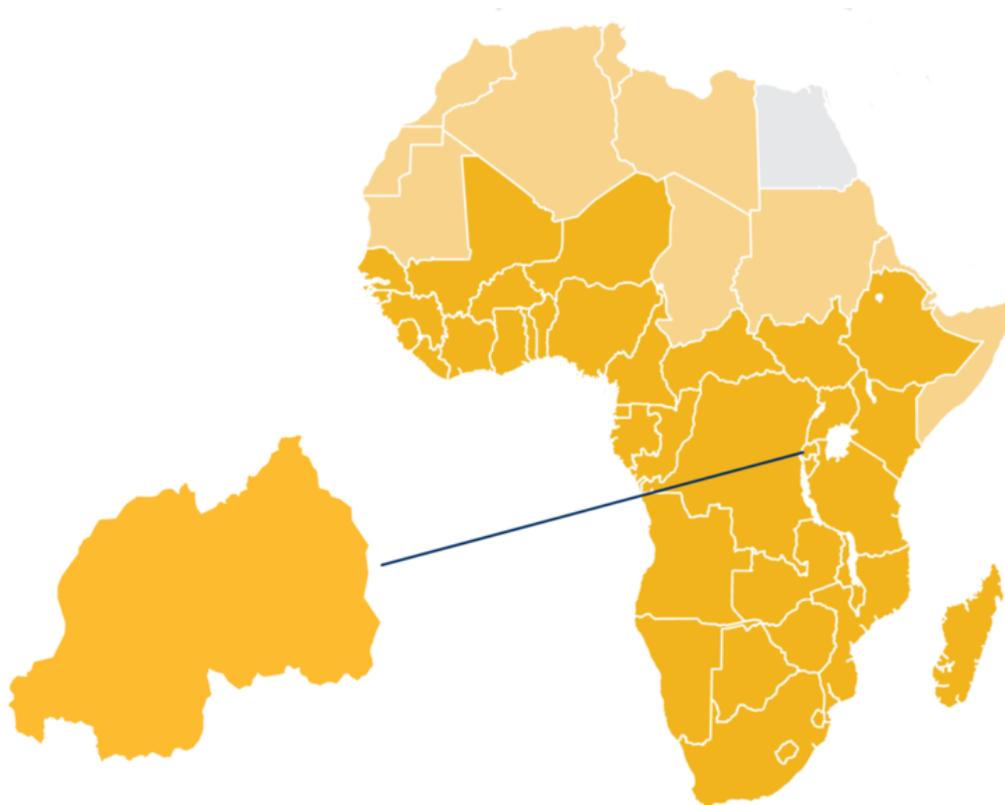


NMI Central

NAZARENE MISSIONS INTERNATIONAL

29 June 2022

Africa Region



Rwanda

The Church of the Nazarene started in Rwanda in 1993. Rwanda has always been a scenic country with its seven massive volcanoes, its grassy plains, and its terraced mountains with banana plants, fields of sweet potatoes, and coffee and tea plantations. The population is approximately 12.95 million. There are three tribes that make up the population of the country, Hutu (85%), Tutsi (14%), and Twa (1%).



12,759 Members



53 Fully Organized Churches and 47 Not Yet Fully Organized Churches



57 District Licensed and 28 Ordained Ministers

PRAYER



- Pray for the completion of the Rwanda Central District building as they work to upgrade the district center to meet government regulations.
- Pray for the Rwanda Southwest District as leaders try to buy land and build their district center.
- Pray for God to continue comforting those who have lost their loved one to COVID-19



PRAISE

- We praise God for the church members who are making disciples who also make disciples.
- We praise God for the churches that have been able to meet the government regulations following the pandemic and once again have open doors and are gathering in person.
- We praise God for being able to gather in person for district assemblies on both districts.



Bananas and Pigs: Growing Hope in Rwanda



It turns out that a banana plantation is a great place to raise a pig.

The 18-month wait between pulling out old banana trees grown for beer and waiting for the new ones planted for nutrition and income to mature was difficult, but the women in a Rwandan community's self-help groups believed in the process and the expected outcomes.

The banana project in Rwanda provides jobs caring for the trees and a place for self-help groups to gather and receive agricultural training. With the money from the sales of the first edible bananas they harvested, the groups decided to buy and keep pigs. Nazarene Compassionate Ministries in Rwanda, which supports the program, bought their piglets to distribute.

Sifa was one of those who received one of the animals and loves to tell her story. She raised her little piglet, bred it, and soon had nine more tiny swine to sell. With her profits, she purchased the materials for a cement floor for her house, a luxury that not only improved her self-esteem but helps her and her family prevent the kinds of diseases that dirt floors can cause.

“All because of bananas and pigs, I am living in a house with concrete,” Sifa says. “With the money I had left over from selling my first litter, I built a nursery so I could raise more.” She is currently rearing seven piglets in a nursery shaded by her own tall banana trees. Her plans for the profits from this litter are firm. “After paying for health insurance, I will buy a dress and something else for the family.”

Already, there’s evidence that pigs and bananas are a winning combination. The manure, mixed with grass and other plant waste, is a good fertilizer and leads to bigger banana yields. Members sell their pigs, which may be eaten or bred to establish additional “piggeries.” Both elements move the community at large toward greater access to food and financial security. The revenue collected from the sale of pigs will be used to maintain the existing banana trees and buy more piglets, and so forth. Ultimately, the program is expected to become self-sustaining.

Could You Serve?

Is God calling you to serve on the Africa Region? Click [here](#) to learn more.



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