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UPDATE FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Our God is a mighty God. He continues to bless this ministry through prayers, generous gifts, and volunteering time. We are grateful we can meet our monthly operational budget and undertake projects continuing to improve our school campus. We are grateful to God that 330 of our 412 students are sponsored. We could not do this work without you and want to say a heartfelt thank you. As the scripture above says, we continue to give thanks to our God, without Him the work He does through Bridges of Hope could not be accomplished. We will continue to praise Him and tell of His wondrous works. Let us all continue to seek Him, let us seek His strength, and His presence continually. We rely on our mighty God for this ministry. We pray we have oneness with Him in all we do.

In our next newsletter, it is my hope to have exciting updates on the land for the church and hospital. Thank you again! I pray you are blessed as you read this update of all God is doing through Bridges of Hope.

Blessings,

Martin Digler Chairman, Bridges of Hope, Inc.



"Oh, give thanks to the Lord; call upon his name; make known his deeds among the peoples! Sing to him, sing praises to him; tell of all his wondrous works! Glory in his holy name; let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice! Seek the Lord and his strength; seek his presence continually! Remember the wondrous works that he has done, his miracles, and the judgments he uttered."

Psalm 105:1-5

TEACHER BATHROOM PROJECT

After much planning and evaluating, a team decided it would be best to add bathrooms to each teacher's house instead of building a community latrine. Work began in February. The bathrooms will be plumbed so that we can eventually have running water for the bathrooms. We are grateful to God for His provision to be able to undertake this project and improve the lives of our beloved teachers.



FLUENCY ASSESSMENTS CONTINUE

Jackson Kpene is shown here working hard on his K.1 assessment! This year our goal is to collect assessment data three times.



**IN CORRESPONDENCE,
PLEASE USE OUR NEW
ADDRESS:**

**BRIDGES OF HOPE
P.O. BOX 2591
RAPID CITY, SD 57709**



'FARMING GOD'S WAY' TRAINING

Paul Schlosser and Olivia Briggs headed up a Farming God's Way training at Hope from March 10-12. The first day started with thirty-five attendees consisting of teachers, senior Hope students, and local farmers. They began training learning about biblical keys that defined how God, the first farmer, provided us with all the tools we need to successfully produce food. Overcoming the generational farming mindset instilled in Liberian culture was the main obstacle; however, those that God brought forth to learn, eagerly listened and asked a plethora of questions. Their understanding came quickly after opening their minds and faith to God's way of farming. On the second day, the students were hungry for more knowledge and jumped at the opportunity to receive firsthand experience. Those who understood concepts quicker eagerly explained concepts to their peers who struggled. Seeing the group come together in just two days truly showed God was working in their hearts and strengthening their faith. On the third day, we no longer had thirty-five students but over forty. Onlookers who became curious after hearing their family members, neighbors, or friends talk about the training, came to observe, and absorb the knowledge that God was providing through Paul. On the third day, as written in the Bible, the garden was prepared and planted. A 6-meter by 6-meter plot of beans, corn, and sweet potato were planted by the hands of our students. Even when the gardening was done and God blessed it with rainfall, the students continued working hard to finish a compost pile not missing the opportunity to ask as many questions as possible. The desire to learn was apparent within the group and it allowed for not only them to gain more knowledge, but for Paul and Olivia to gain understanding about the Liberian culture of farming. The garden began sprouting 4 days after planting and is now being watched over by Elijah Kobbia, a recent graduate of Hope. Our desire is that this training will be incorporated into a school curriculum so that students can learn how to create sustainable food systems.



Wesley Digler, one of our teachers from the inception of Hope, passed away Thursday, March 24 at Phebe Hospital. He was diagnosed with prostate cancer about a year ago and had surgery. Yet, his condition declined recently. Please keep his family, colleagues, students, and friends in your prayers.

STUDENT TESTIMONIALS

Mary Frances Boimah

What has Hope taught you?

Hope teaches me discipline and responsibility.

What word would you use to describe Hope?

If I am told to describe Hope, I would describe Hope as a DREAM HOUSE where students come to build their dream for the future.

What are you learning through your studies about having a relationship with God?

Through my studies, I learn that if I do not have a relationship with God or walk in God's way I will not learn properly. Because I was told by all my teachers that without God, we cannot do anything that easily. I learn about God daily when I am on campus during devotion time and in class also.



Victoria M. Kerkula – 10th Grade

What has Hope taught you?

Hope has taught me so many things. One is my relationship with God. Hope also taught me how to respect time and be serious with my education.

What word would you use to describe Hope?

I will use lustrous because Hope is a school that has good character and reputation.

What are you learning through your studies about having a relationship with God?

Through my studies I have learned that the only way to get to God is to have a close relationship.



HOPE WINS SOCCER LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIP

In February, our twelfth-grade soccer team took home the league championship! Go team!



SPONSORSHIP NEWS

Currently we have 330 of our 412 students sponsored at HICA. We are thankful for God's provision and are grateful for your partnership. A reminder to those who sponsored students annually in 2021 - please renew your sponsorship for 2022 if it is up for renewal. Also, keep us updated with new credit card information.

Any questions, contact Arlen and Gwen Pequette at 605-430-2545, gwenarlen@gmail.com, or bridgesofhopewestafrica.com.