



THE CUMORAH FOUNDATION

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

September 2021

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)

30. Port Harcourt Nigeria Central - Sept. 5th, 2021
31. Lehi Utah Canyon Hills - Sept. 5th, 2021
32. Port Harcourt Nigeria Central - Sept 12th, 2021
33. Morehead City North Carolina - Sept. 19th, 2021
34. Kumasi Ghana Konongo - Sept. 26th, 2021

New Districts

None Reported in September 2021

Discontinued Stakes and Districts

7. Pleasanton California

Locations Recently Reached by the Church

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

- Quezaltepeque, Guatemala (N/A, N/A)
- Atlantic, Iowa (56th, 7,112)
- Abavo, Nigeria (N/A, N/A)
- Ekori, Nigeria (N/A, N/A)
- Ikot Ikan, Nigeria (N/A, N/A)
- Dia, Sierra Leone (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

- Celje, Slovenia (4th, 37,392)

First Branch Organized in New Ireland, Papua New Guinea

The Church organized its first branch on the island of New Ireland in Papua New Guinea in Kavieng. The Kavieng Branch is one of the most remote branches of the Church in the country. The Church operates no other branches on any of the island archipelagos of eastern Papua New Guinea, albeit a member group currently operates on New Britain in Kimbe and a branch used to operate in Rabaul until a few years ago. A member group appears to have operated in Kavieng for as long as one decade. Approximately 200,000 people inhabit New Ireland Province, and there are approximately one million people who inhabit the island archipelagos of eastern Papua New Guinea where only one branch currently operates. Papua New Guinea is the second least reached sovereign country in Oceania after the Solomon Islands.

New Branch in Sierra Leone

The Church recently organized a new branch in the village of Dia near the Guinean border. The nearby Kailahun Branch was organized in 2017. The Church in Sierra Leone has experienced a significant slowdown in national outreach expansion since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic. Both branches pertain to the Kenema Sierra Leone Stake which was organized in 2019.

Another Branch Discontinued in Slovenia

The Church recently discontinued one of its three branches in Slovenia. The Celje Branch was discontinued and had operated for approximately three decades. The Church also recently closed its only branch in another city in Slovenia, the Kranj Branch, in 2018. There are now only two branches in Slovenia. The Church in Slovenia has experienced similar problems as in other Eastern European countries in recent years with unprecedented closures of small branches in many cities. The Church reported 431 members in Slovenia as of year-end 2019.