



# THE CUMORAH FOUNDATION

Resources on Church Growth and Missionary Work for  
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints

February 2021

## WELCOME!

The purpose of this newsletter is to provide monthly updates on the growth of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and missionary news stories and present a synopsis of recently completed educational resources and research. We are a privately funded initiative that provides resources online without cost. The Cumorah Foundation is not authorized or approved by The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints or any other group.

## CHURCH GROWTH DEVELOPMENTS

### New Stakes

(provided with chronological ranking and date of creation)

2. Herriman Utah Anthem - January 31st, 2021
3. Salem Utah Woodland Hills - January 31st, 2021
4. Lake Point Utah - February 7th, 2021

### New Districts

*None reported in February 2021*

### Discontinued Stakes and Districts

1. Burgos Philippines District
2. Jipijapa Ecuador District

### Locations Recently Reached by the Church

(city population rank, most recent population estimate)  
precise population data from [www.citypopulation.de](http://www.citypopulation.de)

- Penyi, Ghana (N/A, N/A)
- Monticello, Iowa (100<sup>th</sup>, 3,796)
- Pleebo, Liberia (9<sup>th</sup>, 23,464)
- Owings Mills, Maryland (35<sup>th</sup>, 30,622)
- Arganda del Rey, Spain
- LaFayette, Georgia (123<sup>rd</sup>, 7,121)
- Newport, Tennessee (80<sup>th</sup>, 6,945)

### Locations Recently Closed by the Church

*Cities where the only ward or branch was closed; some of these cities may continue to have a dependent unit and/or missionaries assigned.*

(city population rank, most recent population estimate)  
data from [www.citypopulation.de](http://www.citypopulation.de)

- Annapolis Royal, Nova Scotia, Canada (N/A, 537)

### Growth in Remote Maryland County, Liberia

The Liberia Monrovia Mission recently conducted a visit to Maryland County, Liberia where the Church operates two member groups in the cities of Harper and Pleebo. The mission reported that there are approximately 40 people who attend Church meetings in each of the two groups. Full-time missionaries have been assigned for approximately one week to further assess the readiness of the area to permanently assign full-time missionaries. The Church has operated the Harper Group since as early as 2017, and it is unclear when the Pleebo Group was officially organized. The Church in Liberia has achieved significant national outreach expansion during the past decade from congregations operating in only three cities to congregations operating in 13 cities.

### New Branches in Several United States Cities

The Church has organized new branches in several cities in the United States during the first two months of 2021, including multiple cities where the Church did not previously operate a branch. Examples include Monticello, Iowa (served by a new branch that covers many small towns that holds services in Cedar Rapids), Owings Mill, Maryland; LaFayette, Georgia, and Newport, Tennessee. It is unclear whether this may be part of a larger initiative to create branches in cities where the nearest congregation or meetinghouse is far from the targeted location for missionary efforts and strengthening established membership. In recent years, most new branches organized in the United States have been specific congregations for specific languages or demographic groups.

# NEW/UPDATED RESOURCES

## REACHING THE NATIONS COUNTRY PROFILES

We continue to update the country profiles for our comprehensive work, *Reaching the Nations: International Church Growth Almanac*. The following country profiles were updated and posted on our website, [www.cumorah.com](http://www.cumorah.com), during February. We will continue to update additional country profiles in the coming months, with the goal to release the next edition of the almanac in 2022:

- [Congo, Republic of the](#)
- [Gabon](#)

