



# The Methodist Church of Southern Africa

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Dear Methodist People,

Grace and peace to you in the name of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

We write with heavy hearts as the Methodist Church of Southern Africa stands in solidarity with communities and families who are grieving deep and painful losses. Across parts of our Connexion and region, devastating floods have claimed lives, displaced families, and destroyed homes and livelihoods. In addition, our hearts ache with sorrow for the numerous families who have lost children in the horrific accident in the Vaal, Highveld and Eswatini District. No words can fully capture the depth of such grief, nor can any explanation lessen the pain of young lives lost so suddenly and so tragically.

To those who have lost loved ones, especially children, we want you to know that you do not grieve alone. The Church weeps with you. We hold you in prayer, and we entrust your pain to the God who is close to the broken-hearted and who gathers every tear with compassion and love.

To communities affected by flooding in the Highveld and Eswatini, Limpopo, Mozambique and Natal Coastal Districts; those who have lost family members, homes, possessions, and a sense of safety — we affirm our solidarity with you. We recognise that beyond the immediate devastation lies a long journey of recovery, uncertainty, and rebuilding. The MCSA commits itself to walking with you in prayer, presence, and practical support.

We call upon all our Circuits, Societies, organisations, and members to:

- Pray fervently for those who mourn and those who are traumatised
- Offer tangible support to affected families and communities
- Show the compassion of Christ through acts of generosity, care, and accompaniment

In moments such as these, we are reminded that our Christian calling is not to offer easy answers, but to embody God's love — to stand with those who suffer, to bear one another's burdens, and to proclaim hope even amid sorrow.

May the God of all comfort surround every grieving family with peace that surpasses understanding. May the Holy Spirit strengthen those who are overwhelmed. And may Christ, our hope and resurrection, hold us together as a people of faith, love, and compassion.

We continue to pray for the bereaved, the injured, the displaced, and all who carry the weight of these tragedies.

Yours in Christ's service,

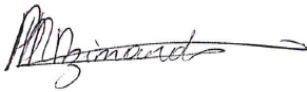
*A Christ-healed Africa for the Healing of Nations*

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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Nzimande', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Rev Pumla Nzimande  
Presiding Bishop