



THE CUMORAH FOUNDATION

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

November 2024

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)

48. Cedar City Utah South - November 3rd, 2024
49. Harare Zimbabwe Chitungwiza - Nov. 3rd, 2024
50. Highland Utah North - November 3rd, 2024
51. Spanish Fork Utah Legacy Farms - November 10th
52. Tumauni Philippines - November 17th, 2024

New Districts

21. Azikoro Nigeria - November 3rd, 2024
22. Iyahe Nigeria - November 10th, 2024

Discontinued Stakes and Districts

8. Salt Lake Little Cottonwood Stake

Locations Recently Reached by the Church

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

- Diegonéfla, Cote d'Ivoire (45th, 33,523)
- Grand Béréby, Cote d'Ivoire (N/A, ~10,000)
- Langossou, Cote d'Ivoire (N/A, ~700)
- Toumodi, Cote d'Ivoire (37th, 43,189)
- Kabinda, DR Congo (N/A, ~600,000)
- Kamiji, DR Congo (N/A, N/A)
- Kaniama, DR Congo (N/A, ~63,000)
- Sakania, DR Congo (N/A, ~166,000)
- Domeabra, Ghana (N/A, N/A)
- Bukura, Kenya (N/A, N/A)
- Agbura, Nigeria (N/A, N/A)
- Nsan, Nigeria (N/A, N/A)
- Calatagan, Philippines (N/A, N/A)
- Kamuning, Philippines (N/A, N/A)
- Roxas, Mindoro, Philippines (N/A, 20,108)

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

None reported for this month

Convert Baptisms Reportedly at 20-Year High; Number of Full-time Missionaries Serving Swells to Approximately 80,000

Church leaders have reported that convert baptisms for 2024 have been at a 20-year high, albeit no official figures have been released yet. If these reports are accurate, the Church may baptize as many as 300,000 converts in 2024 (the largest number of converts baptized in a single year in the past 20 years was 296,803 in 2014). Reports have also suggested that the ratio of converts baptized per missionary has increased in the past year. However, an increase in the number of full-time missionaries serving has primarily appeared to fuel recent increases in the number of converts baptized (most recent report in early November 2024 indicated that [there were nearly 80,000 full-time missionaries serving worldwide](#)—a 15-18% annual increase from 67,871 as of year-end 2023). No official announcement has been made with whether more new missions will be organized in 2025 (there were 36 new missions created in 2024).

Several Member Groups Created in Juba, South Sudan

The Church recently organized three member groups in Juba, South Sudan. Collectively, the Juba Branch and the three member groups in Juba have had a combined attendance of only about 80 people. The Church reestablished an official branch in Juba in mid-2024 after more than a decade of the branch being discontinued due to the civil war. Today, there is only one Sudanese-specific congregation that operates in the worldwide Church outside of Sudan which operates in Utah and holds meetings in the Dinka and Nuer languages. South Sudanese have been uniquely receptive to the Latter-day Saint gospel witness, although efforts to reach them in their home country have been brief and interrupted by war and political instability. The location of the Juba Branch on the Church's official meetinghouse locator website was recently added. South Sudan pertains to the Uganda Kampala Mission.



Meetinghouse Locations for Many Member Groups in Papua New Guinea on the Meetinghouse Locator Website

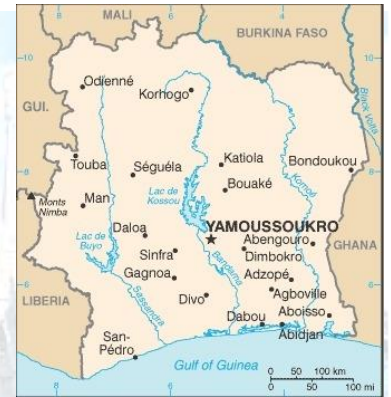


There are approximately a dozen and a half member groups that are now shown on the Church's official meetinghouse locator website in various areas of Papua New Guinea. The Church in Papua New Guinea has often organized member groups before official branches are created to ensure that there is

sufficient leadership to support branches. Many of these member groups operate in areas where the Church has experienced rapid growth, such as in the Fly Delta and in the Rigo area. Papua New Guinea presents many excellent opportunities for future growth, as it is the most populous nation in Melanesia and one of the countries in the region with the lowest percentage of Latter-day Saints. There are currently two missions in the country and one temple under construction in Port Moresby. There were nearly 39,000 Latter-day Saints as of year-end 2023 in Papua New Guinea.

Rapid National Outreach Expansion Returns to Cote d'Ivoire

After approximately half a decade of the Church organizing its first branches in previously unreached cities, the Church in Cote d'Ivoire has recently begun to rapidly expand into additional cities, towns, and villages. In 2024, there have been at least nine cities, towns, or villages that have had branches created for the first time—nearly all of which are in the Cote d'Ivoire Yamoussoukro Mission. Although this progress has been encouraging, the Church has consolidated branches in some cities in the past 1-2 years, suggesting a lack of growth and efforts to consolidate active membership to prepare for the creation of wards (this recently happened to create the San Pedro Cote d'Ivoire Stake). There are now over 60 cities, towns, and villages in Cote d'Ivoire with an official ward or branch.

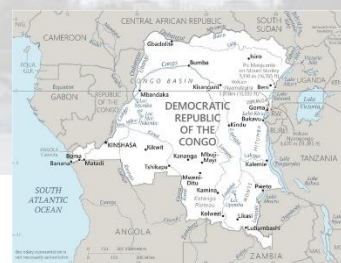


Second Branch Created in The Gambia

The Church organized a second branch in the capital and most populous city of The Gambia, Banjul. Church membership is now reported to exceed [100](#), and the [new Kanifing Branch has 33 members](#). The first branch was created in June of 2022. The Gambia pertains to the Cote d'Ivoire Abidjan West Mission.



Number of Branches in Kisangani, DR Congo Doubles from Six to 12 in One Weekend



The number of branches in Kisangani, Democratic Republic of the Congo (DR Congo) doubled from six to 12 in a single weekend in November. The Kisangani DR Congo District was organized in 2023. The first branch in Kisangani was organized in 2015. The number of branches in Kisangani increased to two in 2017, three in 2021, and six in 2022. Kisangani is the fifth most populous city in the DR Congo and had an estimated population of 1.26 million as of early 2024. There are now over 130,000 Latter-day Saints in the DR Congo.