



INDIGENOUS TRAINING MINISTRIES, INC. REVC'S NEWS & VIEWS

by
RevC

January 2019
TOGETHER WE CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE!!
2018 YEAR IN REVIEW



I always look forward to this newsletter and looking back over the year to see all the things God has allowed us to do. Let me begin by giving thanks to the Lord for each of you who have stood with us over the years and especially those who prayed and gave financially to enable so much to take place.

I began the year sharing about the changing face of things in China and how President Xi is now being referred to as **“Great Leader,”** moving closer and closer to a “one-man leadership” form of government. The persecution of Christians under his leadership is growing. We fully expect to see the ability of foreigners to move about freely in China come to an end. All of the CTC programs that I knew were operating in China are now on hold or have stopped due to the dangers involved in their meeting together. Even so, we are hoping to begin at least one or two new groups in the spring, the Lord willing. Please remember to pray for our Chinese brothers and sisters in Christ.



From China we moved on to Malawi. I was excited to see how the evangelistic efforts of our CTC pastor in Mbwana village is using the Jesus film to win Muslims

and others searching for the truth to a personal relationship with Jesus Christ. This was the “Peanut Church,” our first church building in Malawi. **What a great return on our investment! PTL!!!**

From Malawi to Kenya, I wrote about the ministry of George Kurenji, our main CTC director in Africa. George presently has **22** CTC programs in operation

spread over seven countries. One of the new locations he began in 2018 was in Kalemi, in the South Congo Forest, among a group of pygmies. George has **483 students** in training, almost **36%** of our total student population of **1360!** (Our total number of CTC graduates as of the end of December was **3229**, an increase of **107 graduates in 2018**). God is good!!! Please pray for George and his family!

I also requested some serious prayer concerning the need to replace material in approximately 115 of our CTC lessons that we were not able to get the correct copyright permission to use. After several denied requests and offering to pay royalties for the continued use of the material, we began to work on the replacement. I wish I could report that all of those lessons have been redone. I am still working on them and have recently asked Pastor Dan and brother Mark to help with this endeavor. Once the material is replaced, we will need to raise the funds to get it translated and into the foreign language materials. I am happy to say that the new material is as good or better than the original! The finished product should be a blessing to the students. PTL!

We also raised **\$10,000** to purchase a used Toyota 4x4 for Stephen Tambuli, our CTC director in part of Malawi. It is pictured here after we had it painted, put new tires on it, and had it gone



over mechanically to make sure it was in good working condition. Stephen has used the truck to haul building materials to the three churches we helped build in 2018. He continues to use this truck to go into areas where he could not go before to plant new CTC locations. PTL!

Next to the birth of my son, Daniel Joseph Christensen, the **“release”** of God to supply the funds to help renovate or build ten churches in 2018 was the high point for

me! This coming year, the Lord willing, I hope to visit each of these churches and see the finished buildings in use. Only two of the churches have not been completed as of this writing, one on the coast in the Philippines and the other in Mozambique. The church in the Philippines has taken longer as the building supplies must be taken to the building site by water. One attempt to ship materials resulted in the capsizing of a fully loaded boat of block in rough water. They are using a larger boat at this point and hopefully will see the building completed soon. When I say that this church sits on the coast, I am not exaggerating! I could stand with my back next to the wall you see here and throw a rock into the ocean. As you might expect, it will be the only church for some distance. In next month's newsletter, I will tell you about the other church in Mozambique. I can hardly wait to show you!



rate. By the time Stephen and I got there to deliver some money to get them started on a new building on land they had purchased, they had put up grass mats like you might sit on in the dirt. These mats served as walls and covered much of the dirt floor, too. Pastor Samuel had me share in a special service. As I went to the podium, he told me,



“RevC, most of these people do not yet know Jesus as their Savior!” As I presented the gospel and gave an altar call, people all over

the room came forward to pray and receive Jesus. God is definitely doing something special in New Hope Church in Tete, Mozambique!



We are blessed to be playing a small part in this great move of God! Pastor Samuel and his assistant are pictured here with me on the land where New Hope Church in Tete will be. It was only a few weeks after our visit that

Pastor Samuel emailed me to ask permission to use the funds we gave to invest in a much larger building than our plans had called for. Knowing God was doing something special in Tete, we agreed, and the work has begun. Two of the three churches we built in Malawi, and this one we are helping to build in Tete, were possible because of the congregation at New Hope Church in Palm Harbor, Florida, where Pastor Nick Panico serves as lead Pastor. May God multiply the blessings back to you many times over!

Pastor Dan has been working with us in China and did much of the training for our most recent group of young Chinese graduates. Because of the dangerous situation in China, I cannot use his real last name. There were 22 graduates in this most recent group, pictured on the next page. For their protection, we cannot reveal the location or true identities of the graduates. They completed the five-week version of our program that is designed to give them a working knowledge of the material and how to operate their own CTC program somewhere in China. We made five trips, each for one week. Between trips students read the material, prepared for a review, and answered questions before taking their exams.

This is a young group; most of them are already involved serving within their local house church. They will use the CTC material as a resource from which they



Of the three church buildings we completed in Malawi in 2018, the one pastored by Paul Waluma, in Balaka district in the Chanthunya village, suffered

wind damage to its roof not long after it was finished. About half of the metal sheets were destroyed. Fortunately, I had enough funds to replace what was needed as you see pictured here. That church, “**New Hope Baptist Church**,” is growing in a predominately Muslim area!

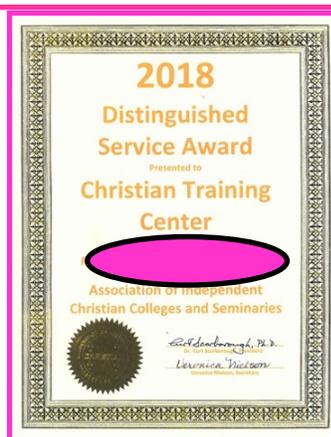
Stephen took me into Mozambique where we met with Pastor Samuel Mtaula. His story was in the July newsletter that you can read online at www.revc.org inside the “Sample Newsletters” tab. If you haven't read it, I encourage you to do so. This was the

“**Plastic Church**” that he had erected in the yard of the house he was renting. This fellowship of mostly new believers was growing at an almost unbelievable





gree from an accredited Bible institution. As a result of this accreditation, some of our CTC directors have been able to register the CTC program as a recognized and approved Bible training program. This award really belongs to each of us who have supported and prayed for the CTC program and its students over the years. **CONGRATULATIONS!!!**



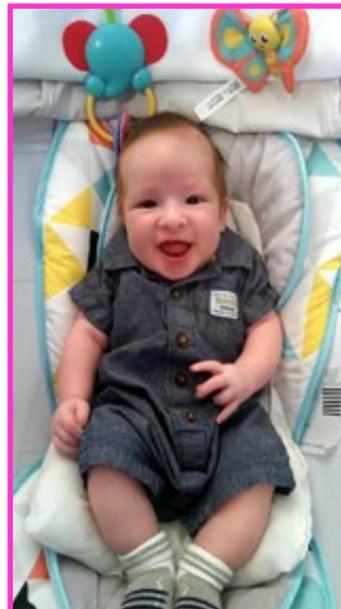
I will close this review of 2018 with a couple of family events that were of special importance to us. The first



came in August when Maria Victoria Christensen, having completed all of the legal requirements, became a bona fide United States citizen. Sarah, her teenage daughter, will also receive citizenship once we apply for their passports. We are so grateful for this honor and privilege. The road to citizenship is not easy but worth the steps that are required.

No doubt the greatest event for us this year was the

birth of **DANIEL JOSEPH MY LAST NAME** on September 24th at 2:49 PM! Daniel weighed 8lbs 2.9 ounces, measured 21 inches, and had a bit of red tint in his hair! He is a miracle! PTL!!!



As always, we appreciate you standing with us in prayer and finances. You are in my prayers as well. Please remember the December newsletter challenge for a CTC program in Myanmar, an underdeveloped Buddhist country. Please mark your gift **“Myanmar Miracle”**. God has done so much, and I am releasing Him to do even more with your help!!! **TOGETHER WE'RE MAKING A DIFFERENCE!**

can teach and train other leaders. It is my prayer that as they become more familiar with the material and see the need, they will find a way to begin their own training programs. As I mentioned in the beginning of this report, the situation in China is growing much more dangerous for nationals to be involved in any kind of foreign Bible schooling. However, that does not prevent many from doing so. Our CTC director in this last location is working with Pastor Dan to establish a couple of new locations where the need for trained laborers is great. The situation now is much like it was when I first began entering China when we had to do everything in secret. The Chinese government is now shutting down all Christian stores and printing companies. I have been told that Bibles are no longer being printed or allowed into the country beyond a personal copy. Please continue to pray for our Christian brothers and sisters in China. These are dear people who truly love the Lord and are willing to put themselves in danger for the sake of the gospel.

The CTC program received the **“2018 Distinguished Service Award”** from the Association of Independent Christian Colleges & Seminaries (AICCS), the agency that accredits the Christian Training Center program. AICCS was founded in 2002 and now has a membership of more than 380 schools in 30 states within the USA and in 45 other nations. This accreditation is very important to our students, especially in countries where the governments are taking steps to ensure that those who are leading their people in spiritual areas are qualified to do so. I see this as a good step where they are requiring pastors to have a minimum of a two-year de-

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