



Newsletter May 2025

St Columba's Presbyterian Church
Mutare

A Word From The Pastors

May is the month that hosts a special day that is commonly known as Mothers' Day. This May, take the opportunity to thank God in practical ways for the various people that have played the 'mother' role in your life.

- The mother that gave birth to you
- Mothers that cared for you as you grew
- Mothers who cared enough to mould you into a good character
- Mothers who encouraged you to achieve your dreams
- Mothers who inspire you to do great things
- Mothers who are present for you whenever you need them
- Mothers who support you by praying for you
- People who have played the role of mother in your life

Calendar highlights

Sun 4 May	9 am	Communion Service - Handfull of Rice - GILLS Bake Sale to fundraise for church (anyone to bring goodies to sell)
Sun 11 May		Mother's Day. - Fellowship of Women meets after Church.
Sat 17 May	10 am	Session Meeting



The Bible highlights two generations of mothers who gave Timothy the gift of faith, the greatest gift a mother can give to their child: “I am reminded of your sincere faith, which first lived in your grandmother Lois and in your mother Eunice and, I am persuaded, now lives in you” (2 Tim 1:5).

This month and beyond, let us make deliberate efforts to honour the people who have played the role of mother in our lives. Let us intentionally communicate our appreciation to them. Buy them flowers while they are still alive and not wait to only put flowers on their graves. Tell them how much they are loved so that they are encouraged. Serve them, for a change, since they are used to doing a lot of serving other people’s needs. Give them a break from their regular duties so that they enjoy a time of rest. Buy or make them gifts that are meaningful. Or gift them with some much needed words of affirmation. Do whatever you can to celebrate the gift that they are to you and to the world.

Pastors Paul and Lydia

Exodus 20:12

Honour your father and your mother, so that you may live
long in the land
the Lord your God is giving you.





You have been a beautiful example of God's love.

She is clothed with strength and dignity; she can laugh at the days to come. She speaks with wisdom, and faithful instruction is on her tongue.

PROVERBS 31.

Acknowledgements

Pastors Paul and Lydia Neshangwe,
Pastor Chris Muzodziwa
Hillary Chakonda,
Mercy Kurewa,
Varaidzo Mabuto,
Kudakwashe A. Musanhu,
Iris Shiripinda,
Rob van Steensel,
Wietske Mushonga

all contributed to the production of this newsletter.



2025 Combined Mutare Presbyterian Easter Conference

The conference, held in Sakubva, united congregants from various circuits, including Hobhouse, Chikanga, Dangamvura, Old Mutare, St Columbus, and Sakubva. The event featured a praise and worship session, followed by sermons from various preachers, including Rev P Neshangwe, Rev L Neshangwe, Rev A Ferreira, Pastor T Ngwerume and Pastor C Chikomo.

Key Highlights

- Neighborhood evangelism took place at 4:30 am, promoting spiritual growth and community engagement.
- A workshop on mental health and substance abuse was conducted by PCCS, highlighting how substances hijack the brain and affect one's social, spiritual, physical, and mental life. The presentation emphasized the importance of support systems, particularly in times of grief and stress, encouraging congregants to support one another.
- A presentation on health and wellness was done by Crotex Health, emphasizing healthy eating and overall well-being. Traditional vegetables like blackjack, mufushwa, nyimo, and dovi, brown rice, madhumbe, and fruits were highlighted as essential components of a balanced diet.

Meals and Attendance

- Lunch consisted of sadza with beef and cabbage. Supper consisted of rice of different varieties, chicken, salads and sauce.
- Tea was served around 12:00 midnight.
- The conference drew a diverse crowd, including women, men, youths, and children. Congregations donated food items, demonstrating their commitment to serving others.

Impact

The event promoted spiritual growth, health awareness, and community building, fostering unity and support among attendees. By emphasizing the importance of supporting one another in times of grief and stress, the conference encouraged congregants to build stronger relationships and care for each other's well-being. Overall, the conference was a resounding success, providing a platform for spiritual rejuvenation, education, and fellowship.



Sweet Success at Our April Cake Sale!

On Saturday, 6th April, our church community came together for a delightful cake sale that brought both joy and generosity to life. The event was filled with laughter, the comforting smell of freshly baked treats, and a strong sense of fellowship. Tables were lined with an array of cakes, muffins, doughnuts, and snacks, all lovingly baked and prepared by the Growing In Love Ladies (GILLs), who took the lead in organizing this sweet and spirited event. From classic chocolate cakes to perfectly popped popcorn, there was something for everyone to enjoy—and everything sold out faster than expected!

Thanks to GILLs and the incredible support from our bakers, volunteers, and buyers, the cake sale was a great success. Not only did we raise much-needed funds for our ongoing church initiatives, but we also strengthened the bonds within our church family. Events like these remind us of the joy in giving, sharing, and coming together. We are truly grateful to everyone who participated and made the day so special. Here's to many more uplifting gatherings in the future!

Varaidzo (Vee) Mabuto



Nurturing Healthy Connections: The 4 C's of a Fulfilling Relationship

As we embark on the final part of our series on building healthy relationships, let us delve into a fundamental framework that can guide us towards deeper connections and more meaningful interactions. Today, I introduce to you the "4 C's of a Healthy Relationship" – a simple yet powerful guide to nurturing and sustaining fulfilling relationships in our lives.

1. Communication

At the core of any healthy relationship lies effective communication. Open, honest, and empathetic communication forms the bedrock of understanding and connection between individuals. It involves not only expressing our thoughts and feelings but also actively listening to our partner. Remember, communication is a two-way street – it requires both speaking your truth and truly hearing the other person's perspective.

- *Proverbs 18:21 (NIV)*: "The tongue has the power of life and death, and those who love it will eat its fruit."
- *Ephesians 4:29 (NIV)*: "Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen."

2. Compassion

Compassion is the ability to empathize with your partner, to understand their emotions, and to support them through both good times and bad. In a healthy relationship, showing compassion means being there for your partner, offering a listening ear, and providing comfort and encouragement when needed. Cultivating compassion fosters a sense of safety and security within the relationship, allowing both partners to be vulnerable and authentic with each other.

- *Colossians 3:12 (NIV)*: "Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience."
- *1 Peter 3:8 (NIV)*: "Finally, all of you, be like-minded, be sympathetic, love one another, be compassionate and humble."



3. Compromise

In any relationship, differences and disagreements are inevitable. However, the key to overcoming these challenges lies in the art of compromise. Healthy compromise involves finding common ground, respecting each other's needs and boundaries, and working together to reach mutually beneficial solutions. Remember, compromise is not about sacrificing your values or beliefs but about finding a middle ground that honours both individuals' perspectives.

- *Philippians 2:4 (NIV)*: "Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others."
- *Romans 12:16 (NIV)*: "Live in harmony with one another. Do not be proud, but be willing to associate with people of low position. Do not be conceited."

4. Commitment

Last but certainly not least, commitment is the glue that holds a healthy relationship together. True commitment means being dedicated to the growth and well-being of the relationship, even when faced with obstacles or challenges. It involves investing time, effort, and energy into nurturing the bond between partners and prioritizing the relationship in the face of competing demands. Commitment creates a sense of security and stability, allowing both partners to feel valued and cherished in the partnership.

- *1 Corinthians 13:7 (NIV)*: "It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres."
- *Joshua 24:15b (NIV)*: "But as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord."

In conclusion, as we reflect on the 4 C's of a Healthy Relationship – Communication, Compassion, Compromise, and Commitment – let us strive to embody these principles in our interactions with our loved ones. By cultivating these qualities, we can build stronger, more resilient relationships that bring joy, fulfilment, and mutual growth.

Thank you for joining me on this journey through the intricacies of healthy relationships. May these insights serve as a guiding light as you navigate the complexities of relationships in your own lives.



Easter Camp



The Easter camp

On a Sunday afternoon we went to a
Easter camp at Iru Park, Yumbos.
We started the journey at 2 o'clock
and we arrived at 4:30

We went to the camp with two
combs. The combs had men, 11 and the
music. One comb had buses the other
comb had people. We also went to the
forest walk. There was a slip stick.
There was a camp fire. Past Paul and Paul
yada pastor Brit and his son
It was fun

Every morning we prayed before doing
any activities. We had group leaders
namely Jenny, Aunty Wendy, Aunty
Amanda, Aunty Dorcas, Maad and Belan.

We played lots of games example like volleyball,
cramp line and forest walk with pastor yada pastor Paul
pastor Chris and his sister it was fine some got tired

Written with love from three
brothers Samuel, David and Daniel
[Samuel Shripinda
David Shripinda
Daniel Shripinda]

Praise God, He's risen.



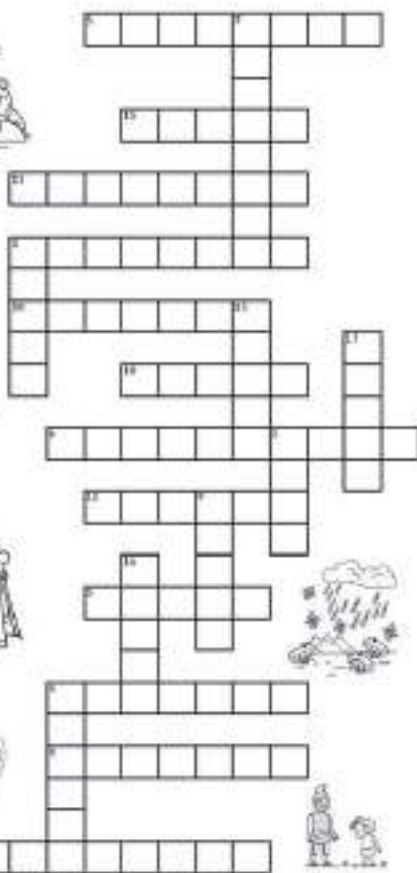






Scripture Crossword

Read the clues and fill in the corresponding squares on the puzzle.



DOWN

1. Grace shown to sinners
2. Righteous man who saved his family from flood
3. Son of Rachel and Jacob
4. Being calm and trusting the Lord
9. Old Testament city punished by God
11. Old Testament structure for burnt offerings
14. Patriarch of Israel
17. Negative effect caused by God

ACROSS

1. Brother of Ephraim in the Old Testament
3. Assisted Moses in the Exodus
4. A time for forgiveness and freedom in the Old Testament
5. Joseph's master
6. What the Promised Land bordered
8. Old Testament figure with 700 wives
10. Old Testament woman who gave birth to twins
11. A positive outcome caused by God's favor
12. Elijah's successor
15. Slew a giant with a stone
16. His name means "Yahweh remembers" in Hebrew
18. Bible word for extreme anger



List of Ministeries

MINISTERS:

REVs PAUL AND LYDIA NESHANGWE

Email: paneshangwe@gmail.com, lydianeshangwe@yahoo.co.uk

Tel: 0717 654008, 0782 964362

CHURCH OFFICE:

Mon – Fri 8am – 12:30pm

Tel: 02020 60628, 0717 459312

Email: mupresby@gmail.com

SESSION CLERK:

MARIE SACCONI

CHURCH SECRETARY:

KATIE BOWEN

CARETAKER:

GODFREY MAGODHLO

Tel: 0772844273

SERVICES:

Sunday Service 9 am

Communion Service and 'Handful of Rice' - 1st Sunday of the month

Kids Church - Sunday 9 am

BIBLE STUDIES:

Ladies Bible Study

Mon 10-11am, Jenny Paterson, Cntct Wietske Mushonga or Jenny

Homegroup men&women

Mon 5.30-6.30pm, Liffy Gorton, Contact Gavin&Sue Young

Bible Study

Tue 2-3pm, Liffy Gorton

Alpha Course

Tue 6pm, Simon & Katie Bowen

Homegroup

Wed 6.30pm, Mark and Jenny Paterson

Homegroup men&women

Wed 6-7pm, Albert Masvongo and Colin Brandt

Ladies Bible Study

Every 2nd Thu, 10-12am, Marie Sacconi

CHURCH MINISTRIES:

- **CALLED 2 CARE (Skills Training Outreach)** Daily, Onie & Wendy Mususa
 - **GILLs (Growing In Love Ladies)** *Last Saturday of the Month, 9am – Lys Sheiky*
 - **FELLOWSHIP OF WOMEN** Every 2nd Sunday after Church
 - **MEN'S MINISTRY** Every Saturday, 7am - Colin Brandt
 - **BOYS' & GIRLS' BRIGADES** Every Saturday at the church, 2pm - Fiona Botes
 - **YOUTH MINISTRY** Every Saturday, at the church, 2pm - Munya Kamunda and Ashley Mususa
 - **MUSIC MINISTRY** Every Friday 4.30 PM Contact Josphat Mususa
 - **YOUNG ADULTS** Monthly, cntct Kuda Musanu & Simba Mangore
-

CHURCH BANKING DETAILS: STANBIC BANK

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To all our church members if anyone of us has

a car or tractor mechanical issue

*please feel free to look for **Munya** on **0775921314***

For car service or repairs or recovery that is towing

*I would be very happy to assist you all our church
members and looking forward to seeing you
bringing some work*

Greetings, friends.

*The Newsletter Team is appealing to all who would like to advertise
their businesses, practices and trades in the monthly church newsletter.*

*You can take a full page, half page or a quarter page for a small fee.
We want to know about and support your "hustle."*

Contact Wietske or any member of the Newsletter Team.



