

Mozambique Emergency



UMCOR Alert!

The United Methodist Committee on Relief of the General Board of Global Ministries is issuing an urgent request to United Methodists to respond to the Mozambique Emergency. Food, children's clothing, medicine and medical equipment are desperately needed; the devastation and famine rival that of Ethiopia. UMCOR is trying to meet the needs of Mozambique along with 53 donor governments and 38 nongovernmental organizations (including Church World Service).

This land of 14 million people in southern Africa now ranks at the top of the Human Suffering Index. Its infant mortality rate is the

highest in the world. As many as 4.5 million people are now threatened by starvation.

As reports of the extent of the famine in Mozambique have come in, UMCOR has continued to respond to the emergency. In October 1986, UMCOR sent \$100,000 for relief to the Christian Council of Mozambique. Another \$50,000 was sent in March 1987 to The United Methodist Church in Mozambique and on July 31, another \$50,000. In August, \$15,000 was sent along with much needed clothing. Three large cartons of medicines were taken by UMCOR consultant Dr. Robert C. Smith, and the Yellowstone and Rocky Mountain Conferences airfreighted 51 cartons and suitcases of medical supplies for the hospital in Chicucue.

The situation remains critical. The major problem is not drought nor floods, but war. Local people have worked hard to plant food crops but have been unable to harvest their crops because of the indiscriminate violence of the rebels. These "bandits" burn fields and houses and steal. The situation is most critical in the fertile province of Zambezia, the "bread basket" of Mozambique, where bandits have destroyed the infrastructure and severely disrupted food production. People have been forced to flee in search of safety and are being cared for in refugee camps.

At least 1.2 million people within Mozambique have been displaced from their homes. Another 400,000 have crossed the borders of Mozambique to southern Malawi, Zimbabwe and South Africa.

Funds are needed not only to provide critically needed food, clothing, water and shelter, but also to assist in rebuilding the agricultural infrastructure of Mozambican village life. Your help is needed now. Send your designated gift for **Mozambique Emergency #156500-0**. For local church and annual conference credit, send your gift through your local church treasurer. Gifts will then be forwarded to: Advance GCFA, General Board of Global Ministries, Room 1439, 475 Riverside Drive, New York, NY 10115.

MOZAMBIQUE EMERGENCY #156500-0

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