

HUMANITARIAN

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



Chingola, Zambia congregation in front of their newly dedicated building

DEDICATION OF THE CHINGOLA, ZAMBIA CHURCH BUILDING

By Evangelist Joseph Perri

The mission of The Church of Jesus Christ Chingola, Zambia was established on November 2, 2006 with Brother Albert Kawama as the Presiding Pastor. Ever since this mission was established, we have had to rent a place

to hold services.

It became very difficult to find a place to rent. Brother Albert made a number of requests for the Church to purchase property to construct a building; however, there were no funds available for such a request.

In the years since the establishment of the Church in Chingola, we rented rooms at various schools. However, as time passed, the board of education increased the rental fee, and asked for funds from our Church to repair, paint, and provide

security gates for each room. Recently, the school board gave the Chingola branch an ultimatum to either provide funds as requested, or look for another place to conduct worship services. The rental fee and funds being demanded for repairs were spiraling beyond our ability to pay from the budget allocated to this mission field. However, if we did not meet the school board's demands, the saints would have no place to worship. For years, the Brothers who presided over this mission

searched for other rooms to rent, but none were available.

Depending on the size congregation, the school board on occasion would change the room where our membership could meet. Other religious groups were holding services in adjacent rooms; their microphones and speakers amplifying their singing were so loud, it was almost impossible for our congregation to hear and concentrate on the message and singing in our own service. As missionaries we saw

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TIJUANA WORK SEEKING A BUILDING AFTER 12 YEARS

By Dan McNamara

La Reforma Mission in Tijuana, Mexico began as an outreach project in 2006. As a labor of love, missionaries began to share the Restored Gospel in the poorest areas of the city. From that time until now, the saints have held meetings in a destitute field, a garage, and now, the saints have raised funds and purchased land. Still, 12 years and nearly 50 members later, they remain without a building to meet in.

Brother Juan Rivas began traveling on international missionary work in Ecuador, Colombia, and several other international locations for The Church of Jesus Christ many years ago. These missionary trips sparked a desire to



Workers of all ages wore dust masks as they cleared the site of debris

reach out within Tijuana's communities. He felt a burning desire to do more at home as the Lord continued to bless him abroad. Preaching services began in the most impoverished parts of the city. Soon, the mission called Colonia Reforma was born.

Many quickly repented and joined the Church. Momentum gathered soon afterwards as one of the members'

abandoned property was made available to the mission to begin formally meeting there. The property was within easy reach of the new congregation. Experiences confirmed the outreach program as being directed by the hand of the Lord. One dream showed a large tree with ripe fruit ready for a great harvest.

The mission currently has 43 baptized members, and 15-20 children attending every Sunday service. Most of the membership have come to the Church as a result of the outreach efforts being done in the community. This has also expanded the Church in Tijuana, allowing the saints there to now have multiple meeting locations in different parts of the city.

Over the past two years, this congregation had been holding church services in a member's garage. Efforts were made on numerous fronts toward purchasing land for the branch under the name of The Church of Jesus Christ. Used clothing sales, food sales, fundraising projects, and donations from these already less



Volunteers from the congregation tackle the cleanup of the Church's future building site

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Chingola praise team (youth choir) sings inside the renovated building

Zambia, Brother Malama Chalwe. He read from Psalm 122:1, "I was glad when they said unto me let us go into the house of the Lord," followed with prayer by Brother Mulenga asking for God's Spirit to be felt and to direct this day's dedication and worship service. A number of songs were sung by the congregation. A group of 15 boys and girls known as the Chingola praise team also favored the congregation with several songs. Brother Chalwe said it was lovely to see these young boys and girls wearing t-shirts with The Church of Jesus Christ Praise team printed on them.

Brother Chalwe gave a few opening remarks about the establishment of the Church in Chingola on November 2, 2006 and the history of the mission up to the present day. He used for his text building the Lord's house from 1 Kings 8:14-20, centered on the temple that Solomon built according to the promises God gave to David his father. He rehearsed how this building was purchased with the generous donations of the Church in America, and that as plain and simple as it is,

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and heard firsthand what the members of this mission were up against. Patiently our brothers and sisters of the Chingola mission continued to meet together to worship God.

When the Presiding Pastor came across a property in the vicinity with a building, that was for sale for US\$8,000, he felt God was opening the means whereby this mission could have its own building to worship in, away from the loud music and amplified speaking that at times made it impossible to hear the preaching.

As the Field Chairman for the Zambia mission field, I submitted article in the missionary Humanitarian Foundation Fund (HFF) newsletter early in 2018 on the plight the Church in Chingola Zambia were facing, and the cost of the available property. When the newsletter was published, God touched the heart of a number of individuals

to provide sufficient funds not only to purchase the property, but also to renovate the existing building into a worship hall. A caretaker's home was also constructed for security personnel to live in and watch our church property.

With the Church building being completely renovated before the rainy season began, dedication services were set for Sunday, December 2, 2018. The dedication service was begun by our Church president in



On-site caretaker's house—a necessity here—made possible through generous donations



TIJUANA WORK SEEKING A BUILDING AFTER 12 YEARS

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fortunate members successfully raised the funds needed for the land. The property is now bought and paid for, but constructing a building is simply an unreachable goal for these saints without additional funds.

Included are some photographs of the congregation working hard to clean up the debris on the new church property, readying it for a future building.

Presiding Elder Juan Rivas states, "...[The land] is now legally owned by and registered under The Church of Jesus Christ. To build a temple or church is a very difficult task for this small group, since most of our members are students, widows, or people of few resources, but we continue to work



Dozens of trash bags and a clean yard attest to the congregation's hard work

toward that goal. Any help, donations of any sort, would be a great blessing to the mission. God bless you."

We are asking for you to help our missionaries secure the funds needed for the Work of the Lord in Tijuana, Mexico. We estimate that US\$20,000 would allow the saints in

this location to build a building. May your donations secure a labor of love that will last decades into the future. Most importantly, please continue to pray for the members who work so hard in Mexico to further the Great Work of the Lord in His Promised Land. **HF**

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God would accept this building as He did the temple that Solomon built.

After Brother Chalwe concluded his sermon he offered a special dedicatory prayer that God would accept and bless this house, and fill it with His presence and Spirit for the gathering of the Saints as they meet and worship together.

Following the dedication prayer, Brother Daniel Kapoma was ordained a Teacher. His feet were washed by Brother Gilbert, the Presiding Pastor of the mission, and Brother Chalwe ordained him. Brother Daniel has been assigned to assist Brother Gilbert in

conducting worship services.

Brother Chalwe referred to a glorious experience of Brother Daniel's healing. In 2012, Daniel's family brought him to our Church in Chililabombwe seriously afflicted, paralyzed in both legs and arms. He had been in this condition for 3 years, unable to move. Doctors prescribed medication but could do nothing more for him. The more medication that he took the worse he became. The testimony of a member of our Church who heard of Daniel's condition invited Daniel's family to bring him to church and be anointed. The Pastors of the Chililabombwe Branch anointed him with oil and offered prayer for God's healing. The following week, Daniel's

family brought him to church healed, jumping and praising God. He was baptized in 2013.

The membership of the Chingola mission testified and extend their love to the Church in America. They express their thanks and appreciation for the donations that made it possible for them to purchase this property and renovate the building to meet in and worship God. They appreciate their house of worship more than words can express. The only item remaining to be funded is a sign painted with the name of the Church, the village name, and the times of worship services.

As field Chairman of the Zambia mission field I wish to express my thanks to everyone who donated to this cause. **HF**

SUPPORTING NATIVE AMERICAN YOUTHS

By Evangelist Wayne Martorana

With any missionary outreach effort, in addition to our primary focus, there are always humanitarian needs which we are happy to assist with. Certainly King Benjamin understood this well when he said, "...[W]hen you are in the service of your fellow beings, ye are only in the service of your God" (Mosiah 2:17).

Such is the case with one of the Native American tribes in eastern Oklahoma that the brothers from our Church have been working with for about 9 years. They have been one of the most receptive groups, and together we have developed a great relationship! When Evangelists Wayne Martorana and Nephi DeMercurio visited in May 2018, seeing this tribe works extensively to preserve their native language with the youth and children, the brothers asked if the children had any specific needs that they could assist with. The group quickly responded that several families are not able to purchase the supplies their children need, both for school and for the language classes—something that perhaps many of us take for granted.

As a result of a very generous donation from our Church family, the brothers were able to provide many supplies for about 15-20 native children--backpacks, notebooks, folders, markers, pens, pencils,



Brother DeMercurio (left) poses with members of the Native group who received the donated supplies

and many other items. Since nearly 6 months had passed since the original request for help, our friends were totally surprised and elated to receive the gift of supplies for the children. During the visit, the Brothers continued to reinforce the message of hope and the many promises to

the Native Americans from the Lord. They shared the latest copies of First Voices Journal (a Church publication) and they had prayer together. One of the members also invited them to speak at one of the local native churches, which the brothers hope to

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SUPPORTING NATIVE AMERICAN YOUTHS

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honor during a future visit.

As the brothers met with this group in a community center used for the language classes, they felt to make another suggestion for the benefit of the children: They proposed holding a Vacation Bible School (VBS) in Oklahoma at some future date. All were excited at the possibility. So the door may be open at some point to hold a 3-4 day VBS at

the community center for about 20-25 children and families. This opportunity has been successfully used throughout the Church in many branches and missions, so we hope it will

...[W]hen you are in the service of your fellow beings, ye are only in the service of your God." (Mosiah 2:17)


come to fruition here and be a blessing to this group as well. The language program leadership expressed their willingness to suspend

language classes on VBS days to make it easier for the children to attend, so we know we have their support.

You have heard the saying, "A mind is a terrible thing to waste." The Brothers want to

help the children continue to grow and develop, both with their language and culture, as well as spiritually. It is part of our nurturing role, as nursing

mothers and fathers.

If you would like to donate to either the language program or for needed supplies for the native children in Oklahoma, please direct your HFF donation to the Native American Works – Oklahoma team. May God bless your generosity! 

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We invite comments and inquiries from our readers:

**Humanitarian
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