



THE CUMORAH FOUNDATION

Resources on Church Growth and Missionary Work for
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints

March 2022

WELCOME!

The purpose of this newsletter is to provide monthly updates on the growth of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and missionary news stories and present a synopsis of recently completed educational resources and research. We are a privately funded initiative that provides resources online without cost. The Cumorah Foundation is not authorized or approved by The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints or any other group.

CHURCH GROWTH DEVELOPMENTS

New Stakes

(provided with chronological ranking and date of creation)

3. Zanesville Ohio - March 6th, 2022
4. Virginia Liberia - March 13th, 2022
5. Hyde Park Utah North - March 27th, 2022

New Districts

None Reported in March 2022

Discontinued Stakes and Districts

None Reported in March 2022

Locations Recently Reached by the Church

(city population rank, most recent population estimate)
precise population data from www.citypopulation.de

- Ayikuma, Ghana (N/A, N/A)
- Lingig, Philippines (N/A, N/A)

Locations Recently Closed by the Church

Cities where the only ward or branch was closed; some of these cities may continue to have a dependent unit and/or missionaries assigned.
(city population rank, most recent population estimate)
data from www.citypopulation.de

- Brewton, Alabama (112th, 5,276)

Number of Stakes in Liberia Reaches Six

The Church organized its sixth stake in Liberia during March in northern Monrovia (the Virginia Liberia Stake). The Church in Liberia has experienced rapid growth during the past decade after a decade of slow membership growth and essentially stagnant congregational growth for most of the 2000s. The Church reestablished a stake in Liberia in late 2016 (Monrovia Liberia Bushrod Island) followed by three additional stakes in 2017 (Monrovia, Caldwell, and Paynesville) and one more stake in 2019 (Gardnesville). The Church also organized a district in Kakata in 2018. The Church in Liberia had 20 branches and two districts in 2012. Today, the Church in Liberia has 42 wards, 20 branches, six stakes, one district, one mission, and one announced temple.



Second Karen-Speaking Branch in the Church Organized

The Church organized its second Karen-speaking branch in the worldwide Church during March. The St. Paul Branch (Karen) was organized to service Karen-speaking Latter-day Saints from Myanmar. The Church organized its first Karen-speaking branch in Salt Lake City in 2009.

New Congregations in the Republic of the Congo



The Church in the Republic of Congo has organized at least three new congregations within approximately the past month in stakes in Brazzaville. Last year, we reported that the mission claimed

that more than one dozen new congregations would be organized soon. There are now 31 congregations in the country, whereas there were only 17 congregations in the country 10 years ago.

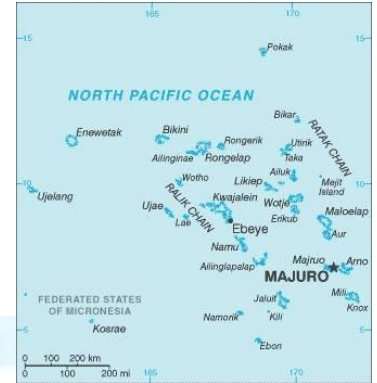
Two New Branches Organized in Tanzania

The Church in Tanzania continues to organize new branches—a development that appears to be a direct result of the organization of the Tanzania Dar Es Salaam Mission in 2020. The Church divided the original Arusha Branch (originally organized in 2008) to organize two new branches in the city. With the nearby Moshi Branch (organized in 2021), prospects appear favorable for the creation of a second district in Tanzania headquartered in Arusha. The number of branches in Tanzania increased from one in 1992 to three in 1999, four in 2004, five in 2008, six in 2011, eight in 2019, 10 in 2020, 13 in 2021, and 15 at present. The Church most recently reported 1,793 members in Tanzania.



Marshallese-Speaking Branches Organized

Two new Marshallese-speaking branches were recently organized, including the first Marshallese-speaking congregation in Colorado. The Church has steadily organized new Marshallese-speaking congregations in the United States during the past two decades. There are now



10 Marshallese-speaking congregations in the United States (three wards – one each in Arkansas, Utah, and Washington, and seven branches – one each in Colorado, Hawaii, Iowa, Oklahoma, Texas, Utah, and Washington). During the past decade, new Marshallese-speaking congregations have been organized in 2014, 2015, and 2022 (2). There were only an estimated 61,000 speakers of Marshallese as of 2001. The Church established its first branch in the Marshall Islands in 1978 and has since experienced significant growth. In 2019, 11.9% of the population of the Marshall Islands was a Latter-day Saint. The growth in Marshallese Latter-day Saints in the United State appears primarily due to the immigration of Marshallese from the Marshall Islands where [one-third of the population had left to move to the United States as of late 2018](#). Despite this significant outmigration of Marshallese from their home islands, the Church in the Marshall Islands has not had any of its congregations discontinued.

