

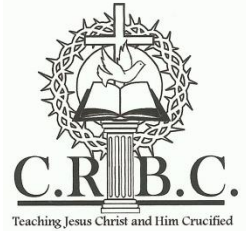


Christian Research Bible College Newsletter

Volume 2: July 2021

Koindu, Sierra Leone

Editor: Charli Yana



Koindu Church of Christ

The Koindu congregation has the most members in the Kailahun District averaging 200. It was established in 1990 before the civil war began there in 1991. Bro. Francis Musa, a native of Sierra Leone, came home from Liberia after his conversion and training as a preacher. By God's grace he



began the congregation in Koindu and with some success was able to gain a few converts.

Before this time the church was already in existence by the work of missionaries "but only based in the urban center, capital city Freetown, and could not reach us". (*Joseph*)

Once the civil war broke out in 1991, many fled for refuge in neighboring Guinea. With the help from some missionaries from the U.S., bro. Musa was able to make more converts. "The church of Christ then began to get some momentum and recognition and gradually spread among Sierra Leonean refugees". With the help of the United Nations High Commissioners for Refugees in 2000, at the end of the civil war, Sierra Leoneans began returning

home. Among them were brethren who "began the worship of the Lord's church among newly disarmed rebels". "As the number of returnees increased, so also the number of brethren increased not only in Koindu, but also in surrounding villages and towns". The church was established in these other localities with strong brethren and some support from Bro. Francis Musa.

The Koindu church of Christ has aided in establishing and strengthening other area congregations despite financial constraints and other challenges such as a lack of trained men to do the work.

Anthony Joseph Yillia (*Joseph*) was converted in a refugee camp in Guinea in 2002 through the help of his "elder brother's wife by the grace of God Almighty". In 2003 he joined the Koindu congregation for worship under preachers, bro. Francis Karim and Francis Alieu. Later Joseph served as church secretary and when their preacher bro. Karim died, he was made assistant preacher despite his youthful age. After studying at Ghana Bible College (2018-19) Joseph serves as a fulltime preacher and teacher in the Koindu congregation with bro. Frances Alieu.

By God's grace and mercy, the church continues to grow through the Bible school construction and "other ministry expansion such as seminars, fellowships, radio programs, (and) youth agricultural projects in cooperation with other congregations in the district and country as a whole".



Meeting with local church preachers.

Ongoing Construction

While recently in Freetown having a meeting with a representative from the Ghana Bible College, Joseph was able to obtain materials for the construction of the Christian Research Bible College on his way home. Materials bought there were less expensive but

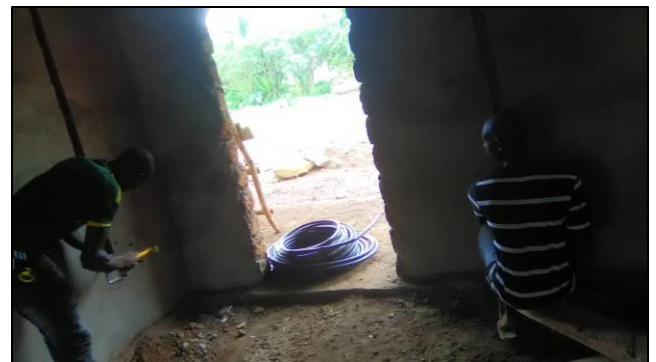


had to be trucked to Koindu where they were offloaded for the work to continue. Bags of plaster and concrete arrived for the



masons and carpenters. Even though the government has restricted the church from currently being able to worship together the work of construction is permitted during this new wave of COVID 19 that hit Sierra Leone as well as other African nations.

All work is done by hand including mixing concrete and plastering.



Masons

Electricians



The work on the back house continues while the plastering is ongoing

Payday!





Masons plaster the exterior of what is to be the main school building. Once finished, classes will begin while the rest of the buildings on campus continue construction. The target for classes to begin is September or October.

Sadly, during construction death did not take a reprieve; from the chief mason's aunt to one of the lecturers, bro. Alfred Borlon, but still the work continues as it is God's will.

Bro. Alfred Borlon



Joseph's Family



During the ebola outbreak of 2014 Joseph's wife Victoria lost both parents, three sisters, along with her

grandmother and other relatives. Joseph lost his dad and most of his family members as well. His mother Sia died October 2020. Victoria also caught the virus but by "His grace and mercy through the help of prayers of brethren, she became the first ebola survivor in the country". By this time Joseph was in the final year of his secular teacher training profession.

News Update

"The Sunset coordinator for West Africa has rendered to dig a drill water well (for) the school. That is the first Sunset assistance to the school even though they are not yet to finalize issues for affiliation." Anthony Joseph Yillia

Sierra Leone

Sierra Leone's religion is predominately Muslim. According to Joseph they are "peaceful" and can be converted if only they have the Gospel preached to them. This is another great institution in the brotherhood to train the next generation of preachers in a country where Christianity is on the increase. Photos of Joseph's schooling, graduation, family, campus construction and work can be viewed at <https://www.truthdiscovered.net/index.php/photo-galleries>



Support Information

If you or your congregation is interested in funding Joseph's mission, checks can be made out to: "Lighthouse Church of Christ"; memo line "Joseph Yillia/CRBC" (address listed below). If you know of anyone who would like to donate a vehicle (*preferably a small SUV because of the infrastructure*) for Joseph's mobility that is in fair condition, please inform us so we can raise the necessary funding for shipping it to him. If you wish to support the Ghana Bible College please contact me through chapelalley@gmail.com.



Charli, Joseph, Emanuel, Arbie, Omari
Ghana Bible College, March 2019

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Thank You! Funding/Support Donors for the CRBC as of July 14, 2021

Amara: \$520
Evans: \$950
Glen Rock C of C: \$68
Krause: \$80
Lighthouse C of C: \$8350
Loveland Heights C of C: \$7450
Missions (Yana): \$2350
Rayborn: \$1250
Yana: \$2560

\$23,578.00

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Koindu, Sierra Leone, West Africa
Anthony Joseph Yillia- President