



July, 2024

MINTS Refresh

...the hearts of the saints have been refreshed through you. Phil 1:7

THE NEWSLETTER OF MINTS INTERNATIONAL SEMINARY

CHURCH PLANTING



FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

The focus of Miami International Seminary is theological education. We do not have biblical authority, nor are we structured to directly plant churches and yet, through our students, the Lord has used MINTS to plant churches all over the world. In this edition of *Refresh*, we would like to share some of these church plants through stories and photos.



In July 2009, we began as the denominational seminary in the Reformed Presbyterian Church of Malawi to help the church train the next generation of ministers. The denomination was founded in 1985 by the mission work of the Free Presbyterian Church of Scotland. The church currently has over 200 congregations and

10,000 members in the rural areas of central and southern Malawi. We are directly involved in training their ministers. In 2024, key men from MINTS Malawi and the Reformed Presbyterian Church of Malawi are directly involved in helping to plant the Reformed Presbyterian Church of Zambia in eastern Zambia. It is a natural progression from Malawi to Eastern Zambia as the area shares the same culture and language. The Word is being launched from Covenant College, a historically Presbyterian College, and MINTS center. The plan is to open two churches, one on the college campus and one in a nearby town. Dr. Jumbe, one of our first Doctor of Ministry MINTS graduates, is a central part of this mission. In the pictures here and on page 2, you see the General Secretary and the Moderator of the Reformed Presbyterian Church of Malawi constituting the new church.



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FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK *(continued from page 1)*

In central Zambia, we are also training key men to develop a second Presbyterian denomination in a very different location and a different social economic group. Although we will train them through MINTS, they will be ordained through ministers in other Reformed churches. Similar stories about church planting can be seen in Tanzania, Kenya, Uganda, Ethiopia, Burkina, Faso and Togo.



ZAMBIA



In Europe we are working with two denominations, a new one in Albania linked to the PCA and another established Congregational Church in Bulgaria to train their ministers. In both cases, MINTS graduates are directly involved in church planting. In Toronto, Canada we are also training men for ministry in the church. Most of our students are already in ministry, and many others are active in church planting. The Hispanic side of MINTS also has a strong tradition of church planting. We've included some recent works in this *Refresh*.

Julian

Julian Zugg (Ph.D)
President



ABOVE: Pastor Weere Jackson, MINTS student-leader, with his wife, are planting and building a new church in Kibuku, Uganda.

UGANDA



LEFT: A church under construction by Pastor Isaac Mugerwa, MINTS coordinator in Kayunga, Uganda, is already being used for worship.

MEXICO



LEFT:
Sergio San Juan graduated from MINTS with a Bachelor's degree and is planting a church in Acuña, Coahuila, Mexico.



ABOVE and RIGHT:
Roger Yah, Coordinator of MINTS in Campeche, Quintana Roo, Mexico, is planting a church in Campeche.



CENTRAL AMERICA - A DENOMINATION IS BORN

The MINTS Central America Dean, **Jose Ramirez**, shared a story about two pastors that were a part of the Pentecostal Church. In 2011, they began taking courses from MINTS. After six months of MINTS courses, their theology changed to a complete acceptance and understanding of the Reformed traditions. A year later, these two pastors were thrown out of their denomination because of their views of Reformed theology. This led to the opportunity for MINTS to establish a Reformed denomination in Central America. These two pastors started with their churches, and shortly thereafter two more churches joined with them. Now, there are six churches in the new denomination, four in El Salvador and two in Nicaragua. The new Reformed denomination is growing rapidly and as Jose put it, "This is what MINTS does. MINTS brings Reformed theology to these people that do not know anything about the reformation or Reformed theology. Now, they are learning more about this wonderful doctrine." We are excited to see MINTS not only helping to plant churches but indeed building up new Reformed denominations.





ABOVE:
Juan Manuel Correa, Coordinator of MINTS in Ibague Colombia, is planting a church in Ibague, Colombia.



ABOVE and LEFT:
MINTS student, Elias Ricardo, in Santa Martha, Colombia is planting a church in Cartagena, Colombia



BOLIVIA

RIGHT:
Edgar Flores, Coordinator of MINTS, is planting a church in La Paz, Bolivia.



In 2024, we integrated the MINTS-Online program into our general program. This allows students who cannot find a local center to study with us. And we are using the platform to offer Greek and Hebrew.

Your partnership is appreciated in support of the MINTS global seminaries as well as MINTS individuals and administration. Go to www.mints.edu/give for support information.

