

Dear friends,

**The Christian Aid Baptist Union of Wales Appeal: Talents of Hope**

It was with much anticipation that the Christian Aid Baptist Union of Wales Appeal was launched at our annual meetings this year. Our partnership as two movements goes back many years and we have worked well together raising much needed funds for some of the world’s poorest people.

The focus for our appeal is Zimbabwe and our hope is that we will be able to help build resilience within communities through training and support. Zimbabwe has been an independent country since 1965 but has faced many challenges including periods of low economic growth, hyperinflation along with high levels of unemployment and the effects of climate change. Although the economy improved slightly when an unity government was formed in 2008 it continues to be one of the poorest countries in the world.

Christian Aid has worked in partnership in Zimbabwe with the BRACT project (Building Resilience through improving the Absorptive and Adaptive Capacity for Transformation of at-risk communities) which has helped people to develop skills in different farming techniques and in new areas so as to ensure reliable sources of income.

Enclosed with this letter are resources to help you raise money for the Appeal. There is a poster, information and prayer sheets, activity sheets for young people and children and an outline of a reflection. The BUW web page will also be updated so as to inspire you to continue with your efforts.

We kindly ask you not to send contributions directly to the Christian Aid office. Please send them either to: **The Baptist Union of Wales, Y Llwyfan, College Road, Carmarthen, SA31 3EQ making cheques payable to ‘The Baptist Union of Wales’ noting ‘Christian Aid Appeal’ on the back of the cheque or go to our website:** [Talents of Hope - The Baptist Union of Wales (buw.wales)](https://buw.wales/supporting-mission/appeals/talents-of-hope/) or to **the ‘Just Giving’ page (**[Talents of Hope Appeal - JustGiving](https://www.justgiving.com/campaign/talentsofhope)) in order to make an electronic transfer.

We look forward once again to responding to the call of the Gospel to help our brothers and sisters and to demonstrate our love in Christ towards those who are in need. “Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another” (John 13:34).

With every blessing,

Judith Morris Andrew Sully

Baptist Union of Wales Christian Ai