

KAFUE REFORMED BAPTIST CHURCH PLANT INFORMATION

1. Summary

1.1. Kafue Reformed Baptist church is seeking to establish a local church plant in Shimabala, Kafue district of Zambia. We are convinced the church has reached the stage when it can no longer ignore the spiritual need in this section of Kafue. The church is excited to launch into this work. We hope it will mark the beginning of similar efforts for masses in Kafue. The church has run a preaching point and done some evangelism in the area of Shimabala for over 8 years. In this period, the church has come to understand and know the area well enough to undertake the task of church plant. Further, a man has been found. He is not only excited himself about the prospects but he shares our biblical convictions and he is gifted to pick up the challenge. What the church needs now is an eight year funding while our two elders provide oversight.

2. Kafue Reformed Baptist Church Overview

2.1. Background

2.1.1. Kafue Reformed Baptist Church (KRBC) is located in Kafue district, some 50km south of Lusaka in the Republic of Zambia. The church is located in the urban section of the district. Population in the town stands at approximately 285,000. The pre-dominant languages are English, Chinyanja, Bemba and Chitonga. The church has been in existence for 17 years. It owns the premises on which the church structure stands. Services and other meetings at KRBC are in English. The membership stands at 43. Approximately 50-70 people attend Sunday morning services. The numbers at evening services drop to 15-30 especially when some members in colleges and universities are away to school.

2.2. Doctrinal Statement

2.2.1. See attachment

2.3. Structure & Operation

2.3.1. KRBC has two Elders, Pastor Kennedy Sunkutu and Elder Godfrey Chimfutumba, and two deacons, Mr John Phiri and Mr Chimese Nchito. Besides these offices, the church runs a number of ministries: Ladies, Children's, Young People (youth), Orphans & Vulnerable Children's, Literature, Men's and Couples ministries. We also have a library, which still needs beefing up. The church also has mid-week meetings in two locations of Kafue (namely Kafue town and Shimabala).

2.3.2. The Elders share oversight of ministries. The ministries give feedback reports at quarterly and annual members meetings on their operations. All ministries are encouraged to maintain an evangelistic outlook in their ministries. Further, the church has regular evangelistic meetings two to three times a month where all members are encouraged to take part. Activities include street evangelism, distribution of tracts, and sale of Christian literature and bibles, with the Bible being the highest selling book.

2.3.3. KRBC has been managing a preaching and bible study point some 10km north of Kafue at Shimabala, a farming section of Kafue with a growing population. The studies and preaching are done in one of the local languages.

The area has three categories of people: peasant and commercial farmers, and middle management families.

- 2.3.4. Kafue town is generally religious and inclined to Christianity. However, the presence of the charismatic and Pentecostal movements has introduced much confusion to the gospel message. Majority of the population still hold on to traditional superstitions and salvation by works often side by side.

3. Need

3.1. Proposed Partnership

- 3.1.1. KRBC's work in Shimabala has been running for about 8 years. The growing population of settlers in the area now demand the formal establishment of a church. From about two years the church has been praying for the Lord to raise someone to take up the work. The area has huge potential for outreach. The people are generally receptive to God's word. Of course, they are very religious as well as superstitious. The people in the area need constant and persistent visits. The church has finally found a candidate for the area. He received training from The then Reformed Baptist Preachers' College (a jointly run venture between Lusaka Baptist Church, Kabwata Baptist Church and Mount Makulu Baptist Church), over a decade ago. He also participated in caretaking John Laing Reformed Baptist Church, a church plant of Kabwata Baptist Church for several years.

Note that The Reformed Baptist Preachers' College has since evolved into what is now called the Lusaka Ministerial College (LMC), still jointly run by the Reformed Baptist Churches of Lusaka, in conjunction with the Reformed Baptist Seminary, of Grand Rapids Michigan, USA, who from time to time also provide serving Pastors, to give lectures to the students. Our Pastor K. Sunkutu is one of the lecturers, and is currently, the Registrar of LMC, and in charge of Biblical Theology.

- 3.1.2. KRBC is seeking partnership with your church to sponsor the man we are calling to minister at Shimabala. The man we are calling is Mr Dube Baleni. He is married and he has four children. One is getting into college next year; two are in secondary school with the last one in primary school. Dube and his family are excited to save the Lord in Shimabala. He holds on to reformed theology convictions as expressed in the 1689 Baptist Confession of Faith statement. He is also very fluent in the local dialect spoken in the area.

- 3.1.3. We are requesting for financial support of \$14,016.00 annually for the first eight years. The support will cover the following monthly costs:-

Salary	445
Accommodation	311
Book Allowance	5
Internet usage	23
Transport	22
Phone airtime	22
School fees	340
TOTAL	1,168

Gratuity will be paid every two years, hence it is not included here.

- 3.1.4. KRBC was a church plant of Kabwata Baptist Church. KRBC was weaned in 2009, having been planted in 2000. We are making this request because as a church we are not able for now to take on an additional expense on our budget. But we are persuaded that this work should not be delayed any further.

3.2. Preparatory Activities

- 3.2.1. The meetings in Shimabala are held at a home of one of the members of KRBC. Efforts have been made over the last 6-7 years to evangelise in the area. However, sustained visits by members have not been regular due to distance for most members who live 10kms away. The preaching point is known in the section of the area.
- 3.2.2. The prospective missionary has been interviewed and has since applied for membership with KRBC to ensure oversight and accountability. The eldership here has mentioned the possibility of a plant to our mother church, Kabwata Baptist Church. We have not yet made any formal request to them over support, though they have said we can write to them any time, they may be able to help, to some extent. KRBC is finalising content of the contract with the identified missionary.

3.3. Roles & Responsibilities

- 3.3.1. Partner
 - 3.3.1.1. Finance the missionary work
- 3.3.2. KRBC
 - 3.3.2.1. Recruit the missionary
 - 3.3.2.2. Disburse remunerations to the missionary monthly and pay timely gratuity every two years.
 - 3.3.2.3. Monitor and support the missionary on the ground
 - 3.3.2.4. Share quarterly reports with partners on progress of the work
 - 3.3.2.5. KRBC to begin raising financial resources by the fifth year with the view of being able to absolve mission support completely by end of the eighth year.

3.4. Calendar

- 3.4.1. We are proposing the period between April to December 2017 to be time for recruitment and settling the missionary at the station of work.
- 3.4.2. Beginning January 2018-2027 work at establishing the work into an independent local church.
- 3.4.3. From 2023-2025 begin to reduce external support by 25% each year. This means KRBC will raise US\$ 17,000 in the last three years of this proposed budget support.

4. Budget

The budget for the period of 8 years comes to approximately US\$112,128

5. Conclusion

We look forward to your favourable response as we seek to establish God's kingdom.