



Church Planting in Mongolia



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2021 is the 30th year since the very first modern-era Christian church was established in Mongolia.

The Mongolian Evangelical Alliance's Research Department surveyed 84% of the evangelical churches in that country at the end of 2019. One purpose of the survey was to obtain information on church planting ministry activities in the country. Both qualitative and quantitative inquiries were conducted within the evangelical churches and among church planters who had been serving in the field for at least two years.

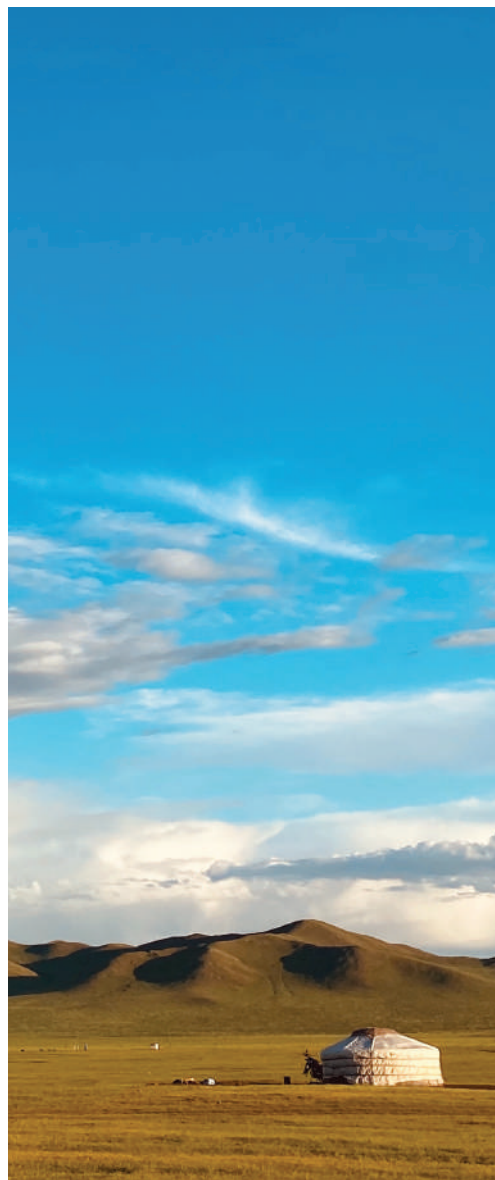
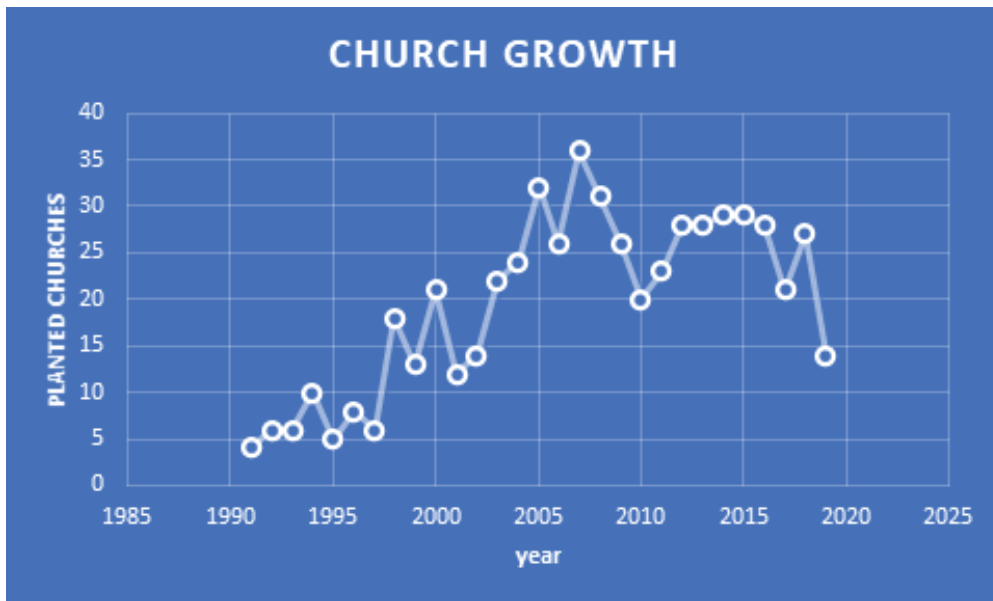


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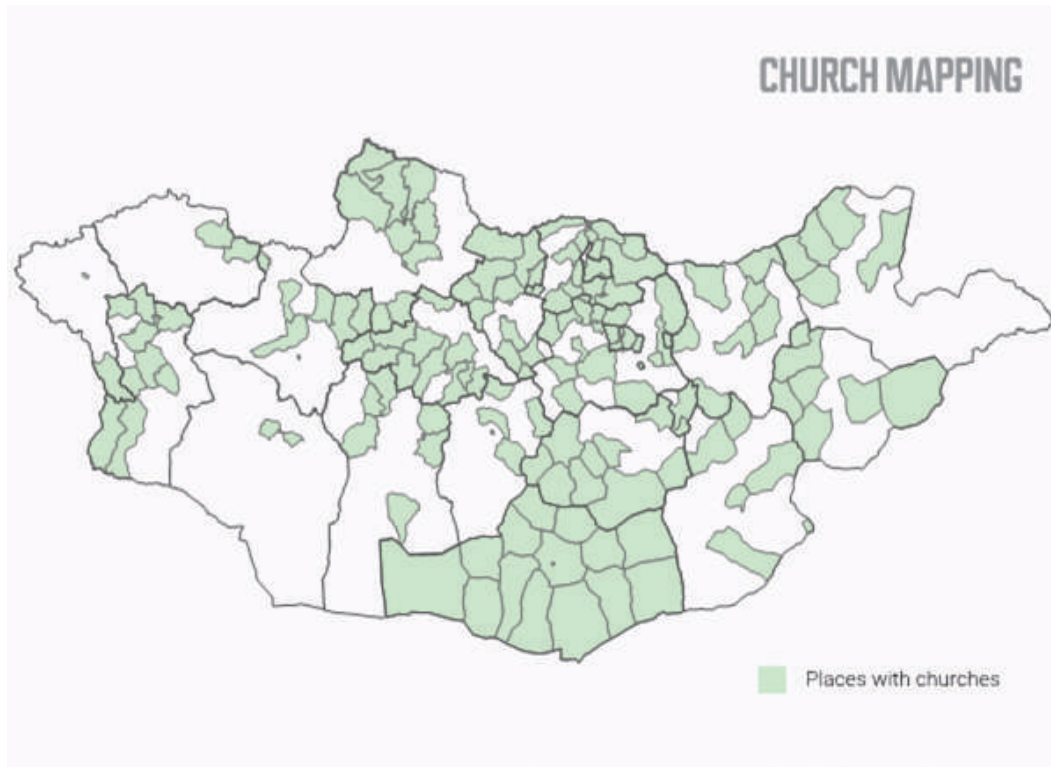


Mongolia's 21 provinces contain 330 counties, and the average population per county is about 3,000. Forty-six percent of the country's churches are located in the capital city of Ulaanbaatar (which is governed separately from the provinces), and the other 54% are spread across 158 of the counties. There was still no church whatsoever in 172 of the counties (52%). Some churches and mission organizations are planning to plant new churches in accordance with the "A Church in Every County" initiative, whereas other organizations prefer to support existing churches.

The survey found that 35% of churches (including those in Ulaanbaatar and elsewhere) had planted at least one church in the counties. The main challenge for those seeking to plant new churches is the lack of workers equipped to start a church.



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The survey also asked such questions as how churches train church planters, the requirements for people seeking to function as church planters, the challenges involved in planting a new church, and how existing congregations support church planters. Here are some of the key findings:

- **Most churches intentionally train their church planters, primarily through Bible schools or church-based training programs.**
- **Most churches require church planters to be spiritually mature and of godly character, as well as to exhibit a calling from God to church planting.**
- **Most churches support their church planters in prayer, by visiting them on the field, through regular communication, and financially.**

If we want to see a church established for every 1,500 people in Mongolia, then 386 churches need to be planted in the capital city of Ulaanbaatar and 814 more across the rest of the country, for a total of 1,200 new churches.

There is a great need for the church planting ministry in Mongolia to grow and develop. Churches should pay greater attention to areas where there are few or no churches and increase their church planting efforts in those areas. Moreover, churches need to intentionally prepare church planters and send them to locations where the needs are greatest. We need a clear church planting policy and strategy. Please pray for the church planting ministry in Mongolia. ■