

*"I sought the Lord and He answered me; He delivered me from all my fears." Psalm 34:4*

July-August 2020

## THE MINISTRY IN ODUWO, KENYA

On July 20, Julian wrote to say thank you for the support given. "Through your help, we are able to reach out to the most vulnerable in our community. One example is that of Mama Matete. Our team found her out in the scorching sun and had to carry her back to her house. She had crawled to a neighbor's house to ask for food but did not find anyone at home. As she was coming back, she did not have enough strength to enable her to reach her house. Thanks to God our team found her before the rains...and helped her get back to her house after which they gave her bread and milk."

Many members of Julian's church, including her family, have been suffering from malaria. She reported that the county doctors were on strike and the nearest hospital is in the next county 82 km away. They had run out of their malaria and diabetes medicines. Since they have not been able to return to work, they are finding it difficult to pay for their medicines.

The Kenyan government will now permit churches to reopen if they can fulfill a long list of requirements and pass a government inspection. Normally the church would hold a fundraiser to purchase supplies, but that is not allowed. Many people are asking for Bibles – even some who cannot read but who have grandchildren that will read to them.

East West InterKnit will continue to assist with funds for food, medicines, supplies to enable them to open the church, and for Bibles for those who cannot afford one.

Julian is grateful to God for a good harvest of beans (enough to last for a year), for keeping her girls from falling victim to the unwed pregnancies so prevalent in the community, and especially for those who have committed their lives to Christ during the lockdown.

## JEHOVAH SHAMMAH CHILDREN'S HOME AND MINISTRIES IN SOUTHEAST INDIA (JSCH)

The schools the home children normally attend are currently scheduled to reopen August 15, but that could be delayed. The children would usually have started the new term in early June. Online learning is not an option for the JSCH children so they will not resume learning until they can be in a classroom. Please pray that JSCH will find a safe way to resume instruction for the children.

David reported that the churches in the area are still closed but online services are available for those able to tune in. Some of their evangelists working in the more remote villages are conducting live church services while following government guidelines for social distancing. They are not receiving offerings because the people have no work, so they are having trouble feeding their families and paying electricity bills. East West InterKnit will continue to send help as needed.

David's wife Mary has just been released from the hospital following treatment for complications from radiation treatments. Pray that she will continue healing at home and not need to return to the hospital. David has stated that they have learned a lot during this pandemic. "We are humbling ourselves at the throne of grace and re-committing our lives to Him."

## BETHEL MISSION LED BY PASTOR FRANK

The opening of the churches in Pastor Frank's state lasted just three weeks. With corona cases on the rise, all places of worship have once again been ordered to close indefinitely. Some of their people cannot take advantage of online services but, on the other hand, they are reaching many people who would not ordinarily come to a church and this is yielding fruit.

The normal school year begins about the 1<sup>st</sup> of June and ends the 31<sup>st</sup> of March. The Bethel Mission children missed the final weeks of the last term and have not yet been given permission to return to school either to finish or to start the new school year. The schools will remain closed until the government deems it safe to reopen.

The Bethel Mission Church is continuing its charity work of providing food to all who come to the campus seeking help. They are also assisting some of their branch pastors. Most daily wage earners are not able to find jobs during the pandemic so are left without any income. The government and other charities try to help but they are not able to reach everyone.

Pastor Frank suggested that God is using the pandemic as a wakeup call reminding people that life is not guaranteed and can be taken at any time. It is time to turn from wicked ways and seek God.



## GOOD NEWS THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY, ACCRA GHANA

Last month funds were sent to enable the school to disinfect the campus, provide masks, hand sanitizers and other equipment for the purpose of bringing students back to campus to take their final exams. The final year students completed their exams on July 11<sup>th</sup> in preparation for graduation. Some other classes were also able to take end of term exams. Students in other programs are completing course work and are expected to take exams soon.

The Government of Ghana has eased some restrictions and allowed churches to reopen with up to 100 people. Some of the students on campus have begun to attend services. There is also some loosening of restrictions on higher education as well, but the Good News professors are currently resorting to phone conferences and Zoom to teach. They hope to be able to have an online program for the seminary but have indicated that they do not yet have the resources.

### Please Pray

- For health and safety of all faculty, staff, and students;
- For faculty and students as they engage in teaching and learning via phone conferences;
- For the financial means to set up the online program.

### Urgent Needs

- The library computer has crashed. It housed the cataloguing software and many library records;
- The old computers in the computer lab have also quit working. These will need to be replaced to support online learning.
- We are seeking a minimum of 3,500.00 to replace the library computer and some of the computer lab computers.

## MISSION EVANGELIQUE DU NORD D'HAITI (MENH)

The MENH medical clinic staff have chosen to keep the clinic open, regardless of concerns for safety, for the sake of patients who have nowhere else to go. Half of the staff works one day and the other half the following day. We have learned that they desperately need supplies and critical equipment. We have been working closely with President Ebed Paul to locate the best sources for supplies. Some items have been purchased and sent but we have not yet located some of the more expensive equipment.

The Haiti government has started to loosen some of the lockdown restrictions. The churches were allowed to reopen and we were told that about half of the members have returned. The MENH schools are scheduled to reopen on August 10 and to close at the end of September to allow them to complete the work that should have been done in the Spring. The new term is expected to start in November. We will work with the MENH administration to provide supplies needed to help avoid the spread of the virus. Please pray for the pastors and for the teachers as they begin to interact with the public.

Sincerely,

Annette Jones



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