

# MAZABUKA COMMUNITY CHURCH





# WELCOME



Do you want to become part of this exciting adventure with us? If so, it means that you set your heart upon a journey as described in Hebrews 12:1-3. As you run this race, don't do so alone - but let us run the race of faith together! We would love you to grow with us as a family team as we passionately seek to live in the purpose God has called us to. Philippians 2:1-5

Our walk with Christ is a journey which draws us daily into reflecting more and more of His character and nature. We understand that we are all a work in progress. Jesus said that He would build His church and we are eternally grateful to Him for taking the responsibility for building the church upon Himself. We also understand that He has called us to co-partner and co-labour with Him in love, to introduce and establish His Kingdom. John 13:34-35

We are a local church which endeavours to conform to the New Testament pattern for church life as best as we understand it. Scripture teaches that God has made provision for autonomous local churches led by an eldership team. Mazabuka Community Church also chooses to relate to an apostolic team. Acts 11:20-30, Acts 14:21-23, Acts 16:4-5, Acts 20:16-31, Titus 1:5

# MISSION

A family of believers who host the presence of the Lord so that we are equipped, filled and overflowing, in order to reach our community and beyond for Christ.

# VISION

Our vision is to become a biblical community of people who obey the Great Commandment and who live the Great Commission.

## **The Great Commandment:**

Mark 12:29 "The most important one," answered Jesus, "is this: 'Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God, the Lord is one. Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength'."

John 13:34-35 "A new commandment I give you. Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another."

## **The Great Commission:**

Matthew 28:19-20 "Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely, I will be with you always, to the very end of the age."

# WHAT WE BELIEVE

1. We believe in the entire Old and New Testaments: all scriptures are inspired by God.
2. We believe in one God who consists of three persons: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
3. We believe that Jesus was born of the virgin Mary. He is true God and true Man.
4. We believe that God created male and female in His own image. Due to the fall of man in Adam, every person has sinned; the penalty for this is spiritual and physical death.
5. We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ died for our sins. He took the punishment we deserve upon Himself.
6. We believe that all who repent of their sin, believe in Jesus and receive Him into their lives by faith are born again of the Holy Spirit. They are washed clean by the blood of Jesus and become children of God.
7. We believe that Jesus rose from the dead, ascended into heaven and will return in person to judge the living and the dead.
8. We believe in the baptism of the Holy Spirit who gives believers power to serve Jesus and to use His gifts. These gifts of the Spirit need to be accompanied by the fruit of a changing Christ-like lifestyle.

9. We believe that God gives spiritual gifts to every believer which are to be used to serve others and equip His people in order that the body of Christ may be built up.

10. We believe in the resurrection of both the righteous and the unrighteous. Those who do not become children of God will be eternally punished. Those who do become children of God will be eternally blessed.

11. We believe that the one true church consists of all those people, from whatever denomination, who have been truly saved by Jesus Christ and have been reborn by the Holy Spirit.

12. We believe that Jesus Christ gave two ordinances to be observed to remember Him and what He did for us: baptism and communion. We believe in baptism in water through full immersion.

13. We believe that as God healed in Biblical times, so He heals physically, mentally and spiritually today. He has not changed.

14. We believe that without holiness no one can see the Lord. Once we become a Christian the Holy Spirit begins to change our lives so that we become more and more like Jesus. This process takes time and we must obey Him as He works in us to be witnesses for Him to the end of the age.







# CORE PRINCIPLES & VALUES

In light of what we believe we are committed to the following core principles and values:

- 1) The church must be Word based. 2 Timothy 3:16-17
- 2) The church as His people must be empowered and led by the Holy Spirit. Acts 1:8, Acts 13:1-4, Acts 15:22-29, Romans 8:1-17
- 3) The church must be a praying church. Philippians 4:6-7, 1 Thessalonians 5:17
- 4) That Jesus gave apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors and teachers to equip his people for works of service so that the body of Christ may be built up. 1 Corinthians 12:28, Ephesians 4:11-12
- 5) A local church has biblical leadership. Ephesians 2:20 teaches that the church is built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets with Jesus as the chief cornerstone.
  - Church leaders, consisting of elders and deacons, are appointed by the Holy Spirit and recognised by man. Acts 6:2-7, Acts 13:2-3
  - We believe that elders are men and that deacons are either men or women. In the local-church family, the elders must set the example in terms of conduct and integrity, and shepherd in terms of doctrine, discipline and direction. 1 Timothy 2:12, 1 Timothy 3:1-13, 1 Timothy 5:17, Titus 1:5-9, Hebrews 13:17, 1 Peter 5:1-3

6) Each individual shares the responsibility of ministering to the other members of the church.

- Every person has a God-given function/ministry which is essential to the well-being of the Body as a whole. Romans 12, 1 Corinthians 12
- Believers should grow towards the image of Christ individually and as a body of believers. Ephesians 4:11-12

7) The church must reach out to the lost and to the poor. Matthew 25:37-40, Matthew 28:19-20, Mark 16:15-18

8) The church should be a people who exhort one another to conduct themselves in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ. Suffering is part of what it means to pick up our cross and follow Jesus. Matthew 10:38, Philippians 1:27-29, Colossians 1:9-12

9) We have a strong commitment to children's ministry, believing that children need to develop a personal relationship with their Saviour, Jesus Christ, and grow their faith in God. Deut 6:5-7, Luke 18:16

10) We should all nurture and establish Godly marriages and families.

- Strong healthy marriages are honouring to God and display His purpose for men and women, like Christ and His Church (the bride). Ephesians 5:22-29



- Parents are called to raise children who are passionate about God. Proverbs 22:6
- Marriage is a covenantal, life-long, robust commitment which reflects Christ's relationship with us. Mark 10:7-9

11) Our whole lives should be as worship to the Lord. Romans 12:1 This can be seen in worship as homage or grateful submission to God, Revelation 5:8-14; worship is also reverence or respect for God, Hebrews 12:28-29; worship can be expressed as service to others. Matthew 25:40, Hebrews 13:15-16. Congregational worship is a particular expression of the worship described in the new covenant.

12) Our primary motivation in giving should be love, worship and obedience. If we have a right heart attitude and a pure motivation, then our giving blesses God. God loves a cheerful giver. We believe that it is biblical and Godly that family members give regularly to God through the local church as a faithful expression of their worship. 1 Corinthians 9:13-14, 1 Corinthians 13:3, 2 Corinthians 8:2-4, 2 Corinthians 9:7-13, 1 Timothy 5:17-18, 1 Timothy 6:17-19

13) If a believer in Christ has not yet been baptized, we would encourage that person to be baptized in obedience to His Word. Acts 2:38

# FAMILY MATTERS

Membership is functional rather than positional. Family members are Christians who are fully involved in the life of the church and who are determined to live as disciples of Jesus in unity with one another. All who come to fellowship and worship here are welcomed. They are encouraged to seek Jesus as their Lord and Saviour.

Family members participate and are committed to the life of the church. They live out a heart commitment in unity with the church's values. They participate in close knit, heart-felt, authentic relationships with one another and with the Lord.

When Jesus came, He ushered in the Kingdom of God, an alternative lifestyle available to the church, the "called out" people of God. The two passages of Scripture in 2 Timothy 3:1-5 and Acts 2:42-47 depict two very different lifestyles, a worldly lifestyle and a Godly lifestyle.

The greatest proof that Jesus is risen from the dead, is not powerful preaching but rather the emergence, in the midst of a selfish society, of a group of people who honour one another, promote one another, serve one another, forgive one another and love one another. Jesus said, "A new commandment I give you. Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another." (John 13:34-35)

# JOIN A HOME GROUP

We have 10 home groups meeting each week across the Mazabuka District, in the evenings or mornings.

There are mens, ladies and mixed groups meeting at Nakambala, Tanderra, Upper Kaleya, Magoye & Musikili.

If you are interested in joining a group, do get in touch to get connected with your nearest group.





# GET IN TOUCH



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Location

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