



INDIGENOUS TRAINING MINISTRIES, INC.
REVC'S NEWS & VIEWS
by
RevC
January 2023
TOGETHER WE MAKE A DIFFERENCE!!



2022 YEAR IN REVIEW

2022 REVIEW

We began 2022 having graduated **240** students in 2021. We ended 2021 with **4117** total graduates that we know about. We will end 2022 with a total of **4425+** graduates, an increase of **308** for 2022. We currently have **over 1400** students enrolled. PTL!!!!

We began 2022 with my travel to Nigeria to open two new CTC programs. The first one was with Bishop Sam Agbugbaeruleke who oversees several churches. He and Pastor Chidi Opara met me, then we drove to Umuahia the capital of Abia state and to Bishop Sam's home. Bishop Sam has a sizeable ministry already and vision for much more. His property already has a church, a fantastic fish farm in cement tanks beside his home, a garden area for fruits & veggies, a 2-story guest house which I think is for folks in need to have temporary housing, and he is preparing to establish an orphanage. We had **26** students who are continuing their preparation for God's calling on their lives.

I then flew back to Lagos to work with Pastor Victor Iheckukwu to establish a second new CTC program. Pastor Victor's church did not have any roof, or electric lighting except for a few lights that were powered by small generator. His congregation was small in number but very enthusiastic and expressive worshippers who loved to dance before the Lord as they sang praise to him. I could sense that God was wanting to move in this location and the seed was already planted; it just needed the right conditions to burst forth. Even the students that came for the CTC program were anxious to do the training and move forward in all that God had for them. We finished the week with **22** students and a commitment to help this church move forward. Pastor Victor had been faithful in ministry for several years in this sizeable building without a roof or electricity. The help that had gotten the basic structure of the building up were not able to do more. I asked him to pray and that I would approach you to help him get this building under



roof. Together we accomplished that and then raised an additional \$5000 to help with the electrical needs. I am excited to report that the church is growing and they have much of the electrical work done, have put in all the windows and have begun the stucco work. They still have much to do before the building is completed but are well on their way. Thank you for standing with us!

One of the things I have learned in all my travels is that there are basically two kinds of people in need: first, those who always have their hand out and no matter what you put into their hands they will consume it and be back again with their hand out; secondly, there are those who are down for whatever reason and have their hand out but they are looking for a hand up. If we **invest (expecting to see increase)** in these folks they will rise up and eventually be a strength to others. Like Pastor Victor, they know what it is to get the wind knocked out of you and just need a little help to get back on their feet. God loves everyone in need, but I believe there are different ways that we should respond when faced with people with desperate need. God help us to have hearts open to both and the wisdom to know the best way to respond to each. God is their **"WAYMAKER"** too!

With the first, and there seems to be a multitude of these, I think we should do our best to ask the Holy Spirit to help us discern what is best for them. Money may often be used for something that only adds to their bondage. It is probably better to give them food, if that is an evident need. Remind them of Christ's love for them and His ability to make a difference for them. Keeping a list of local agencies equipped to do more for them can also be a help.

Hopefully it is the Holy Spirit who got me on all of this, but perhaps you like me have at times struggled with whether to give or not. I think it is probably always better to err on the side of compassion with a measured response rather than none at all. God help us to always present Christ's love to those in need. I know I need to do better as well! We thank God for you as so many of you have responded when I present needs that I believe God wants us to act on. So far, I believe, our investments have borne and will continue to bear much fruit. Together, with God, we do make a difference!

I almost forgot to mention that a special treat to me as part of my time in Nigeria was when Bishop Sam and Pastor Opara took me to greet **King Eze Iheanyi-chukwu Nwokenna of the "Great Ekeoba Kingdom."** I had met the king previously in the USA at a ministers' conference. However, this was the first time I had been in his palace. He was very gracious to me and it was a blessing to know that this King is a man after God's heart who sees himself more as one of God's ministers, not so much as King. How much better the world would be if all of our leaders had such hearts!

Feeding the hungry in Malawi

Next we made a difference in Malawi after a period of drought and insects destroyed their crops. Their rainy season was late and many people were starving. Stephen Tambuli reported back to me with several photos of him distributing the sacks of rice & beans to Christian and non-christian families. Steven had estimated that for **\$62** we could help feed a family for a couple of months giving them opportunity to find other provision and plant new crops once the rains came. We were able to send Stephen **\$4819.00**. In addition, another good friend, Berkley Badger sent additional help through his ministry JCB International. Stephen was able to make the money go much further than we had expected and 150 families received bags of rice & beans.



Steven also sent me photos of the 3-ton flat bed truck that we purchased at the end of 2021 being used in 2022 hauling building materials into the bush. This trip was to build the truss system for a new sheet metal roof that we were providing for a church building project. I get excited just seeing the photos knowing that together we are really making a difference for folks that otherwise would be worshipping God under a tree or in a barely standing thatch structure somewhere. We, with God's help, have done this several times now. With God's continued help we shall have many more opportunities to make a difference! Thank you again and again for helping to make a difference!!!!



Steven also reported that we had finished the church building in Jali. Let me encourage you with this photo of the new church building where there is a growing congregation and 8 students going through the CTC program under the direction of Pastor Francis Ntotela.

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On to Togo

Next was my trip to Lome, Togo through Lagos, Nigeria. From the time I got to Tampa and was told by the Delta agent that I could not board the flight without the credit card that I used to purchase the ticket, I knew that travel on this trip was going to be a challenge. I had to purchase a new ticket with a different credit card. I was also in trouble as I was unable to complete the paperwork required for entry to Nigeria. I had tried several times but it kept restarting because I did not have a phone number of someone inside Nigeria. The Delta agent even tried without success and I finally convinced someone on the phone with Delta Assist to let me board because I was a million miler + passenger with Delta.

I made it to Lagos and had similar problems with paperwork there due to not having a phone number of my host. I ended up unsuccessfully trying to sleep on the floor in the airport. The next day I had to have another Covid test to leave Nigeria. Pastor Victor came to help and with an airport security escort I was allowed to leave the airport to be tested. I made it to Lome, on time without the paperwork for Togo as I needed a phone number there as well. I also had to pay for and take yet another Covid test before I could even leave the airport.

I was met at the airport by two young men that I had been in contact with concerning the CTC program. Nestor, the new CTC director was there with Ruben, our translator for the week. Later I met Sinare, another young pastor who had come from Burkina-Faso a neighboring country to Togo. He wanted to see how to start a new CTC program in Burkina-Faso. Everything went OK during the teaching with the exception that it was very hot and dusty making the conditions a challenge. There were 16 students, a mixture of pastors and others just checking out the program and trying to decide if they would commit to the training. Before leaving we equipped both Nestor and Sinare with new laptops loaded with all the CTC materials and enough money to purchase the tables and chairs that would be needed.

Graduation in Mozambique

After Togo, I received a report from Pastor Samuel in Mozambique that they had just graduated the first 7



CTC students. He also reported that work on the roof of their building was finally underway. In a more recent report it seems that the frame work is nearly completed but they are having

difficulty getting the sheeting. He has promised to keep me posted.

He also reported that the church continues to grow as they had baptized another 67 in water.



Next was our report on Dr. George Kurenji

I followed this with some updates and introduced you to Dr. George Kurenji and his wife, Abysack, in the gray top, his daughter in the pink top, and his three sons with George next to the youngest. **They oversee**



29 of our CTC programs covering seven countries. In addition, he and his wife are **pastoring a church in Nakuru, Kenya.** They **have planted three more satellite churches** which were a part of an evangelism effort by students going through the CTC program in Nakuru. We help

to support this family as they are a major part of our success in Africa and are doing much to advance the Kingdom of God. They continue to pray for funds to purchase land and build a church.

Ecuador Blessings & Political Unrest

Our next report included the presentation of 4 laptops to CTC teachers in Ecuador. All of these work under the direction of Pastor Jessica Alzamora, far left who is holding the computer for her husband, Alberto who was attending a conference.



I also reported on the new ceilings we funded for La Luze de la Vida, the church where Vicky's family ministers in Portoviejo. This photo is of the upstairs and both up and down were redone.

They were beautiful and should last for a long time.



I also introduced you to Pastor Francisco and his wife Cynthia. We visited their very humble home in a mostly poor area of the outskirts of the city. We were very impressed with this couple and knew God wanted us to help them put a church on their small property. They feel called to minister to this poor area of the city and there is definitely an anointing upon their lives.

With your help we have raised enough to do the first phase which is the lower level. Pastor Francisco's vision is to eventually to add a second floor and move his family to the upstairs and make their home part of the church facility. The building is now finished. A photo will be in a future newsletter.

At that time there was much unrest in Ecuador and people were demonstrating in the streets of the major cities blocking traffic and demanding that the president step down. As we were preparing to leave Ecuador the protest got even more violent and things were being destroyed. It was interesting that police did very little to stop the protest. I was told that was due to the fact that most of them agreed with the protestors. It made our getting out of the country a bit "hairy" to say the least. But we safely got out without incident. PTL!



Sondra Livermore doing a Great Job!

Before leaving for Botswana, Africa to open another new CTC program I lifted some photos from Sondra Livermore's newsletter report on her involvement in a summer basketball camp with New Hope Church in Palm Harbor, FL. Sondra not only serves as overseer of our CTC programs in Central and South America but she also serves as missions director for New Hope Church. There were over 200 kids involved in the BB camp outreach, which we helped to support, aimed at

bringing the kids to a knowledge of Christ. Sondra had a daily time with them for Bible study and prayer. On the last day she reported that almost all of the kids raised their hands to receive Jesus.

They followed that up with water baptism. PTL!!



More CTC Graduations

Next I reported on three more CTC graduations. This first photo came from **Sincelejo, Columbia** our first group of **five** graduates from this program under the direction of Don Wolfram. Don is a longtime friend and fellow missionary who does many things in addition to running CTC programs in Ecuador and Columbia. I was there to do the first subject and there were about 30 students. The host of the program, Pastor Jose Herrera's wife Sofy was among the first graduates. New classes have already started for new students and to allow former students to catch up on classes that they missed so they too can graduate.



In addition to the graduation in Columbia, we celebrated our second graduation in **Matagalpa, Nicaragua**, where Alfredo Martinez and his wife, Coralia, oversee our ten CTC programs in Nicaragua. This is amazing when you consider that this country is ruled by Communist leaders who do much to hinder Christian activity. This second graduation yielded **six** new graduates into fulltime ministry. Like the folks in Columbia, they have already



started new classes training more laborers for God's harvest!

Dr. George Kurenji also reported graduations that took place in August. Because the two locations, **Nakuru and Elementaita, Kenya**, are close together, they held one graduation ceremony. There were **30** students who completed the CTC program. Here they are with instructors seated. I believe Dr. Kurenji is the gentleman seated with the red sash about his neck and shoulder. Dr. Kurenji oversees 32 CTC locations in seven countries, which is one of the reasons we help support his family and travel expenses. Your faithful support is making this possible!



November Testimony of God's Goodness

The testimony concerning my brother Steven and my mother opened the November newsletter. Several folks responded that our testimony encouraged them as well. Thank you Jesus!

It was followed by a brief note that our family had moved. That process was the most stressful few weeks that I have had in a long time. Especially when we learned that we were supposed to close

on our home while I was still in Africa. We were also to have vacated the house by the 19th of Oct., just two days after I was scheduled to return. That also did not happen as my flight from Johannesburg to Atlanta was cancelled due to a pilot falling ill. Movers were to arrive on the 18th to move us. Though we had been packing for a few days prior to my leaving for Africa it meant that the bulk of the work was going to fall on Vicky to do. Needless to say it was the worst moving experience of our lives and hopefully my last! Even though there were many trials, God was once again our **WAYMAKER!**



I also shared with you that Pastor Rod and Kathleen Buzzard are joining with us helping to establish CTC programs. They have taken on a project with one of our CTC graduates in Malawi who needs a church building and who will open a CTC program once there is a building to house it. Pastor Rod is from Indiana and has many ministry friends there. They will reach out to folks in that area for help with this building project. PTL!



Recently, one of our CTC students, Spencer Willo, felt led to go into an **unreached Muslim area** within the district of Balaka to do some evangelism. He went where the gospel had not yet gone and almost immediately began to see tremendous results as 7 "staunch" Muslims came to

faith in Christ and many others followed. They put together this simple church and are in need of a good building. We would like to raise \$10,000 to make this happen. **What an opportunity for us to make a difference in a Muslim area** and to establish a testimony for Christ! If you would like to help, just write "**Willo**" on the memo line of your check. Together we can make a difference!

Please remember our new giving instructions. RevC support can go either to Missionary Ventures in the enclosed return envelope or using your envelope you can mail RevC and project support to our new home: 3503 Chessington Drive, Land O' Lakes, FL 34638. Project support can also be sent to PO Box 958 Oldsmar, FL 34677, but not to Missionary Ventures; at their request.

What a fantastic year of ministry this has been and I am looking forward to all that God has for us in 2023. Again I want to thank each of you who pray for and stand with us financially. I earnestly pray for God to continue to bless and multiply back to you regardless of the situation in our nation's economy. **God is our provision! TOGETHER WE'RE MAKING A DIFFERENCE!**

YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE! To support RevC or a particular project you can either donate online at www.rev.org by clicking the "RevC Support" button or the "Project Support" button, or send your gift to **Indigenous Training Ministries, Inc. (ITM, Inc.) and mail to P.O. Box 958 Oldsmar, FL 34677** and put "Preference Project Support" or "Preference RevC" on the memo line. The IRS does not allow donors to designate a gift, but you can indicate your "preference" for its use. Questions?? contact RevC at: RevC@rev.org **BLESSINGS!!!**

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