It's been a year since I updated the progress made on The House of Amen. Because of the pandemic, the price of material doubled, sometimes tripled. Jayson's and my monthly contributions didn't cover as much ground. Even the children's school that is run and operated by Mrs Funmilayo Adekola, Aremu's wife, was shut down for a few months. The school was and is a source of income for their family. The Nigerian government pretty much shut the country down for months because everyone was ordered to stay at home. In spite of all the challenges, Aremu and the workers of The House of Amen continued to make progress.



This is the market place where Aremu would pick up grains and food supplies to feed his family and community.



They divided the grain and put it in bags for the community to take home.





A motorcycle was used to carry the heavy bags of concrete into the House of Amen.







The outer walls continue to be built...







A view from above. The smaller house inside the walls is where the church services are being held now.















Here is how the iron (rebar) arrived. Three rods were soldered together to make one long pole which was then inserted in each column. The iron reinforced and strengthened the columns as the concrete was then poured into each of the columns.





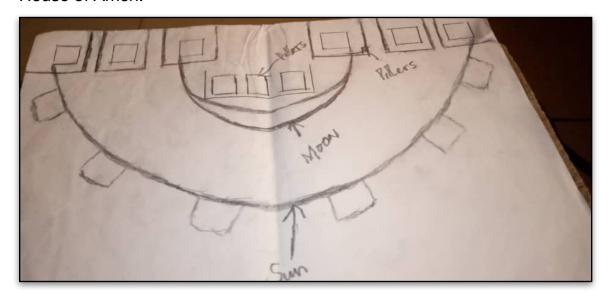


Bamboo was needed to build the scaffolding. A Taxi delivered what they needed.





Aremu drew this beautifully inspired picture to illustrate the entrance of the House of Amen.



The need for sand and concrete seemed to be endless as blocks continued to be made and walls needed to be joined together. Here you see the blocks in the place where the people gather together for church services.







A beautiful webwork of scaffolding supported the workers as the columns continued to rise into the sky.





Loaded down with bags of concrete and homemade bricks, the final columns pushed through the temporary House of Amen.





There were days when the community gathered to help build the House of Amen. Meals were cooked and women carried concrete on their heads.













Aremu is working on the Entrance of the House of Amen.



Wood was needed as a support system for the concrete they were pouring so they went out into the bush to get it!







More Iron... More Reinforcements







The man sitting on top of the wall is straddling a wooden trough where they pour concrete to finish making the wall as well as tie all sections together.









Spacers were placed inside the trough to insure strength.











Amazing Work

The columns rise from the temporary House of Amen. \bigwedge Hallelujah!









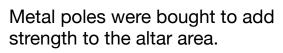
Glorious Scaffolding.

Dinner for everyone!



















A city of scaffolding.





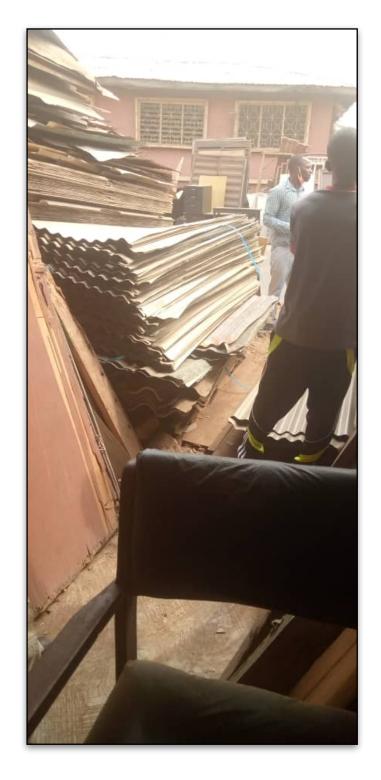
Weekly worship services continue. Rebar is laid into the troughs.







Used metal and roofing materials Aremu is hoping to purchase.





Hardwood arrives for the rafters.





Digging a pit for the toilet.







They nail the hardwoods together to create the length needed for the rafters.









Two huge ladders were built to keep the carpenters safe while they placed the hardwood rafters in place.















Making progress for the roof. So much progress has been made.



The sky was magically majestic for the Easter Vigil Sunset at The House of Amen ~ April 2021.

