## JULY 2020 UPDATE FROM SIERRA LEONE:

"Have mercy on me, O God, according to your unfailing love; to your great compassion blot out my transgressions, wash away all my iniquity and cleanse me from sin....Restore to me the joy of your salvation and grant me a willing Spirit to sustain me [psalm 51 vs1-2, 12 NIV]."

LIFTING OF BAN ON WORSHIP. To God is the glory, since March 16 the government banned all public gathering including religious worship as a result of the Covid 19 outbreak. This continued till the 13<sup>th</sup> July when the government decided to lift the ban with some guidelines to be observed among which is reduction in time to be for worship, half capacity service, meaning churches with more than two hundred worshippers can have two different sessions for services. The joy is that we are able to come together for worship again. There was joy and jubilations in our various churches on Sunday July 19 being the first Sunday after the lifting of the ban. For me, Rev. Jawara [ the president] and Gabriel Matthias we were with the Krim people to fellowship.



Keeping social distance is required in all our worship. Above are believers in the Krim during Sunday service on July 19 2020.

**SECOND VISIT TO THE KRIM PEOPLE:** After our first visit in March this year we all agreed to return in July to continue with the TLT training for the church leaders in the Krim. When on March 31 the country registered her first index case of Covid 19 and subsequent restrictions on movement, we were not sure of the July date will be possible. But God in his grace the restriction was lifted a week before our planned visit, therefore we did not waste time again than to follow up. Hence, on July 15-21 we were with the krim people. It was yet another interesting experience. Being raining season, the waters were really high, villages along the Wangel riverbank were submerged and the people evacuated to other towns. But Manor - Kuranko which is our main station was safe from the flood, likewise, the Massa Kpanguma ,

Nieni and others. So the participants have no problems coming together for the training, paddling in canoes. I love being there to see the wonders of God an Island surrounded by waters. The Atlantic Ocean, and the rivers. Fish of different kinds are delicious to go with. No law enforcement, no police or even the marine offices to monitor the kind of fish that are caught. Every Tuesday and Wednesday which is only travelling dates for the boat, people bring fish to sell in Gbondapi.

SPECIAL NEEDS: The Krim people are so ready to embrace the Christian Faith and remain Christians, even though there are many Muslims among them. But Sierra Leone being an example of a tolerance community in times of religious freedom, you hardly know who is a Christian and who is a Muslim. You will only see the difference either on Sunday or Friday who goes to church and mosques in those days respectively. I have seen that many [ 90%] of the Christians do not have a Bible. There is a need for Bibles so that they can read and study the Word of God. Interesting thing is many of them can read and write. They need and English Bible [ not Mende, they said]. The second need I have seen is that there is need to get a boat that will be used for Evangelism to those places. Beside us going there for the training, there is need for the continue visit. Having a boat will ease a lot of challenges faced to reach the people and also do effective mission work. The boat can also serve as a means to transport sick people; especially expectant mothers to the hospital or clinic faster than the paddle canoe and communication. I did a survey to see how much it would cost to have a 15-horsepower machine and construction of a wooden boat that will take at least twenty to twenty-five people at a time; it will be six thousand US dollars [ \$6000 USD].



A woman paddling to go to the farm to get food for the family.



 ${\it Church leaders who attended the July TLT training in the Krim}$ 



On this boat we travelled to the krim area .[ God's time is the name of this boat]]



A boat like this one with the machine will be a great blessings for effective work in the Krim area of Sierra Leone.



A submerged

village by the river wangel , in the Krim area..

**HEREMAKONO CHURCH:** To God be the glory, as the lift on ban for worship happened, the people of Heremakono can now have a place to worship. Even though the work is not completed, they can now worship in the building even when it rains. Thanks for your prayers, for the building is now roofed. Please pray now for the finishing.



Heremakono church under construction, but can be use now for worship during this raining time.

**WEBSITE FOR CRC SL.**: We are pleased to inform you that we are moving steadily with technology. You can now find us on our website. <a href="www.crcsalone.org">www.crcsalone.org</a>. The website has just been developed, and more information will be uploaded soon. Also our Radio broadcast comes on facebook as well even though not all the programs are live on facebook, but if you like our facebook page you will get update when we are live. It's Radio Shalom 89.5 FM kabala [this is our radio facebook].

We will appreciate your suggestions as much as we continue to reach out to the unreached with the Gospel of salvation. Our desire is to also create an app for the radio where it can be downloaded either on a phone or computer.

**THE MULTIPURPOSE BUILDING:** We are still where we were. Please continue to pray with us for funds to complete this project.



This is the multipurpose building in Kabala, pray and support to have it done.

## **PRAYER REQUEST:**

- 1. Thank God for the journey of the Krim and back safely to Kabala.
- 2. Pray for the grow of the church in the Krim.
- 3. Pray for leadership for wisdom in the churches if Sierra Leone.
- 4. Pray for Mr. Kamara. Mr. Kamara is the husband of our accountant [Sarah]; because of his work in the hospital he is presently in quarantine because of a positive case of Covid 19 that was confirmed in the department where he is working, pray that he be fine and his family as well.
- 5. Pray for the success of the new classroom building at the Kabala Christian School as well as the buildings in the village schools.

- 6. Pray for protection over school children who are in their final year and government have allowed those in the final year to resume and write their final examination coming up next month.
- 7. Pray for our radio programs as we continue to bring the gospel through the electronics media, that those calling and giving their lives to Christ will remain strong in the faith.

SUBMITTED BY:
ISTIFANUS BALA BAHAGO
RGM/CRCSL LEADERSHIP CONSULTANT

Email. ibbahago@gmail.com, istifanusbahago@yahoo.com

Phone:+23278264240,+23277668139

Website:www.crcsalone.org