

Church affiliation: TANZANIA ASSEMBLIES OF GOD

Brief about the pastor:

Pastor Samwel was born in Arusha, 1995-1996 he attended a 'School of ministry' which missionary Choi was running before he joined YWAM. After school of ministry he went back to his village to serve as an assistant pastor. While serving as an assistant pastor God spoke to him to go to Pemba Island and plant a church. In 1996 he got married to Paulina and in 1997 March they together moved to Pemba Island to plant a church. Since 1997 they have been on Pemba Island. In 2006 - 2008 Pastor Samwel went to a bible school in Arusha and graduated in diploma in theology.

The church building they currently have was funded through Missionary Choi sources in 1997. It was built by stones and lime (not cement). When they were building the community thought it was just another kind of mosque not until later when they realized that it was not going to be a mosque they started throwing rocks on the roof on Sundays as they worship and many other persecutions to the pastor and the few church members. The pastor's house is not his own, it is the church's property. It is a two bedroom house with a small living room in the middle. You can see from the power point file I attached.

The pastor has no monthly salary but two or three times a year his denomination sends a gift of about \$100. Otherwise the pastor has to trust God for his family survival. The church now has about 30 members. Currently security is relatively good. This is because of the violence of burning up churches in Zanzibar which took place recently did not incite the Muslims on Pemba Island. The Muslims are radical on Pemba but we see these days they are becoming more and more receptive to Christians as members of their community. It is changing slowly. The church renovation if it is done with care and wisdom with lots of prayers so as not to be a reason to stir up violence will be a base to spread God's word to the lost.

There are eight churches on Pemba Island; Assemblies of God (two churches), Redeemed Pentecostal church, Lutheran Church, Anglican church, Seventhday Adventist church, Roman Catholic and New Apostolic church. All these churches have total of about 280 members.

Renovation of the church will focus on re-roofing the building with rust-free ironsheets (metal roofing), plastering walls, extending the wall (two feet higher) and adding concrete beam, changing doors, repairing pulpit area, and digging and building a church toilet. Just by making this building look nice and strong will be a living testimony to the whole community that the God of Christians is alive. It will be a 24 hour testimony to whomever that passes by that "Jesus saves". Mosques are built very nicely they get support from many Muslim agencies. Why not make the house of our King of Kings look good? I believe that through this building some souls will come to Christ.

May God bless you brother and thank you for partnering in this ministry.

In His service,

Philip