



Chinese International Missions, Inc.

03.01.2026

Recent developments of the Belo Horizonte First Chinese Baptist Church in Brazil (formerly Belo Horizonte Chinese Baptist Church)

~Rev Jorge Loo
CIM Coordinator in Brazil

Since March 2022, when Pastor Zheng Guoqing and I visited the Belo Horizonte Chinese Church from *São Paulo* during the COVID-19 pandemic, four years have passed in a flash. During these years, CIM has consistently supported the ministry of the Belo Church. Now, on December 1, 2025, the Church was officially registered with the government and renamed Belo Horizonte First Chinese Baptist Church (*Primeira Igreja Batista Chinesa Em Belo Horizonte* in Portuguese). In these four years, the church has experienced many personnel changes. Some families moved back to China or Taiwan, some moved to other cities in Brazil, and some passed away. Currently, the number of people attending services is approximately 25 to 30.

Currently, church members are divided into three groups based on age: adults, youth fellowship, and children's fellowship. Besides Sunday worship, church gatherings consist of weekday Bible studies to equip members. In this sharing session, I want to focus on the ministry of the youth fellowship. From 2022 to 2023, I visited Belo Church every three months on average to care for them. We equip members during the week with Bible studies, and during Sunday worship, we watch videos of known Chinese pastors from abroad. While this approach isn't ideal, it helps maintain fellowship among church members. I thank the Lord that throughout 2024, Rev. Yingcong Lin of *São Paulo* agreed to pastor Belo Church, and sister Claudia also agreed to lead the youth fellowship.

Looking back on the past two years, under sister Claudia's leadership, the ministry to the church's young people has faced numerous difficulties. For example, there was the language barrier, as Claudia didn't understand Chinese and the young people weren't fluent in Portuguese, leading to communication challenges. Furthermore, these young people had never read the Bible and had virtually no biblical knowledge. Adding to this, Claudia's own work was incredibly demanding, so she had to carve out time to lead the young people. All of this presented Claudia with a tremendous challenge. Even so, when she prayed to God for His will, she understood that it was God's will for her to lead these young people. Therefore, she adopted the mindset that the Apostle Paul taught Timothy, "*The goal of this command is love, which comes from a pure heart and a good conscience and a As the heavens are higher than the earth sincere faith.*"—1 Timothy 1:5.

Leading this group of young people, although she encountered numerous difficulties in her ministry, and even considered giving up, she thanked the Lord that through everyone's intercessory prayers and her own prayers before the Lord, she was certain that this ministry was God's will and pleased Him. She also believed that God would give her the strength she needed, so she persevered. Every Friday evening, she held Bible study meetings with the young people. During this time, Rev. Lin also began teaching the youth to play the guitar and learn music theory. Sure enough, under Claudia's diligent and continuous guidance, the youth ministry bore fruit. Four young people—the three siblings *Xinyi Ji, Tianyang Ji, and Haotian Ji, and Mingliang Zhou*—finally accepted the Lord Jesus and were baptized. In December 2024, a total of five young people were baptized. Later, Rev. Lin left the Church and returned to his *São Paulo* 's Church. Then, in 2025, God sent preacher Xiuhe Yau from *São Paulo* to shepherd the Belo Church. It was initially thought that preacher Yau would stay and continue shepherding the church in 2026. However, "*As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.*" (Isaiah 55:9). After a year of ministry at the Church, preacher Yau left this January to return to *São Paulo*.

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Since last year, God has sent two more Brazilian sisters to assist sister Claudia's youth ministry, *Daniela* and *Rejane*. This group of young people has now begun participating in Sunday worship services, including praise song ministry and simple translation. Seeing their growth in knowing God, His word, and serving Him truly gives glory and praise to our God!

Let us continue to pray for the Belo Horizonte First Chinese Baptist Church, that it may soon grow into the stature of Christ. Amen!

PRAYER REQUESTS & THANKSGIVINGS

1. Thank the Lord for protecting Nicole's parents and ensuring their safe arrival in South Africa, during which they continuously experienced God's grace. Glory to God!
2. The children's English class is scheduled to start in March. Please pray that the Lord will lead more children of Pastor Alex's friends to participate, and that the teachers will be wiser and provide all the necessary resources.
3. Please pray that the Lord will guide the development of their ministry in Polokwane. The number of friends and brothers and sisters they need to visit is gradually increasing, and they will allocate more time there this year. Pray that the Lord will help them to wisely plan and utilize their ministry.
4. Pray for the ministry path ahead for minister Yau of Brazil.
5. Please continue to pray for peace in Ukraine. The invasion rages on and innocent lives are lost each day. Pray for House of Mercy as they take care of refugees, physically and spiritually. Pray for peace talks and for a ceasefire. Through it all, people in the Roma villages are still getting baptized and dedicating their lives to Jesus. The challenge for the churches is that many young men are fleeing the country.
6. Pray for the finances of CIM Ministries. The economic situation in Canada may become very unstable with the uncertainty of a tariff trade war with the U.S. resulting possibly with less donors. Pray for new donors and a healthy general fund to run our ministries.
7. After each immunotherapy cycle, Rev. Isaac Quan got more and more fatigued as a side effect. He gives thanks to those who pray for him, wrote him, phoned him, and prepared meals for him throughout this difficult time and he continues to cast all his anxiety on Him because He cares for him.
8. Please continue to pray for the recruiting effort underway to fill job vacancies in CIM for a Director of Ministry to oversee STM and daily operations, and an Executive Director successor. If you know of anyone who is interested and qualifies, please contact us.
9. Pray that God will move more brothers and sisters to join the ministry so God's kingdom would be more prosperous. Pray for God's abundant provision for all the financial needs of CIM.

NOTE

Please call 408-596-4567 to contact CIM for questions or comments. Thank you for your continual support.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Jan 2026

	<u>Income</u>	<u>Expense</u>	<u>Balance</u>
General	\$2,645	\$1,429	\$1,216
Missions	\$900	\$4,258	-\$3,358
Total	<u>\$3,545</u>	<u>\$5,687</u>	<u>-\$2,142</u>

To contribute to CIM ministries:

- 1) Make checks payable to "CIM" and mail to: P.O. Box 700185, San Jose, CA 95170-0185, USA
- 2) Donate online via credit card, go to: www.cimusa.org Click "Give" and follow directions. Thank you!



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