# HUMANITARIAN

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F U N D

#### PLEA FOR THE CHURCH IN BURUNDI

by Brother Chatman Young

he Saints of the Burundi Branch have been meeting in rental homes located in residential neighborhoods since 2012, when the Church was first established here as a part of the main body of The Church of Jesus Christ in the USA.

The saints of the Burundi Branch, along with visitors from time to time, have enjoyed hearing powerful, uplifting sermons by our elders in that country, and have come to join together with them, receiving the manifold blessing as granted by our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Brother Bob McDonnell, Brother John Gray, and I recently returned from Burundi, where a child was born with an open, draining wound in her chest. The attending nurse was puzzled by this issue, and stated that the infant was too young to undergo an operation. Brother Deo Niyonzima, the Presiding Elder there, came and anointed and the child, who was healed quickly, now having only a small scar to show where the wound previously existed.

During this latest trip to the Burundi Branch, we also witnessed two babies being blessed and felt the Spirit of God during our Sunday meeting as we praised Him for these blessings.

The Church Leadership in Burundi are Brothers Deo Niyonzima and Adrian Niyondiko. Both are very knowledgeable about the scriptures, and are loved and respected by the congregation as a whole, including Saints, children, and friends who often visit the Church to receive the good word of truth. It would appear that everything associated with the Church is going well, since these two brothers have a zeal, or zest for the Gospel of our Lord, being found on a regular basis preaching and teaching the word of God, holding meetings on Sundays and Wednesday nights, holding special meetings for the enhancement and advancement of the Church, leading fasting and prayer meetings, visiting the homes of the saints, and are ever on call to anoint the sick

and shut-ins; however, this is certainly not entirely the case at hand.

The Burundian Government has recently changed its laws regarding religious organizations. Brother Deo reports that the Burundian Government has issued

and article 35 states that "Worship and celebrations inside of residential houses are now forbidden."

Over the past six years we have been renting a house in a residential area for the purpose of holding our worship services and associated

...felt the Spirit of God during our Sunday meeting as we praised Him for these blessings.

an edict that any religious organizations that currently operate in a residential area are expected to comply with by June 2019.

The law was updated by the Ministers' Counsel and was adopted by the Deputy Assembly, but was rejected by the Senate Counsel in 2014 and sent back for reanalysis and correction. Surprisingly, we noticed that as of this writing, the new law has passed. Articles 26 and 35 of its 58 articles seemingly impact The Church Of Jesus Christ more than the others articles. Article 26 states that. as an International church, it must have at least 500 members, which it does,

meetings; however, this new law mandates that we cease and desist from operating as we are, in a building designed for family habitation.

On behalf of our Sisters and Brothers of Burundi, I thank you for considering our emergency plight.

The overall cost of land and building is estimated at \$30,000.00. A 25m x 25m (82ft x 82ft) parcel of land is about \$9,000.00, and the building is estimated to cost \$20,000.00.

The law cited above gives us cause to build a church on an emergency basis. We have until June 2019 to accomplish this effort or be required to close our doors as a Church in Burundi.



#### UPDATE ON THE NIGERIAN ORPHANAGE

contributed by Brother Mark Naro

he 9 orphans we are currently assisting in Nigeria are in need of financial support. Their building needs plumbing and roof repairs, and their kitchen is nothing more than an outdoor hearth enclosed on 3 sides by sheets of corrugated metal to provide a minimal barrier from the wind and rain.

The students have been participating in outdoor evangelistic events. They have been given opportunities to speak on local radio and TV stations and make presentations on various topics for the Church.

As it stands at the present, the orphan funds are extremely low and in need of replenishment from new donations. Following are some communications from Bro. Sunday Udoh, who looks after them, so you can read about it in his own words.

Dear Brother Mark,

Here is the information you requested about each of the orphans.

As I said before, there are 9 remaining in the orphanage.

The attached photograph shows all the orphans present in the orphanage.

From left to right:

- 1) Idoreyin Anietie Tom, 17, arrived at 11 years old;
- 2) Liberty Anthony Paul, now 15, arrived at 11 years old;
- 3) Emmanuel Michael Luke, 13, received at 7 years old;
- 4) Favour Anthony Paul now 13, 9 years old when she arrived;
- 5) Sini Paul Clement, 17, was 11 when we received her;
- 6) Nsikak Francis William, now 10, about 6 when she arrived:
- 7) Odudu Gabriel George, 11, received at 5 years old;
- 8) Nsemeke Gabriel George 19, arrived at 13 years old;
- 9) Daniel Anthony Paul, 19, was 15 when he arrived.

I had asked in one of my letters some

time ago to know if I should receive more orphans into the orphanage. I'm still waiting for your approval.

Thanks
Brother Sunday Udo.

(Another letter giving some additional background history on the orphans.)

Dear Brother Mark,

I promised to send this data since last week. I'm very sorry I was unable to make it to the cyber café as I had proposed.

Please give my greetings to all who are giving help to the orphans.

At the beginning, we used to have 5 staff: 2 cooks, a teacher, a security guard, and a matron. However, due to the limited funds we presently have only 1 staff, that is the matron.

The building the orphans are staying has not been painted since 2011; we need to retouch it again. There are no fans in their rooms, and there is a need for fans and curtains and other maintenance to make it more conducive.

Repairs are needed, such as some leakage in the water pipes and the water systems. Replacement of some zinc at where they have leakage. Ceiling fans are needed. It is very hot there year round.

Replacement of some broken louvers and other things.

Dear Brother Mark

I promised to relate to you the part that the orphans are doing in the church and last Monday outdoor evangelism.

We used to have several activities in a week. The roster for each week



Nine orphans the Church is currently sponsoring



is read every Sunday. Many times the orphans are being involved. On Wednesday, one of the orphans by name Daniel gave a message on the topic: "Our curse must turn to blessing ". He took his Text from Num. 23:7-9, Galatians 3:13-14, 2Nephi 4:6-7, and other references. He emphasized on how Balaam wanted to curse the people of Israel but at the time he wants to curse the Lord put a message of blessings in his mouth to bless the people of God. As he was speaking the church was greatly blessed, he declared prophetically that any who were cursed in any way such curse is turned to blessing, many visions were conceived, people spoke in tongues and there was an inspiration to pray.

He was also involved on Monday evangelism at bus Park, he led in prayer session.

During the evangelism on Monday, an orphan by name Favor led other children to sing a song titled: There comes a time in everybody's life.

A small boy (not orphan) of about 9 years preached at the evangelism, he preached in English and I interpreted in our vernacular. It was an amazing message as he spoke on the topic: Whatever you do, do it in the name of the Lord. He took his text from 3 Nephi 27:7-8, Matt 16:16-18, he later read in verse 15 and concluded by reading Colossians 3:17. He emphasized that whatever we do in words and deeds we should do it in the name of the Lord. It is a great blessing to the Church, having children that represent the Church.

The orphans need prayers as you said in one of your mail, that God should sustain them in the faith with these



Orphanage food preparation area needs rebuilding

gifts for the progress of the church.

God bless

Prother Cundou

Brother Sunday.

God has helped us to position the orphans in a way that they will have wherewith to feed themselves in the future. Also, the plans we made are for them to project this gospel in their own capacity. We have exposed them to various ways of evangelism. In media evangelism we have Idorenyin and

Daniel to represent the orphans for now.

They are greatly involved in spiritual matters. Sini, who is the biggest girl among them, is the Ladies' Uplift Circle president in lkot Ekpene branch.

Once again, I appreciate the effort of the donors with all my heart and I pray that the God of heaven will bless and reward them richly.

God bless
Brother Sunday Udo.

would like to do	nate t	work that	e fill in the amounts for each it you want to donate to and return in envelope provided.
Native American Works	\$		retarri in crivelope provided.
Book of Mormon Translation	\$	Liberia	\$
Burundi / Rwanda (Please Circle)	\$	Malawi / Mozambique (Please Circle)	\$
Colombia	\$	Mexico	\$
Dominica	\$	Muncey / Six Nations	
DR Congo / Zambia		(Please Circle)	\$
(Please Circle)	\$	Nepal/Himalayan	•
Ghana	\$	(Please Circle)	\$
Guatemala	\$	Nigeria	\$
Ecuador		Peru	\$
India / India Orphans	<u> </u>	Philippines	\$
(Please Circle)	\$	Venezuela	\$
Italy	\$		
Kenya / Tanzania	\$	TOTAL	\$



#### ITALY - SAN DEMETRIO MISSION

by Evangelist Paul Thomas Pezzenti

he San Demetrio Mission is located in the southern Italian region of Calabria. It is the older of our Church's two buildings in Italy, and also home to the longest-established Mission, with two elders and seven strong, faithful members. These members have withstood persecution by the Roman Catholic Church,

as well as other factions that would have caused lesser missions to close. The younger members' faith has grown from witnessing the unwavering commitment of the resident Saints.

Our resident Elder, Pasquale Rose, is well into his senior years but keeps the building open. Elder Gianni Marino and his wife, Deaconess Filomena, reside in Germany six months of the year and in San Demetrio the balance of the year. They need assistance to maintain the Mission and ensure its future growth. Unfortunately, Evangelist Ro-

sario Scravaglieri's illness has lately kept him from traveling the six hours from his home in Monza in northern Italy to service the Mission.

But in His perfect way, the Lord provides. Two new Elders, Graziano Loi and Giorgio Romano, were ordained in April 2018 in our newer location in Cala Gonone, Sardinia. Over the next several months they will receive continuous ministerial training. Our hope is for their travel schedules to allow the San Demetrio Mission to be serviced on a regular basis.

Of greatest need is the

funding to cover the travel expense of an overnight ferry from Sardinia to the mainland and car rental. Fortunately, the Church has a furnished apartment they can comfortably reside in during their stay. Please consider a donation to help fund the Church's growth and maintenance in Italy.

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We invite comments and inquiries from our readers:

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