

# ARTPEACE AND FRIENDS

**BACK TO SCHOOL!** Thanks to support from a handful of the congregation boosted by a tremendous donation from north of the border, some children's school fees were covered to the end of year. Thirteen ArtPeace children, mainly of Secondary school age, including Matthew (August article refers), were overjoyed and extremely grateful at being able to continue their studies. Last year, over 2.7 million children dropped out of school due to poverty, according to the Amalgamated Rural Teachers Union of Zimbabwe.



Fortune's son Takomborerwa



Lovemore's daughter Aneline



Dickson's son Dickson junior



Matthew ( see Aug. article)



Teddy's daughter Ruverashe (right)



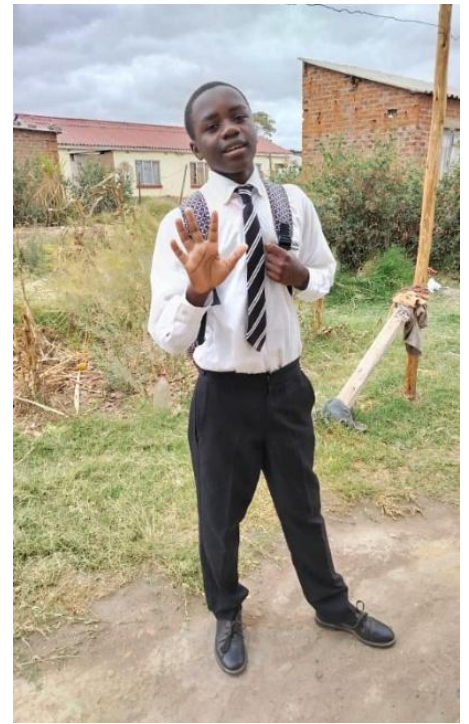
Coster's son Asama



Panashe's son Takudzwa



Godfrey's daughter Rutendo



Shingi's son Takudzwa



Peter's children Timothy, Clive and Harry



Godwin's daughter Natalie

**XENOPHOBIA:** In the late 1990s, Robert Mugabe's government launched a 'fast-track' land reform programme, involving the forcible seizure of white-owned farms. The programme was criticised for violence and inadequate resettlement followed by a sharp decline in agricultural production and exports. Thousands of farm workers lost their jobs forcing many Zimbabweans to move to South Africa for work. However, this year immigrants have faced discrimination and even violence in SA due to competition for scarce economic opportunities. So far, over 100,000 (70% women and children) have been forced out of South Africa. Artist Godfrey William wrote: 'Hi John, my photo shows four of these women, L to R - Marian Tapera, Alice Muchenje, Idah Mushambi and Anna Zvimbanow who were given shelter by my sister Irene (sitting on her doorstep). However, food on the table is now a big problem. All their possessions were looted by the Zulus'.



**SO NEAR SO FAR:** Mike Masedza's well (covered in Sept. article), has hit problems in the form of yet more large boulders which must be blasted out by experts using explosives. Mike and wife Netsai are so frustrated as there are now clear signs of water as you may see from the photo on left, but they need approx. £200 to hopefully finish the job. Meanwhile they continue to draw water from a neighbour's well 200 mtrs. away.

**HARVEST** will soon be upon us. Our own Harvest corner with a sculpture carved by Mike Mukolosi (who died earlier this year) is looking drab. Most plants quickly fried after a few weeks of intense temperatures although the Salvia Hotlips shrubs I planted a few years ago are thriving. I have put together a collage of photos taken over the years of this little corner of St Andrew's which may gladden a few hearts. **Johnston Simpson**

