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North Texas Assemblies of God Church, Spiritwind and Judea Harvest

Planting 500 TENT and SNAP Churches in Zimbabwe in Partnership with NTAG and the AG Church of Zimbabwe.

Executive Summary

Judea Harvest, a ministry dedicated to church planting and development across Africa, aims to establish 500 new TENT and SNAP churches in Zimbabwe over the next five years, in collaboration with the NTAG network of churches. This initiative will address the overwhelming need for accessible worship spaces in rural and underserved areas of Zimbabwe, leveraging affordable tent structures and SNAP church buildings to rapidly expand the reach of the Gospel. The partnership with NTAG and Spiritwind will provide financial support, leadership training, and strategic oversight to ensure sustainable growth and community transformation. The estimated budget is \$3 million, with funding sourced through grants, donations, and contributions by local AG churches in North Texas. The plan is that a church in North Texas sponsor a tent or Snap church plant each. The project aligns with Judea Harvest's mission to bring Gospel transformation and hope in Africa and with NTAG's desire to Execute the Great Commission world-wide through church planting.

Vision and Mission

Vision

To establish 500 vibrant, self-sustaining TENT and SNAP churches in Zimbabwe by 2030, fostering spiritual growth, community development, and Gospel outreach in rural and unreached areas, through Judea Harvest's tried and tested holistic ministry strategy.

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Mission

To partner with the NTAG and Spiritwind to provide affordable worship spaces, train local leaders, and empower communities through the establishment of tent and SNAP churches, ensuring accessibility to the Gospel and sustainable ministry growth, and thus completing the Great Commission in Zimbabwe.

Objectives

1. Plant 500 Churches: Establish 300 tent churches at the cost of \$3,500 each and 200 SNAP churches at \$10,000 each across Zimbabwe within five years.
2. Leadership Development: Train and equip 500 local pastors and 1,000 lay leaders to lead these new congregations.
3. Community Impact: Facilitate community development through church-led initiatives, such as early child education, health, and economic empowerment programs.
4. Sustainability: Develop a self-sustaining model through local Zimbabwean church contributions.
5. Partnership Synergy: Leverage Judea Harvest and AG North Texas's expertise in church planting, coaching, and funding to ensure project success.

Background and Rationale

Zimbabwe faces significant challenges in providing adequate worship spaces, particularly in rural areas where resources are scarce. Judea Harvest has a proven track record of planting nearly 37,000 churches across 40 African countries, including 205 tent churches in the last year alone, and 4600 tent churches to date. The NTAG churches has successfully opened 183 (???) churches in the past decade, demonstrating expertise in church planting and leadership development. The partnership combines Judea Harvest's African network and affordable church-building solutions with NTAG's strategic resources, making this initiative feasible and impactful. Tent churches provide an immediate, cost-effective solution for congregations, while SNAP churches offer durable, low-cost permanent structures. This dual approach addresses both urgent and long-term needs in Zimbabwe's rural communities, where poverty and lack of infrastructure hinder traditional church construction.

Strategies

1 Church Planting Approach

- Tent Churches (300): Deploy durable tents to serve as temporary worship spaces in rural areas, accommodating 100–150 people each. Tents are a precursor to permanent SNAP churches, allowing immediate ministry startup.
- SNAP Churches (200): Construct simple, affordable church buildings using locally sourced materials and designs optimized for rapid assembly. These structures will replace tents as ministries grow and stabilize.
- Geographic Focus: Prioritize rural and unreached areas in Zimbabwe's 10 provinces, targeting communities with limited access to worship facilities. Collaborate with local Assemblies of God networks to identify high-need areas.

2 Partnership with AG Church of North Texas

- Financial Support: AG North Texas will provide seed funding and connect Judea Harvest with funding partners, which offers grants to support church planters.
- Training and Coaching: Utilize NTAG's partnership with Judea Harvest and Spiritwind to provide coaching for pastors and lay leaders, ensuring effective ministry and church governance.

- Judea Harvest will also invite churches to visit Africa to engage with the church plant recipients and enjoy a www.missionsafari.org
- Oversight and Accountability: Establish a joint oversight committee with representatives from Judea Harvest and AG North Texas to monitor progress, ensure accountability, and align with Assemblies of God doctrines.

3 Leadership Development

- Training Programs: Implement the tried and tested John Journey curriculum for pastors and lay leaders, focusing on theology, church management, and community outreach. Training will be delivered through regional workshops and online platforms, leveraging AG North Texas's expertise.
- Mentorship: Pair new church planters with experienced AG pastors in North Texas for ongoing mentorship, ensuring long-term success.
- Local Empowerment: Recruit and train local leaders to lead churches, fostering ownership and cultural relevance.

4 Funding Model

- Donor Engagement: Partner with NTAG to secure donations from U.S.-based churches, individuals, and mission organizations.
- Matching Grants: Seek matching grants, similar to Judea Harvest's partnership with ICM, to double the impact of funds raised.
- Local Contributions: Encourage new churches to contribute tithes and offerings to sustain operations and fund future plants.

5 Community Development

- Holistic Ministry: Equip churches to address local needs, such as clean water, education, and microfinance, drawing inspiration from initiatives of Judea Harvest in Africa since 1999.
- Outreach Programs: Develop youth and women's ministries, Bible study groups, and community service projects to enhance church impact.

Implementation Plan

Year 1 (2025–2026): Foundation and Pilot

- Q2–Q4 2025:
- Form a joint task force with Judea Harvest and AG North Texas.
- Conduct a needs assessment in Zimbabwe to identify target communities.
- Secure initial funding (\$500,000) through grants and donations.
- Train 100 pastors and 200 lay leaders in partnership with AG Zimbabwe.
- Plant 50 tent churches in five provinces.
- Begin construction of 20 SNAP churches in stable congregations.
- Establish monitoring and evaluation systems.

Year 2–3 (2026–2028): Scaling Up

- Start the mission visitation trips to Africa dedicating churches, and enjoying a www.missionsafari.org
- Plant 100 tent churches and 50 SNAP churches annually.
- Expand training to 200 additional pastors and 400 lay leaders.
- Secure \$1 million in funding through recoverable grants and matching grants.
- Launch community development programs in 50% of new churches.

Year 4–5 (2028–2030): Consolidation and Sustainability

- Complete planting of remaining 150 tent churches and 80 SNAP churches.
- Train final cohort of 200 pastors and 400 lay leaders.
- Transition 50% of tent churches to SNAP churches.
- Ensure all churches are self-sustaining through local contributions and recoverable grant repayments.
- Evaluate impact and plan for future expansion.

Budget

Funding Sources

- NTAG: \$2,000,000 (seed funding from North Texas Churches tent or Snap).
- Matching Grants: \$500,000 (e.g., ICM and other partners and Foundations).
- Local Zimbabwe Contributions: \$250,000 (tithes and offerings).
- Other RSA Donors: \$250,000 (RSA churches and individuals).

Monitoring and Evaluation

- Key Performance Indicators (KPIs):
- Number of churches planted (target: 500).
- Number of leaders trained (target: 1,500).
- Percentage of churches transitioning from tents to SNAP structures (target: 50%).
- Community impact (e.g., number of people served through outreach programs).
- Reporting: Quarterly reports to stakeholders, including AG North Texas, donors, and local church leaders.
- Evaluation: Annual assessments to measure spiritual, social, and financial sustainability, with adjustments to strategies as needed.

Partnership Roles and Responsibilities

Judea Harvest

- Lead church planting operations in Zimbabwe.
- Provide expertise in tent and SNAP church deployment.
- Manage local logistics and community engagement.
- Coordinate with Zimbabwean AG churches for site selection and leadership recruitment.

NTAG and Spiritwind

- Provide financial support and connect Judea Harvest with funding partner churches.
- Offer training and coaching through Church Life Resources.
- Ensure doctrinal alignment and provide oversight through a joint committee.
- Facilitate connections with U.S.-based donors and mission organizations.

Expected Outcomes

- **Spiritual Impact:** 500 new churches serving an estimated 50,000–75,000 congregants, spreading the Gospel in unreached areas.
- **Community Transformation:** Improved access to early child education, health, and economic opportunities through church-led initiatives.
- **Sustainability:** A self-sustaining network of churches with trained leaders and recoverable grant repayments.
- **Partnership Model:** A replicable model for future collaborations between Judea Harvest and global AG networks.

Conclusion

This ministry plan outlines a strategic, collaborative approach to plant 500 tent and SNAP churches in Zimbabwe, leveraging Judea Harvest's expertise in African church planting and AG Church of North Texas's resources in funding, training, and oversight. By combining affordable infrastructure, robust leadership development, and community-focused ministry, this initiative will transform lives and communities across Zimbabwe, fulfilling the Great Commission with lasting impact.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Dr. Louis Blom', with a stylized, cursive script.

Dr Louis Blom
President