00	143 000,00	188 600,00
9.	Mutare South District	85 000,00	48 000,00	90 000,00
10.	Bulawayo-Midlands District	120 000,00	120 000,00	155 000,00
	SUB-TOTAL	1 443 800,00	1 288 326,87	1 694 400,00
B	ADMINISTRATION FUND 2.5% OF UNITS' ANNUAL BUDGET			
1.	Murewa United Methodist Centre	136 575,00	136 575,00	228 000,00
2.	Mutambara United M. Centre	101 700,00	-	170 000,00
3.	Old Mutare United M. Centre	118 380,00	112 653,32	198 000,00
4.	Nyadire United Meth. Centre	168 000,00	106 178,00	280 000,00
5.	Nyamuzuwe High School	55 550,00	23 675,00	93 000,00
6.	Lydia Chimonyo Girls High Sch.	54 455,00	17 228,00	91 000,00
7.	M. Makomwe U. Meth. Centre	76 340,00	-	127 000,00
8.	Nyakatsapa High School	12 990,00	9 637,50	22 000,00
9.	Mutare Women's Hostel	12 990,00	7 000,00	22 000,00
10.	Mutare United Methodist Centre	7 000,00	5 000,00	12 000,00
11.	Hilltop Youth Centre	6 000,00	-	10 000,00
12.	Mutoko Central Pri. School	6 000,00	-	10 000,00
13.	Dindi Central Primary Sch.	3 990,00	-	7 000,00
14.	Arnoldine United Meth. Centre	6 000,00	6 000,00	10 000,00
15.	Marange United Meth. Centre	-	38 000,00	60 000,00
16.	Dendera Secondary School	-	-	3 000,00
	SUB-TOTAL	756 970,00	511 846,82	1 343 000,00

C	PROPERTY RENTAL REVENUE:			
	RENTAL INCOME:			
1.	ACG and D	15 000,00	15 000,00	16 875,00
2.	U.M.C. Publications - Shop	20 000,00		22 500,00
3.	Conference House Rental	75 000,00	64 309,00	84 375,00
4.	Conference Land Rental	37 000,00	-	
5.	Craft Shop	5 000,00	-	5 625,00
6.	Stand 1426	108 000,00	11 500,00	324 000,00
7.	UMC Overseas	30 000,00	30 000,00	33 750,00
8.	Rental - 15 Kariba Crescent.	-	22 148,35	24 916,89
9.	Africa University			20 000,00
	SUB-TOTAL	290 500,00	142 957,35	542 750,00

		1997 BUDGET	1997 ACTUAL	1998 PROPOSED BUDGET
D	SELF HELP PROJECTS & INVESTMENTS	\$	\$	\$
1.	U.M.C. Publications	225 000,00	190 000,00	225 000,00
2.	Tariro Bus Services	60 000,00	-	60 000,00
3.	Nyadire Mission Farm	15 000,00	15 000,00	30 000,00
4.	Dental Clinic	20 000,00	20 000,00	20 000,00
5.	Mutambara Mission Farm	10 000,00	5 000,00	20 000,00
6.	Bishop's Appeal outstanding for Stand 1426	429 930,00	-	429 930,00
	SUB-TOTAL	759 930,00	230 000,00	784 930,00
E.	HARVEST THANKSGIVING - 20%			
1.	Harare West District	286 400,00	406 204,17	446 825,00
2.	Harare East District	286 400,00	281 263,63	310 000,00
3.	Masvingo District	167 100,00	-	60 500,00
4.	Murewa District	18 300,00	55 000,00	60 500,00
5.	Makoni-Buhera District	47 210,00	52 000,00	57 200,00
6.	Mutasa-Nyanga District	32 370,00	82 777,00	92 000,00
7.	Mutare District	38 976,00	261 689,70	300 000,00
8.	Mutare South District	180 100,00	32 000,00	35 200,00
9.	Mutoko-Mudzi District	24 084,00	78 166,17	86 000,00
10.	Bulawayo-Midlands District	45 060,00	80 023,98	88 026,38
	SUB-TOTAL	1 126 000,00	1 329 124,65	1 538 225,00
F	ORGANISATIONS:			
1.	Conference RRW	25 000,00	25 000,00	35 000,00
2.	Conference MUMC	25 000,00	25 000,00	35 000,00
3.	Conference	6 000,00	11 000,00	20 000,00
	SUB-TOTAL	56 000,00	61 000,00	90 000,00

G	SPECIAL DONATIONS - GRANTS, SUNDRY INCOME:			
1.	Grants from Overseas Church	-	53 208,36	70 000,00
2.	General Admin. Fees	15 000,00	-	-
3.	Lay Workers' Pension Fund	12 000,00	8 400,00	15 000,00
4.	Ministers' Pension Fund	1 000,00	1 200,00	2 000,00
	SUB-TOTAL	28 000,00	62 808,36	87 000,00

H	SALARIES ENDOWMENT FUND (YEAR 2000)			
1.	Harare West District	50 000,00	-	50 000,00
2.	Harare East District	50 000,00	50 000,00	50 000,00
3.	Masvingo District	50 000,00	-	50 000,00
4.	Murewa District	50 000,00	20 000,00	50 000,00
5.	Makoni-Buhera District	50 000,00	10 000,00	50 000,00
6.	Mutasa-Nyanga District	50 000,00	-	50 000,00
7.	Bulawayo-Midlands District	50 000,00	50 000,00	50 000,00
8.	Mutare District	50 000,00	-	50 000,00
9.	Mutoko-Mudzi District	50 000,00	20 000,00	50 000,00
10.	Mutare South District	50 000,00	12 000,00	50 000,00
	SUB-TOTAL	500 000,00	162 000,00	500 000,00

		1997 BUDGET	1997 ACTUAL	1998 PROPOSED BUDGET
I.	CONTRAS: (PENSION, NSSA, MEDICAL AID CONTRIBUTIONS)	\$	\$	\$
1.	Conf. Workers Med. AID	329 195,00		428 000,00
2.	Conference Pastors NSSA	211 660,00		276 000,00
3.	Conference Pastors Pension	<u>352 765,00</u>		<u>460 000,00</u>
	SUB-TOTAL	893 620,00		1 164 000,00
J	HEAD OFFICE DEVELOPMENT			
1.	Bulawayo Midlands			18 000.00
2.	Harare West		22 843.00	25 000.00
3.	Harare East			25 000.00
4.	Masvingo			5 000.00
5.	Makoni-Buhera			12 000.00
6.	Murewa			15 000.00
7.	Mutasa-Nyanga			12 000.00
8.	Mutare District			20 000.00
9.	Mutare South			7 000.00
10.	Mutoko-Mudzi			15 000.00
	TOTAL			154 000.00
K	PROJECTS COMMITTEE (TASK FORCE)			609 050.00
L.	SUMMARY OF REVENUE:			
A.	CONFERENCE ASSESSMENTS	1 443 800,00	1 288 326,87	1 694 400.00
B.	ADMINISTRATION FUND	765 970,00	511 846,82	1 343 000.00
C.	PROPERTY RENTALS	290 500,00	142 957.35	542 750.00
D.	SELF HELP PROJECTS & INV.	759 930,00	230 000,00	784 930.00
E.	HARVEST THANKSGIVING	1 126 000,00	1 329 124,65	1 538 225.00
F.	ORGANIZATIONS	56 000,00	61 000,00	90 000.00
G.	SPECIAL DONATIONS	28 000,00	62 808,36	87 000.00
H.	SAL. ENDOWMENT FUND	500 000,00	162 000,00	500 000.00
I.	CONTRAS INCOME	893 620,00		1 164 000.00
J	HEAD OFFICE DEVELOPMENT			154 000.00
K	PROJECTS (TASK FORCE)			609 050.00
	GRAND TOTAL	5 863 820,00	3 788 063,80	8 507 355.00

	EXPENDITURE:	1997 BUDGET	1997 ACTUAL	1998 PROPOSED BUDGET
A.	ADMINISTRATION OF DISTRICTS:	\$	\$	\$
1.	Harare West District	29 370,00	40 303,00	50 000.00
2.	Harare East District	20 000,00	32 597,83	40 000.00
3.	Masvingo District	28 000,00	76 530,00	45 000.00
4.	Murewa District	25 635,00	40 627,00	40 000.00
5.	Makoni-Buhera District	25 635,00	68 800,00	50 000.00
6.	Mutasa-Nyanga District	20 000,00	31 353,00	35 000.00
7.	Mutare South District	29 370,00	29 370,00	40 000.00
8.	Mutare District	30 000,00	21 328,32	45 000.00
9.	Mutoko-Mudzi District	29 370,00	29 370,00	40 000.00
10.	Bulawayo-Midlands District	<u>28 000,00</u>	<u>28 000,00</u>	<u>40 000,00</u>
	SUB-TOTALS	265 380,00	398 279,15	425 000,00

		1997 BUDGET	1997 ACTUAL	1998 PROPOSED BUDGET
B.	ADMINI. - PENSION & SALARIES:	\$	\$	\$
1.	District Superintendent's Salaries	443 825,00	971 966,42	550 000,00
2.	District Superintendent's Allow.	175 105,00		480 000,00
3.	Pastors' Salary Relief	117 500,00	152 988,59	198 000,00
4.	Conference Paid Clergy Pension)		20 562,01	30 000,00
5.	Conference Paid NSSA)	42 545,00	160 217,40	210 000,00
6.	Conf. Paid Lay Workers Pension)			
7.	Conf. Paid Lay Workers NSSA)	36 000,00	37 728,87	50 000,00
8.	Conference Admin Staff Salaries	503 370,00	250 150,83	485 000,00
9.	Admin. Assist. Allow	10 000,00	27 059,61	42 000,00
10.	Appreciation to Retirees	7 475,00	-	252 000,00
11.	District Directors Allowances	60 000,00	36 716,50	50 000,00
12.	Conference Paid Staff Med Aid	92 840,00	123 731,90	161 000,00
13.	Conference Auditors Salaries		62 190,48	82 000,00
14.	Head-Office Staff Allowances		15 189,54	21 000,00
15.	Associate Directors			180 000,00
	SUB-TOTAL	1 597 350,00	1 955 372,80	2 791 000,00
C.	THEOLOGICAL EDUCATION			
1.	United Theological College	464 745,00	217 866,27	617 000,00
2.	Conference Course of Study	62 700,00		81 000,00
3.	Africa University	52 500,00		37 200,00
4.	Pastors School			80 000,00
5.	Pastors UNISA and U.Z.	11 000,00		15 000,00
6.	Pastors on Study (2/3 Salary)	143 815,00		101 000,00
	SUB-TOTAL	734 760,00	217 866,27	931 200,00

D.	CONTRAS:			
	(PENSION, NSSA, MEDICAL AID)			
1.	Conf. Pastors NSSA Contribution	211 660,00		276 000,00
2.	Conf. Pastors Pension Contrib.	352 765,00		460 000,00
3.	Conf. Workers Med. Aid Contrib.	<u>329 195,00</u>		<u>428 000,00</u>
	SUB-TOTAL	893 620,00		1 164 000,00

		1997 BUDGET	1997 ACTUAL	1998 PROPOSED BUDGET
E.	HEAD-OFFICE GENERAL ADMINISTRATION	\$	\$	\$
1.	CONFAD Admin. Costs (food, travel etc.)			60 000,00
2.	Head Office Service Charges	80 000,00	86 715,04	113 000,00
3.	Head Office Supplies	80 000,00	68 663,74	80 000,00
4.	Administrative Assistant Travel	10 000,00	30 195,36	15 000,00
5.	Conference Lay-leaders' Travel	18 000,00	9 764,00	20 000,00
6.	ACG & D Budget	20 000,00	-	180 000,00
7.	Leadership Training Courses	6 210,00	18 806,34	25 000,00
8.	Annual Conference	15 000,00	4 282,90	20 000,00
9.	CONFAD Secretariat Exp. & Audit	10 000,00	25 274,01	33 000,00
10.	Task Force Cultivation & Prom.	10 000,00	71 656,74	50 000,00
11.	Printing Conference Journal	20 000,00	78 763,80	103 000,00
12.	Transfer of Pastors	40 000,00	88 081,68	115 000,00
13.	Legal Expenses		550,70	10 000,00
14.	Episcopacy Committee Expenses	14 000,00	39 519,50	25 000,00
15.	Board of Trustees Expenses	15 000,00	10 306,87	15 000,00
16.	Board of Ordain. Min, Admin. Fund	12 000,00	2 184,40	10 000,00
17.	Cabinet Meeting Expenses - Travel	15 000,00	106 693,07	140 000,00
18.	Stand 1426 Mortgage	385 800,00	80 355,11	384 000,00
19.	Conference Auditors Expenses	36 000,00	23 600,60	32 000,00
21.	Conference Land Rates & Taxes		107 085,99	140 000,00
22.	MRID Arnoldine		13 961,93	20 000,00
23.	Church Record		13 474,38	20 000,00
24.	Conference House Rental		15 076,99	20 000,00
25.	Maintenance			75 000,00
26.	Vehicle Fund			105 000,00
27.	Vehicle Expenses			15 000,00
28.	Central Conference Travel Fund			15 000,00
29.	General Conference Travel Fund			80 000,00
	SUB-TOTAL	1 339 510,00	1 095 699,50	2 141 000,00

		1997 BUDGET	1997 ACTUAL	1998 PROPOSED BUDGET
F.	COUNCIL ON MINISTRIES	\$	\$	\$
1.	CCOM Director Operation Office	60 000,00	37 370,43	50 000,00
2.	Hospital Maintenance		89 455,34	89 455,00
3.	Education Secretary Travel	20 000,00	17 884,55	24 000,00
4.	Music & Worship Director Exp.	4 000,00	3 148,09	4 000,00
5.	District Directors Expenses: Travel Allowance 750 x 10	40 000,00	111 627,96	146 000,00
6.	All Africa Conference of Churches	2 000,00	-	2 000,00
7.	Zimbabwe Council of Churches	3 500,00	5 000,00	6 500,00
8.	World Council of Churches	2 000,00	-	2 000,00
9.	World Methodist Council		-	12 000,00
10.	Mutambara Hospital	30 000,00	1 250,00	5 000,00
11.	Mutambara Nursing School	30 000,00	3 750,00	5 000,00
12.	Nyadire Nursing School	-	-	5 000,00
13.	Nyadire Hospital	15 000,00	1 250,00	5 000,00
14.	Old Mutare Hospital	60 000,00	1 250,00	16 250,00
15.	Conference Med. Secretary Exp.	2 000,00	-	2 600,00
16.	Conf. Agricultural Sec. Expenses	2 000,00		2 600,00
17.	Conf. Youth Director	-	57 182,08	55 000,00
18.	Women's Work		26 011,00	35 371,00
19.	Capital Expenditure			100 000,00
20.	Vehicle Fund			75 000,00
	SUB-TOTAL	327 500,00	371 758,62	509 369,00
G.	Salaries Endowment fund			500 000,00
H	SUMMARY OF EXPENSES:			
A.	Administration of Districts	265 380,00	398 279,15	425 000,00
B.	Admin. Pension and Salaries	1 597 350,00	1 955 372,80	2 711 000,00
C.	Theological Education	734 760,00	217 866,27	931 200,00
D.	Contras Pension, NSSA Med. Aid	893 620,00		1 164 000,00
G.	Salaries Endowment Fund			500 000,00
	GRAND TOTAL	1 668 120,00	4 038 976,20	8 507 355,00

AFRICA UNIVERSITY COMMITTEE REPORT

INTRODUCTION

The committee is pleased to present its report for this year 1997 on the progress and development at Africa University bounds in its student enrollment, the academic programme, campus development, general awareness about the institution both in Africa and overseas as well as in other aspects.

1.0 STUDENT AFFAIRS

There has been a tremendous growth in student enrollment since the inception of the university. As student enrollment increases each year, Administration becomes aware of the fact that university business is primarily about students. Administration is paying attention to student affairs as well as the gender issue which has student affairs as well as the gender issue which has received a great deal of attention throughout the world.

1.1 STUDENT ENROLLMENT

The table below shows enrollment according to according facilities and gender.

<u>FACULTY</u>	<u>MALE</u>	<u>FEMALE</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
Intensive English	5	4	9
Agriculture & Natural Resources	64	32	96
Education	163	134	297
Management & Administration	111	68	168
Theology	21	8	29
TOTAL	364	236	600

In terms of percentages:

Female students form	33.33%
Male students form	60.67%
African countries represented	18%
Zimbabwean students number 471	78.50%
International students number 129	21.50%

It is quite evidence that Africa University is addressing the gender issue each year.

1.2 STUDENT RECRUITMENT

In future, the guiding principle is to enroll 40 percent from Zimbabwe and 60 percent from other Africa countries. At the same time the gender issue will need attention as mentioned above mentioned above. A concerted effort will also be made to attract international students.

1.3 STUDENT ACCOMMODATION

To date there seven (7) halls of residence for students on campus. Six of them are two-storey buildings, and the newest is three-storey one. The halls of residence are adequately furnished with beds, mattresses, wardrobes, reading desks, chairs, bookshelves and curtains. There are over 100 students who have opted to stay off campus in order to cut on costs. Wardens are appointed to look after the students in the halls of residence. Administration reported that they are quite satisfied with the manner in which student accommodation has been arranged from the beginning of this academic year.

1.4 STUDENT FEE PAYMENT

Students pay rent for the rooms they occupy as follows:

Triple occupancy room	Z\$1 500.00
Double occupancy	Z\$2 000.00
Single occupancy	Z\$4 000.00

The students also pay for the food obtained from the university dining hall. The cafeteria system where every food item is costed has been adopted to cut down on wastage and expenditure.

1.5 LOANS AND FINANCIAL AID-1997/1998

Zimbabwean students with the exception of those in Theology receive Vocational Training Loans (VTL) from government. The loan amount for each student has been set at 50% of the fees that would normally be paid at state universities. Students in Theology are supported by the church.

1.6 STUDENT BOYCOTT OF CLASSES

In April 1997, students boycotted classes over the increase of fees by US\$500. The cost of attendance to a student in the following year, 1997/98, increased to US\$3 500. The Student Representative Council (SRC) took the university to court over the issue. The matter is still with the courts and the University Legal Advisers are handling the matter.

At the time of our meeting, students had paid their fees and the university was running smoothly. There were signs that the issue would be resolved amicably.

1.7 SCHOLARSHIPS

The university awards scholarships to students on merit in their second, third and fourth year. It was noted that the City of Mutare was fully sponsoring a student at Africa University. Other potential donors should be encouraged to sponsor deserving students. Our conference should explore ways and means of assisting poor students.

1.8 DISCIPLINE

Very good, students are not allowed to smoke and drink on campus.

2.0 STAFFING

2.1 The university now has four academic faculties:

Agriculture and Natural Resources, Education, Management and Administration and Theology. Humanities, which is already being offered, will soon be the fifth one. The table below shows staff by grades over the last three academic years:

2.2 STAFF ISSUES

2.2.1 The Registrar's office has been restructuring to include three assistant registrars who are now in post. the Registrar's Post has been filled.

2.2.2 Remuneration Package The matter of conditions of service and remuneration is being looked into by consultants.

2.2.3 The university has not been able to recruit qualified staff due to an uncompetitive salary package.

3.0 THE LIBRARY

3.1 Readership This has gone up from 400 to 700 in the first semester of 1997.

3.2 Staff The situation is satisfactory.

3.3 Library Book Stocks

The librarian reported that the stock had grown steadily with 2 969 new titles added to the stock during 1997. There had been no scramble for books. The library also has 25 current journals.

3.4 Physical Facilities

The library is accommodated in a temporary large room so that the seating facilities, storage space, and shelving are inadequate. However, the university is still coping. A new library is to be completed by 1999.

4.0 CAMPUS DEVELOPMENT

A number of projects have been undertaken and a lot of progress has been made:

4.1 The University Chapel

Progress has been made on the chapel which should be completed in April 1998 but plans are afoot for its dedication on December 14, 1997.

4.2 Campus Staff Houses

Two houses have already been completed and a third one is under construction.

4.3 Residential Hall-Block J

This is the first three storey block into which students moved early in September this year. The block will also be dedicated on 14 December, 1997.

<u>GROUP</u>	<u>MAR.96</u>	<u>MAR.97</u>	<u>AUG.97</u>
Executive Staff	7	4	4
<u>Academic Staff:</u>			
Faculty of Agriculture	10	10	10
Faculty of Theology	5	6	6
Faculty of Education	3	7	2
Faculty of Management	2	4	6
Department of Humanities	3	4	8
<u>Visiting Lecturers</u>			
Faculty of Agriculture	2	5	
Faculty of Education	2	5	
Technical & Admin. Staff	11	11	11
Executive Secretaries	10	10	10
Secretaries & Bookkeepers	6	7	7
General Hands	47	60	60
TOTAL	101	129	120

The Acting Registrar reported that the most immediate and pressing problem was that of staffing. The university had advertised nine (9) vacant posts in Education and Humanities. It is not easy to find staff qualified to teach in university especially when you start offering senior degrees. Besides, conditions of service have to be attractive enough to attract the best staff. On the whole the staffing situation is satisfactory. The use of volunteer staff, visiting lecturers and seconded staff helped to alleviate staff shortage in the academic area.

4.4 Sporting and games fields have been completed for use by students.

5. Other services provided to students include health services, counselling and guidance. Students have benefited immensely from the services. Attendance at Wednesday Chapel services was reported to be encouraging. Besides worship services, chaplancy activities include Ash Wednesday, Palm Sunday and Easter Celebrations, Prayer Vigil, Memorial Service, Dedication Sunday and fellowship hour.

6. FINANCIAL SUPPORT FROM ZIMBABWE

There is no evidence of financial support from Zimbabwe Annual Conference towards the running costs or projects at all. It is therefore recommended that:-

6.1 Africa University Sunday be observed and that the money raised be sent to all via the Conference Treasurer.

6.2 University staff and members of all committee be invited to Africa University Sunday and District Conferences to speak on the need to support the university.

6.3 Other means such as dinner dances, sponsored walks, etc be used to raise money for Africa University.

7. **RELATIONS WITH OTHER UNIVERSITIES IN AFRICA AND OVERSEAS**

These are cordial and links with universities overseas are growing. It is recommended that Zimbabwean students who have studied at church related institutions inform the colleges and universities about Africa University.

8. **COMMUNITY SERVICE**

It was noted that Africa University is playing its part in the local community through research and conducting church services as well as special classes for those embarking on degree programmes through part-time. their outreach programme is gaining momentum.

9. **CONCERNS (2)**

9.1 While the university sources and provides scholarships to students in their second, third and fourth year on merit, there are many deserving students who could benefit from additional scholarships. It is therefore recommended that some of the money raised by the church be used for scholarships for members of the United Methodist Church.

9.2 The committee also noted that the number of students opting for the B.D. degree is terribly small. It is therefore recommended that a concerted effort be made to encourage our young people, including graduands from Epworth Theological College who hold the entry qualifications to opt for the B.D. degree. The universities should also consider mature entry into the programme. The committee also recommends that Epworth Theological College becomes an affiliate college of either University of Zimbabwe or Solusi, or Africa University so that the graduands are awarded diplomas which will enable them to enter the universities for degree programmes. How about reducing the number of years for those who already hold ?

10. **APPRECIATIONS**

This Committee wishes to express its sincere gratitude to vice-chancellor Dr John Zvamakandiita Kurewa for the sterling job done over the seven (7) years during which time he laid a strong foundation for Africa University. We found him amiable, helpful and humble in his dealings with us and the public at large. He shall go down in the history of education in Africa as a giant in Higher Education.

At the same time we wish to congratulate the Board on the appointment of Professor Rukudza Murapa as the vice-chancellor of Africa University. We hope he will raise the university to greater heights and to its weaning in the year 2004.

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, Africa University is achieving its mission to produce graduands with a Christian background, knowledge, integrity, skill and understanding. The university endeavours to build a community where people understand and respect value and tolerance for each other. The goal is to build Africa University as a model of excellence in Africa and a pioneer in multicultural education which is "education for liberation".

BOARD OF PENSIONS REPORT

1. Introduction

Bishop, allow us, your Board of Pensions to congratulate this Conference on the occasion of the United Methodist Church's one hundred years anniversary. We join all the other Church agencies to express our gratitude to God for the work which the Church has done in this Conference. While a lot of work has been covered in most aspects of the Church's life, not much seems to have been done to provide a realistic retirement or disability package for the employees of the Church. It is a negative commentary on us as a Conference when persons (who have given all their working life in service to the Church) end up (after retirement) living in near destitution. A look at the pension disbursement list will show you that the situation is a "crisis" situation.

Bishop and Conference, as we all plan and prepare to serve the Lord in the next hundred years, and as we develop our collective vision for the 21st Century, let us remember that what we put in place as retirement (disability) package will either discourage or help to encourage people to work full time for the Church as clergy or lay employees.

There is another disturbing feature about the Ministers' Pension, namely that there are some circuits which do not seem to take the pension of their pastors seriously. Such circuits have not paid their contributions regularly.

2. Brief Review (Overview)

The employees of the United Methodist Church contribute to the Ministers Pension if they are clergy or to Lay Workers Retirement Fund if they are laity.

In 1961, Annual Conference approved the establishment of the Lay Workers Retirement Fund (LWRF), a contributory pension and the fund was subsequently established in 1962. It was not until the late sixties and early seventies that efforts to establish Ministers Pension gained serious attention of Conference. Initially, the Ministers Pension was a non-contributory pension. Gradually, this, too, became a contributory scheme.

However, the present state of the two schemes is not good. Both have a very small base because they are funded by employee-employer defined contributions coming from basic salaries which are very low. Your Board, Bishop, is satisfied that if this type of contributions is maintained, the situation will not improve the bases of the two pension funds. Each of these two retirement funds has weaknesses and advantages.

The comparison below shows the similarities and differences of the two schemes.

	MINISTERS PENSION	LAY WORKERS RETIREMENT FUND
1.	This is a <i>defined</i> contribution fund.	This, too, is a <i>defined</i> contribution fund.
2.	This fund has a group life cover Insurance (Death benefit)	This fund has no life cover.
3.	This fund pays a pension at retirement of member and to surviving spouse	This fund pays a lump sum figure and not a pension at retirement
4.	There is no guaranteed rate of interest in this fund	This fund guarantees an interest rate of 7 1/2% on the members and General Accounts.
5.	This fund is administered by a commercial insurance company	This fund is administered by the Conference

3. **Observation:**

Because the salaries of both clergy and lay workers are very low, the base of each of these funds is very small as mentioned above.

Your Board has looked at several possible ways, which might help to improve the two schemes. (These are reflected in our recommendations).

4. **Life Cover and other benefits**

"Your Board feels that it is necessary to have Group Personal Accident and sickness Insurance for both our lay workers and ministers. If an employee dies before retirement this policy's cover will enhance the financial position of the Estate. It will also cover total Temporary Disablement and Permanent Disability. This is an annual contract to be effected from January 1998."

5. **Final Salary Arrangement**

This is an important concept in actuarial business. This simply means that a member's pension must be realistically related to one's salary at retirement and to the length of their service. However, because of the size of the funds, this goal cannot be achieved in the short term. It has to be one of our long-term goals.

6. **Defined Contributions**

Bishop and Conference, your Board notes with great concern that the basis of funding our retirement funds is 5% of the member's salary matched by the employer. We want to ask Conference to change this so that the employer's contribution will vary from time to time depending on the level of the funds.

7. **Investment of the Funds**

Your Board has observed that some of the funds are invested in regular low interest investments. Your Board feels that there is need to look at the investment portfolios of these funds with a view:

- (a) to shield the funds from the risk of being over exposed to the ever-changing investment forces, and
- (b) to put the funds into high interest investments.

Ultimately Bishop, it is the strong desire and hope of your Board to see the fund grow and develop into ONE strong and viable retirement fund with sufficient resources and assets not only to adequately support its members in retirement, but also to build up a strong reserves.

8. **Merger of the two schemes**

Obviously Bishop, the separate administration of the two funds is expensive. Costs could be saved if the two schemes were to be merged and administered by one agency. The Board is aware that in proposing the merger, members of the two schemes should not be disadvantaged or prejudiced by the merger.

9. **RECOMMENDATIONS**

(a). **Contributions:**

(i) Your Board has discussed above the need for a strong fund base. In order to achieve that goal, the starting point would be to ask the employer (ie the salary paying agency) to make higher contributions than is the case currently.

We recommend that the employee's contribution be raised to 7 1/2 % of the member's salary and that the employer's contribution be 15% and that the employer's contribution be reviewed by Conference from time to time.

(ii) We recommend that circuits pay contributions per quarter in advance.

(b). **Final Salary Arrangement:**

Bishop your Board feels that this will be the ideal. We recommend that we aim for that as our goal whenever it is practically possible.

(c) **Pensions:**

The current pension disbursed to a retired pastor (surviving spouse) is far below the poverty line. Your Board recommends that Conference makes monthly payments to retired pastors so that the monthly aggregate paid to a retiree (spouse) is eight hundred dollars per month in 1998.

(d) **Disability and life cover:**

The Board of Pensions recommends that Conference allows this Board to explore ways to make these benefits part of the retirement package and that the Board be empowered to implement what they may come up with if, in their opinion, it is considered to be reasonable

(e) **Investment of funds:**

We recommend that expert advise be sought in order to establish a proper investment portfolio for the pension funds which are currently in low interest earning investment(s).

(f) **Merger of the two funds:**

We recommend that Conference approves, in principle, the merger of the two schemes and further recommend that the Board be empowered to initiate the merger process after expert advice has been sought from experts (actuary and legal).

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES REPORT TO THE 1997 ANNUAL CONFERENCE
OLD MUTARE UNITED METHODIST CENTRE - DECEMBER 1997**

The Board of Trustees met once during 1997. Most of the work has been carried out by the Executive which met twice and delegated the chairperson and the secretary to carry out most of the duties.

1. Stand 564 Gaza Township Chipinge

A Lease with rent to buy arrangement has been drawn between Chipinge District Rural Council (Lessor) and the Trustees of Zimbabwe annual Conference (Lessee). Regretfully the lease has not been signed or consummated because Mutare South District cannot meet its financial responsibility of paying the needed \$1 684.00 monthly rent, until such time that we can buy this property. Full cost of the hall is \$100 500.00 excluding cost of land.

2. Stand 1426, 165 chinhoi Street Harare:

We have four tenants, with signed 2 year leases, renewable, as follows:

Section 1: Shelter Trust paying	\$11 500.00 per month
Section 2: U M Publications paying	12 500.00 per month
Section 3: Tariro Buses paying	1 522.00 per month
Section 4: Ms. Rose Mukwedeya	955.00 per month

This is slightly short of our monthly mortgage of \$31 550.00 payable to CABS monthly. This short fall is being cushioned by the circuits who are responding belatedly to the Bishop's Appeal of 1996, (see Conference Treasurer's report for list of outstandings). We encourage these payments to be completed.

3. Improvements at Episcopal Residence

- a. With the availability of bore-hole water, the grounds have improved with a beautiful lawn.
- b. Painting both inside and outside have not been done.
- c. Dedication of the residence has not been done.

4. **Squatters on Mission lands**

We still have squatters at Arnoldine and Nyakatsapa mission centers. the Board of Trustees is realising three problems related to squatter matters.

- a. There is no close communication with Station Executives in dealing with squatters.

- b. The squatter problem is a national problem affecting many land owners in Zimbabwe.
- c. One lawyer, the late Mr. C. Mutasa, who had volunteered to deal with our squatter matters without charging fees, died before he accomplished much in this regard.

5. Development of Kingaroy as Conference Centre

We commend and congratulate Conference Rukwadzano RRW for spear-heading the development of this Centre by constructing a 2-classroom Block and a large dormitory to accommodate 15 students. The class-room block is complete. the Dormitory is almost complete with roof on. It is expected that plumbing, plastering, ceiling, electricity work and painting should be completed early 1998. The Board of Trustees has been asked to help in the planning and the construction of these buildings.

6. Incomplete Items

- a. Nyakatsapa and Arnoldine tenant Mission Farms new leases (see Board of Trustees report 1996 Annual Conference Journal page. 157)
- b. Good tenant deposits for Conference houses leased to workers
- c. Transfer of stand 4937 Unit C Seke Parsonage
- d. Transfer of Stand 7121 Zengeza 3 Parsonage
- e. Transfer of stand 1199 Mabvuku Township Parsonage
- f. Transfer of stand 4029 Mufakose Parsonage
- g. Maps on Physical Planning of mission Sites

7. Insurance of Conference Properties

We remind all units of the Zimbabwe Annual Conference that all properties of the Conference should be insured. Each unit is responsible for paying the premiums of all insured properties. There is no exemption in this matter. It is cheaper and convenient to have all properties inspected, estimated and insured through Willis Corroon Insurance Brokers. There is no charge for the inspection and estimation of any of our properties. Please refer to 1996 Annual Conference Resolutions No. 1 1996 Official Journal of the ZAC p.265

The following properties are on our Fleet Insurance enjoying cheaper rates:

- a. Stand 1200 Highlands: Episcopal Residence
- b. Stands 1424 Re 1424 1426 and 1426 Harare
- c. Stand 243 Leonard Road Waterfalls Parsonage
- d. Nyadire Mission Hospital
- e. United Methodist Dental Clinic
- f. Mutambara Mission and Hospital
- g. Stand 1244 Mukuwisi Crescent Glen Norah Parsonage
- h. Murewa High School Computers
- i. 1-29 Cassino Avenue Waterfalls
- j. 15 Kariba Crescent Wilmington Park RRW House
- k. 11 Drummond Chaplain Street Harare West District Parsonage
- l. 1 Munro Way Cranborne
- m. 6 Shangani Road Mt Pleasant Harare
- n. Old Mutare Mission
- o. 142 Westwood Harare

8. Church Site Leases: Rural and Urban

It is a legal requirement that all our church sites have an official Lease with an authenticated Lease Number 3. eg. the Lease No for Dendera Site is CL 10974; Katsukunya 6418 Dindi 20444 Tshabalala 63063 Mundenda 15028 Chipfatsura 14817 Chiringaodzi 39251 Gatsi Clinic 9984 Gatsi church 9985.

We appeal to all District Superintendents to make sure that all the churches have a lease with the Local Authorities in their respective areas. The D.S. Makoni Buhera District has spearheaded in this exercise.

9. Role of District Chairpersons and Station Executives

We reiterate our stand that the District Chairperson and Station Executives are integral partners in the work of the Board of Trustees. All District matters dealing with Real Estate should be channeled through them, before proceeding to Conference Board of Trustees. (see 1996 BOT report p. 159 item 10)

10. Exemption from "With-holding Tax"

Official documents to assist our units obtain exemption from paying any "with-holding tax" have been circulated to all Districts and units. None of our banking units should be paying this tax.

11. Rural Taxes on Mission Farms

The Conference pays rural Tax as title deed holder for the following examples:-

Old Mutare Mission	Nyakatsapa Mission Farm
Arnoldine Mission Farm	Nyadire Mission Farm
*Mutoko Mission Centre	*Odzi United Methodist Church
*Headlands United Methodist C	*Lydia Chimonyo Girls High School
Mutambara McAndrews Mission	*Macheke United M.Church Site
*Stand 243 Rusape District Parsonage	

All larger Station Executives pay 75% of the Annual Rural Tax, while those marked with an asterisk* pay 100% of their Rural Tax.

12. Mission House Rents

The present system of rating conference houses for rent purposes is classifying them into A.B.C.D.E according to number of bedrooms. The present rates applicable are \$120.00; \$80.00; \$60.00; \$40.00; \$25.00; or \$180.00 \$160.00; \$100.00; \$80.00; \$60.00; \$40.00; \$20.00; \$15.00; per month.

In any case, these amounts are so low that one cannot buy a 5-litre tin of PVA paint!

The Board of Trustees has agreed that rents should be revised based on square meter rating instead of bed-rooms.

This Annual Conference sitting is being requested to approve that the Board of Trustees come up with new rent ratings, and that new Lease Agreements be drawn and be implemented before end of 1998.

13. Renovations-Repairs at Conference Headquarters

Certain renovations and repairs were carried out at the Conference Headquarters, including pavings and painting. Most offices needed inside painting. It is hoped that this can be done during 1998.

14. Disposition of Old Vehicles

From time to time, units have requested the Board for permission to sale their old vehicles.

The Board resolved that all such sales be done by the Conference Board of Trustees, either by public auction, or tender or any other means the Board sees fit and convenient according to the state of the vehicle in question.

15. Board of Trustees Executive

The Board has now spelt out its executive, as follows:

1. Chairperson
2. Vice Chairperson
3. Secretary
4. Conference Treasurer
5. Either of Conference Secretary or Conference Layleader or COM Director

16. Board of Trustees Committee

The Board has realised that its work is increasing. It has now approved that there be two permanent committees:

- i. Inspection Committee: to look into the proper maintenance of Conference properties.
- ii. Investment Committee: to look into and advise on investment of Conference Funds; i.e; investment possibilities, depositing funds in interest bearing accounts, short term, long term basis, etc.

17. Conference Fire-Arms

For the sake of some who may not know, the Board would like to inform the Conference that we own fire-arms: A Shot gun Cooley and a Greaner. Their purpose is for "live-stock and crop "protection on our farms. Both are registered and licensed in the name of the Church. The Board Secretary is the registered custodian.

18. Dedication of MRID Arnoldine Work

In our report for 1996 we reported handing over MRID Arnoldine Work to an MRID Committee. Work has started well there. The Board would like to see the building and facilities dedicated during 1998.

19. Rural Tax: Mission Stores Rents: Land Rents

	<u>Balance 1996</u>	<u>Add 1997</u>	<u>Paid 1997</u>	<u>Balance 1997</u>
<u>Nyakatsapa Mission Farm</u>				
Station Executive	607.50 cr	1 875.00	- -	1 267.50
V Makunike Store & Mill	- -	1 800.00	- -	1 800.00
<u>Old Mutare Mission</u>				
Station Executive	2 430.00	739.00	- -	3 169.20
Africa University	9 800.00	9 800.00	- -	19 600.00
J. Mawoyo Store	1 000.00	1 200.00	2 200.00	- - -

J. Mukotsanjera W/Shop	3 000.00	600.00	1 700.00	1 900.00
Odzani Trading Company	9 979.20	5 443.20	13 037.76	2 384.64
Mutasa Butchery	3 960.00	10 454.40	3 240.00	11 174.40

Mutambara Mission

Station Executive	75.00	150.00	- -	225.00
Mataure Store	1 200.00	1 200.00	- -	2 400.00

<u>Lydia Chimonyo G. H. Sch</u>	225.00	225.00	- -	450.00
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Arnoldine Mission Farm

Station Executive	- -	7 500.00	1 875.00	5 625.00
B. Mwashita Grinding Mill	- -	600.00	600.00	- -
W Chimboza	- -	1 200.00	1 200.00	- -

Nyadire Mission Farm

Station Executive	1 822.50	1 276.50	3 099.00	- -
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Recommendations

1. That Conference Houses be rented on square meter basis than number of bedrooms, and that these be brought into effect during 1998.
2. That rent amounts be decided based on current repair/maintenance costs.
3. That old vehicles be sold by the Conference Board of Trustees.
4. That buildings and other facilities at Arnoldine MRID be dedicated during 1998.
5. Repeat Nos. 1-4 1996 Report p.162
 - Dedication of Episcopal Residence
 - Employment of Board of Trustees full time Secretary.
 - Compulsory insurance for all Conference Properties
 - Maintenance of Mission Properties be considered a performance factor

R.E. J Chimonyo
SECRETARY

R.M Kawenda
CHAIRPERSON

10. CONCLUSION:

Bishop and Conference, the Board of Pensions urges this Conference and all its agencies to become more seriously involved in developing a strong and viable retirement package for the employees of our Church. Share with this Board any ideas which you may have. Let us work together to create job security for our clergy (especially).

4.8 OTHERS	-	150	56	-	-	193	83	-	-	5	487	-	-
	BULAWAYO/MIDLANDS												
	HARARE EAST												
	HARARE WEST												
	MAKONI/BUHERA												
	MASVINGO												
	MUREWA												
	MUTARE												
	MUTARE SOUTH												
	MUTASA/NYANGA												
	MUTOKO/MUDZI												
5. BUILDINGS:													
5.1 Sanctuaries Under Construction	6	11	10	31	3	35	47	11	24	29	207	73	284
	3	5	6	6	3	12	20	5	5	10	75	84	
5.2 Parsonages Under Construction	2	13	12	10	5	14	16	4	9	9	94	213	92
	3	1	2	2	-	2	5	2	1	3	21	15	
5.3 Halls Under Construction	1	2	1	-	-	-	1	-	2	1	8	17	79
	0	2	3	-	-	-	1	-	2	2	10		
6. FINANCES:	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
6.1 Salaries: Budget	499077	510161	226753	268030	561126	160100	186396	382558					
Actual	272998	511192	130018	144271	513414	129305	145081	261842					
6.2 Harvest: Target	1156600	1595800	311100	258000	1145060	210000	400000	459000					
Actual	926014	2037926	162797	153942	1307870	176296	304791	417636					
6.3 Assessment: Budget	425140	368757	278502	305033	463430	195000	167922	199700					
Actual	336546	111041	82755	43903	134036	63100	167922	76550					
6.4 Missions: Budget	14650	21850	6620	1000	63541	55000	3500	8800					
Actual	18600	51962	1200	500	50191	15000	3500	4265					
6.5 Tithing: Actual	451832	383028	13232	20618	115991	7351	67942	67671					
6.6 Pension & NSSA: Actual	51244	36533	23560	14793	13757	6442	20747	23566					

BOARD OF ORDAINED MINISTRY REPORT

CHAIRMAN -K. Mwandira
VICE -M. Masamba

REGISTRAR/SECRETARY-G.K. Machinga
VICE -A. Jumbi

1. MISSION STATEMENT

The Board of Ordained Ministry believes in an educated ministry as well as a called one, and therefore views its mission as that of recruiting and preparing persons for the full time ministry of the Church. The persons called of God for the specialized ministry of Word, Sacrament and Order are screened, tested and guided by the Board through the process of education, training and ordination.

The concerns of the Board involve the welfare of ministers in the Conference from the moment one shows interest in the ministry until retirement and even beyond. This is achievable through providing support services for the ordained minister's career development, including personal and career counseling, continuing education, continuing spiritual growth in Christ, assistance in preparation for retirement, all matters pertaining to clergy morale.

It is the responsibility of the Board:

To promote a ministry which has its foundations in God's saving action; a ministry that inaugurates God's Kingdom of peace, justice, freedom, care and love by service and example.

To be committed to inclusiveness of race, sex, nationality, and economic status. To this end, the Board accepts the challenge to treat persons with respect, equality and without prejudice.

The Board therefore faces the future inspired by its Wesleyan heritage and determined to serve the present age with steadfast faith in the gracious guidance and empowerment of the HOLY SPIRIT.

2. GREETINGS

The resident Bishop and the president of the Zimbabwe Annual Conference, we gather here at Old Mutare to celebrate one hundred years of the church's ministry in Zimbabwe. As a church we celebrate the successes achieved over the years as highlighted by many reports presented at this conference. As we reflect over the hundred year journey since 1897 we feel proud to be part of the United Methodist church family.

Bishop, we should not lose sight of the sacrifice, commitment and dedication of the many heroes of faith, our Pastors, who laid the foundation for us.

We salute all the missionaries, Pastor-Teachers, Pastors (trained and untrained; ordained & non-ordained; dead and alive; retired and effective) those who left all

they had to respond to God's call. Thank you for the sterling job of leading the Zimbabwe Annual Conference to its present state, of which we are all proud of.

3. REVIEWING THE PAST 100 YEARS

The ministry in this country, understandably started as a missionary task but the local people quickly joined with zeal and enthusiasm which has not been matched of late. The missionaries trained the pastor-teachers who did a tremendous witness amongst their own kinsmen but none was ordained until the twenties. More locals joined the theological training available and such training which led to ordination eventually brought the idegenisation of the church. The ministry was a preserve for the male members and until the seventies then the women were accepted into the ministry.

The involvement of the pastor-teachers made certain that the word planted by missionaries through the foreign language and through a different and alien culture was here to stay. This is the word which has spread all over Zimbabwe. Whilst then pastors were also teachers, agriculturists, medical persons, today those called to the High Ministry have confined themselves to the pulpit except very few who are in teaching. This shows an element of specialisation and should therefore be evidenced by quality ministerial performance. The women though still few are as competent as their male counterparts if not even better. Probably with the church's membership being predominantly female we need to challenge more women to join the ministry.

4. RESTRUCTURING OF THE BOARD

In order to facilitate effectiveness, smooth running of the Board and for prompt attention to ministerial issues, three standing committees were created, viz; candidates, welfare and committee on administrative matters. The terms of reference for each of the standing committees were clearly defined.

5. MINISTERIAL TRAINING AND EDUCATION

5.1 THEOLOGICAL TRAINING

5.1.1 The Board notes with joy the following Ministerial Candidates for successfully completing their training and have graduated from United Theological College and Africa University.

Bonga Joseph	-	U.T.C
Chinzvende Doreen	-	A.U
Mashekede Trymore	-	"
Muranda Godfrey	-	"
Muranda John	-	"

Murauro Tafadzwa - “
 Musanhi Tazvionepe - “
 Msinku Smart - “
 Mukata Stephen - “
 Mutanho Agberth - “
 Mutidzawanda Matthew “
 Nyapfumbu Garikai - “

5.1.2 We regret to inform you that Samuel Chapata who last year failed to graduate with others for failure to meet the graduation requirements dropped during the course of the year after adverse reports against him were received.

5.1.3 The Board report with great joy that our students at United Theological College were joined in holy matrimony.
 These are: Tendai Makono
 Tazvionepe Musanhi

5.1.4 A record fifteen Ministerial Candidates were approved by the Board and are now being recommended for training beginning January 1998.

<u>NO</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>MARITAL STATUS</u>	<u>AGE</u>
1.	Chitsiku Daniel	Single	27
2.	Magomo S. Tirivanhu	“	29
3.	Kabunze Itai	“	26
4.	Nyakuengama Ronnie	Married	33
5.	Madzoke Loveness	Single	26
6.	Tavhanya Absolom	“	21
7.	Mashero Edward	Married	27
8.	Chamburuka M. Philemon	Single	25
9.	Chanaiwa George	“	23
10.	Marimbire Kundai	“	27
11.	Chanakira Reuben	Married	28
12.	Tiriwepi Desire	Single	24
13.	Ganda Moore	Married	25
14.	Chikosi Memory	Single	25
15.	Manyeza Ossah	“	26

5.1.5 The following candidates are doing very well and will continue with their studies.

<u>NAME</u>	<u>YEAR-1998</u>
Dzobo Samuel	Second
Marange Edcance	“
Muchanyerei Morris	“

Mukarakate Ngonidzashe	“
Mupfawa Andrew	“
Mwakotsa Heather	“
Mwarumba Julliet	“
Nyagato Faith	“
Nyambiya Samson	“
Saigu Sophrain	“
Zimunya Lordington	“
Bhiri Phanuel	Third
Jeyacheya Stephen	“
Kazande Godfrey	“
Kuzanga Sebastin	“
Makono Tendai	“
Mawoyo Solomon	“
Mupaso Richard	“
Mutasa Elias	“
Nyika Sekai	“
Shanganya Cliff	“
Chitokwindo Molly	Fourth
Matara Simon	“
Mugari Maxwell	“
Musharu Phillip	“
Nyamakope Charles	“
Razo Phanuel	“

5.2. **FURTHER STUDIES**

The Board continue to encourage trained Pastors to further their studies with the purpose of sharpening their skills.

5.2.1 A number of Pastors were granted permission to resume studies during the course of the year:

- (a) Rev T. Muhomba-Diploma in Church Administration
- (b) Rev N. Matonga -B.A Honours-University of Zimbabwe
- (c) Rev T. Moyo -Masters degree-Boston University

5.2.2 The Board congratulates Rev Christopher Chikoore for the successful completion of B.A. Honours degree studies (U.Z), and Rev Forbes Matonga for graduating with a Masters degree from University of Zimbabwe.

5.2.3 We congratulate Rev. M.P. Chambara for attaining certificate in Systemic counseling with Zimbabwe Institute of Systemic Therapy – CONNECT.

5.2.4 The following ministerial members were granted permission to do further studies beginning next year.

Givemore Chimbwanda - Africa University
 Nyasha Chimbunde - Africa University
 Shepherd Makina - Britain
 Newton Pfupa - University of Zimbabwe

- 5.2.4 All ministerial members previously reported doing further studies are progressing very well.
- 5.2.5 The Board is currently in discussions with Africa University through the team of Faculty of Theology for the possibilities of our trained Pastors enrolling for B.D. program be credited for the ministerial training acquired.

5.3 PASTORS' SCHOOL

This year's Pastors' School were held with a difference. Pastors from the Southern part and those from the north met separately at Old Mutare and Murewa respectively. The focus of attention was on our Wesleyan Heritage. A joint school facilitated by our friends from ----- was held at Old Mutare. Pastors shall leave to remember this unique experience as they were spiritually revived through Bible Study and presentations given.

5.4 CONFERENCE COURSE OF STUDY

- 5.4.1 This programme is progressing well with Revs C. Chikoore and F.D. Muzorewa as the new course administrators. A two week school sessions were held at Murewa Mission beginning 13th October 1997.
- 5.4.2 Two students previously enrolled in this program dropped. These are Faith Nyagato who joined United Theological College, and John Chinyerere who resigned from ministry.
- 5.4.3 Three one week school sessions are planned for next year in April, August and November.
- 5.4.4 Students mentioned below are recommended to proceed with their studies next year.

Bondo Elizabeth	Chitiyo Passwell
Chanaiwa Willard	Karimanzira Annah
Charwadza Duncan	Mango Ronald
Chikati Emilia	Muchesa Simon
Chigonda Cecilia	Mupara Winnie
Chirauro Norbert	Phiri Manning

6. PASTORS' WELFARE

- 6.1 The Board applauds the introduction of the contributory Medical Aid Scheme which is now a reality in the conference.

- 6.2 A review of the Pastors' Salaries was done with proposals to be tabled at this conference. The Board views this as a positive step in an endeavour to have our Pastors adequately remunerated. We note with appreciation the effort by our circuits in the support of Pastors, with some circuits providing loans for the purchase of vehicles.
- 6.3 The Board is happy with the Board of Pensions, proposals to improve our Pension Scheme.

7. ARRIVALS

The Board is happy to announce the arrival of a centennial baby, Sussana Ruvimbo Machinga.

8. WEDDINGS

The Board report with profound joy the news of ministerial members who were joined in the Holy Matrimony. these are:

Tiwirai Kufarimayi
Lloyd Nyarota

9. RETIREES

The Board salute Revs Morgan Muchanyerei and John Rufaro Rugayo for faithfully serving God and the church. Rev M. Muchanyerei retire after twenty four years of service in the ministry. He served in different levels and capacities as circuit Pastor, Station Chairman, Schools Chaplain and District Superintendent. Rev J.R. Rugayo spent seven of the ten years in ministry, on honourable location working as Housing and Community Services Director of the city of Mutare. Thank you for the job well done.

10. FACING THE FUTURE:

The Board start yet another century preparing to meet daunting challenges ahead of us, some of which are listed below: -

- (a) To recruit clergy personnel so as to be able to keep up with growth expected in the conference. Emphasis will be placed on the recruitment of women.
- (b) To continue working on the improvement of the welfare of pastors in order to attract quality personnel.
- (c) To find ways of improving the current training program and to come up with other options of training persons for the ordained ministry.

- (d) To encourage pastors to enroll in continuing education program and to enroll for specialized areas of ministry.

CONCLUSION

As we begin a new century, we call upon all United Methodists to selflessly carry the work of the church to greater heights. On behalf of all the ministers in the Conference, we promise you Bishop and your Conference, to do all we can to remain faithful and obedient to the ministry of our Lord Jesus Christ. The best way to appreciate the heritage passed on to us is to be able to repeat Paul's words to Timothy, "I have fought a good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the Faith". (2nd Timoth 4:7)

OBSERVATIONS

1. There has been a notable growth in the membership in general and this is ascribed to evangelism campaigns and also sound membership recording which is close to a true reflection.
2. The total membership can be said to be well over 100 000 people though our membership reflects a total of 85 809 people. The difference of 14 000 people could be due to some circuits which did not report their current statistical positions – about 18 circuits fall in this category of incorrect reporting. Averagely we won 1 000 a year since 1897.
3. **On Societies:**
 - 3.1 About half of our female full members are badged members in the RRW yet all women want to be badged RRW members. The RRW should be challenged to make an all out effort to assist their other women folk so that they obtain the necessary qualifications to be badged.
 - 3.2 Though people are free not to join societies, the men should be urged to join the MUMC since it is our only functional men's society i.e. men meet and share their experiences and support one another. Out of 11 697 male full members only 2 820 are MUMC badged members even if the total includes the youth, still there is reason for the above concern.
 - 3.3 Realising that the youth constitute the bigger percentage of the general population, our statistical record does not reflect that. Only 10 148 youths are reflected in our roll, there is a big possibility that quite many of them are not recorded anywhere. On this there is real necessity to revisit our membership rolls.
4. Pastors – of the total 220 only 129 are trained and ordained. The BOOM has a task to urgently work out a programme to reverse this unhealthy imbalance.
5. **Buildings:**

The 220 pastors are housed in 94 parsonages and 126 borrowed houses and 21 are still under construction. The 86 000 people worship in 207 sanctuaries and 75 are still to be completed. The conference needs to evolve a sound programme for construction.
6. **Baptisms:**

This year our total record fell lower than 1996 though we recorded more new people this year than 1996. Some where on the line some new converts are kept long without baptism – Let us remember to baptise them as soon as they confess the Lordship of Jesus Christ.
7. **Pastoral work:**

See District ratios pastor to parishioners, i.e. 1 pastor to:

Bulawayo Midlands	223	Murewa	429
Harare East	390	Mutare	481
Harare West	475	Mutare South	275
Makoni Buhera	674	Mutasa Nyanga	363

Masvingo 149 Mutoko Mudzi 378
N.B. The pastors' numbers include even those on retirement.

The conference overall ratio is about 389 to a pastor.

8. **Evangelism:**

Harare West recorded the Highest number of new converts then Mutoko Mudzi, Harare West again baptised the highest number of people then Mutare.

9. **Conclusion:**

Where membership figures were not included by any circuit, the statistician used the 1996 statistical data to come up with a report close to our current statistical position.

Murewa 4 circuits did not report i.e. Nhowe, Murewa South West, Murewa North East and Maramba; Bulawayo Midlands, two circuits did not report i.e. Bulawayo West and Kwekwe East.

To improve on this I request that each District appoints a statistician who will team up with the conference statistician for a more accurate data collection.

Submitted: by Rev. K. Marange

THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
ZIMBABWE ANNUAL CONFERENCE

1998 APPOINTMENTS:

BULAWAYO-MIDLANDS

<i>District Superintendent</i>	<i>Caleb Mukasa (1)</i>
<i>District Women's Work:</i>	<i>Christine Mukasa</i>
Bulawayo Central	Andrew Mhondoro (2)
Assistant	TBS
Bulawayo East	Kelvin Mwandira (8)
Bulawayo West	Pathias Hlahla (4)
Bulawayo North	Chareka Gomo (5)
Gweru East	Tsitsi Chigwizura (3)
Gweru West	Leonard Chpangura
Hwange	Joyce Zambezi
Kwekwe East	TBS
Kewkwe Inner City	Lloyd Nyarota (1)
Kwekwe West	Tichaona Tumbare
Mukomba North	Jacob Mushukuto
Redcliff	(Tazvionepi Musanhi Nyarota) (1)
Shurugwi	Scotty Ngulube
COM Director:	L. Nyarota

HARARE EAST DISTRICT:

<i>District Superintendent</i>	<i>Christopher Kudzai Chikoore (2)</i>
<i>District Women's Work:</i>	<i>Marjory Chikoore</i>
Chisipiti	Abbiot M. Moyoyo (1)
Chitungwiza	Lovemore Matewa (2)
Cranborne	Annette Grace Jumbi (3)
Greendale	(Godfrey Kagande) (1)
Harare	Elisha Kabungaidze (2)
Assistant	(Miriam Manyaya) (1)
Hatfield	Israel Kamudzandu (1)
Hunyani	John Muranda (1)
Hwedza	(Stanley Kaseke) (2)
Svosve	(Moses Ganda) (1)
Mabvuku	Joel Mutema (1)
Marondera	James Chikomba (4)
Marondera Inner City	Molly Chitokwindo (1)
Nyameni	(Pindai R. Mango) (1)
Seke Central	Marcus Nyagato (1)
Seke North	Newton Pfupa (1)
Seke South	Solomon Mudonhi (1)

Waterfalls	Lovemore Nyanungo(2)
Ruwa	(Fungai Gwiriri) (2)
Sunningdale	(Thomas Matokodza) (1)
Tafara	Sabastine Kuzanga
COM Director:	Annette Grace Jumbi

HARARE WEST DISTRICT:

<i>District Superintendent:</i>	<i>Geoffrey Kagoro (4)</i>
<i>District Women's Work:</i>	<i>Virginia Kagoro</i>
Bindura	(Matthew Mutidzawanda) (1)
Budiriro	Loreen Chinzvende
Chegutu	(David Mucherera) (2)
Chinhoyi	Tendai Zimunya(3)
Concession	Winnet Chombo
Dzivarasekwa	Brian Chinyerere (1)
Glen Norah	Archford Balance (1)
Glen View	Vienna Mutezo (1)
Gokwe	(Batsirai Katsande) (2)
Hatcliff	Irene Kabete (3)
Highfield	Elijah Chitiyo (3)
Innercity	Philip Mupindu (2)
Associe	Eunice Marima (1)
Kadoma	(Alec Kanhimba) (2)
Kambuzuma	Kenneth Shamu (3)
Kariba	Prisca Nyagande
Karoi- Mhangura	(Washington Jembere) (2)
Kuwadzana	Blessing Mukoyi (4)
Mabelreign	Bernard Mare (1)
Mhondoro	(Dumisani Musimanga) (2)
Mufakose	Edward Chapata (4)
Norton	(Godfrey Gaga) (3)
Warren Park	Thomas Muhomba (2)
Southerton-Lochnivar	Stephen Kamuteerera
Mt. Darwin-Rushinga	(Isaac Chirwa)
COM Director:	Thomas Muhomba

MAKONI-BUHERA DISTRICT:

<i>District Superintendent:</i>	<i>John Chinyati (2)</i>
<i>District Women's Work:</i>	<i>T BS</i>
Buhera	(Edmore Chimbwanda)(1)
Chiduku	(Tafadzwa Murauro) (1)
Chikore	(Martin Chingara) (1)
Chizawana	Daniel Mawanga

Gandanzara	(Agbeth Mutanho) (1)
Headlands East	(Simon Matara) (1)
Headlands North	Elisha Marange
Headlands South	(John Muzorewa) (1)
Makoni	Enos Madziko (1)
Makoni Central	(Reginald Mujeni) (1)
Makoni South	Givemore Chimbwanda (3)
Makoni West	(Taurai Danga) (1)
Rusape	Stephen Mukata (2)
Assistant:	Pamela Chimiza
Tanda	Jevous Nyamupachoto (2)

COM Director: Stephen Mukata

ARNOLDINE PRIMARY SCHOOL:

Headmaster	George Dirorimwe
Deputy Head	Wildreck Makandigona
Station Chairperson	Simon Matara

MASVINGO DISTRICT:

<i>District Superintendent:</i>	<i>Josephat Chaponda Banda (2)</i>
<i>District Women's Work:</i>	<i>Mavis Banda</i>
Chirimanzi	(Patrick Maguje) (1)
Chiredzi	Maxwell Mugari (1)
Gaza	(Marko Vhangarani)(3)
Gutu-Bikita	Dudzai Mutsikwi (2)
Inner City, Masvingo	(Duncan Charwadza) (1)
Masvingo	(Trymore Mashekede) (2)
Mashava	Fannuel Razo
Triangle	(TBS) (1)
Zvishavane	Musafare Mususa (1)
Zaka East	(Panganai Mapa) (1)
Zaka West	(Henry Chareka) (1)

COM Director Trymore Mashekede

MUREWA DISTRICT:

<i>District Superintendent:</i>	<i>Mary Masamba (2)</i>
<i>District Women's Work:</i>	<i>Rose Magamba</i>
Chivake	Jaison Muzarurwi (3)
Maramba	(Mwoyungoziya Murauro) (2)
Murewa Centre	George Magamba (3)
Murewa East	(Garikai Nyapfumbi) (1)

Murewa North West	TBS (1)
Murewa North	(Manning Phiri)(1)
Murewa North East	TBS
Murewa South	TBS (1)
Murewa South West	TBS
Murewa West	(Godfrey Muranda) (1)
Nhowe	Willard Chanaiwa
Pfungwe	(Tonderai Mukandiona) (1)
Uzumba East	Tafadzwa Mabambe (2)
Uzumba North	(Austen Chepiri) (1)
Uzumba South	(Passwell Chitiyo) (3)
Uyuuyu	(Norbert Chirauro) (2)

COM DIRECTOR TBS

MUREWA CENTRE:

Station Chairman	George Magamba (3)
Centre Office Treasurer	Ruramai Mango

MUREWA HIGH SCHOOL:

Headmaster	Pedzisai Kangara
Deputy Head	Emmanuel Banda (Acting)
Matron	Joyce Dangarembwa
Boarding Master	Samuel Makawa

MUREWA PRIMARY SCHOOL:

Headmaster	George Maramba
Deputy Headmaster	Joseph Muzondo (Acting)

DINDI:

SECONDARY SCHOOL:

Headmaster	Victor Katema
Deputy Headmaster	TBS

PRIMARY SCHOOL:

Headmaster	Shupikai Nyamubapasi
Deputy Headmaster	TBS

MUREWA BOARD OF GOVERNORS: TBS

As per book of Discipline 1997.

DINDI BOARD OF GOVERNORS: TBS

MUTARE DISTRICT:

<i>District Superintendent:</i>	<i>Gift Kudakwashe Machinga(2)</i>
<i>District Women's Work:</i>	<i>Margaret Machinga</i>
Chikanga	Martha Mukangara (2)
Chipfatsura Nyagundi	(Pepukai Chigwaya) (2)
Chiringaodzi	(Kejina Gudo) (1)
Chitakatira	(Aggripa Chieza) (2)
Dangamvura	Tiwirai Kufarimai (1)
Assistant	(Annamore Chikukwa) (1)
Dora North	(Joseph Chimberengwa) (1)
Dora South	(Lyn Muchibo) (1)
Hilltop	Eva Verna Mudambanuki (2)
Assistant	
Innercity , St. Peter	Forbes Matonga (2)
Assistant:	T.B.S.
Marange Central	(Nomatter Nikisi) (1)
Marange East	Winnet Mupara
Marange North	(Joseph Bonga) (2)
Marange South	(Simon Tapfuma) (2)
Marange West	(Shingirai Karidzamimba) (2)
Masase	(Togara Bobo) (1)
Mt. Makomwe	Shadreck Kagoro (4)
Mukuni-Mutanda	(Mutsa Muchanyerei) (1)
Rowa	(Elizabeth Bondo) (2)
St. Marys	Margret Bondera (3)
Zimunya Central	Samson Muzengeza (2)
Zimunya East	(Shingirai Mbanje) (1)
Zimunya North	Willas Makunike (2)
Zimunya South	(Solomon Mutsago) (1)
Zimunya West	Farai Bondo (2)

COM Director **TBS**

INSTITUTIONS:

Hilltop Youth Centre Director	Tsitsi Muzorewa
Mutare UMC Director	Ruth Chitewere
Mutare Women's Hostel Director.	Ruth Chitewere

BOARD OF GOVERNORS:

Mutare Women's Hostel: TBS.

United Methodist Youth Centre: TBS

MARANGE HIGH SCHOOL

Headmaster (Acting) Matthew Marange
Deputy Headmaster (Acting) Michael Mapaura

MT. MAKOMWE PRIMARY

Headmaster (Acting) Richard Mawondo
Deputy Headmaster (Acting) Mr. Philip Munyanyi
Station Chairman Shadreck Kagoro
Schools Chaplain Shadreck Kagoro
Centre Treasurer Olivia Nhiwatiwa

MARANGE CENTRE SCHOOL BOARD OF GOVERNORS

Clever Chidzikwe Simon Chigumira
Clever Chidzikwe Christopher Mushohwe
Tendekai Kuture Blessing Rugayo
Choice Makufa Newton Marange
Della Sana Shadreck Kagoro
Elizabeth Zvinoira

MUTARE SOUTH DISTRICT:

District Superintendent: Maxwell Chambara (1)
District Women's Work: Linda Chambara (1)
Buhera East (Cashington Musabaeka) (1)
Buhera West (Cashington Musabaeka) (1)
Chayamiti (Mwaishora Magobeya) (1)
Chibuwe Rimbi (Joanna Madhlayo) (1)
Chimanamani Joshua Zinhanga (2)
Chipinge St. Mark Charles Nyamakope (1)
Gaza Rattleshoek Charles Nyamakope (1)
Mutambara Centre Misheck Katsidzira (4)
Hospital Chaplian Nesbert Dziwa (4)
Mutambara East Nyasha Chimbunde (3)
Mutambara South (Aaron Munyama) (1)
Mutambara West Josiah Makande (4)
Nyanyadzi Morgan Muchanyerei
Assistant TBS (1)
COM Director Irene Chitsiku

Mutambara Mission Farm:

Farm Manager Mark Turner
Assistant Aaron Kasu
Supervisor: Frode Brakvatne

LYDIA CHIMONYO GIRLS HIGH SCHOOL

Headmistress	Rev. Irene Chitsiku
Deputy Hwead (Acting)	Gift Basopo
Matron	Linda Dowera
Treasurer	Mavis Chimbunde

Hospital:

Superintendent	Donald Rudy (currently on home leave)
Matron	Sr. Clair Meier
Chaplain	Nesbert Dziwa
Administrator	Peter Chagombera

Mutambara Centre:

Station Chairman	Misheck Katsidzira
Centre Treasurer (Acting)	Edith Mutimbanyoka
Bookkeeper	TBS

Mutambara High School:

Headmaster	Benjamin Mutasa
Deputy Headmaster	TBS
Matron	Needmore Mlambo
Boarding Master	Samuel Nduna (2)

Mutambara CPS

Headmaster	Samuel Mwandambira
Deputy Headmaster	Newbert Muradzikwa

MUTAMBARA BOARD OF GOVERNORS:

Class of 1998

Barwai Gwitira	Analois Ndongwe
Wilbert Munjoma	

Class of 1999

B. Mungwari – Teacher MHS
Newbert Muradzikwa CPS Headmaster

Class of 2000

Moses Bhowa	Phineas Ngorima
Irene Chitsiku (Rev.)	Rev. M.Katsidzira (Pastor –in- Charge)
Benjamin Mutasa	Edith Mutimbanyoka (Treasurer)

LYDIA CHIMONYO BOARD OF GOVERNORS

Class of 1998

Rebecca Sisimayi
Lovemore Mutari

Nellie Siwela

Class of 1999

Victor Mukoko
Grace Mukonde

John Dube

Class of 2000

Obert Sigera – (Chairperson)
Hardwork Mataruka – (Vice Chairperson)
T.D. Chinguno
Mrs. Mavis Chimbunde – Treasurer
Rev. Irene Chitsiku – Headmistress
Mr. Basopo – Deputy Headmaster
Rev. Nyasha Chimbunde – Pastor in charge
District Superintendent

MUTASA-NYANGA DISTRICT:

District Superintendent

Peter Mudiwa (6)

District Women's Work

Hedwig Mudiwa

Honde Valley North

(Simon Muchesa) (2)

Honde Valley South

(Clement Masukume) (1)

Mundenda East

Moffat Mukwada (2)

Mundenda West

(Noah Chikuni) (2)

Mutasa East

Paul D. Y.Nyandoro (3)

Mutasa West

(Oscar Mukahanana) (1)

Nyakatsapa

Willie Marara (5)

Nyanga East

(Gift Mudambo) (1)

Nyanga West

Elliot Chikwenjere (3)

Nyanga North

(Noah Kafesu) (2)

Odzi

(Gilbert Chigumira) (2)

Old Mutare

Clifford Mushishi (1)

Associate

Kingston Kahlari (2)

Penhalonga

TBS

COM Director

Clifford Mushishi

Old Mutare Mission:

Station Chairperson

Clifford Mushishi

Centre Treasurer

Petros Mupfunde

Hartzell High School:

Headmaster	
Deputy Headmaster	John Ngirande
Schools Chaplain	Clifford Mushishi
Boarding Master	Alex Segura
Boarding Mistress	Eubah Mataranyika

Hartzell Primary School:

Headmaster	Naboth Maramba
Deputy Headmaster	Maud Dhliwayo

Hospital:

Chaplain	Kingston Kahlari
Medical Superintendent	Tendai Manyeza (Dr)
Matron	Virginia Mukwekwezeke
Deputy Matron	TBS
Hospital Clerk	Florence Muhoni

Nyakatsapa Mission:

Station Chairman	Willie Marara (4)
Schools Chaplain	Willie Marara (4)

Nyakatsapa High School:

Headmaster	Tafadzwa Mudambanuki
Deputy Headmaster	TBS
Treasurer	Ian Musango

Nyakatsapa Primary School:

Headmaster	Isaac Mudehwe
Deputy	TBS

NYAKATSAPA BOARD OF GOVERNORS:

Mr. John Vumbunu chairperson	Mr. Jonathan Gonye
Mr. Patrick Manjiche	Mr. Thompson Mawoyo
Mrs. Della Sana	Station Chairman
Deputy Headmaster – Primary	Centre Treasurer
Deputy Headmaster – Secondary	Mrs. Moud Chadoka
Mrs. Annie Chigumira	Mrs. Tambudzai Machamacha

HARTZELL BOARD OF GOVERNORS:

Mr. John Gumiro - Chairperson
Mr. Phenias Dzeka – Vice Chairperson
Mrs. Eliather Chikuni
Mrs. Tracy Mvere - Treasurer
Mrs. Tsitsi Kagurabadza

Mr. Tendai Kapumha
Mr. Titus Mafemba
Mr. Clever Chidzikwe
Station Chairman
Headmaster
Deputy Headmaster
Primary Headmaster
Deputy Headmaster – Primary
DS Rev. P B T Mudiwa

MUTOKO-MUDZI DISTRICT:

<i>District Superintendent</i>	<i>Kennedy Marange (4)</i>
<i>District Women's Work</i>	<i>Anna Marange</i>
Bondamakara	(Cecilia Chigonda) (4)
Chidowe	(Annah Karimanzira) (1)
Chikwizo	(Nyasha Chitekwe) (2)
Chimukoko	(Ketai Nyabote) (2)
Dendera	Phillip Musharu (1)
Kowo	(Fred Mushamba) (1)
Mudzonga	(Juliet Chibanda) (1)
Mudzi Central	Oswell Kaseke
Mudzi West	George Deketeke
Mutoko Centre	Temba Siwela (1)
Mutoko Circuit	(Emilia Chikati) (4)
Mutoko North	Fraderick Chimombe (1)
Mutoko East I	Smart Msinku (2)
Mutoko East II	(Samuel Mudzengerere) (2)
Mutoko South	Cecil Mudede (3)
Mutoko West I	Tafirenyika Pfidze
Mutoko West II	(Godfrey Gumunyu) (1)
Nyadire Centre	Tsaurai Mapfeka
Nyadire North	Freddy Karuwenga
Nyadire South	(Sekai Doma) (2)
Nyamuzuwe	Prisca Chimombe (2)
Nyamuzuwe Chaplain	Fredreck Chimombe (2)
Nyamuzizi	(Tongai Chitiyo) (1)
Uzumba	Constance Chinomona
Hospital Chaplain	Lazarus Kasiyamhuru (6)
COM Director	Tsaurai Mapfeka

Nyadire Centre:

Station Chairman	Isaiah Mudiwa
Schools Chaplain	Tsaurai Mapfeka
Treasurer	Kaseke Mutsvairo

Principal Trs. College Tsitsi Dhliwayo
Deputy Onias Njike

Hospital:

Medical Superintendent Nyasha Murphree
Clerk Margret Pfupa
Matron Joyce Tsiga
Deputy Matron Lettie Masosonore
Chaplain Lazarus Kasiyamhuru
District Medical Work Rut Lingren
Nursing School Tutor Faith Muchada
Nyadire Farm Larry Kies

Nyamuzuwe Mission Centre:

Station Chairman Fradreck Chimombe
Treasurer Morris W. Mwanjira

High School:

Headmaster Onias Gurure
Deputy Headmaster Margaret Chinyerere
Chaplain Fradreck Chimombe
Boarding Master Perkins Munjoma
Matron Mavis Kanojerera

Nyadire High School

Headmaster Isaiah Mudiwa
Deputy TBS
Headmaster (CPS) Wellington Njagu
Deputy YBS

NYADIRI BOARD OF GOVERNORS:

TBS-Chairman
Tsitsi Dhliwayo
Isaiah Mudiwa
Philip Chimbwanda-PTA
Pilot Mudondo Samuel Chidarikire
Killian Mazarura Isaac Chatapura
Faith Muchada Mrs Mukombe

MUTOKO PRIMARY SCHOOL BOARD OF GOVERNORS:

Headmaster Cornelius Kangara
Deputy TBS
Reginald Kanoyangwa Ruby Chimbwanda
Isaac Takawira Killian Mazarura

Cornellius Kangara	S. Kativhu
N. Siyakurima	C. Chademana
Station Chairman	Themba Siwela

NYAMUZUWE BOARD OF GOVERNORS:

Edward Mudzinganyama	Kerry Chikukwa
Peter Mutize	Cephas Katiyo
Bernard Mazarura	Farai Madimutsa
Mr Kanyongo	Ministry Rep.
Florence Siyakurima	Laveness Nyahuni
D.S. Kennedy Marange-ex-officio	

DENDERA:

Station Chairman	Phillp Musharu
Headmaster	TBS

MISSION AREAS:

MALAWI AND ZAMBIA MISSION AREA:

Malawi C. North	Faindan Magomero
Malawi C. South	Faindan Magomero
Malawi South	Alifeyo Mpulula
Malawi North	Nixon Mpulula
Zomba	Robert Mdoka
Blantyre	Daniel Mhone
Lilongwe South	Maxwell Jawati
Muzuzu	Nixon Mpulula
Zambia	(Alexander Makoni) (2)

SOUTH AFRICA DISTRICT:

<i>District Superintendent:</i>	<i>Jophn F. Munjoma (6)</i>
<i>District Women's Work</i>	<i>Vivian Mafuta (4)</i>
Bloemfontein	Anna M. Maloisane (1)
Cape Town	Sibongile V. Tobie (6)
Associates:	Merriman M. Ggogonyka (1)
	(Lenah Qwabe) (6)
Fort Beaufort	(Enerst M. Duma) (4)
Assistants	(Christy J Qhalo) (4)
Herschel	John J. Wambi (2)
Johannesburg	Patricia N. Damane (2)
Assistant	(Gloria B. Damane) (1)
Khayelitsha	Justice J. Satyo (1)
Assistant	(Owen M. Ntsondwa) (1)

Langa	T.B.S.
Lesotho	(Samuel Khattake) (3)
Motherwell	(Wilson Nywebeni) (3)
Phelandaba	(Anna M. Maloisane) (6)
Port Elizabeth	(Steven K. Marks) (2)
Rocklands	(Philip Baardman) (3)
Rosedale	(Jan Koelman) (6)
Stellenbosch	Henry M. Mabona (2)
Thaba-Nchu	Anna M. Maloisane (3)
Uitenhage	(Johnson M. Tukulu) (1)
Umtata	(Simon B. Nxumalo) (1)
Worcester	Anderson N. Qhayi (2)
COM Director	Sibongile V. Tobie

CONFERENCE COUNCIL ON MINISTRIES:

Director of CCOM	Gladman Kapfumvuti (2)
Youth Director	Remember Masamba (1)
Director of Music Service	Tendekai Kuture
Education Secretary	Alec Chibanguza
Christian Education	
Medical Secretary	Tendai Manyeza (Dr)
Assistant Medical Secretary	TBS
Agriculture Secretary	TBS
Coordinator for Women's Work	TBS
Building Inspector	Amos Mhlanga

APPOINTMENTS BEYOND LOCAL CHURCH:

Philemon Chikafu	Lecturer UZ, and less-than-fulltime at UTC
Shirley DeWolf	Regional Coordinator: Southern African Churches in Ministry with Uprooted People
Farai D. Muzorewa	UTC Lecturer
David Hodzi	Correctional Services for Young Offender
Eben K. Nhwatiwa	Africa University Lecturer
Julius Tsiga	Africa University Chaplain
Jane Marima	Zimbabwe National Army

SPECIAL APPOINTMENTS:

Administrative Assistant to the Bishop	Richard Chiza
Conference Auditor	David Mufute
Assistant Conference Auditor	Rose Mungure
Conference Treasurer	Solomon Chiripasi
Chancellor	TBS
Area Financial Executive	Karen J. Ujereh
Rhodes R. Choimonyo	To be reassigned

BEYOND CONFERENCE BOUNDARIES:

Zebediah Marewangepo General Board of Global Ministries: Executive
Secretary for Mission Context and Relationships for
West and Southern Africa.

APPOINTED TO GO TO SCHOOL:

Nyaradzai Matonga	UZ
Alan Gurupira	UZ
Nicodemus Mucherera	USA
Isaac Mawokomatanda	USA
Kennedy Mukwindidza	USA
Sanda Sanganza	USA
Nathan Goto	USA
Beauty Maenzanise	USA
Samson Mungure	Africa University
Annie Grace Chingonzo	Africa University
Shepherd Makina	

MISSIONARIES:

Claire Meier	
Lawrance Kies	Donald Rudy
Jane Kies	
Oyvind Lindhom	Rut Lingren
Mrs Rudy	Sabastin Ujereh
Gullvi Jonsson	Karen Ujereh

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SPECIAL CENTENNIAL SESSION - 1997
CONGRATULATIONS! MAKOROKOTO!, AMHLOPE!**



BUT THEY THAT WAIT UPON THE LORD SHALL RENEW THEIR STRENGTH; THEY SHALL MOUNT UP WITH WINGS AS EAGLES, THEY SHALL RUN, AND NOT WEARY; AND THEY SHALL WALK AND NOT FAINT "ISAIAH 40:31"

