



LIGHTHOUSE

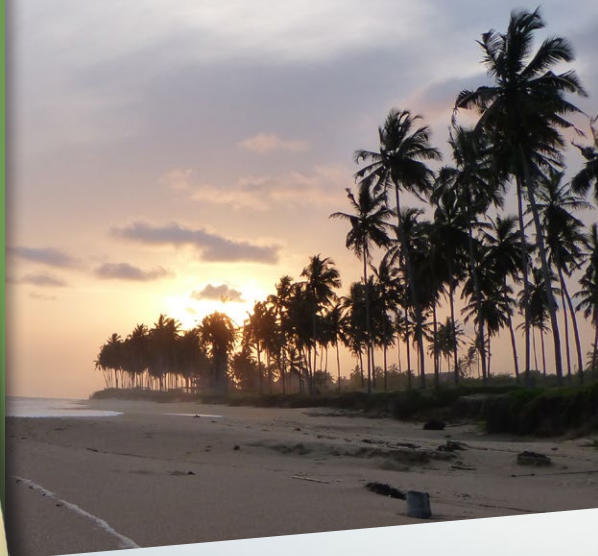
MINISTRIES INTERNATIONAL

Newsletter - 36th Edition
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6 Weeks in Ghana



MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

ANNUAL SPRING
**GARAGE SALE
& BBQ**

May 10 and 11

Fri - 7:00am to 8:00pm
Sat - 7:00am to 2:00pm



6 Weeks in Ghana

(Kyle and Lotte's Mission Trip)

We travelled to Ghana on November 15, 2012. Our experiences in Ghana were so amazing, and we thank God for the opportunity to spend six weeks with these beautiful people!! We are so thankful for the friends we made, and how God has used the dear Ghanaians to speak into our lives!!

Our main focus for going was to assist at the Lighthouse Children's Home. We got to the Peace Hut, in Abbura on Thursday eve where we were able to settle into our very nice apartment. Friday we were able to go to the Children's Home for the first time, with "Grampa and Gramma". A lot of the kids were at school, but we got to meet the House parents and some of the younger children that were not in school yet. Saturday we went to the Abbura market and got some food items that we would be needing in the

next six weeks. We also bought a football (soccer) and dropped it off at LCH. This time, it was totally different than the first time we were there!! It was so much fun to start interacting with the children, and start trying to remember names and faces, etc. In a group of 29 children, it took a while, especially learning their English names, as well as the Fante names.

An average day for us in Ghana was usually getting up around 5:00 or 5:30. We tried to be at the Children's Home by 6:30. The children were supposed to be at school at 8:00 so the goal was to have breakfast by 7:00. Mamma Olivia and/or Poppy Emanuel always had a healthy breakfast ready for the children. After breakfast it was usually high time for the kids to be getting off to school. Out came the uniforms, for the younger kids, and the fun of trying to figure out whose was whose!! Eleven year old Kwesi was always there



helping us out, bless his heart!! We had a couple hours off over lunch where we were able to go to the market and get supplies, go to the beach, in Cape Coast, etc. The children were coming home from school from 2:30 to 3:00 and things very quickly began to get active around the Home. We stayed until anywhere from 7:00 to 8:00 depending on the day.



Supper time was at 5:00, and this was always a busy time of day. It was challenging to get 29 children all to the table at one time. Mommy and Poppy always had big healthy meals

made for the children, and it was unbelievable how much food some of those young children could eat! We were always served large portions that often times was too much for us to get down, but when we were able to, it made Mommy and Poppy very happy!! Poppy loved to serve us huge portions, and then beg for us to



“eat all!” It wasn’t uncommon for Lotte to be begging for “small, small” and Poppy be saying “too small, too small”, because he loved to give us big portions. It was also very common for us to end up in Poppy’s room before we went home, or outside the LCH gate, and be able to talk with them without the distraction of the children. We were so blessed by them, their love for the children, their amazing amount of patience that they had for the children. We have enjoyed keeping in contact with them since our return to Ontario.

It’s hard to explain how it felt to leave the children that we had spent six weeks with, through all the fun we had, all the evening football games, teaching the kids songs, and the kids teaching us songs, and games, to all piling in the tro tro to go to church, all 33 of us, to taking the two dear babies, Prince and Mami Effua, to the hospital for therapy, all these things made us feel like a family. It was hard to know how to respond when one boy, talking about six month old Kingsely, asked, “when you go home to Canada, will

you take him with you? He is a very nice boy, you must take him". And the twins, Praise and Blessing, angrily saying, "No go!!!" We often wonder about the children and pray for them, and are just thankful that God allowed us to spend this short time with them all!!

We also really enjoyed worshipping with the Ghanaians Sundays, and even tho we didn't always understand what we were singing, or hearing...we could feel a connection with them, because we were worshipping the same God! Again, the simple, huge faith they have in God was a challenge and encouragement!!

There is so much more we could say about our time in Ghana. Certainly, at times, our patience was tested, but looking back, those are not the things that we think about!! We think about beautiful children, some days full of life, and innocent, other days, seeing in their eyes the pain that they have experienced in these short years. We struggled to know how to make an impact in these six short weeks, but we also knew that God had this planned for

a purpose, and that this small window into their lives was an opportunity to love them, without holding back. We miss the children, a lot! We miss Poppy Emanuel, and Mommy Oliva, they challenged us so much in our Christian walk. Their simple, yet strong and vibrant faith encouraged us so many times! We are so thankful to have had opportunity to spend this short time with these beautiful people, and thankful for the people that made it possible for us to go!! Thank you!

- Kyle and Lotte





Prayer & Praise

Pray for the new administrator as he adapts to the position at the home.

Pray for the children as they deal with the hurts and disappointments of their young lives.

Praise the Lord for committed Ghanaian staff and board members.

Praise God for the gift of His Son which gives us a faith and hope to share with these Ghanaian children.



All funds will be only used for programs that have been approved by the board.

Any funds that have been sent with designations attached will be used for the specified designation, provided that it has been approved by the board with the understanding that when the needs for the program or project have been met or cannot be completed for any reason determined by the board, the remaining funds will be used where needed most.

- directed by the board.

Check out our new website at

www.lighthouseministriesint.org

for new updates, events,

digital newsletters

and more....

Board Report

"But I will hope continually and will praise you yet more and more. My mouth will tell of your righteous acts, of your deeds of salvation all the day for their number is past my knowledge." Ps. 71: 14,15 ESV

Praise the Lord, we have a reason to hope.

We have arrived at another spring season and I think of spring as a season of hope. We plant seeds in the soil and do lots of other preparations in anticipation of reward at some future date. We hope for the rain and the sunshine that is necessary for our efforts to be successful. We trust God to keep His promises and He is always faithful. His righteous acts, good deeds and bountiful provisions are all given to us and we are unable to tally God's blessings as the psalmist says.

As God's children we can always have hope. We live in a world that is full of problems caused by our sin. People are searching for something to bring them fulfillment. What are we waiting for? We know the Giver of hope. Let's be faithful in getting the message out. Your continued support of this ministry is helping to bring hope to a few needy souls on another part of the globe. Thank-you so much for what you are doing to bring hope to children in Africa. Many times we have no idea how much of a difference our endeavours are making in someone else's life. However let's not just be content with sharing the physical resources God has blessed us with. We should daily be looking for ways to pass on this message of hope. Our God is alive! Our hope is sure! Let's spread the message of hope this spring to everyone we come in contact with. It is our job as Christians to be ambassadors of hope.

In closing I leave you with this verse from Romans 15:13. *"Now the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that ye may abound in hope, through the power of the Holy Ghost."*

Blessings, Ken Martin



Thank you to Stuart Martin for serving as a board member for the last 5 years. Your contribution is valued.



We welcome Lamar Frey as the new member of the Lighthouse board. Thank you for the commitment.

Life in Ghana



Common carrying method



Ready for school



Ghanaian Clothesline



Lizard



Sweeping the walk

Lighthouse Ministries International

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Board Members: (left to right)

Stuart Martin.....(519) 638-3474
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Paul Horst (Treasurer)(519) 669-4483
Arnold Frey (Chairman)(519) 846-5898
Ken Martin (Vice Chairman).....(519) 664-3807

Mixing a pot of "banku"

(Fermented corn mixed proportionally and cooked in hot water into a smooth whitish consistent paste. Served with soup, stew or a pepper sauce with fish.)

