

MOCUBA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Zambezia District In MOZAMBIQUE

THE MOZAMBIQUE INITIATIVE

CHURCH INFORMATION

Mocuba UMC

Pastor: Rev. Bernardo Ezequiel

Prior Pastor: Gonsalves Basessa

Zambezia South District

DS Rev. Isaias Machegane Face

Church membership: 686 **Church attendance:** 450 **New Converts:** 7 **Local Churches:** 7 (Cochane I, II, Tchikwava, Tchiware, Xibo, Manganha) **Baptized:** 7 **Confirmed:** - **Class meetings:** none

Location: The Church is located in the village of Mocuba at about 4hours (300kms) from the city of Quelimane.

Well: the community gets water from Coxane river, about 2 kms from parsonage.

Clinic: health care only available at 15kms in a small health post.

Schools: there is primary from grade 1 through 5 at 3,5kms away from parsonage.

Development activities: members practice agriculture, animal husbandry. Women take care of their households and their farms.

Access road: rough road of relatively difficult access through narrow traditional bridges and hills.

Language spoken: chuabo, lomwe, and Portuguese.

Possible telephone contacts: mobile and landline network is not available.

Electricity: there is no electricity in the church and in the small village near the church.

Employment: many people are solely farmers and raise cattle and goats. Important crops include corn, banana, wheat, and cassava. There is high unemployment rate, especially in youth.

Church structure: thatched structure with mud floor and walls. There are some benches and pulpit made of erected mud.

Parsonage: small thatched house with a room and a living room without verandah.

Fellowship house: round thatched house with half wall made of erected mud.

Special projects:

- Will soon begin with nursery for medicinal plants (Artemisia and Moringa) and have a school to teach community to cultivate and cure diseases, including micro-credit project for production of sugar and soap using locally available materials. About 10 women will be trained in the first class;
- Sowing, cutting and design project is their main dream to help women sustainability of this church.

Special needs/plans:

- Build permanent structure for parsonage. they have since contributed money and purchased 12 zinc sheets. They will soon begin making burnt bricks.
- Plan is to be able to build a school for adult education, to help members who are unable to read the Bible and speak Portuguese. There is very high illiteracy rate in the community;
- Need gowns for their 15 members choir and some musical instruments;

- The plan is to increase their membership through encouragement of community in bible studies, camping in local churches where a seminary in evangelism will be delivered. Door-to-door visits to acquire new converts.
- The congregation made commitment to celebrate the “partner day” within their parish work plan, where they can pray, talk about partnership and share connection with partner in Missouri;
- Need to continue strengthening working experiences and covenant relationships with their partner in Missouri;
- Need Christian education books to support youth initiative on Christian education and Sunday school;

Bicycle:

- There is a bicycle for the pastor.

Constraints:

- ✚ Lack of medication and medical kits in the village health post.
- ✚ Malaria, headaches, and rheumatism, and HIV/AIDS.

Communication:

Communicate through M. I. Representative, Ezequiel Nhantumbo, mozinitiative@teledata.mz and through connection on behalf of DS Machegane on: ccmzambezia@teledata.mz

Observations:

- There are a lot of malnourished children in the community;
- The church is located in very remote area of this country where the only means of transport is the bicycle.
- There is a lot of hunting;
- The community presented a cock as a gift to the MI representative, and he presented it to the DS Machagane.

Pictures:

1. Church community at the parsonage
2. Fellowship house

July, 2006 – Pastor updated 2007

Created by:

Mr. Ezequiel Marcos Nhantumbo

The Mozambique Initiative Representative

Ao c/ Igreja Metodista Unida Em Moçambique

C.P. 2640

Rua D. Francisco Barreto, 229

Maputo - Moçambique

Tel: 258-1-485742

E-mail: mozinitiative@teledata.mz

Website: www.mozambiqueinitiative.org