



THE UNITING  
PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH  
IN SOUTHERN  
AFRICA



# UPCSA

## Presbyterian Link

NOVEMBER - DECEMBER  
EDITION

# 2025

Linking all Presbyterians together

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**UPCSA**  
**MERRY CHRISTMAS**



**A PASTORAL  
LETTER**

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
MODERATOR**

**RT. REV. DR. AMON  
KASAMBALA**

Seasonal greetings to you and to your families. By the time you receive this last 2025 pastoral letter, you would already have crossed the threshold of half of December 2025 heading towards the close of the year.

It is that time of the year when we pause and stop the “Bus of life” to reflect deeply on what has gone by and where we see ourselves in the coming year. There are a couple of essential things we can do during this time of reflection – Thanksgiving, Stocktaking and Celebrating.

**1. Thanksgiving**

Thanksgiving, by general definition, is acknowledging goodness and showing appreciation. Theologically, thanksgiving flows from the grace received in Christ. For a believer, thanksgiving is a life of gratitude. Thanksgiving is not dependent on circumstances but on God’s character and faithfulness. This is what the Apostle Paul refers to when he says: “Give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus” (1Thessalonians 5:18).

As you stop your “Bus of life” – it is time to reflect on how God has come through for you and your family. Yes, admittedly, there have been hard times some of you have faced this year. Yet, by God’s grace, you and I are still here – still alive. Therefore, we should give thanks to God.

It is that time of the year to appreciate each person for your passion in serving the Lord Jesus Christ and your commitment to his Church. I would like to thank all UPCS members (individually) and congregations for the support you have continued to render to the life and ministry of the UPCS. Thank you for your faithfulness in prayer, worship, giving and service.

Pause and stop - make the time to express gratitude to your family, friends and congregation for standing with you during testing and joyful times you encountered in 2025.

**2. Stocktaking**

From a business perspective, Stocktaking is simply the systematic process of counting, checking, and recording all the stock (inventory) a business (store, grocery shop, etc.) has at a particular time and comparing it with what is recorded in the books or inventory system. It involves physical counting and checking the condition of stock – whether good, damaged, expired or missing. Stocktaking helps in identifying shortages, excesses or errors in the inventory system.



Spiritually, stocktaking refers to checking how we have fared in our commitment to Christ and how we have practically supported the Church. It is something that each one of us should do both on our own and collectively, such as Congregations, Presbyteries, Synods and General Assembly. The Apostle Paul again reminds us on this in 2Corinthians 13:5; “Examine yourselves to see whether you are in the faith; test yourselves. Do you not realize that Christ Jesus is in you – unless, of course, you fail the test?”

It is that time of the year when each person should pause and stop – and do stocktaking of your own life, asking reflective questions; How was my commitment to the call of Christ on my life? Where do I need to improve in the use of my gifts, talents and skills to help grow the Church, my family and community? How have we, as a congregation/presbytery/synod, done when it comes to making contributions to the Church (ministry and mission contributions)?

I was shocked (and embarrassed at the same time) when I attended the General Assembly Finance Committee meeting, about a week ago, noticing that this year 2025, some of our Presbyteries and Congregations in the UPCSA have contributed ZERO Cents (nothing) to the life and ministry of the Church. It is a very sad discovery, which left me dumbfounded. If we, indeed, love the Church and stand for what the Church does in society (training ministers, supporting full-time Church staff, and supporting mission work in communities), we will do everything possible to support the Church not only by praying for it, but also by contributing financially and other necessary resources. This is where we should do a lot of stocktaking, and plan to do better as soon as we enter the New Year. Nevertheless, I am very grateful to all Congregations and Presbyteries that have continued to support the UPCSA.

Please make the time to check with your Congregation Session, Presbytery and Synod and ask Congregation Session, Presbytery and Synod and ask the officials how you have fared when it comes to ministry and mission contributions to the UPCSA.

If you discover that you have not done as you should have, it's never too late to call the General Treasurer and CFO at Central Office (for Presbyteries) or your Presbytery Treasurer (for congregations) and make a new commitment to giving. Let's make it a point that 2026 will show a completely different picture to what I saw a week ago. This is our church (our denomination), and we are all partners in mission to support it grow and make an impact on society.

### 3. Celebrating

It is that time of the year when we not only pause and stop but also celebrate the gift of our salvation. We celebrate the birth of Christ – the light that shines in the dark world we encounter on an everyday basis – a world of pain, suffering, violence, wars and divisions. We celebrate the peace which a great company of the heavenly host celebrated as they praised God:

“Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace (shalom) to men and women on whom his favour rests” (Luke 2:13-14).

May you make the time to Pause and Stop -and celebrate with family and fiends this special season in both our Christian calendar and family life. Make the time to enjoy the company of family and friends you have had no time to meet during the course of the year. I am in prayer for all those who lost their beloved ones to death in 2025 – may the Lord continue to comfort you. May you sense God's presence in the absence of your beloved ones.

I wish you a blessed Christmas, may it be full of joy and peace. And a very happy New Year to you.

Your Partner in Mission (PIM)  
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Tiyo Soga House  
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*Benny Boshielo Convener: Communications Committee*

## Editorial

Greetings from the Communications Committee and the Presbyterian Link Team. This is the last Edition of our publication for the year 2025. Our sincere thanks to you all for making 2025 yet another memorable year for us. Presbyterian Link is continuing to see growth both in content, distribution and readership. As with other of our communication mediums like our Facebook and Website,

Presbyterians are beginning to realize an increased appetite, not only in wanting to know what is happening in their Denomination, but also they are more willing to share on the work they are doing.

For this, we take the opportunity to thank our Presbytery Communicators, Conveners of General Assembly Committees, Presbytery and Synod Clerks and Moderators and of course our Fellowships who have assisted us in

this work. The role played by our General Secretary, Rev, Dr George Marchikowsky and the Moderator of General Assembly, Rev Dr Amon Kasambala cannot be downplayed. Despite their extremely tight schedules and work demands, they have always been the first to submit their articles, on time and well thought out. They have always encouraged our team members to hang in there and work even harder, to ensure that members of our Denomination are informed, engage and are empowered. We thank God for this leadership.

In this period as we look back into the year 2025, we count on the areas of success and the areas in which we can do better. We have already alluded to the areas in which we believe we have done better. But we must add that more than any other time, we find that the profile of our church has substantially elevated. More and more people, within and outside of our Denomination now know about the existence of the UPCSA in South Africa, Zambia, Zimbabwe and DRC. Most welcome is the extent to which in its short

period of presence in the DR Congo, people now speak about our church.

But this also happens in other parts of the continent like Malawi, Kenya, Lesotho and even South Sudan, where we have regular readers and even visitations to our social media platforms, sometimes even commenting about the content of the publications. This is indeed about profiling the UPCSA and its work. On the 30<sup>th</sup> of November 2025, our Moderator of General Assembly, the Rev, Dr Amon Kasambala prayed during the Motsepe Foundation Day of Prayer. This whole day event is broadcast in over thirty countries to almost a billion people. Again our reach as a Denomination extended well beyond the confines of our own reach in the three countries. The UPCSA has always and continues to register its presence within the communities of Christians around the world, and its influence is felt in many ways.

However on the other side we need to look into areas where we can do better. One of the weaknesses we

still have is that there are still Presbyteries which are not visible in our communication space. While we know that there is a lot of work done in those Presbyteries, they are not shared as they should. This is not for the purpose of marketing, but sharing is an endeavor to ensure that we learn from each other on the good work done in our Presbyteries and Congregations. This is one way through which we can quantitatively and qualitatively grow as a Denomination. Secondly, we have not as yet mastered the art of public media space.

One of the approaches we took in the past was that certain matters of societal nature are best done through our ecumenical platforms like the SACC. However there is a need for us to create a balance to ensure that the work done by our church is also widely known beyond our members.

In overall we end the year with high spirits. As Convener of the Communications Committee I wish to take the opportunity to thank our team for a job well done.

As they prepare to take the well deserved rest during this holidays, we wish them well. We also take the opportunity to wish all Presbyterians well, and pray for their safety during these busy times. Let us remember that for us, this is the period where we celebrate the birth of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. For us it is not a period to indulge in alcohol and other unsavory things, which are not aligned to him. For us we say, let peace, safety and love prevails during this time. A happy Christmas to you all.





*Rev, Dr George Marchinkowski: General Secretary*

## Good Friends in Christ

I recently read a book written about an ordinary Presbyterian congregation served by a minister for several decades. It was a story about an ordinary family who lived in a Manse, about the changes in the congregation over the years and the things that stayed the same.

It reminded me that it takes extraordinary flexibility to be a minister, patience, and a commitment to resolve conflict, and the courage not to flee when the “going gets tough.” It’s not easy, especially in a religious landscape where many have left the church, and others cleave to a brand of faith

and congregational life that is becoming narrower, more certain of values that seem legalistic and ungracious.

In the Christian West, the mainline churches (Protestant, Anglican and Catholic) are being sidelined by independent churches that align themselves more closely with a new Political order that polarising, unfriendly and inhospitable to the marginalised and enforces its policies with violence.

How far we have strayed from the ministry of Jesus who found his followers on margins of society? More and more, the church is

pushed to the margins—perhaps there we will do our best ministry, following the Saviour who started just there! Don’t be afraid. The Church is His (Isaiah 41:10, Psalm 27:1 and Deut. 31:6)

The beauty of our work in congregations is often just to “show up” and keep showing up. A long ministry (so I read in this book) has the benefit of allowing us to see people not only at their worst (bitter, narrow minded and arrogant) but also at their best (gracious, generous, and kind).

When we choose not to ‘write off’ members, elders, even ministers when they’re most badly behaved, choosing to listen under the surface of a broken life, we may find ourselves witnesses to transformation.

The author spoke about her disillusionment with the concept of “Self-care”, and I think I agree. We were never supposed to care for ourselves when life is at its worst.

We were supposed to rely on the broken sisters and brothers who sit behind us, in



front and on either side of us in Church. They're not perfect, and neither are we, but they are the ones who may rise to the occasion to love us back to stability. This includes called ministers who once heard Jesus say, "Follow me." Church is worth the effort, but it takes courage and fortitude.

The author John Steinbeck once wrote, "And now that you don't have to be perfect, you can be good." When I read that, I think—Piety is such a poor substitute for a life lived in relationship with Christ! I wish the Pharisees of the Gospel accounts could have learned that from Jesus.

I wish Presbyterians would give a life like this a try. The pretence of goodness, of devotion to Christ, still remains the biggest obstacle to a flourishing life (John 10:10).

My wish for all of you this Christmas is that you give congregational life another try. It's not perfect. Each minister, elder and member has faults, but church life is transformative.

If we hold onto one another in love, God will make us new.

The author of this little book I read ends by mentioning two great core Christian beliefs which you will find deep down in our Christian (and Presbyterian) DNA: First, in the end, "everything is forgivable except unbelief," and second, while confessing that she feels unworthy (as we all no doubt are), she writes: "Maybe through radical Love, we will all become worthy."

Happy Christmas dear Friends—God has come to us! God has come to set us free!



## Celebrating the First Lady's Birthday



## *The FOM held its council meeting on 15 - 16 November within the uThukela Presbytery*







# Christmas



# Message

## FELLOWSHIP OF WOMEN

"PARTNERS IN MISSION"

**Luke 1:34**

Mary asked the angel, "But how can this happen? I am a virgin."

### **"A Holy Disruption" - The Birth of Christ Beyond All Expectations**

The birth of Jesus Christ is, at its core, a divine act that breaks through every familiar pattern, tradition, and expectation. Mary's question to the angel-"How can this be?"-captures the shock of God's unusual, extraordinary way of working.

Everything Mary knew told her that pregnancy followed marriage, that motherhood followed union, that life unfolded in ways that were predictable and accepted by her culture. But God chose to step outside all of that.

The arrival of our Saviour was not wrapped in the comfort of tradition. It came through a virgin, outside the structures she and her community understood. It came through a young woman from an unassuming town, far from the religious centres of influence. From the very beginning, the birth of Christ revealed a God who is not bound by what we expect, what we know, or what we consider normal and acceptable. His ways disrupt so that His glory may be seen.

As the Fellowship of Women(FOW), we often arrive at Christmas carrying what is familiar-our customs, our rhythms, our expectations of how things should be. But the story of Christ's birth invites us to see that God's greatest works rarely follow the script we assume. When God ushers in something new, He also rearranges the pathway. This is what happened at Bethlehem, and this is what He continues to do among us - "a Holy disruption."

The same God who brought salvation through a holy disruption is still inviting us into futures that may not look like our traditions or the systems we are used to. He sometimes unsettles our norms so He can reposition us for His purposes. Just as Mary surrendered her understanding to embrace God's plan, so must we open our hearts to divine interruptions, to the visit from the angel -those moments when God chooses to move outside our expectations so that His power can be revealed through ordinary lives.

This Christmas, may we recognise the voice of God in the disruptions we face. May we trust Him when He shifts what we know. And may we, like Mary, say "Yes" to the unfamiliar, knowing that it is often through God's unexpected ways that His glory shines brightest.

A Blessed and Merry Christmas to all in "FOWLAND," to our mothers and sisters in the UPCSA, and to every Partner in Mission. May God reveal Himself in every "Holy Disruption and carry us with grace into 2026.

Much love and respect always, from your FOW Denominational President

**Buhlebenkosi Tafatawona**

**"Transcendental Women of God, cling onto the cross"**  
**Hebrews 12: 1-2**



*In line with one of the UPCSA Strategic Guidelines, Stuartville Congregation ordained and inducted two young people into Eldership. This addresses the questions of Youth and Gender. Elders Mahlogonolo Fortunate Mampane and Elder Konadi Maja have also served as Youth leaders in the church at various levels.*

*Stuartville Congregation is happy to have injected this new and young blood into its Session and we are hopeful that they will inject fresh and dynamic ideas into its work.*

*As the saying goes 'Those who have served well have gain excellent standing and great assurance in their faith in Jesus Christ*





*It was a day of activity at Kgapane Nuclear Congregation as the Congregation held its end of the year service. As is the practice in Kgapane, annually a service is organised wheee all these services are performed. On this day the Congregation saw the robing of five members of the Fellowship of Women, the induction of the new FOW Executive Committee, baptism of five adult members including children and the reception of five new members. Rev Mukundi Maselesele presided over the service, which was attended by the members of the Women Inter Denominational structure in Kgapane and sorrounding areas. We congratulate Kgapane for job well done.*





*On the 21st of December 2025, Stuartville held a special service in which it conducted the robings sixteen probationers into full members of various Fellowships and also inducted two newly elected Executive Committees. In this service ten (10) members of the Fellowship of Youth, five (05) new members of the Fellowship of Women and one (1) member of the Fellowship of Young Women were robed. In the same service, newly elected Congregational Executive Committees of the Fellowship of Women and Fellowship of Youth were inducted. We wish them all well and success in this journey of service that they have begun, as we pray for God to guide them through and through.*





## *The newly elected Fellowship of Women executive committee of the Gooldville Congregation*





# Mt Horeb Congregation Annual Fundraiser Took place In October,

## It was a successful day Of fundraising and fellowship





*Mt Horeb FOW commemorated the 16 days of activism on the 07th of Dec. Purple and white ribbons were distributed during the church service. White for the 16 days and purple for GBV. The prayer coordinator Me Mokgadi Modiba explained the meaning of both ribbons and offered a prayer for those who perished and those who are living victims of femicide and homicide in our church and the country at large.*





# *Polokwane Congregation in the bounds of the presbytery of Limpopo held a prayer walk (09/24/2025). Evangelising in the streets of Seshego*





*William Samson congregation led by Rev Awedzani Nemaunkwe After has robed for 13 members of the Fellowship of Men and were joined by newly robed members of the Fellowship of Young Women*





*Weirdale congregation held a closing service. Led by Rev Mary Ann Molifi They robed new members into the Fellowship of Young Women, induction of new stewards, induction of Fellowship of Youth executive committee, and robing new member of the Fellowship of Youth, confirmations and welcoming of new members to the church.*



2025/12/21 13:11



*The Convener of the Communications Committee, Elder Benny Bishieli, attended an auspicious function organized by the Evangelical Presbyterian Church in Southern Africa, in honour of the legacy of Rev, Dr Joe Tshawane. Rev, Dr Tshawane, the former Moderator of the EPCSA, has a rich history in the ecumenical movement. A pioneer in the work of young people in the church, he is not only a founding member of the Youth structure of the EPCSA, but was also instrumental in the formation and organization of the youth structure in the SACC, under which the then young people like Rev Pataki, former Moderator of GA, Rev Mthethwa, Methodist Bishop, Rev, Dr Mokgothu, Elder Boshieli, ELCSA Youth activist Jacob Dikobo, just to name a few, grew up serving during the dark days of apartheid rule. Rev, Dr Tshawane has also played a critical role in conflict resolution, having had a stint in the USA. It was indeed a day relished with good and bad memories of the past, in which the Convener also shared his experienced Rev Tshawane.*





# Ordination and Induction of Rev. Fiskani Simbeye Muwowo

**A**fter navigating the many highs and lows of ministry preparation, the long-awaited day to witness the fruits of his labour finally arrived. From Mr. to Reverend—it has indeed been an extraordinary journey of faith, perseverance, and calling.

On 16th November 2025, Fiskani Simbeye Muwowo was officially ordained as a Minister of Word and Sacrament in the Uniting Presbyterian Church in Southern Africa. He will henceforth be known and addressed as Rev. Fiskani Simbeye Muwowo.

On the same day, he was also inducted as Minister to St. John's Presbyterian Church, Kipiri Mposhi, and Bwacha Presbyterian Church, Kabwe, marking the beginning of his pastoral ministry among these congregations.

This is a truly remarkable milestone in the life of a faithful servant of God.

Congratulations, Rev. Fiskani Simbeye Muwowo.

We pray for God's continued guidance, wisdom, and grace as you serve His people.



*Newly appointed Rev. Fiskani Simbeye Muwowo (left) receives his ordination credentials from the Synod Moderator, Rev. Edward Chirwa, during the ordination service held in Kabwe.*

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**He will henceforth be known  
and addressed as Rev. Fiskani  
Simbeye Muwowo.**

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# St. Columba's Presbyterian Church Prison Ministry – Serving Our Community

**S**t. Columba's Presbyterian Church in Lusaka has taken a significant step toward being an active and compassionate presence in our community through its Prison Ministry, which continues to play a vital role in the 2025 calendar year.

With the steadfast support of our dedicated members, the Prison Ministry has faithfully continued visiting prisons across the province. Our mission is to reach out to men and women behind bars, reminding them that God has not forgotten them. Through the sharing of the Word of God, the provision of clean clothing, essential toiletries, Bibles, and devotional materials, we seek to bring hope, dignity, and encouragement to those who are incarcerated.

For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you clothed me, I was sick and you visited me, I was in prison and you came to me.”\*

Matthew 25:35–36

We invite you to prayerfully consider joining this impactful



***Members of St. Columbus Presbyterian Church who participated in prison mission work.***

ministry.

Our work is not defined by how much one is able to give materially, but by presence, compassion, and encouragement. The smiles, conversations, and genuine connections formed during our visits are what sustain and motivate this ministry to continue its essential work.

This is only the beginning. Come and be part of the team as

we encourage those behind bars to encounter Christ—just as the repentant thief on the cross found salvation, and as Paul and Silas worshipped in prison, leading to transformed lives (Acts 16:25–26). Though the prison doors were opened, they chose not to flee, but to remain and minister to those around them.

We sincerely thank you for your generous support and look forward to your continued

partnership as we move into 2026.

Together, let us continue to be Christ's hands and feet to those in need.

If you would like this adapted for a flyer, church bulletin, social media post, or formal report, I can tailor it accordingly.



# The Birth of the Mobile School of Ministry in Eastern Prov. Presbytery

For many years, the Uniting Presbyterian Church in Southern Africa (UPCSA) looked on as other churches trained and graduated their own ministers, while most of our ministers received training elsewhere. In 2025, that long-held concern gave way to joy with the birth of the UPCSA Mobile School of Ministry—a vision brought to life through the tireless efforts of dedicated men and women of God.

The most recent training session began on 18 November 2025 in Chipata City, within the Eastern Zambia Presbytery, focusing on the training of lay preachers and evangelists. Both the Eastern Zambia and Copperbelt Presbyteries have already benefited from this initiative, while Lusaka, Munali, and Mchinga Presbyteries eagerly await their turn.

Plans are now underway for the 2026 Mobile School of Ministry, to be co-hosted by Munali and Mchinga Presbyteries, with growing anticipation across congregations. There are also encouraging plans to include the Order of Lay Ministry of the UPCSA in this training.

This milestone marks a significant step forward



*Scholars of the newly introduced Mobile School of Ministry*



# Presbyterian church gets their own Boys Brigade



*Rev. L. Chirwa, Moderator of the Copperbelt Presbytery (far right), stands with officers at the launch of the Brigade.*

Chimwemwe Presbyterian Church in Kitwe, under the Copperbelt Presbytery, has distinguished itself among many congregations of the Uniting Presbyterian Church in Zambia by officially registering both a Boys Brigade Company and a Girls Brigade Group. This outstanding achievement places the church at the forefront of youth development initiatives within the denomination and reflects a strong commitment to structured, intentional, and sustainable ministry among children and young people.

This accomplishment is no small matter. The successful registration of both brigades represents a historic milestone not only for Chimwemwe

Presbyterian Church, but also for the wider presbytery. It is a clear testimony of dedication, careful planning, effective leadership, and a shared vision embraced by the minister, church elders, brigade officers, parents, and the entire congregation. Establishing these brigades requires discipline, compliance with organizational standards, trained leadership, and consistent support—qualities that Chimwemwe Presbyterian Church has demonstrated with excellence.

What an achievement.  
What a milestone indeed.

The Boys Brigade and Girls Brigade play a vital role in nurturing young people through Christian discipleship, character

formation, leadership training, and community service. By registering both groups, Chimwemwe Presbyterian Church has created a balanced and inclusive platform where boys and girls alike can grow in faith, confidence, discipline, and responsibility. These brigades instill values such as obedience, teamwork, respect, and service, helping young people to become upright citizens and committed members of the church.

At a time when many congregations face challenges in engaging and retaining young people, Chimwemwe Presbyterian Church has taken a bold and commendable step forward. The church now stands proudly among

the few congregations within the Uniting Presbyterian Church in Zambia to have achieved this dual registration. This sets a powerful example and serves as an encouragement to other churches to prioritize and invest meaningfully in youth and children's ministries.

This milestone also highlights the church's vision for the future. By empowering young people today, Chimwemwe Presbyterian Church is laying a strong foundation for tomorrow's leaders—leaders who will serve the church, the nation, and society with integrity and faith. The impact of this initiative will undoubtedly be felt for many years to come, both within the congregation and beyond its walls.

We therefore celebrate joyfully with Chimwemwe Presbyterian Church and sincerely appreciate your unwavering commitment to nurturing, guiding, and empowering young people. Your hard work, sacrifice, and dedication have borne visible fruit, and the wider church family shares in your joy and pride.

We are super proud of you, Chimwemwe Presbyterian Church. Mulibakulekafye! May God continue to bless your ministry and cause it to grow from strength to strength as you shape lives for His glory.



# The Presbyterian church of Nigeria

## UNITY OF THE GOVERNING BODIES

All governing bodies of the Church are united by the very nature of the Church and share responsibilities, rights, and powers as provided in the Constitution. While the governing bodies are separate and distinct, they are mutually related in such a way that the act of one is the act of the whole Church, performed through the appropriate court.

The jurisdiction of each governing body is limited by the express provisions of the Constitution, and the actions of each court are subject to review by the next higher governing body.

## OFFICERS OF THE GOVERNING BODIES

The recognized officers within the governing bodies are:

- Moderator
- Clerk

Each governing body may also appoint additional officers as required or deemed necessary.

## OFFICE OF THE MODERATOR

The Moderator possesses the authority necessary to preserve order and to conduct the business of the governing body efficiently. He or she convenes and adjourns meetings in accordance with their stated purpose.

The office of the Moderator is elective, and the term of office



*Rev. Cj Ndukwe (C) with some members of the congregation pose for a photo*

is determined by the Constitution.

## DUTIES OF THE MODERATOR

The duties of the Moderator include:

- Constituting and concluding each meeting with prayer
- Preserving order during proceedings
- Taking votes and announcing decisions
- Instructing parties appearing before the court
- Administering rebukes and admonitions where necessary
- Calling upon members to express their views or discharge assigned duties
- Ensuring that all business transacted is properly recorded
- Signing the minutes of the court

The Moderator speaks and acts officially in the name of the court he or she moderates, as authorized by that court, and always in conformity with the Practice and Procedure of the Church.

## OFFICE OF THE CLERK

- The Clerk of Session must be a Ruling Elder and is elected by the Session. The term shall not exceed two consecutive terms of three years each.
- The Clerk of Presbytery and Clerk of Synod are also elective officers, limited to two consecutive terms of three years each, and the officer holder must be eligible for membership in the respective governing body.
- The Clerk of the General Assembly is known as the Principal Clerk of the General Assembly, whose current term of office is six (6) years.

## DUTIES OF THE CLERK

- The Clerk shall:
- Record the transactions of the governing body in the form of minutes
  - Keep accurate rolls of membership and attendance
  - Preserve all records carefully and permanently

- Present matters of business and communicate decisions of the court
- Take custody of all papers, books, and official documents
- Furnish verified extracts from minutes when required by another governing body, such extracts serving as official evidence
- Carry out all instructions of the court

Nota Bene:

These provisions are drawn from the Practice and Procedure, Part G, of the Presbyterian Church of Nigeria.

Linking All  
Presbyterians Together  
God bless the Uniting  
Presbyterian Church in  
Southern Africa  
God bless the  
Presbyterian Church of  
Nigeria

Happy Presbyterians!  
From glory to glory.



*Author is a Nigeria  
Rev. Cj Ndukwe is  
a Reverend at the  
Presbyterian Church of  
Nigeria. Iquta mission  
station, Oron Parish*



# Beyond 100 Years: Renewing the Mission of the Presbyterian Church in Zambia



**FILE:** Scores of members of the Presbyterian Church came from all walks of life to witness and take part in the centenary celebration of the Presbyterian Church in Zambia

**C**elebrating a centenary is both a significant milestone and a moment of sober reflection for the Presbyterian Church in Zambia. It provides an opportunity to give thanks for God's faithfulness across generations, to honour the sacrifices of those who laboured before us, and to acknowledge the visible growth of

the Church. Yet, once the commemorations have ended and the banners are taken down, a critical question remains: what comes next?

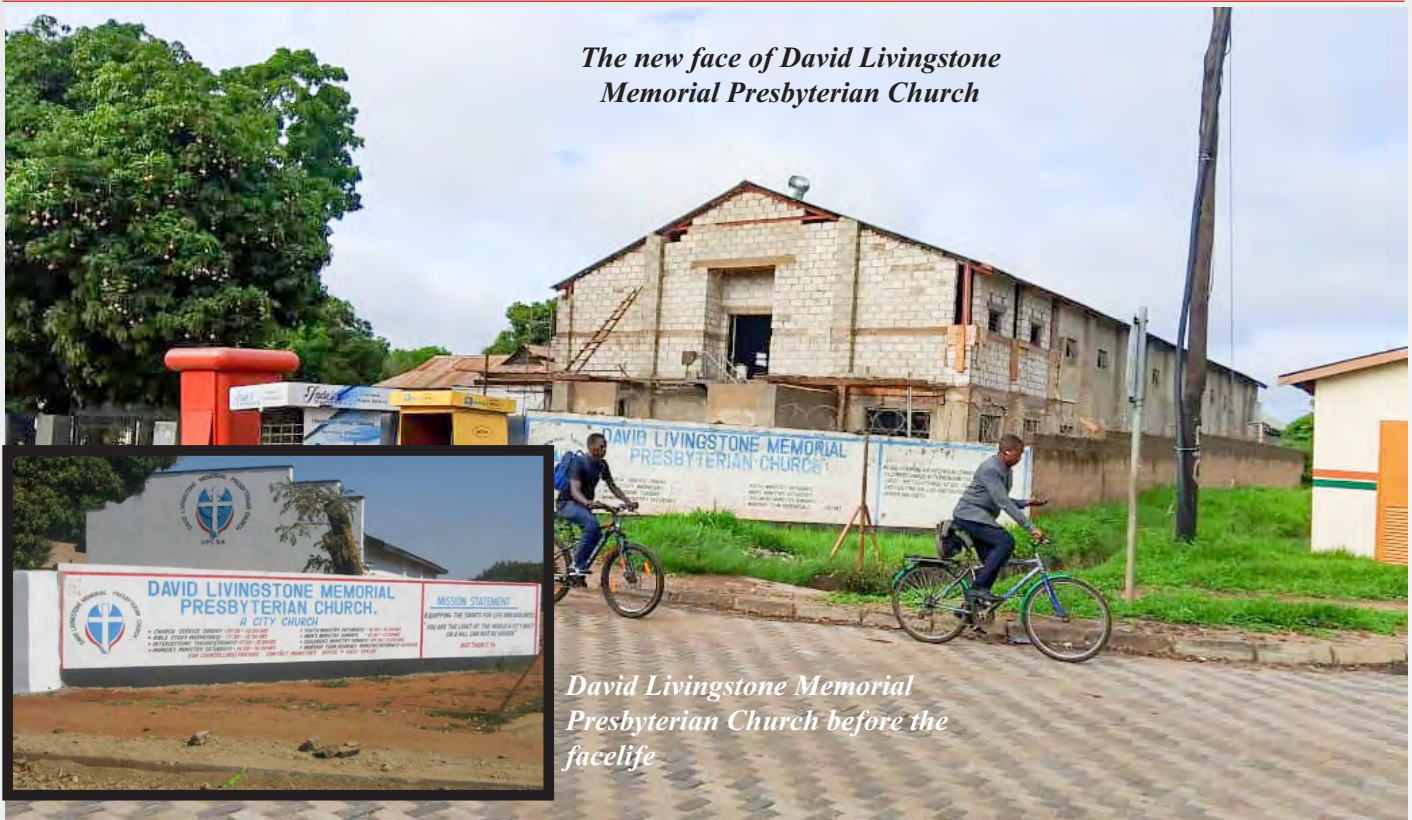
Growth, in itself, is not difficult to achieve. Congregations may expand in numbers, programmes, and physical structures. Far more demanding, however, is sustaining that growth and ensuring

it translates into spiritual depth, faithful discipleship, and lasting impact. Upholding growth requires wisdom, discipline, and, above all, divine intervention. Without God's continued guidance, expansion risks becoming cosmetic rather than transformative.

Encouragingly, many Presbyterian congregations in Zambia are

responding to this challenge with renewed vision and commitment. Across our presbyteries, there is visible progress in improving church infrastructure to accommodate growing congregations and enhance the worship experience. The desire to create welcoming, dignified, and functional spaces for the people of God





*The new face of David Livingstone Memorial Presbyterian Church*

*David Livingstone Memorial Presbyterian Church before the facelift*

reflects a renewed appreciation of stewardship and hospitality within the House of the Lord.

Within Munali Presbytery, congregations such as Chawama, Chilenje, and Chilanga Presbyterian Churches are following a commendable path, building upon the example set by David Livingstone Presbyterian Church in Livingstone of Southern Province through significant infrastructure development. These initiatives go beyond beautification; they represent deliberate preparation to meet

both present and future ministry demands. Improved facilities enable more effective worship, fellowship, ministry, and outreach, particularly within rapidly expanding communities. Similar efforts are also evident in other presbyteries across the country.

Nevertheless, as we celebrate bricks and mortar, we must remain vigilant not to neglect the Church's spiritual foundations. Infrastructure must serve mission, not replace it. The post-centenary era calls the Presbyterian Church to invest equally in leadership development,

theological education, youth and children's ministry, and evangelism. A well-finished building without a spiritually vibrant congregation risks becoming an empty monument to past achievements.

The way forward therefore requires balance. Physical growth must be matched with spiritual maturity. Strengthened administrative systems must walk alongside faithful pastoral care. Financial sustainability must be underpinned by generosity, transparency, and accountability. Above all, prayer

must remain central, for unless the Lord builds the house, those who labour build in vain.

As the Presbyterian Church moves beyond its centenary celebrations, it stands at a defining moment. The choices made today will shape the Church for generations to come. With faith, vision, and unwavering dependence on God, this new chapter can be marked not only by visible expansion, but by a deeper and more faithful commitment to Christ's mission in the world.



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# BREAKING NEWS

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# TIM ISSUE 9

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# **TRAINING IN MISSION**

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## **IN THIS ISSUE**

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1. Sabina Park
2. Hurricane Melissa
3. Meadowbrook
4. TIMsights
5. Museum Findings



# PRAYER

O GREAT SOURCE OF LIGHT AND LOVE,  
LOOK UPON YOUR PEOPLE WHO WALK BENEATH HEAVY SKIES.  
WHERE HEARTS HAVE GROWN TIRED, LET YOUR PEACE REST SOFTLY.  
WHERE SPIRITS HAVE BEEN DIMMED BY SORROW, LET YOUR LIGHT AWAKEN NEW STRENGTH.

LIFT US FROM THE WEIGHT OF DESPAIR.  
REMINDE US THAT EVEN IN OUR DARKEST VALLEYS, DAWN IS ALREADY ON ITS WAY.  
FILL OUR MINDS WITH CLARITY, OUR HEARTS WITH COURAGE,  
AND OUR DAYS WITH SIGNS OF YOUR QUIET, STEADY PRESENCE.

PLANT HOPE WITHIN US LIKE A SEED—  
SMALL AT FIRST, BUT STRONG ENOUGH TO GROW.  
LET IT RISE IN US UNTIL IT BECOMES A SHELTER  
FOR ALL WHO FEEL LOST OR ALONE.

GUIDE OUR HANDS TO KINDNESS,  
OUR WORDS TO HEALING,  
AND OUR STEPS TOWARD A FUTURE FILLED WITH PURPOSE AND COMPASSION.

MAY WE REMEMBER THAT WE ARE NEVER ABANDONED,  
THAT LOVE IS STRONGER THAN FEAR,  
AND THAT FROM EVERY ENDING, YOU CAN BRING A NEW BEGINNING.

AMEN.



# **Trip to Sabina Park Themba Ngwira and RANDRIAMAZAORO**

## **Dimbisolo Eddy**

Sabina Park, the home ground of the Jamaica cricket team, regularly hosts International cricket matches for the West Indies and is the sole Test cricket ground in Jamaica. It was originally a Pen, an enclosed or fenced off area of land, which was named Rosemount. Rosemount was eventually sold to the Kingston Cricket Club. Sabina Park is one of the most storied cricket venues in the world, hosting its first Test match in 1930 in a test that saw the West Indies take on England, with the match ending in a draw. The ground has seen many historical events, with Garry Sobers 365 not out, against Pakistan, arguably the greatest cricketing moment at the ground.

We had the privilege of visiting Sabina Park, which in a sense, formed part of our mission experience to explore how faith and purpose can be recognized in different aspects of community life. Sabina Park holds great national pride, so we were eager to witness it in person. We were invited by Dr Paul E. Martin and his wife Jennifer Martin. Their warm hospitality and insights added depth to our reflections and helped us view the experience through both cultural and spiritual lenses. Although our visit was mainly for observation, we also wanted to reflect on how spaces like this unite people through shared passion and teamwork. Being there encouraged us to think about how mission extends beyond the walls of a church, into the fields, stadiums, and public spaces where people gather to celebrate talent, and togetherness. When we arrived, we discovered that preparations were underway for a concert in celebration of National Heroes' Weekend. The stage was set, speakers and lighting were being tested, and security personnel were conducting checks around the venue. Because of these preparations, we were not permitted to go onto the actual cricket field.

Despite the disappointment, we watched the workers and organizers carefully carry out their tasks, which gave us a new appreciation for teamwork and service that was apparent. It reminded us that every role, no matter how small, contributes to the success of a larger mission, (the concert in this case). In addition, this connects closely to our own calling to serve others faithfully. Even though we did not step onto the field, our visit to Sabina Park was a meaningful experience of reflection and growth.

Observing the dedication and unity of those preparing for the event reminded us that mission is not only about action but also about presence and perspective, seeing God at work in everyday efforts. We left with a renewed sense of gratitude and purpose, inspired to continue our own mission of spreading hope, unity, and service wherever we go, just as others do in their own unique ways.





# **Impacts of Hurricane Melissa and our Mission as a Faith Community, Priscillah Bwalya**

Hurricane Melissa has caused great destruction across Jamaica and other neighbouring of the world , leaving many families without homes, food, or clean water. Communities were flooded, power lines were damaged, and lives were lost. In moments like this, people experience deep pain, fear, and confusion. As a faith community, this is our time to live out our calling by showing love, care, and compassion to those who are hurting. Our mission begins with presence, being there for others. Visiting affected families, comforting those who have lost their loved ones and helping people rebuild their lives even with small act of kindness such as sharing food and listening to people's story, or offering a prayer, can bring peace and hope. The Bible encourages us to carry each others burdens ( Galatians 6:2) reminds us that helping others is a true expression of faith. When we stand beside those who are suffering, we show that God's love is still alive and active, even in times of disaster.

After a storm, the greatest need is not only emergency relief but also long term support. Many people have lost everything, their homes, crops or source of income and rebuilding takes time. As a faith community, our missional response must include both immediate and lasting help. Churches can organise collection of food, clothing, and building materials. Communities can volunteer to clean up the damaged areas and assist repairs. We can work with other churches to ensure that help reaches everyone especially those in the most affected areas. The effort should not stop once the storm passes, constant support will be needed, not only to restore building and roads in ruins but also people's faith, hope and dignity. When people see that the church is by their side, they see the true heart of Christ reflected in action, giving people increase hope.

Beyond physical recovery, there is also a spiritual need for healing. Many people may feel hopeless and asking why such happened. This is where the church can give spiritual strength and hope, we can organise prayer meetings, and counselling sessions to help people find comfort and courage in God's promises, it is also important to teach about caring for creation, as environmental issues like deforestation and climate change also contributes to such natural disasters. By promoting good stewardship of the environment, the faith community can help reduce future risks. We must be the voice of faith, love, and unity, reminding everyone that even when storms destroy what we see, God remains unshaken. Through our service, we bring the message that new life and restorations are possible. Our mission is to rebuild both homes and hearts, to shine the light of Christ in darkest times, and to remind the nation that with faith and unity, Jamaica will raise again.



# Meadowbrook Visit Laura Harry and Sharon Thiong's

Our visit to Meadowbrook United Church was inspiring. Meadowbrook is a congregation of the United Church in Jamaica and the Cayman Islands. We visited the congregation on 19th of October 2025, which was a day before the nation's highly acclaimed Heroes Day. Some members were dressed in their national attire and songs of patriotism including the national anthem were sung during the service. Jamaica celebrates Heroes Day in honour of the seven Jamaican national heroes whose courage and conviction shaped the nation's identity and led them to the independence they hold today. This was a sobering reminder for us that our nationality matters to God and we can love and honour it in the presence of the God who gave it to us. Moreover, it was a reminder to us as missionaries, that God calls us to pray for and build the nations where He has placed us, for when it prospers, we will prosper.

Meadowbrook United Church shares space and resources with the Meadow Preparatory and High schools as part of its community engagement. Members take part in the life of the schools through various ways such as worship and mentorship. Additionally, the church's mission extends to the support and encouragement of the Pringle Home. Pringle Home is a rescue centre for girls who have been abused, abandoned, orphaned or living in the streets. At Pringle, girls receive support in schooling, employment training, life skills, behavioural management, conflict resolution and devotions. Meadowbrook, through the women's fellowship, is currently supporting Pringle Home by raising support for their back-to-school needs. These are some of the ways in which Meadowbrook is involved in mission in the community.

Furthermore, the Vibrant Praise and Worship during the church service stood out the most. Knowing very well that Reggae is deeply rooted in Jamaican culture, it is integrated into worship, making it more authentic and relatable. This blend of traditional and modern style of worship creates an atmosphere of liberty and freedom to express oneself in God's presence. What made our experience even more special was seeing a lady at the front singing and dancing with so much joy. This reminds us of why being authentic in our spiritual lives is so important. When we celebrate God in unique ways, we also inspire others to do. We all have different styles of worship, some may stand and remain in the same position during worship, dance, sing quietly or shout to the rooftops, what is most important is living boldly in our faith as it encourages us to encounter God in our own personal ways. While worship styles may vary, the purpose and message remain the same- to connect with God and express gratitude and love.





# TIMSIGHTS

# TREVAUGHN

# HYLTON

During his time in the Philippines, what struck him most was the remarkable bravery of the people—how courageously they defend their rights, pursue justice, and speak out against corruption that threatens their freedom and wellbeing. Adjusting to the culture became a meaningful adventure for him, from getting used to rice at every meal to learning how to navigate jeepneys, tricycles, and boats across the Palawan islands. He also embraced learning enough Tagalog to communicate respectfully, and he found the worship style uniquely comforting, shaped by the spiritual needs of each local community. Despite the differences, he noticed familiar threads that reminded him of home—such as the climate, the hymns, and the strong interconnectedness within churches and neighborhoods. Through the TIM Programme, his faith was both challenged and deepened, especially as he began reading scripture through the lens of empire and the oppressed. Along the way, he discovered God as a profound source of resilience, and he stayed spiritually grounded through daily prayer, scripture reading, and singing his favorite Gospel songs.





His relationships with fellow students from around the world grew from light cultural exchanges into genuine, meaningful friendships, strengthened by patience, humour, and shared experiences. The seminary community supported him warmly through prayer, inclusion, and guidance, and one of the most impactful moments for him was the week-long Sportsfest—an experience that affirmed his sense of worth and capability through the encouragement of Team BAGANI. Feeling especially called to multimedia, music, worship planning, and youth ministry, he hopes to use what he has learned to advocate for justice and fullness of life wherever he is called to serve. Back home at Ridgemount United Church in Mandeville, Jamaica, his congregation worships vibrantly and welcomes all with a spirit-filled, scripture-rooted approach. His prayer for his church is that its members may recognize God in all things, give thanks instead of complaining, and offer their gifts wholeheartedly for God's mission.

Missing my family and friends

favourite food  
ackee and saltfish

The TIMS have got to  
try jerked pork

Hallelujah Chant  
is my go-to track at the  
moment

Blue is the colour and God is  
Good

Adapting and learning is key





# Findings in the Museum (Sam Toleafoa & Dim Zam Ging)

During our visit to the Institute of Jamaica and the Junior Centre, we saw the importance of protecting the stories of Indigenous people (Taino tribe) who once lived in Jamaica. Even though they are no longer here, their culture, art, and wisdom are preserved through the artefacts and exhibits in the museum. Their story teaches us to value identity, respect diversity, and honour those who came before us. In the same way, the story of Jesus continues to live on because his followers preserved and shared it faithfully. Both the Indigenous stories and the story of Jesus show how truth and faith continue to speak through time when people choose to keep them alive.

We also explored the history of reggae music and its African roots, and discovered how it connects to missional work. Reggae is more than a rhythm because it carries messages of peace, freedom, and social justice that often draw from biblical truths. The songs speak to the struggles and hopes of people, calling for unity and love. This reflects the heart of mission by using culture, art, and everyday language to share God's message of hope. Just as reggae reached people across nations and inspired change, mission work also reaches hearts by speaking truth through compassion, creativity, and courage.

Another lesson we gained was about caring for creation, especially the protection of bat species in Jamaica. We learned that bats play a vital role in the environment by pollinating plants and controlling insects. Caring for them means caring for the balance of life that God designed. This connects deeply with mission because God's mission includes the whole creation, not just people. When we protect the environment, we show respect for God's handiwork and join in his work of restoring and sustaining life on earth. Through this visit, we understood that being part of God's mission means protecting stories, cultures, and creation itself because salvation is not only about people but also about all that God has made.





# TIMstagram





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