One out of nine people does not have access to clean water.

3 - 6 Hours
Millions of women and children spend 3-6 hours each day collecting water from distant and polluted sources.

6 Kilometres
The time it takes to walk the average six kilometres for clean water is time not spent generating income, caring for family members, or attending school.

“Here in Manyame Park we don’t get water at all”

“We are now used to not having water in our households”

“WE ARE GETTING DIRTY WATER”

CivActs hosted community listening sessions in Bulawayo, Goromonzi, Harare, Chitungwiza where residents raised concerns on water shortages they are experiencing.
That means that they do not gather in the numbers they were used to, and that singing is a different experience when wearing a mask. Fortunately, the study of the Word, and the depth of prayer, are not muffled. Instead the personal responsibility, and the thoughtful response to official advice, has deepened the sense of solidarity and care for one another.

And of course people hear the wild rumours about the vaccines – that they make you ill, or plant a microchip in you. But in the congregation responses were robust. “Vaccines save lives and they have been there for quite a long time and Covid19 vaccination is our only ticket to return to somehow, normal life” said one.

In this way, communities and congregations are demonstrating the solidarity, responsibility and mutual support which gives real hope, not just for the pandemic but for the wider way ahead.

Community Insight: COVID-19 Safety after the Lockdown

We are all aware of the damage that the COVID-19 pandemic has done to lives and livelihoods. And we are all relieved that the lockdown restrictions have been eased. But should we just go back to the old ways of working before we have been vaccinated?

One church congregation, for example, has concluded that they can be responsible for their own safety. They have chosen to manage the risk from the virus themselves, respecting Government limitations but also making their own judgements. They realise that we help each other by being careful.

My mask keeps you safe, your mask keeps me safe.

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