Visiting our sister churches in Zimbabwe

We as the DR Church family have great regard for our historical church relationship with our two sister churches in Zimbabwe – the CCAP (Church of Central Africa Presbyterian) Harare Synod, and the RCZ (Reformed Church in Zimbabwe), and ensure that the relationships remain strong.

CCAP
Kobus Odendaal (Africa Ecumenics) attended the CCAP’s biennial meeting outside Harare from 4 to 8 May on behalf of our DR Church family.

The CCAP Harare Synod is not a big synod and was established 104 years ago when Chichewa migrant labourers from Malawi asked the DRC Mission to help them. Due to a hut tax that the British regime implemented in Malawi, thousands of Malawians were forced to leave the country in search of work where they could earn money.

Many came to South Africa, but a large group secured employment on farms in the former Rhodesia. Today the synod consists of 22 congregations with 22 ministers and a number of evangelists.

Kobus says: “It was heart-warming to see how many visitors came from our other sister churches in South Africa, Malawi, Mozambique and Zambia to come and encourage them in this difficult time. I could convey greetings from the DR Church family in the Cape Region, and great appreciation was expressed for our continued support for them. Rev. Chirongo, the moderator, asked that we keep praying for them.”

RCZ
“The joy and our sincere relationships were inspiring, and deep thanks was expressed to our synodal region for the involvement of many local congregations with RCZ congregations,” says Kobus Odendaal, who conveyed greetings on behalf of the DR Church family in the Cape Region during the RCZ’s 30th biennial synod, held at Morgenster, Zimbabwe from 24 to 28 August.

“The church is growing steadily despite very difficult political and economic circumstances, exacerbated by the drought of the past season,” Kobus continues.

Also here in South Africa RCZ churches are expanding. Dr Christopher Munikwa is the RCZ minister here. Apart from the five congregations in the north of our country there are also two congregations in the Cape – one in Strand and one in Milnerton.

Zimbabwe remains a beautiful country with a lot of potential and innovative people. We are privileged to have family here too.

Contact Kobus Odendaal at missio@kaapkerk.co.za for more information.