

ZIMBABWE MISSIONS

- Serving The Lord Through Evangelism, Encouragement, and Education -

The Church Continues To Grow Even In Times Of Coronavirus

Praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved.

- Acts 2:47

Rural evangelism has its own set of challenges, but when you couple that with the coronavirus pandemic it might seem a great challenge to ensure the spiritual well-being of the church. Despite all that has happened, the Lord's church at Sipaba has remained faithful, and has been growing in number as well. Although COVID-19 prevented us from meeting in person for over 8 weeks, it seems like the church came out stronger on the other side. Recently the church has been averaging over 90 in attendance up from the 60 average before coronavirus. Over the past weeks, the church has seen 17 individuals give their lives to the Lord in baptism. Members have been busy inviting both family and friends to come to church services. They have also been active in the community from assisting at funerals, and donating food items to the poor in their village from the church fund. The drive and the initiative that the church members have demonstrated is refreshing and has been a constant source of encouragement for us. It is a testimony of God at work through his people. We would like to ask you to say a special prayer for the Sipaba church of Christ to not grow weary but to grow spiritually.



Thank You

The fruits of the donations for the COVID-19 relief efforts



Sharing Christ

Preaching the good news via social media



Future Preachers

Pursing a bible education from Bear Valley



Over 700 Families Assisted

Your generosity and partnership saw us assist over 700 families with at least a 10kg bag of mealie meal. Messages of gratitude have been outpouring from many church leaders for this much needed encouragement in a time where the COVID-19 pandemic has worsened an already struggling economy. We are learning that some are in fact going to bed without food, so your assistance has indeed alleviated hardships many families were facing.

A bag of mealie meal can feed a small family for weeks while it will last several days for a large family. With it, families make the staple food of Zimbabwe known as “sadza/isitshwala.” Some have said it looks like mashed potatoes but thicker. It is basically milled super-refined corn that is cooked and thickened with water. Since it is purely starch, it is often eaten with something else to make it a balanced and nutritious meal.



With the funds raised we managed to assist those of the household of faith (Gal. 6:10), and over 450 families across the churches of Christ in Bulawayo were helped. One of the preachers wrote to us and said, “We really appreciated the gift. The brethren were really excited to receive the mealie meal. It's unfortunate the smiles were hidden under the masks. Thank you thank you may God bless your effort in spreading His word.”

Additionally, we were also able extend the food aid not only to the Sipaba church of Christ, but also to over 250 households in the community of Sipaba and the neighbouring village of Mlomoliwoto. We were honoured by the presence of the village heads and the elected councillor of the ward who commended the efforts of assisting the community. The

distribution awarded us the opportunity to reach the community with not just the food relief, but more importantly with the word of God. The COVID-19 Relief effort has encouraged many, and reminded them that even in hard times God has not forgotten them. Thank you all so much for helping, and know that your donations have strengthened His church and helped spread the good news.





Sharing Christ In The Age of COVID-19

Just like everyone across the globe, we too had to adjust and work around the challenges posed by the coronavirus pandemic. In order to contain the disease, the Zimbabwean government restricted gatherings including church meetings. The restrictions lasted a little over 2 months, but on the 12th of June the government permitted church meetings to take place again under the conditions that they follow guidelines offered by the ministry of health. The current guidelines stipulate that everyone wear a face mask, all who attend are to be sanitised, and gatherings must not exceed more than 50 people. We thank God that we are now finally meeting in person.



“All of this was to keep the young church fed with the word of God.”

During the two months when we could not meet in person, we turned to social media in order to spread the good news to our congregants and others who would hear it. Nkosi and William found themselves preaching to their cameras and smartphones, but all of this was to keep the young church fed with the word of God. Short devotionals were uploaded on WhatsApp each Sunday and Wednesday for the Sipaba church of Christ and some were put on Facebook as well.



We also sent out short lesson outlines so that when members gathered on Sundays at their homes without us, they could follow the lesson along with the video and audio devotionals. We are grateful for the technology that allowed us to keep on sharing Christ in the age of coronavirus.

ASPIRING PREACHER

Meet Br. Bongani Sithole, one of the members of the Sipaba church of Christ. We are thrilled to inform you that he has decided to pursue a Bible education from the Bear Valley Bible Institute in Zimbabwe. He applied and was accepted. He is currently awaiting to begin his class work as soon as the school opens when it is safe to do so. Sithole is an active member who is always eager to learn more and assists in all church related activities. We know that this will benefit the Sipaba church in the long run. He hopes to come back and preach in the village of Sipaba. Please keep him in your prayers as he pursues a Bible education.



GET INVOLVED TODAY

YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE BY DOING THE FOLLOWING



PRAY

- ❖ Please include us in your daily prayers
- ❖ Please also include us in your congregation's prayer list



PARTICIPATE

- ❖ Share our work with others around you
- ❖ Take a mission trip to Zimbabwe and come see the work yourself



PARTNER

- ❖ Support our work with a one-time-donation of any amount
- ❖ Become a regular donor of our work

KEEP UP WITH US AND STAY IN TOUCH WITH US



ZIMBABWEMISSIONS.ORG



@ZIMMISSIONS



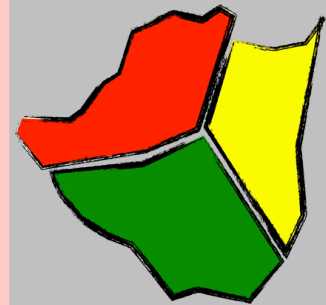
USA +17316187013
ZIM +263786840366



FACEBOOK.COM/ZIMMISSIONS



MPOFU@ZIMBABWEMISSIONS.ORG
GLOVER@ZIMBABWEMISSIONS.ORG



Faith & Works