

MISSION TO SULAWESI

SUMMARY OF MISSION WORK IN 2007



The work in Sulawesi has progressed to four different mission points. They are in the city **Palopo** in South Sulawesi and to the villages of **Uelene**, **Meko** and **Sibayu** which will be the stepping stones to the major cities of Palu, the capital of Central Sulawesi and Poso. I have just returned from visiting three of these locations in South and Central Sulawesi.

Palopo—This city is becoming one of the central points of commerce for the northern half of South Sulawesi as there are no other major towns north of there for over four hundred kilometers. This is where we want to start a collection center for World Bible School Lessons and other outreaches to this northern area. As we develop the men and women as mission teams we will also go into the major cities of Ujung Pandang the capital of So. Sulawesi and Manado the capital of No. Sulawesi.



The team in Palopo consists of Brother Sakono, from Solo, Java and Semual and Mariatun his wife. Bro. Sakono teaches English using the bible which is quite a draw to those entering the work force. Mariatun just graduated last year and Semual graduated in 2003. Semual is from Sulawesi and met Mariatun while in school and they were married in 2006. I was blessed to be present at the baptism of our first convert in Palopo, Brother Santo. We are expecting this work to begin flourishing with this team in place.



Sibayu - Brother Wilanur and his new wife Yenny decided that they would be more effective working in the village of Sibayu. They already have numerous contacts there as this is where she is from. This will be a stepping stone to opening the church in the city of Palu, the capital of Central Sulawesi.

Meko - Brothers Yeheskiel and Bantu are shown in the picture as they lead the worship of the church in Meko, Cen. Sulawesi. Bro. Bantu works full-time in Meko and Bro. Yeheskiel works full-time in Uelene but they work together in reaching out to the areas in between. Meko is at the north end of a beautiful mountain lake and Uelene is 70 kilometers away at the other end of the lake. We were blessed to have three ladies respond to the invitation that day. One



mother, one teenager, and one grandmother. The congregation now has 21 baptized members with many others in area still studying. Two of the larger families were not present as they had to attend a funeral. This congregation has already taken the initiative to start building their own church building so they no longer have to worship in the local homes. They made a request last December of \$1,300 to

Mission Indonesia to help them with the construction. Our policy is to help village congregations with the materials but they have to do the construction of the building. As you can see the building is now well underway and should be finished by now. Buildings do have their purposes besides just having a place to worship. They give a permanence and identity to the congregation for others to see.



Uelene - After worshiping with the Meko congregation we traveled to visit the congregation in the village of Uelene. This is the home village of brother Yeheskiel. They had also made a request for help to purchase a plot of land with an existing building for \$400.00. After meeting with the congregation and hearing of their plans to renovate the existing building as a place of worship I was happy to agree to their request. They now have about ten worshipping on a regular basis.



We wish to thank the Cherokee Hills church of Christ for making this work possible with their generous support.