



# **The David Laodima Family**

*Comprehensive Update Fall 2016*

**Togo, West Africa**



*“... for necessity is laid upon me; yea, woe is unto me, if I preach not the gospel!” (I Corinthians 9: 16b)*



*Dear Pastor and Brethren,*

*We have been on the Mission Field over eleven (11) years now. In the course of this time we witnessed how the Lord saves sinners and turns them into saved servants.*

*This has been possible because of your unceasing prayerful, financial and material support. Thank you very much for being our partners and co-workers in this noble work. May this report be an encouragement and a blessing to you!*

*From our experience we concur with Hudson Taylor that: "There are three stages in every great work of God: first it is impossible, then it is difficult, then it is done"*



# Overview of The Togolese Republic



## Quick Facts:

<b>Size</b>	56,600 Square Kilometers
<b>Location</b>	West Africa
<b>Population</b>	Approximately 7.5 million (2015)
<b>Languages</b>	40 (Ewe, Kabye, Tem, Moba, Watchi, Akposso, Bassar, Adja, Dagomba, and many others)
<b>Official &amp; Business Language</b>	French
<b>Main Religions</b>	Animism (traditional religion or idol worship) – 50%, Islam – 25%, other religions – 25%
<b>Main Occupations</b>	Farming, craftsmanship, trading
<b>Main Towns</b>	Lome (Capital City), Kara, Sokode, Atakpame, Kpalime, Dapaong, Notse, Tsevie, Aneho
<b>Life Expectancy</b>	55 Years for men; 59 Years for Women
<b>Literacy Rate</b>	66% can read and write.



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## Our Family



Name and Date of Birth	Contact Info
David: 12/31/1967	00228 90 10 81 24 /
Justine: 11/09/1972	<a href="mailto:davidlaodima@hotmail.fr">davidlaodima@hotmail.fr</a>
Joash: 12/17/1998	
Lemuel: 03/12/2003	00228 90 02 20 33 /
Eliel: 05/15/2006	<a href="mailto:justlao@yahoo.fr">justlao@yahoo.fr</a>
Anniversary: 07/12/1997	

## Our Testimonies

### **David's Salvation Testimony:**

*Born in a pagan family, I used to worship Idols and ancestral spirits like my parents. At the age of about 20 (in 1985), I grew to a point of total dissatisfaction with my life. I was completely fed up with my lifestyle. I had no peace, no rest and no joy. There was emptiness in my life and I tried to fill it in many ways but in vain. I felt my life was a fiasco. Following the advice of a school mate who was a Christian, I began to read the New Testament. One particular night, as I was reading my New Testament, I came across Matt. 16: 26. "For what is man profited, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? Or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?" That night, I realized I was lost and as a result I was going to the hell if I were to die. That very night, I repented from my sins with tears, confessed them to the Lord and received Jesus Christ as my Lord and Savior.*

*That was a turning point in my life and the beginning of a new life in Christ. Day after day, the change became evident and noticeable to my parents and people around me. The Lord filled the void in my life and gave me the best reason to live. I joined a Baptist Church and was baptized.*

### **Justine's Salvation Testimony:**

*I was born into a Catholic family. My brothers and I were raised according to common moral standards. In 1983, my mom came to know Jesus Christ and we started going to a Bible Baptist Church with her. I liked Sunday School because of the Bible stories that were told. I thought I believed in God and that was enough. But one day while we were playing in a river, a cousin of mine was taken away and was found dead three days later. This made me sick and God began to speak to my heart. I wondered where my cousin had gone: Heaven or hell? I started seeking God's answer to my question: how can I know right on the earth where I was going to be after my death?*

*I found the answer to my question in a book entitled in French "Geneviève". As a result, I asked the Lord to come into my life and save me. I then trusted Him as my personal Savior and He saved me from hell. Since He came in my life I have peace and joy. He radically changed my life. My life has a meaning and a purpose now. The Word of God became delightful to me and through Emmaus Bible Correspondence Courses, my faith has been built up. Since then I have the assurance that my name is written in Heaven.*



## Our Mission Agency



Harvest Baptist Missions is a local-church based missionary sending agency ministry of Columbia Road Baptist Church. Founded in 1999, we exist primarily to serve missionaries and their sending churches in fulfilling our Lord's command to preach the gospel to every creature. It has always been our desire to assume as many of the administrative functions as practical for our missionaries laboring on the field, enabling to devote their full attention to fulfilling God's call on their lives. Since our beginning, HBM has provided all of our services as a ministry (free of charge) to those families that God has led us to partner with. While we remain small in size, the Lord has grown this ministry to a point where "the sun never sets" on the various missionary endeavors of Harvest Baptist Missions.



PureMen





# Our Approach

**We are planting sound (in doctrine) and solid (in establishment) independent fundamental Bible believing Baptist Churches**

- ☐ Church Planting
- ☐ Orphanage
- ☐ Bible Institute
- ☐ Micro-Finance / Job & Skill Training

## Our Missionary Team



**Full time missionaries and their wives**

# Our Missionary Team

*Our Mission Team includes full time workers and part time workers.*

*While we are serving together, each one of us is in charge of a specific area of the work or field. Our part time missionary team is made up with about ten (10) committed families willing to invest the available time into the Lord's great harvest. Our full time missionary team is made up with nine (9) men and their families.*



## Raphael Guegue and his Family

## Didier Koughblenou and his Family





# Our Missionary Team



**Kossi Kpognon  
and his Family**

**Kouma  
Tasmaré  
and his  
Family**



# Our Missionary Team



**Stéphane  
TOTO and his  
Family**

**Fidèle Hamelo  
and his Family**





# Our Missionary Team

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**Fofo Nouwossan  
and his Family**

**Charles DZAKA  
and his Family**



# Our Church Planting Work<sup>12</sup>

## 1. Savior Baptist Church, Vakpossito

Location: Suburb of Lome

July AVG Attendance: 135 Children  
248 Adults

Autonomy Date: 2017

Missionary in Charge: David Laodima





## Savior Baptist Church, Vakpossito



**The  
Beginning**

**Sunday  
Morning  
Services,  
2006**



**Baptism,  
January 2014**

# Savior Baptist Church, Vakpossito



**The  
Children**



**Girls & Ladies**



**Boys & Men**



# Our Church Planting Work<sup>15</sup>

## 2. Conqueror Baptist Church, Madjikpeto

Location: 10 Miles from downtown Lome

July AVG Attendance: 74 Children  
101 Adults

Autonomy Date: 2020

Missionary in Charge: Bro. Kossi Kpognon



# Conqueror Baptist Church, Madjikipeto



**Married  
Couples**

**Girls and  
Boys**



**Temple in  
Construction**



# Our Church Planting Work<sup>17</sup>

## 3. Good Shepherd Baptist Church, Yokoe

Location: Western Suburb of Lome

July AVG Attendance: 67 Children  
86 Adults

Autonomy Date: 2020

Missionary in Charge: Bro. Raphael Guegue



# Good Shepherd Baptist Church, Yokoe



**Sunday  
morning  
services,  
July 24, 2016**

**Girls and  
Ladies**



**Boys and Men**



# Our Church Planting Work<sup>19</sup>

## 4. Good News Baptist Church, Adetikope

Location: Western Suburb of Lome

July AVG Attendance: 67 Children  
86 Adults

Autonomy Date: 2020

Missionary in Charge: Bro. Didier Kougblenou



July 24, 2016 Sunday morning services

## Good News Baptist Church, Adetikope



**The Leadership Team**



**Children from the Church**



# Our Church Planting Work<sup>21</sup>

## 5. Faith Baptist Temple, Notse

Location: 75 miles north of Lome

July AVG Attendance: 68 Children  
68 Adults

Autonomy Date: 2020

Missionary in Charge: Bro. Kouma TASMARE



**Place of worship,  
2013**

**Place of worship,  
Present**



## Faith Baptist Temple, Notse



**Recent  
Wedding  
Service**

**Children**



**Boys and Men**



# Our Church Planting Work<sup>23</sup>

## 6. Redeemer Baptist Church, Davie

Location: 25 miles north of Lome

July AVG Attendance: 42 Children  
36 Adults

Autonomy Date: 2025

Missionary in Charge: Bro. Fofo NOUWOSSAN and  
the Missionary Team



**Inaugural Service, Sunday, October 19, 2014**

## Redeemer Baptist Church, Davie



**Sunday  
Morning  
Service**

**Justine teaching  
the children  
during inaugural  
service in 2014**



**New converts  
baptized,  
February 2016**



# Our Church Planting Work

**Mission Churches** – We are currently in the process of planting three new churches in the Northern part of the country.

## **Word of Life Baptist Church, Lassa**

Currently, these new converts meet on Sunday morning in a small room provided by one of the attendees of the church. We have purchased two plots of land for the future church building. We are praying for \$7000 in order to construct a church building. We are also praying for the missionary who will be in charge of this work.



## **Way of Heaven Baptist Church, Ketao**

The brethren here currently meet on Sunday morning in a school room. The average attendance is 9 adults and 8 children. We are praying for about \$5000 to purchase a piece of land for the future church. We are also praying for the missionary family we will send to take care of this work.



## **Hope Baptist Church, Dapaong**

Located in the upper north at 450 miles from Lome. After two days of film projection, Bro. David, Raphael, Fofu, and Emmanuel are meeting the new converts under a mango tree. Currently, they meet on Friday in the house of one of the attendees. We are praying for \$5000 to achieve a church building construction program.



# Our Orphanage: Redeemer House

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The Redeemer House has been in operation since September of 2015. It currently houses two girls and nine boys, ages 5 to 13 years old. Justine is in charge of this ministry. She is assisted by a lady and a gentleman serving full time. We expect more children to be added in the near future.



The present dormitory has the capacity to house 30 girls and 30 boys.



This building is the kitchen complex



The Redeemer House kids, under the supervision of Justine and Claire, sing at Savior BC on Sunday, July 17, 2016



# Our Orphanage: Redeemer House

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The Redeemer House kids at the Laodimas on Sunday July 17, 2016



The Redeemer House kids with David and Justine, October 2016



# Our Bible Institute

Our Bible Institute, *Faculte Baptist de Theologie*, has as its purpose to give an adequate and effective training of men called to the ministry. We offer courses up to the Bachelor of Theology level.

We teach the following courses in our institute: *Homiletics I, Hermeneutics I, Hermeneutics II, Canon of the Bible, Epistles of John I, Epistles of John II, Ephesians, Bible Manners & Customs, James I, James II, James III, the Tabernacle, Old Testament Survey, Angels & Demons, I Peter, New Testament Survey, Dispensational Truth I, Dispensational Truth II, Spiritual Gifts, Colossians, Christians Counseling, Habakkuk, Hebrews I, Hebrews II, Sermon Delivery, Judges, Revival, Leviticus, the Blood, I Thessalonians, Attributes of God, I Timothy, Philippians, Bible Doctrines I, Bible Doctrines II, Acts I, Acts II, Genesis, Revelation I, Revelation II, Revelation III, Personal Evangelism, Daniel, Ecclesiastics, Marriage & Divorce, Romans I, Romans II, Cults, Prayer, Galatians, Pastoral Church Administration, II Timothy, Second Coming, Greek, Introduction to the Law, World Religion...*



David teaching a morning class



David and his fellow teachers on graduation day



Graduation ceremony on 12/20/14

# Our Micro-Finance / Job & Skill Training<sup>29</sup>

The sad truth is that many brethren in our mission churches have had a very difficult time providing for their families. Many of them don't have jobs because they are illiterate. Some of them, though qualified for employment, are jobless because of their faith in Christ. Many are often told to join a cult if they want to get a job. On top of that, the government offers no assistance to those who find themselves in jobless situations.

The Bible says, "Only they would that we should remember the poor; the same which I also was forward to do" (Gal. 2:10)

We believe the best way to remember the jobless is to help them have skill training so they can find a job or to start a small business. It takes \$300 - \$1000 to finance a "Micro-project." Presently, we have many on our waiting list.

Prayerfully, we would like you to consider helping our Micro-Finance Ministry.



Elizabeth making soap for sale



Beauty's wholesale and retail store



A moto-taxi for Philippe



Junior's workshop



# Our Future Ministry

Under the Lord's direction and guidance, we desire to pursue the following additional ministries here in Togo:

- ☐ Christian School
- ☐ Camp for Youth, Married Couples, and Ladies
- ☐ Vacation Bible School
- ☐ Prayer Camp
- ☐ Additional church planting

Please pray with us as we endeavor to develop these ministries for the Lord's glory!



*"...go ye into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature."*

*Mark 16:15*

## A Word from our Missions Director

November 2016

Dear Pastor,

It is with great pleasure that I am writing you this letter of recommendation for the David Laodima family, missionaries to Togo, West Africa.

I have known Bro. David for more than fifteen years. I have visited with him on the field and have seen first-hand the work that the Lord has led him to devote his life to. I came away both humbled and excited to see how this man of God was being used to advance the cause of Christ in Togo. Without a doubt, Bro. David and Justine are making a huge difference in this small African country. In spite of severe spiritual warfare, they continue forward carrying the Light of Jesus Christ. While speaking in churches, I have said on numerous occasions that there is no better investment in the Great Commission than the Laodima family. I stand by that statement and give them my whole-hearted recommendation.

As I have grown to know and love this man, I have been most impressed by his deep faith. He is a man that has learned to walk with God and depend on him daily for His provision. I have watched the Lord answer many very specific prayers over the years and can clearly see that God's hand is on him. Both he and his wife have powerful testimonies and are excellent soul-winners. God has given him a vision for reaching the people of his country and he is getting the job done!

If you have been supporting this fine family, I sincerely thank you for your investment in them. I know you are not disappointed. If you are considering supporting the Laodimas, I pray that the Lord will use your church to further their ministry efforts in Togo. Should you have any questions or concerns, I would be happy to discuss them with you. I can be reached at 440/777-7539, ext. 222.

Steve Williams, PhD., DMin.  
Director, Harvest Baptist Missions



Togo, 2011

## A Word from the HBM President

November 2016

Dear Pastor,

I recently talked with a pastor in North Carolina that was having to make some difficult decisions as the church he was in had experienced a major split and had lost 60% of its members. This meant that giving and Faith Promise giving was affected. He shared the difficult task of having to drop the support of some missionaries. His question was, "Convince me why I should not drop David Laodima."

Well, that was very easy. I told him that, if I had to drop all of our missionaries (which I believe are a tremendous group of servants), David would be the one I would *not* drop. I highly recommend this man who is a go-getter and one who definitely has a heart to reach the field that God has called him to.

I have preached in his churches twice, and the work that God is doing through him is phenomenal. Please consider supporting this family.



Plaque presented to the  
Laodima family during the  
2013 furlough



Pastor Alan C. Jenkins

**Just one more family...  
Just one more teenager...  
Just one more man or  
woman...**

**Who will Surrender  
To God's Call  
To take the Glorious Gospel  
To a Lost and Dying World!**

**Will You Be the One?**

**"Then saith he unto his disciples, The harvest truly is plenteous, but the labourers are few; Pray ye therefore the Lord of the Harvest, that he will send forth labourers into his harvest."**

**Matthew 9:37,38**

**HARVEST BAPTIST MISSIONS**  
A Ministry of Columbia Road Baptist Church