



ROOTED IN JESUS - FORT DAUPHIN

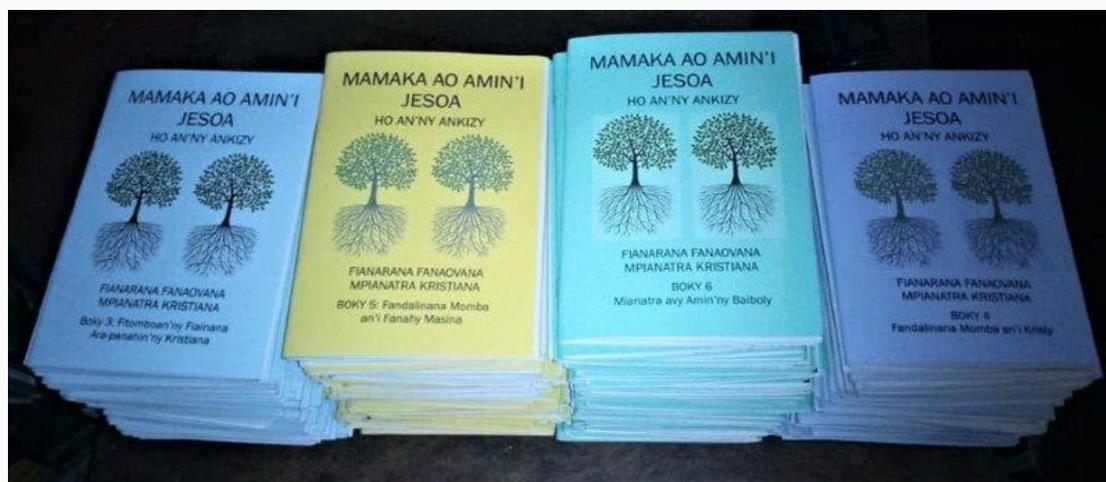
In April, Rev Dr Alison Morgan, the Director of *Rooted in Jesus* was able to have two zoom meetings with Revd Donn  Ratsimavo and some of the *Rooted in Jesus* group leaders in Fort Dauphin Parish.



Alison writes: "It was good to have Dean Donn 's son, Johary, with us to translate. Johary came to the *Rooted in Jesus* Junior conference in 2017 and was a huge asset there.

Dean Donné told us that they have now baptised 1900 new believers in Amboasary parish, following the huge response to the church's famine relief programme. Nine new churches have been planted, bringing the total number in the parish to 35. Next month they have set aside 3 days to train 35 new *Rooted in Jesus* group leaders, so that these new believers can begin to be disciplined. Many people have come to faith from a background of traditional religion, and some have burned their tools and regalia as a sign of their commitment to Christ. Dean Donné is also hoping to arrange for the *Rooted in Jesus* books, currently used in Malagasy, to be translated into Antandroy, the local language of the new believers.

At the same time, they will hold evaluation sessions for those who have completed the *Rooted in Jesus* programme, and award certificates to those who have completed books and are able to say the Bible memory verses. In Fort Dauphin, 35 children have now completed the whole course, and a further 115 children are currently involved.



Dean Donné's family has a print shop in Fort Dauphin and are able to print the *RinJ* books there. They have just fulfilled an order of 200 *RinJ* Junior books for the Diocese of Fianarantsoa, where Bishop Gilbert has just inaugurated a new parish as a result of the conversion and growth of new believers following the introduction of *RinJ* there by Ven Jean Flobert, the *RinJ* coordinator.

Johary tells us that in Fort Dauphin they also plan to print T shirts with the *RinJ* logo on for the group leaders; this will encourage them, he says.

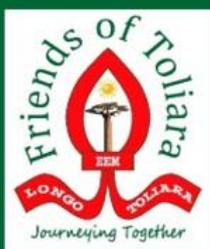
It was good too to hear from some of the group leaders. They say that the children love the games which are part of the *RinJ* Junior programme, and that they have adult group members who are benefiting from the course despite being unable to read and write – it has been one of the major aims of *RinJ* that literacy should not be needed by group members, only by those leading the groups. The emphasis on oral participation, practical illustrations and scripture memory means that it's actually counter-productive for group members to have books – nothing is needed, for participation in *Rooted in Jesus*, other than commitment to Christ and a desire to learn!



It's great to be one of the Friends of Toliara, and a privilege to be able to work together to help grow the kingdom of God in Madagascar."

PLEASE PRAY FOR . . .

- the new *RinJ* leaders,
- those who will join their groups to find out more about their new faith
- that a translator will be found to prepare books in the Antandroy language
- Dean Donn , and coordinator Deacon Florent, who will be training and supporting the new leaders;
- the children in the *RinJ* Junior groups in Fort Dauphin and their teachers
- Deacon Gaston who leads the 35 churches in Amboasary Parish



Our vision is of global friendships and partnerships with a flourishing Diocese of Toliara, fulfilling God's mission in Madagascar and around the world.