



# Bear Valley Bible Institute, Zimbabwe

*An institution of churches of Christ*

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Where spiritual integrity and academic excellence intersect

## **JULY 2020 NARRATIVE REPORT**

### **INTRODUCTION**

The world continues to reel over the COVID19 virus. Zimbabwe is not an exception. There has been a steep rise of cases in the month of July forcing the government to impose more strict measures including a curfew from dusk to dawn. Movement has to be authorised without which one will be turned back by the police. Patrols have been more in the city centres whilst public transport remain banned. Many are realising the need to pray to God so that this scourge may be abated. However, within this quagmire, the word of continue to be preached in season and out of season. We are pleased to report the following;

### **1.0 IMPACTING THE COMMUNITY**

The area surrounding the school's new site has a huge challenge of water. With the country facing challenges of drought, for two consecutive years, several cattle had died due to water shortage.. The nearest source is 8 kilometres away. The community came together and bought a 300m poly pipe which draws water from our borehole to a drinking trough outside the school premises. People come every morning from 6-8am to fetch water for consumption whilst their cattle drink there from 12noon-1pm. Almost 400 cattle are benefitting from this arrangement.



*Community leaders thanking BVBIZ for the water*



*Over 400 cattle now having access to water*

## **2. 0 PROGRESS OF LESSONS (THIRD INTAKE)**

The new class (BVBIZ's third intake) which was supposed to commence studies in mid-May on campus are currently being kept busy through online studies. The following subjects are currently in progress;

How We Got The Bible (M. Muchingami)  
Personal Evangelism- Theory (H.Suwari)  
Public Speaking (I. Mutichu)  
New Testament Church (I.Mutichu)  
Life of Christ (I.Mutichu)

## **3.0 EVANGELISM (SECOND INTAKE)**

In 2Tim 4:2 Paul instructs Timothy to preach the word in season and out of season. Even when movement has been curtailed and gathering of over 50 people banned, ordinary evangelism methods on hold, the word of God still has to be preached. The second intake had to find a way to make up for its last practical before their graduation in October. Sermons were preached on Whatsapp and sent out. Prospects received lessons and reading material on the social platforms. Some went to the extent of doing daily devotions to keep members and prospects spiritually fed.



### 3.1 New Congregation Starts at Site

When schools closed in March due to the lockdown, two students, Batsirai Tengulachepa and Grey Ndoro, remained on campus and have been with us since then. When the school relocated its property to the new site, they also went there. They have started evangelism in the area, most of which is done when people come to fetch water in the morning (6-8am) and at noon (12-1pm) when cattle are brought. The average attendance is 20. Unfortunately no baptism has taken place yet due to the absence of a baptistery or pool of water. We hope to construct a baptistery soon.



The new congregation at the new school's site. No baptism has taken place yet due to the lack of water.

#### 4.0 CONSTRUCTION

The following developments took place in the month of July;

- Construction of the much awaited septic tank began around the 15<sup>th</sup> of July and is almost complete. What is left is to fill the soak away tank with stones. The soak away tank measures 5m in length, 2m wide and 3m deep. Great appreciation to the congregation at Nashville here in Gweru for giving its 85 bags of cement so that the construction is done. These bags costing \$680 will need to be given back once their own construction of an auditorium starts possibly within the next two months.
- An outstanding 4 metre door of the hostel was bought and fixed. Its glasses will be installed in August.
- Some outstanding plumbing materials were purchased and fixing will also be done in August. The only outstanding items are the kitchen sink, outside sink (to be constructed by the builders) and 2 solar geysers.



*The outstanding 4m door was made successfully and fixed to the structure*

The following are the pictures of the septic tank that was constructed. It measures 9m in length and is 3m wide and 3m deep.





Without the burden of paying rentals, the school is now able to slowly deal with some of the demands though this will take over 10 months. The builders have also been very flexible, offering their labour and then slowly pay them. After the work on the septic tank was done, the following are the outstanding issues;

Labour owing: hostel	\$250
Septic Tank: labour owing	\$900
Septic tank: Cement owing	\$680
Septic tank: bricks owing	\$285
Solar system	\$4950
Outstanding plumbing material and labour	\$180
2 solar geysers (though we can do with one for now)	\$590
Painting of interior (\$767) and labour (191)	\$ 958
Painting of exterior (1130) and labour (282)	\$1412

## CONCLUSION

Despite the pandemic that has changed the ordinary way we used to do things, we remain grateful to God for enabling BVBIZ to make more steps at the permanent site. The Word is being preached in various ways. We are also grateful to you all, that despite this worldwide challenge, you continue to stand with us. May the God of heaven, bless you and keep all of you safe!

*Do you need to contact Bear Valley Bible Institute Zimbabwe? Our local contact number is +263774413647 or at [bearvalleybibleinstitutezim@gmail.com](mailto:bearvalleybibleinstitutezim@gmail.com). Our office is located at 3 Dennis Barnes Riverside, Gweru. The permanent site is at Plot 37A, Wildebeest Farm, Plasworth along Old Shurugwi Road (15km from Gweru CBD). In the U.S.A, you may contact Bear Valley Bible Institute International's Regional Director, **Donnie Estep**, on +1-3047845416, [donnieestep@wv.net](mailto:donnieestep@wv.net). For banking details and possible partnerships, please do not hesitate to contact us*