



BRIDGESOFHOPEWESTAFRICA



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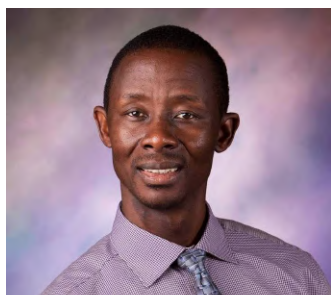


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CHAIRMAN UPDATE



Season greetings. "For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon His shoulder, and His name shall be called wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace." Isaiah 9:6. Christmas is a

time to reflect on our savior's birth, and what He did for us. Christmas is not about just celebrating His birth, but to reflect on what He has done for us. He came and died in our place, taking our sins and punishment upon Himself, so that we may have life, life eternal. A true gift was given to us and for us. As we celebrate His coming this season, may we remember the true meaning of His coming.

Many children are being born spiritually at the school and surrounding villages, and they are hearing this good news every day, some maybe for the first time.

I want to take this time to thank all of you for partnering with us in this life changing work that our Lord is doing through Bridges of Hope in Liberia. We cannot do this alone. That's why we greatly appreciate your prayers and financial gifts. Your gifts are being used by God to change lives. Please read below some of the wonderful things the Lord is doing. work, I have received back many-fold in ways I cannot fully express in words, but for which I am truly thankful.

S. MARTIN DIGLER
BOARD CHAIRMAN

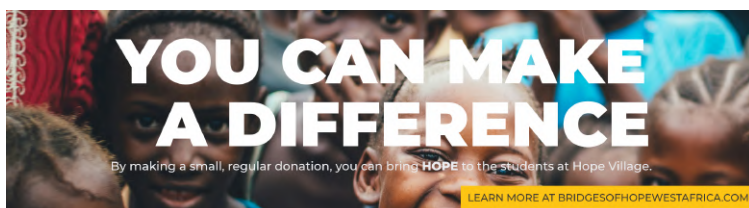
REFLECTIONS FROM THE NOVEMBER TRIP

James 4:6 says, "God opposes the proud but shows favor to the humble." As I reflect on the first time I visited Hope as a volunteer about six years ago to where we are now, I see God's favor and grace. The environment, the commitment, the language of living Christ-centered lives, the professionalism, the discipleship, the integrity, the sharing of God's Word in the little moments of life with the



students, and the redirection of students time and time again. "Relentless, transforming, little-moment grace" is how Paul Tripp describes discipleship. We have lived out this discipleship through professional development, triumphs, struggles, frustration, disappointment, and hope. Life has happened, yet I see so much hope for the future. Our leaders are continuing to grow and own the vision. Much progress has been made in education and discipleship, and yet more progress is needed. The struggles and difficulties are plentiful. Yet, our people are resilient and keep moving forward. As I shared during the graduation ceremony - it's not what you become, but who you become. We pray that God continues to be glorified as we continue to work for His glory.

SERVING TOGETHER,
STEPHANIE DIGLER



UPDATE ON YASSA

BY: JESSICA HART

Yassa was abandoned by her mother in about January 2023. As just a toddler, she was left to fend for herself, eating and drinking what scraps she could find, ultimately, left to die. James, a delivery driver of sorts, came to her village



frequently, and he watched for months as this little girl wasted. He learned of her abandonment and decided that he could not watch her die. In November, he scooped her up and brought her to his sister; together they cared for her by feeding her and nursing her 'back to health.' When James brought her into my "exam room" -- the last patient on the busiest day. I looked at her triage sheet – Age 4 years. Weight 7 kg. What? 7 kg that is only about 15

lbs! I looked in her big, brown eyes and my heart sank. He told me how she had gained weight since November, and she could hold a cup now. Despite this, she was very clearly malnourished, and she would surely die without some intervention. We needed to call on the Lord.

She held her arms out to me and then sat on my lap, while I looked into James' eager eyes to tell him there was no "tablet" I could give her that would make her run, jump, and play like other children. She needed nutrition, protein, and divine intervention. Their diet is primarily rice and casava, sometimes fruit and vegetable, rarely protein, he tells me. I decided to supplement her rice and casava with infant formula. We had to buy it in the city, so we asked them to return in a few days. We took her to the prayer room and gathered as an entire team around her pleading for her restoration.

We received some wonderful news about 3 months later, that showed a stronger and healthier Yassa. Who, by the grace of God, was not only standing but walking! I ugly cried! I have seen other miracles, and I believe God had more to do with her continued restoration than infant formula. But a little protein sure cannot hurt. I cannot wait to see her next year!

SCHOOL OF MINES STUDENTS VISIT HOPE CAMPUS

Two students from Engineers and Scientist Abroad at South Dakota School of Mines and Technology traveled to Hope Village last May. Their main goal was to resolve an issue with a sewer smell in the bathrooms of the teachers' homes. By God's



grace, they were able to resolve the issue, which all the teachers were grateful for. They also created a rough draft for a multipurpose building and worked on resolving an issue with bats getting into the school. They went to Pastor Mike's service each Sunday they enjoyed services at Hope campus. During their trip, they learned a lot from Hope Village and will be forever thankful for the experience they had while in Liberia.

SR GRADUATION DAY - NOVEMBER 8



Fourteen senior students graduated from Hope on Friday, November 8. Adonijah Kobbia was the valedictorian of this year's graduating class and is pursuing education to become a physician assistant. He spoke about the harvest of parents in their children's education. Their class motto was, "We are strong, confident, and unstoppable." They named their class Lux Mundi, which means light of the world. We pray they go out and be the much needed light in Liberia.

MAKING HISTORY AT HOPE

Students made history the first marking period of the 2024-2025 School Year breaking the record of the most students that have made it on the honor roll – 155 students and principle's list – 51 students. When Stephanie was with the teachers in November, she asked what has caused the increase in students excelling. Mr. Shelton, our high school math teacher responded, "teachers are more prepared for

class resulting in our students being prepared.” Mr. Gibson, our third-grade teacher add, “We are also engaging in competition.”



CONGRATULATIONS TO K.2 GRADUATES!

Please join us as we congratulate the 42 students that graduated from Auntie Diana’s K.2 class.



DRUMROLL PLEASE...FLUENCY SCORES!

At Bridges of Hope, we differ from many organizations because we have a direct relationship with our school and work very closely to engage in discipleship and quality, Christ-centered education. Our teaching staff have worked diligently keeping students' reading every day.

Our goal is that students gain 20 words per minute. Even though we haven’t reached our goal, we are celebrating the progress that we have made over the past few years.

| Grade | 2019-2020 | 2020-2021 | 2021-2022 | 2022-2023 | 2023-2024 |
|--------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Class of 2033 (1) | | | | | 40 |
| Class of 2032 (2) | | | | 45 | 63 |
| Class of 2031 (3) | | | 55 | 54 | 63 |
| Class of 2030 (4) | | 55 | 97 | 55 | 74 |
| Class of 2029 (5) | | 54 | 57 | 67 | 91 |
| Class of 2028 (6) | 45 | 50 | 60 | 62 | 81 |
| Class of 2027 (7) | 54 | 60 | 69 | 70 | 91 |
| Class of 2026 (8) | 44 | 68 | 91 | 88 | 104 |
| Class of 2025 (9) | 54 | 73 | 81 | 96 | 72 |
| Class of 2026 (10) | 66 | 79 | 98 | 74 | 94 |
| Class of 2025 (11) | 87 | 133 | 86 | 100 | 110 |
| Class of 2024 (12) | 78 | 75 | 93 | 106 | 108 |
| Class of 2023 | 73 | 76 | 79 | 93 | |

CALLING ALL SPONSORS!

If you are sponsoring a student at Hope, profiles should be in the mail soon.



Life in Liberia is more difficult than we could ever communicate. Your letters have the power to bring hope, love, and encouragement to your students despite their difficult circumstances. The

medical team will be traveling to Liberia March 15, 2025. If you would like to send a letter to your student, please mail the letter with your student's name and ID number written on the letter to: Bridges of Hope, Inc., PO Box 2591, Rapid City, SD 57709 by Friday, February 14.

If you are not a sponsor and would like to join our team of sponsors please call, email, or text Cathy Connor at 484-636-9458 or savedbygrace109@gmail.com

HOPE VILLAGE POPULATION INCREASES BY TWO

Welcome baby Caleb, who was born to Mr. and Mrs. Korto and baby Hadessa, who was born to Mr. and Mrs. Dekpah. By God’s grace babies and moms are doing well.



HOPE CHURCH CONTINUES TO GROW

Through the Holy Spirit’s prompting, Hope Church started in June 2023. Most of the congregation are young people. Pastor Mike is dedicated to leading the congregation and is actively engaged in planning a pastors conference for March with Pastor Mike Sullivan, who plans to



travel to Hope in March. Ben is doing a wonderful job teaching Sunday School using a curriculum from Discipling Nations Alliance and leading service. Pastor McKay and his wife joined our staff at the beginning of the school year. Pastor McKay serves as one of our security and is coming alongside Pastor Mike in helping with the church.



surgical supplies in route to Liberia on a container, plane tickets purchased, working on temporary license, and are beginning to meet to prepare the team for their time of service in Liberia. We look forward to seeing how God works not only in the lives of our team members but also those that we serve. Please join us in praying that God would use the team to be His hands and feet and would be glorified.



A CHRISTMAS BLESSING

As Christmas approaches, Bridges of Hope will send a special gift to Hope Village so that additional food items can be purchased as a Christmas blessing for those living at Hope Village and attending school there. If possible, we will also send small gifts to purchase some clothing items for orphans in our care.

You can participate in this Christmas blessing by sending your donation in the enclosed envelope or you may go to our website, bridgesofhopewestafrica.com, to make your gift. As always, the board of directors, the teachers and children of Hope Village appreciate your generosity. It is our sincere hope that you will remember Bridges of Hope with year-end gifts in support the good things happening in Liberia.

MERRY CHRISTMAS & HAPPY NEW YEAR FROM HOPE!

AT LEAST 19 MEMBERS PLAN TO SERVE IN THE MEDICAL MISSION TRIP – MARCH 15-31

We are busy making plans for our upcoming medical mission trip. We are so thankful for team members joining us to connect people, make disciples, and transform Liberia for Christ. We are planning to have the surgical and clinic site again. We have most of the

