



# LIGHTHOUSE

MINISTRIES INTERNATIONAL

56th Edition  
Summer 2020

Lighthouse Newsletter



**Mark Your Calendars!**  
DRIVE-THRU BBQ  
Tuesday Aug 25th 5:00 pm - 7:30pm

Matthew is one of the students sponsored through the LEAF Program

Inside this issue

COVID Experiences  
from Ghana

Redeemed Vocational  
School Update

Board Report

June was another beautiful month with a few surprises. The Saharan dust storm was unique but we're happy that it's over and have most of the dust cleaned out of the house. We finally had some rain again after months of hot dry dusty weather. Things are greening up but you never know when it will stop raining again.

during dust storm



after the dust storm past



Wismith is still spending most of his time in the mechanic shop. Clif quit again and it looks like it will be for good this time. We hate to lose him but there were some things that he wasn't willing to work with us on..... Bony is helping out a lot and Wismith is working on training a few more guys and setting up a better structure that will hopefully make things run more smoothly in the future. Pray for wisdom for us to lead well.



Life is slowly returning to normal here. We had our first regular service at church on Sunday and we'll be re-opening classes in August or September at the latest.

We're talking about our travel plans but we can't seem to come to an agreement yet. We don't want to have to quarantine when we get to the states or when we come back - since most communities where we'll be have it going around right now. And we don't want anyone to get sick because of us so we're still trying to figure out our best course of action. I'd rather not wait till winter but we'll see. Also Wismith doesn't want to leave for too long because of the Mechanic Shop either....

The unrest here is about the same.... the 'Papaya gang' has been more active again recently. We still stay home a lot but we go into Port when we need to. Pray for safety and wisdom as we make plans for the future.

- Wismith & Rebecca Joseph

## Lighthouse Childrens Home Building Project Progress in Photos



## How has COVID affected life in Ghana?



### **SAMMY'S EXPERIENCE AT HOME DURING THE PANDEMIC**

*It was surprising to us when for the first time the President of our nation declared that there will be no school for us till further notice. We have wondered when life will ever get back to normal for us to live as we used to do. After four months it is now obvious that we have to start adjusting to the strange virus. No school was easy to cope with at a point but no Christian meetings at church was something that was very difficult to deal with if not for the strategic devotion time with the family in the home. We also now produce our on devotional manual by courtesy of our Daddy. During this pandemic season there has been un-ending times of fasting and prayers in the home for our donors abroad and their family, the International Board Members as well as the local Board not forgetting our stakeholders. Because of this pandemic the Extra-Classes Teachers have stop coming, so it has been the house Parents*

*who have volunteered to teach us. What seems like a storm to the world has really thought us how important we should be conscious of our salvation like our daddy always says. I believe that God has used this opportunity to stamp His authority and supremacy. As Christians we must keep praying to God for His continuous sustenance.*



### **PRAISE'S EXPERIENCE DURING THE PANDEMIC**

*A lot of things have changed in the home because of this pandemic and it is amazing how a family that did everything together now has to change a lot. We now do regular meetings to ensure that the members of the home are safe and also to continuously remind ourselves of the protocols. We now sit in distance; we no more sit in pairs at dinning as we used to do. We now have things that will help us check on people who we come into contact with especially our donors and staff who leave after 4 o'clock pm and comes back in the morning and things that we*



*will use to prevent the spread of the virus. We are now using veronica buckets, liquid soap, thermometer gun, dustbins and tissue .Before we eat and after meals we wash our hands with soap under running water for about 20 seconds .Before any donor will enter the hall he / she is made to wash his /her hands and he/she is checked with the thermometer before he/she enters the hall with the nose masks on. We now wear face masks where donors comes around, no shaking of the hands of any donor. Now if donors are more than five people, not all of them are allowed to enter the hall. Only one person is allowed to enter the hall for about five minutes while others wait in the yard. Used clothing is no longer accepted as donations .Before the day staffs are allow to enter the house, they are made to wash their hands and their temperature is checked and booked in the visitors book. Friends and families are not allowed to visit. And I have always asked myself whether really that's how God wants us to live our lives? Personally my intimacy with God this time has deepen and it has brought to me the importance of life in eternity. Initially I got so scared when I heard that food stuffs were going to be provided for two months because we didn't know when all this will be over. Today our hopes are up because Christ has already overcome for us. Let's all stay in prayer for those that have fallen victim to this virus and ask God to comfort families that have lost loved ones and asked for His continuous protection for all Christians.*



### **MARTHA'S EXPERIENCE**

*This pandemic era has created stress and tension within us with the recorded cases increasing with no cure to this deadly virus. Fear griped us, we thought the world has come to an end with things happening around the globe.*

*God has been good to us that never did we lack in the home; Management implemented new strategies to aid in managing resources to sustain us should incase there is a famine or total lockdown.*

*The Board and the Department of Social Welfare together with the USAID provided us with the PPE's for the safety of the children and staff and help combat the spread of virus.*

*The challenge we are having is the restrictions placed on the Residential Homes for Children from not receiving food items of which in a way has been supportive to the home*

*Through it all God has been faithful, we thank God for the lives of our International Board (Backbone) even in this difficult times strive hard to provide our needs and put smiles on our faces. Thank you, May God continue to shower his blessing upon their lives.*



## **SYLVESTER POMENYA** **DZOKOTO REPORTS**

*"What shall we say to these things if God be for us who can be against us..."*

*I thank God for the wisdom to handle the many questions that comes up each day from staff and children when our media hit us with numbers of infected, dying and strange stories about Covid-19: the restrictions imposed by the department of social welfare (DSW) and the government. Questions like: Daddy when are we going back to school, so it means next year Grampa and Gramma won't come to Ghana for AGM; when will Board chairman come back to Ghana; Daddy what will happen to us when all our food is finish; what if the virus never goes;*

*Something really needed to be done to raise the faith first of the staff then the children. The first step by the Board was the provision of the Personal Protective Equipment (PPEs) which the DSW also played a role. We had to reduce the per head in the rooms for the children and create strict social distancing protocols. Boredom was one thing the Home anticipated earlier so indoor games were provided to*

*that effect. In the absence of the private teachers, the home has secured a wifi so the children can have access to the e-learning platforms created by the Ministry of Education. Life has not been normal because we thought like all other viruses this was something far away in China. The pandemic has not only affected us negatively but has also created some positive spirit in the home.*

*The continuous staying at Home has raise the spirit of togetherness compared to days when children spent few hours at home together with parent.*

- *Regular family meetings has also help in encouraging the staff and children and also addressing challenges as when they come.*

- *The petty teaching done by the house parents has also improved some of the academically fragile ones in that they feel free to forward their concerns compared to the teachers that handle them.*

- *General grooming in the home has improved immensely.*

- *The constant morning and evening devotional time has also promoted higher levels of spiritual growth*

*One major challenge we are having is the issue with donors and their understanding on the constraints. All through this God has been faithfully knowing that all our love ones near and far are doing well. We stay in prayer and trust God for His deliverance.*



Board Members: (left to right)

Colin Shantz (Secretary/Treasurer) | (519) 591-9891

Arnold Frey (Board Member) | (519) 846-5898

Calvin Frey (Vice Chair) | (519) 698-0336

Matthew Frey (Chairman) | (519) 638-0122

Kevin Weber (Board Member) | (519) 292-1327

## Board Report

"For the mountains shall depart, and the hills be removed; but my kindness shall not depart from thee, neither shall the covenant of my peace be removed, saith the LORD that hath mercy on thee." Isaiah 54:10

Over the last number of months, uncertainty has been a real part of our lives but through it all, God's faithfulness has been evident in so many ways. One of those ways is through the continued support that we have received from you even through the economic crisis. We have experienced what Isaiah 54:10 says "but my kindness shall not depart from thee..."

We are grateful that we have been able to continue to fund the needs of the children under LMI's care without any disruption.

It is also exciting to see the building project continue to move forward. After pausing the funding of the building at the beginning of the pandemic, we have been able to cautiously restart that funding and we are hoping to have enough of the new building finished by end of this year so that we can move the children out of the rented home!

God is good, and we want to thank each of you for allowing yourself to be used of God through your support! God Bless You for your generosity!

On behalf of the board,

Calvin Frey

# FUNDRAISER



*LIGHTHOUSE*  
MINISTRIES INTERNATIONAL

## DRIVE-THRU BBQ

Come out, enjoy a meal and

SUPPORT CHILDREN IN GHANA

HOTDOGS

**BURGERS**

DESSERTS

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**5:00 pm - 7:30 pm**

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**COUNTRYSIDE CHRISTIAN SCHOOL**

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**TUES AUG 25**

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**RSVP: Please text with the number of meals you will be picking up**

Julia @ 519.502.2013 R andy @ 519.502.8008