



Bear Valley Bible Institute, Zimbabwe

An institution of churches of Christ

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Where spiritual integrity and academic excellence intersect

MARCH 2020 NARRATIVE REPORT

As the world battles with COVID19 and its effects, all hope is now on the ability of God to intervene in the affairs of His children. Currently, Zimbabwe is under lockdown up to 19 April. Activities at BVBIZ are also at a standstill. However, we remain hopeful that God will intervene so that operations continue once the pandemic is abated. Despite this challenge, there was progress registered in the month of March as reported below.

1.0 TERM ENDS

The current class finished its last term successfully, two days prior to the official closing date because of the COVID19 pandemic. Students travelled safely back to their homes in time for the lockdown. All subjects were taught and completed successfully. These are; Hebrew, Revelation, Christian Evaluation of Contemporary Ethics, Minor Prophets, Community Development and Poverty Alleviation, Bible Geography, 1 & 2 Thessalonians, Foundation of Missions and Preacher's Life and Work.

2.0 EVANGELISM

2.1 Field Program

From the 25th of April to the 28th of September, the current students will be undertaking their practicum. Graduation is scheduled to take place on the 3rd of October. However, due to the Corona virus there shall be changes to this schedule. Over 30 requests had been made and the school had made a decision to rotate the students in various areas. A proper update will be made at the end of April. At present, things remain unclear due to the COVID 19 pandemic.

2.2 Campaigns

Evangelism campaigns took place from the 14th to the 22nd of March. Students were divided into two camps, some were at Sipaba in Matebeleland South whilst another group went to Maridale congregation in Norton, Mashonaland West. At Sipaba, the group was led by Brother Ngosilathi Mpofo, while at Norton, Brother Ishmael Mutichu led the group. 3 baptisms were recorded at Norton and 3 at Sipaba. 5 more baptisms were also recorded at Redcliff during the students' weekend evangelism praxis. Total baptisms for the month of March were 11. At Maridale and Sipaba, besides evangelism during the day, evening services were held where several contacts were invited to come. 114 was the Sunday attendance at Norton whilst 82 came at Sipaba. Students had opportunities to lead services. There was a feeding centre for children at Sipaba and students who went there had an opportunity of experiencing how the centre is run. The following pictures capture what transpired;





3.0 SITE DEVELOPMENT

Development continued to take place at the schools permanent site. Great appreciation goes to Woodland Oaks for providing \$9000 towards further progress on the hostel which is going to be used to house the students. Several cuts were also made on the school budget so that more work is done on the structure. The hope was to purchase plumbing and electrical components in South Africa where there are a bit cheaper but due to the COVID19 Lockdown there, this could not be possible. All items were then purchased locally. If all things are equal, the target was to have the school move to this permanent site by June. The following were purchased or done between February and March;

1. Roof (\$4969 including labour)
2. Plumbing (\$2124.54 including labour)
3. Electrical Installation (partially) (\$303.41 including labour more materials are outstanding)
4. Window Frames, window panes, putty and thinners (\$1310)
5. Trenching, digging of septic and soak away tanks (\$325)
6. Plastering, floor and beam filling (\$3730)
7. 3 Exterior doors (\$180) , 2 interior doors (\$30) and 5 locksets (\$60)
8. Air vents (\$26)

The following are the outstanding items;

ITEM	UNIT PRICE	TOTAL
1. 4m sliding door	500	500
2. Kitchen sink	90	90
3. 2 washing basins	35	70
4. 2 solar geysers	295	590
5. 10 interior doors	15	150
6. 10 locksets	12	120
7. 3100 Bricks for the septic tank	11c	341
8. 60 bags Cement for septic tank &soak away	8	480

9. Deformed bars for septic tank (assorted sizes)		130
10. Outstanding Labour cost for builders		1000
11. Solar system to electrify the place		
a. 2 lithium Solar batteries	915	1830
b. 6 X 310W solar panels	224	1344
c. 5KVA Solar Inverter	1250	1250
d. Cables	510	510
e. Lugs	55c	16
12. Painting- <i>could not get the present quotes due to the prevailing lockdown</i>		-
13. TOTAL		8520

Some of the requirements listed above could be acquired when the school moves to the present site. Those in **red** will be needed before shifting to make the place habitable. Anyone who may want to partner the school in one or more of the items above will be welcome. If the school moves to the sight, some of the things will be taken care of from the monthly budget. The following pictures show what is happening at the site;



Plumping work being carried out before plastering was done



The Septic tank measuring 9m(L),3m (D) and 3 (W) still being dug. A soak way tank will be dug soon after the completion of the septic tank. The second hole will be measuring 3m (D) x 3m (L) x 2m (W).



Some electrical components fixed to the wall before plastering is done



Plastering of the facility taking place. Window frames already fixed to it

4.0 MAY INTAKE

The new class is scheduled to commence classes on the 12th of May 2020. This is on the condition that the lockdown would have been lifted by then and the country is out of danger from the Corona virus. The present class will be undertaking their field practicum and therefore, will be away during

this time. To date, 12 new students have been accepted. The target is to have 15 students minimum. There are 7 more applications yet to be processed.

CONCLUSION

Though the operating environment is now difficult due to COVID19, we praise God for what He has been able to do for BVBIZ in March. Our hearts and thoughts are with you all and with our various partners in this work. Our prayer is for the safety of all. God is able and to Him belongs all the glory, power and majesty forever and ever, Amen.

*Do you need to contact Bear Valley Bible Institute Zimbabwe? Our local contact number is +263774413647 or at bearvalleybibleinstitutezim@gmail.com. Our location is 3 Dennis Barnes Riverside, Gweru. In the U.S.A, you may contact Bear Valley Bible Institute International's Regional Director, **Donnie Estep**, on +1-3047845416, donnieestep@wv.net. The schools Ecocash Merchant code is 185540. The short code will be *151*2*2*185540*Amount# For other banking details and possible partnerships, please do not hesitate to contact us.*