

# MISSIONARY

F O U N D A T I O N



Teaching the Children - Vacation Bible School at Tse Bonito

## Vacation Bible School at Tse Bonito

The Tse Bonito Branch of The Church of Jesus Christ rests within the borders of the Navajo Nation which has a population of nearly three hundred thousand people. The youth of the Navajo Nation comprise more than half of that population and present a


great outreach opportunity for the Gospel to go to the House of Israel.

The Vacation Bible Schools (VBS) stand out among the major events in the thirty years of outreach here in Navajoland by members of the Church. These have been supported by the youth and members throughout the Church Regions as well as friends from the local community. The

GMBA Youth In Action sent a team of young people from throughout the country here in 2005 to assist in this important outreach. Ninety eight (98) children of elementary school age attended.

The Tse Bonito Branch has a youth orientation which has instilled a resurgence of energy and enthusiasm in all of its members. The time for growth is at hand. Will you consider making a donation

to the Tse Bonito VBS for 2006? Please send your donation to the Missionary Foundation with the notation, Tse Bonito VBS. The amount needed this year is \$2,000.00 (\$20 per child).

May God bless you for your prayerful and active support of the Church's Divine Commission among The Seed of Joseph. 



## My First Missionary Trip

by Brother Chip Smith Jr.

My first missionary trip was a very blessed and joyful time. However, it began on February 24, 2006 with a phone call from my wife, Sister Karen, saying there was an attempt to overturn the government in Manila. Brother Art Gehly, Sr., also called to let me know our original flight to Los Angeles (LAX) was cancelled and we were going to LAX via San Diego. Brothers Art and Christopher Gehly, Nephi DeMercurio, and I had prayer before our flight to the Philippines asking the Lord to go before us and to protect us on our trip. We arrived in Davao City where Brother Malaqui Galing was there to greet us.

Our first meeting was at the Bunawan Mission in a humble wood building. The building is off a winding dirt path in the middle of a banana field. Brother Nephi opened the service with the 23rd Psalm, involving all the Saints of the mission. Brother Chris and I followed as the Lord led us. We were able to partake of communion with our brothers and sisters of the mission. Shortly after the closing prayer, we realized the struggles they go through meeting in a banana field, as it began to pour rain upon the tin roof.



The Church of Jesus Christ at Bunawan, Philippines

I look back, I feel those words were for me too.

We met with the ordained officers from the island of Mindanao for seminars. Brother Nephi led the seminars with the topic of the Holy Spirit. I followed with a seminar on fasting and prayer, encouraging the saints to fast and pray for their missions. I asked that they set


sincerity of the Saints. When they pray, they are speaking as though the Lord Himself is right in front of them. My quote has become, "There is NOTHING between them and the Lord".

We learned Sister Delma Galing (Brother Malaqui's wife) was extremely ill and could not get out of bed. We went to anoint Sis Delma and, as we greeted her, you could feel the heat coming from her body. She sat in a chair and cried in pain. Brother Art anointed her and IMMEDIATELY the fever left her body. Praise God!

The following day, I was able to meet the remainder of the Saints on the island of Mindanao during our service at our hotel. The meeting began with praise and worship songs followed by a wonderful session of preaching by both visiting and local brothers. After lunch, we enjoyed the ordinations of three Deaconesses, one Deacon, and one Teacher. Brother Art concluded our day with discussion on the mission and the vision of The Church of Jesus Christ.

When it was time for me to say goodbye to my new family, I felt very sad. As we were departing from Davao City, Hymn # 3 of the Songs of Zion came to me, "Send Hunters and Fishers". Tears filled my eyes as the words just kept being repeated, "These are my people a lost hidden people".

The next day we were able to meet the Saints of the La Victoria and Bugsoc missions. Brother Nephi dedicated the land the church had recently purchased. His prayer was that this fertile land would bring up souls to Christ. It was a long and very bumpy ride up a winding mountain dirt road to the mission in Bugsoc. We had a wonderful time singing praises to the Lord and enjoyed the preaching and sacrament services. What a privilege to have communion with the Saints of God in such a remote part of the world.

I give all honor and glory to God, for without him I am nothing. My prayer is that the Lord will allow me to make more trips to the Philippines to do His work. 

*I was given the scripture of Luke 19:40 in which Jesus said, "...if these should hold their peace, the stones would immediately cry out."*

As I slept that night, the Lord spoke to me and said to tell them about their gift of The Church of Jesus Christ and that they should tell everyone. I was given the scripture of Luke 19:40 in which Jesus said, "...if these should hold their peace, the stones would immediately cry out." Now that

aside one day a month for each mission to gather in fasting and prayer. Brother Chris discussed the duties of an ordained Teacher in The Church of Jesus Christ. We were able to have a spirit-led feet-washing service with the Saints. While Brothers Art and Nephi passed sacrament, I watched the



## A Great Loss in Malawi

Brothers and Sisters,

I regret to inform you that the Church in Mzimba, Malawi has suffered the loss of one of their founding members. Brother Christopher Namba passed away on Saturday the 18th of March. He was a painter who was painting the Church building while listening to the preaching and teaching during our first trip to Malawi. He was convinced of the truth of the Restored Gospel and was converted within two days.

Brother Namba was falsely accused and imprisoned two years ago. He was pardoned and released this past Christmas. Brother Namba contracted malaria but had recovered very well. However, on Wednesday he began to throw-up uncontrollably and went to the hospital where he passed away Saturday evening. He leaves his wife, Sister Sarah, and four children. Brother Namba was an ordained Deacon and his wife is a Deaconess. His passing is a tremendous loss to the congregation in Mzimba, as he was always giving his testimony to everyone he met.

Brother Wilson told me the following experience about Brother Namba's passing. Brother Wilson went to see Brother Namba every day while he was in the hospital. On Saturday morning Brother Namba sent for Brother Wilson and asked that he pray for him. As they were talking, Brother Namba told Brother Wilson to hurry up and pray for him as he was leaving for the "Kingdom Reign of God" and did not have time to wait. When Brother Wilson finished his prayer Brother Namba closed his eyes and never opened them again and subsequently passed away. Brother Namba was a good example to all who knew him and he will be greatly missed not only in Malawi but by the Brothers from the US who knew him.

God Bless you all.

Brother Lyle Criscuolo MF

## Vacation Bible School at San Carlos

For one week every July the San Carlos, AZ Mission is transformed. This past July it was changed into a CONSTRUCTION ZONE for Vacation Bible School (VBS) 2005 as 20 volunteers and over 90 children from the San Carlos Apache reservation donned orange vests to build Character upon a firm foundation.

The building blocks were not bricks and stone but the characteristics of Jesus Christ. Each day the teachers and teacher assistants built on that foundation by presenting creative lessons, activities, scriptures, skits and crafts designed around the theme of the day - being humble, obedient, faithful, caring, and forgiving.

The feeling and experience of the San Carlos VBS is difficult to capture with words. For everyone involved, the blessings and memories of the week are innumerable. Serving God and serving the Apache children, and seeing the excitement on their faces, stays with us all year long



Enjoying Vacation Bible School at San Carlos

and is what brings many of us back year after year. We fondly refer to this tugging on our hearts as the VBS "bug".

With another VBS right around the corner, all of our excitement is beginning to resurface. We are fasting and praying for another successful year. We are praying that the Lord will allow us to reach even more of the Apache children - giving them at least one week out of the year where they can put their troubles aside and enjoy learning about Christ and praising His name. We are praying that you, too, will come and taste of the joys of serving the Lord in this manner and that the VBS bug will

catch you, bringing you back year after year! Come join us. Now is our time! Now is your time!

On behalf of all of the children, parents and members of the San Carlos Mission, we extend our sincere appreciation to all who have contributed donations over the years to fund the costs of this important Native American Outreach Effort. If you feel to contribute for this year's VBS, please write San Carlos VBS on your check or money order and on the donation envelope to the Missionary Foundation. May God bless each of you abundantly for your care and love for the House of Israel. MF

### THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST

# MISSIONARY

## F O U N D A T I O N

### I would like to donate to the following:

*"What shall I render unto  
the Lord for all his  
benefits toward me?"*

PSALMS 116:12

Please fill in the amounts for each work that you  
want to donate to and return in envelope provided.

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO:  
**THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST  
MISSIONARY FOUNDATION**  
P.O. Box 80, Fairless Hills, PA 19030

Native American Works	\$ _____
Colombia	\$ _____
Dominica	\$ _____
Ghana	\$ _____
Guatemala	\$ _____
India / India Orphans (Please Circle)	\$ _____
Italy	\$ _____
Kenya	\$ _____
Mexico	\$ _____
Muncey / Grand River / Six Nations (Please Circle)	\$ _____
New Works	\$ _____
Nigeria	\$ _____
Peru	\$ _____
Philippines	\$ _____
Venezuela	\$ _____
Missionary Foundation Fund	\$ _____

**TOTAL \$ \_\_\_\_\_**



## Kenya – The Miracle of Rain in the Midst of the Drought

By Brother Wayne Martorana,  
Kenya Coordinator

News sources recently reported that the United Nations food agency will soon run out of food needed to feed some 3.5 million Kenyans facing prolonged drought because it has only received a fraction of the required funding.

The World Food Program has enough cereal to last one more month but will run out of other staples very soon. "If we don't get any more food aid, it will be a catastrophe," a spokesman indicated. "We are already on the edge because food is running out and we are supposed to be feeding people until February, 2007."

Dozens of people have died of hunger in drought-stricken parts of

northeastern and eastern Kenya. The government has declared the situation a famine and a national disaster, but has not given a death toll.

"The key problem is water because the children are malnour-

*"The key problem is water because the children are malnourished and a lack of hygiene further complicates matters."*

ished and a lack of hygiene further complicates matters."

By Brother Stephen Osaka, Director of The Church of Jesus Christ in Kenya


Saints, God works miracles His wonders to perform. Surely and truly, those who call upon the name of the Lord will not be ashamed; they will be exalted. For the past several months, it has been difficult times for Kenyans. The worst of the worst droughts hit our Nation and it was declared a National

Disaster. Relief efforts were put in place to help the dying people and animals alike. The government was making desperate efforts to buy the dying cattle from farmers but that did not help either, for the impact was greater than imagined.

Many people started to lose hope. It is due to this consuming monster (the drought) that prompted me to appeal for prayers from our Brothers and Sisters in the church. No sooner had I made the request and the saints began to pray. The following three days rain had started to come down in the Kisii area.

This rain continued in Kisii even though the other parts of the country continued experiencing the drought. By now rain is com-

ing intensely and our people are happy for the miracle and answer of prayers. We most sincerely thank God and our Brothers and Sisters who joined us in prayer.

God heard the cry and voice of His people. Right now, as we speak, some parts of Kenya have still not experienced rain and the drought is continuing. The Army is trying to supply water from Nairobi with tankers to extend the lives of people. Again thank you for prayers – we know we serve a Living God. 

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