

Mission Cruzamento

Visit with Bishop 5th to 9th June 2014



Cruzamento

Visit with Bishop 5th to 9th June 2014

The following document reports the visit made by Bishop Dinis Matsolo and Revd Malcolm Oliver to the Igreja Metodista Wesleyana members in the Central circuit.

We were warmly welcomed when we arrived at Chimoio airport in the afternoon of 5th June and were met by Revd Hilario Combe and a driver. We then travelled into Chimoio city and visited five shops selling motor bikes ranging from M23000 to M65000. Bishop Dinis then drove us the 20km to the home of Circuit Steward, James, in Chimoio where we were again warmly welcomed. We booked in at the accommodation which had been reserved for us by Revd Hilario. We visited the site of the proposed church house which is near to the site of the church.

On Friday morning we returned to Chimoio City. Bishop Dinis accompanied by Revd Hilario, James and the the Circuit Treasurer went open a bank account. Malcolm visited the International School where two of the church members are teachers. The group met again at lunchtime. We heard that further documentation was needed to open the bank account. Bishop Dinis will therefore proceed with opening the account when he returns to Maputo. Malcolm confirmed that the nursery would be suitable for his twin daughters.

Leaving Chimoio we returned to Cruzamento to meet building contractors. We met over lunch. A floor plan was produced by Rev Hilario. The contractor had submitted a written quotation. The group asked questions and made suggestions. The meeting agreed that the

overall plan be approved with minor alterations to be made to bedroom and bathroom size. Malcolm agreed to do this and email a revised plan. Details of roof design need to be finalised, but this should not prevent work beginning. We were told it would take about three months for basic contraction of foundation, walls and roof. Thus if it to to be ready in December, we would need to begin construction immediately.

We then travelled to the neighbouring locality to visit the congregation there. We were warmly welcomed by the church who meet in a members home. After a time of worship we held a meeting and members had the opportunity to share.

After passing through a shop to copy the building plans, we visited the widow of Pastor Kenya. Pastor Kenya, who had been an evangelist with the MCSA died last year. During his time with the MCSA he had overseen pastoral care of Methodist members and a church had been built. The ownership of the church building remains uncertain. We offered pastoral care to the widow and Revd Hilario was asked to continue this pastoral care.

On returning to Cruzamento, we were again hosted by the Circuit Steward for dinner. Afterwards we returned to our accommodation.

On Saturday morning, after a brief visit to Chimoio, We met with the Circuit leaders for the quarterly meeting. As this will be recorded in the quarterly meeting minutes, it will not be reported here. We had a splendid lunch and shared conversations. Both during the meeting and afterwards, Revd Malcolm heard that Central Zone Circuit members had concerns about their Minister. They were advised that any concerns should be put into writing.

On Saturday afternoon Bishop Dinis and Revd Malcolm went to Chimoio City to visit a church member who had moved there. We were accompanied by Revd Hilario and his fiancé. We successfully met with the church member and after a meal, returned to Cruzamento.

On Sunday we held worship. Revd Hilario led the liturgy and Bishop Dinis preached. We baptised children and infants and one adult believer. He and three women were then received into Methodist membership by Bishop Dinis. The service concluded with Holy Communion.

In the afternoon, Bishop Dinis had a meeting with the mother of Revd Hilario's fiancé.

On Monday Bishop Dinis and Revd Malcolm accompanied Revd Hilario to Chimoio City to buy a motorbike. Revd Hilario favoured one particular machine which was midrange in price. This was purchased in the name of Igreja Metodista Wesleyana. A crash helmet was also purchased. Bishop Dinis and Revd Malcolm then left for the airport for the journey back to Maputo.