



THE UNITING  
PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH  
IN SOUTHERN  
AFRICA

06<sup>th</sup> January 2023

**From the Office of the Moderator - UPCSA**

Dear Presbyterians

**The New Year's Message from the Moderator of General Assembly - Right Rev SJ Mtetwa January 2023**

*"What we are is God's gift to us. What we become is our gift (back) to God" – (Eleanor Powell)*

Compliments of the New Season to you all, Presbyterians across the length and breadth of our denomination - the UPCSA. We thank God for gracefully taking us through the busy Christmas season and its financial vicissitudes right across into the new year. Happy and blessed 2023, folks.

This time of the year is populated and punctuated with what is conventionally known as New Year's resolutions. Finishing high school, graduating degree, getting a job, starting a small business, losing weight and staying healthy, and getting married are some of the resolutions people make.

Becoming friendlier in my disposition, losing my aggressive streak, becoming an ethical leader in choosing right from wrong, making decisions that build rather than destroy relationships, listening more and talking less, making peace rather than fanning conflict and war, reading the Word of God more with quiet time and meditation, striving to be a better Christian where I am – this is all a state of "becoming our gift (back) to God".

It is also our way of quietly "Going back to the Basics". I wish all a successful and prosperous New Year, with great prospects and outcomes, a blessings-filled 2023 altogether.

Shine and brighten the corner where you are.

With much love

The Right Rev SJ Mtetwa  
Moderator of General Assembly  
Uniting Presbyterian Church in Southern Africa