

The Parish, City of Mbandaka, is growing

Founded in 1971, the parish, City of Mbandaka, has just undergone its third mutation. Indeed, because of the increasing number of its members, the parish, originally opened in the chapel of the General Secretariat (the Administrative Office of the Church), which became too limited and a new chapel that can hold 250 people was built with help from Global Ministries, and in 1991, 20 years after the founding of the parish, the new chapel was dedicated. The number of people attending continued to grow. The Pastor of the parish at the time, the Rev. Mputu Yonganga, current Vice - President of the Community, decided to hold two worship services every Sunday, the first in French and the second in Lingala. But despite this, the members have become very numerous and always on Sundays, latecomers have to follow the service from outside.

The parishioners decided to enlarge the chapel building by adding another part of the building, and this Sunday, December 18, 2011, the two parts of the building were joined in a service of thanksgiving which was attended by the Community President, the Reverend Eliko Bonanga and colleagues, retired pastors, pastors of other parishes and guests of all kinds. In total 734 people attended this worship service.

The new building will accommodate between 800 and 1,000 people. However, the work is not yet complete. According to the Vice - President of the Consistory of the Parish who spoke on this occasion, we must also continue with the work of plastering, tiling, ceiling, electrical installation and sound system, painting, and equipment in pews and decorating.

For the occasion and waiting to finish this work, the Community President, invited for the occasion, has donated 50 chairs to the parish.

The great challenge now is to bring together by Sunday, 2,000 followers in the two worship services planned.

Nathan Weteto