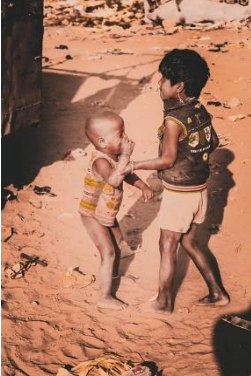


# Prayer guide for the week 2 to 8 October

"If you can't feed a hundred people, then feed just one." - Mother Teresa

According to the World Health Organisation (WHO), around 735 million people around the world are facing hunger today, 122 million more than in 2019. About 2,3 billion people (30% of the world population) are affected by moderately insecure food production as a result of droughts, fire and floods.



"The ongoing war in Ukraine, involving two of the biggest global producers of staple cereals, oilseeds and fertilizer, is disrupting international supply chains and pushing up the prices of grain, fertilizer, energy, as well as ready-to-use therapeutic food for children with severe malnutrition. This comes as supply chains are already being adversely affected by increasingly frequent extreme climate events, especially in low-income countries, and has potentially sobering implications for global food security and nutrition. This highlights the intensification of these major drivers of food insecurity and malnutrition: conflict, climate extremes and economic shocks, combined with growing inequalities" Thus from the WHO report.

In South Africa, about 6,5 million people are hungry and have limited access to food. The number of people in this situation is growing steadily. There are many factors contributing to this situation, mainly poverty and limited access to nutritional foods, surviving on starches that fill the belly but little else.

Nelson Mandela said, "*Freedom is meaningless if you cannot put food in their stomachs.*" Our country needs to do much, much more to support the farmers on our land to assist in food production, assist those who import food from other countries and ensure that our food laboratories are enabled to do the necessary research in improved food production.



So, Lord, we pray for the hungry, the starving children, the mothers who cannot feed their babies. We pray for those in food production, distribution and ensuring the food arrives in the marketplace. We pray for the many charity organisations and churches that do what they can to provide meals for the hungry and homeless.



***"MUCH, MUCH MORE in 2024"***