

Good News

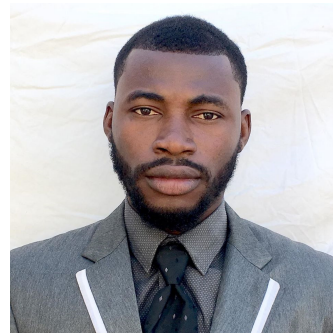


The church building in Konongo, Ghana has a roof! Seth sent this picture.

Reggie Thomas Scholarship Fund Established

When Reggie passed away, a very dear couple, adopted family, White Fields supporters, wanted to do something special in Reggie's memory. Their hearts are heavy for underprivileged children all over the world. They want to make sure people can continue their education, make a living, and continue Reggie's most loved work, spreading the Gospel amongst their peers. They gave us the seed money to start the program and they welcome anyone to contribute to this for the underprivilege.

We already have our first student! In February I ran across an ad for a social worker school in Port-au-Prince. We are now required to pay a social worker for each of our homes in Haiti. After prayer and thinking, we asked Junior Delphin if he wanted to do this. I had him talk to social workers, visit their office and visit this school. He loves this work. We had already enrolled him in school praying for the Lord to provide. Because of Covid-19, the school did not open for classes, instead they are holding online classes. Junior is very, very eager for his classes everyday. Pray for him as he studies.



Immersion in 2020

We praise God that during this year 2020 there have been 1090 souls who have accepted Jesus as Savior and Lord and obeyed Him in Christian baptism. Praise the Lord!!! Pray for these new Brothers and Sisters in Christ!

www.white-fields.org

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In a Blink of an Eye...

In a blink of an eye, our world changed. We have all had to find a new normal; No shops or restaurants open, different way to grocery shop, schools closed and all school activities canceled, and churches cannot meet. Covid-19 has changed the entire world.

As I sat down to put this newsletter together, I was a little discouraged because I did not know what to report to you. As I contemplated and prayed, God seemed to give me encouragement, words to say, and filled my email box with letters from all over the world!

Throughout the last month or so one thing on my mind has been the fact that we and most of the world has not been able to meet together for church...except in Cuba! Most of the house churches are meeting every Sunday.

In 1987, Reggie met with Victor Knowles (POEM) and Ziden Nutt (GNPI), together they worked up a world prayer map. They asked everyone to select a country where there was no Christian Church.

We still lived in Chattanooga at the time and Reggie handed this map and list of countries to the congregation. Reggie and one of his close friends, Howard Brown, signed up to pray for Cuba. They met together weekly and prayed for an opportunity to spread the Gospel in the Communist country. When we moved they continued their weekly prayer meeting via phone. They had faith that one day God would allow someone into Cuba, but I'm not sure they thought it'd be during their lifetime.

Through a series of events, Reggie and Esther went to Cuba for the first time in 1996. I think that was one of his happiest, most exciting trips. He fell in love with Cuba and the people. It wasn't an easy ministry in the beginning; people were leery why they, Americans, were there, the Gospel was brand new to the people, and everything needed to be kept secret. Reggie and Esther took a chance every time they talked to anyone, not knowing if they were talking to friend or foe, civilian or spy. God protected them and sent special people their way.



In a Blink of an Eye...



On that first trip Reggie and Esther were looking for a translator. A man they spoke to said he knew a person and where she was right then. He drove them up the street and the lady got in the car. Reggie said, "Do you speak English?" the lady replied, "ah liddle"! Reggie then asked, "you will have to read scripture from a Spanish Bible, will that be a



problem for you?" She replied, "I can do!" This started a long time friendship. The lady's name is Isis and she started translating for Reggie on all his trips.

During this time, Reggie was praying that Isis would hear the words and follow Christ. It took two very long years, but Isis and Rolando heard and were baptized and after more teaching started a house church and Rolando is their preacher! Isis told me this week that they were hard headed and although it took them two years, those were the best decisions of their lives!

Rolando & Isis have written to me each week about their church service. After thinking about it, I responded how ironic it was that American churches are closed, but Cuban churches were open and worshipping God! Reggie would be so pleased! Also shocked that churches in America cannot meet, but churches in Cuba are meeting.

The Cuban churches are taking precautions, but they are very happy to be meeting. **PRAISE GOD!** Here are some notes from the preachers:

Rolando & Isis

Our community has around 12 000 people, living in approximately 150 buildings, separate from other communities by a short distance. It has 7 churches or missions, all in apartments, 2 Baptist, 1 Pentecostal, 1 Missionary, 1 Roman Catholic, 1 Methodist, and 1 Christian Church. All with an average of members between 15 to 60 approximately. We were visited the last Sunday by a police officer about our meeting, and we explained him we are taking sanitary precautions as has been recommended like a carpet with hypochlorite solution for shoes, washing hands and disinfection by other solution, use of protection masks and meet with a prudential distance of the seats and persons and no kiss or close facial contact. He accepted and confessed he attended a church when he was younger and at once we invited him to come and meet with us, he appreciated it but didn't come yet. The last Sunday before the meeting I took some evangelical tracts and gave them to different persons in a Commercial Center, I shortly explained the message of the Gospel. In short time all tracts were distributed with the gratitude of most of the people, only a few didn't accept to it or even touch the tracts. But the most important is that the services continue, not because of me, but by the will of mem-



bers whom refused to close the church. When I called by phone to everyone for the propose to stop the meetings and they insisted to continue with the members that may come, about 15 now. I have to add that many preachers are in contact by phone to interchange news and encourage each other, some call me or I call them.



The Rest of the World

Aaron Whisnant, Liberia

We bless God for taking us through the month of March 2020. I don't have full report for March because Churches were asked to close in observant of the coronavirus outbreak since the eighth of March. We were in service on the third Sunday of March when police officers walked in and told us to close down immediately, so we did. Since then, we have been on stay home order. But I go to visit members in and around the community. And I come to see the hungry that they live with; so I used 80 dollars from my salary to buy food and share it with the older women in the Church. This affects all of our Churches here (Global Fellowship, Greater Refuge Church, Saint Faith Church, Salala Church of Christ, to name a few). Our prayers request is that God will provide us \$3000 to buy bags of rice and distribute it to our members; we are under stay home order.

Jean Ronel Joseph, Pignon, Haiti

The market last Saturday it was a catastrophe. The police are not able to control the people. They prevented people from entering the market to sell their stuff. They invaded all the streets. You could buy anything anywhere on the street as people sit everywhere. They can't control them. People are hungry too, no confinement possible. The government promise some money, but they never give it. Many people live on day to day basis. Unless they go out, there is no food on the table. For the church, we have a moment of prayer every Sunday morning. We just dismissed. We have some come on Tuesday for Bible, I am trying to get some masks to give to them and also I made a WhatsApp group and a few that have WhatsApp they are on the group and we study together. Those are to keep them healthy spiritually. But physically, I try to get masks for them, motivate them to stay home, but as many live on a daily basis, so it is hard for them as they have no food. We pray this pass ASAP

Uday Kumar, India

Here we are all lock down for one month. Our Preachers and co-workers and their families are all facing lots of problems. We are struggling for our survivals. We are not able to go beyond 3 kilometers radius and the government gives permission to buy groceries and milk products from morning 6 am to 9 am. After that we are completely locked down. Only medical, police, bank and sanitation services and some other emergency services are allowing and doing their works/ services. We are not able to visit our church buildings and congregations. So that I call to our preachers on phone to have them make phone calls everyday to all their church members and praying/following up on them. As per my request all the preachers and co-workers are doing this. One of our church member, Jyothamma is affected due to this virus and her family members are also contaminated and there 20 members in isolation. I am requesting you please pray for them. Many people are waiting to take baptisms. In Indian tradition after believing/accepting Jesus Christ as their personal Lord and Savior, they want to take baptism or they look for a special occasion/day like Easter day the Resurrection Day. But unfortunately this deadly virus stopped all the Godly activities/Gospel works. After lockdown we will continue to give baptisms more than 50 members. I am requesting you please pray for them sister.

The Rest of the World

Roland McGill, Liberia

For now we are only able to keep in touch with members via local phone calls as we continue to pray to God for wisdom and guidance and monitor the situation as it unfolds. The virus is having devastating effect here as well (more than 100 infected, 8 deaths already just in a relatively short space of time and we are gearing for the worse). Our government has declared a state of emergency throughout the nation, a stay home order for all with the exception of health workers and essential staff of restricted agencies including some government offices, banks, super markets etc... Churches are among the many institutions that have been order closed in counties with high infection cases including Montserrado. In an effort to keep in touch and still alert spiritually, We have introduce what we are now referring to as HOME FELLOWSHIP. We had at least four separate fellowships this past Sunday. Handful of members met simultaneously in small numbers at the homes of volunteer members including ours... to conduct prayers and brief reading and Exhortation of God's Word.

Rey & Cheery Abesio, Philippines

First of all we thank God that we are okay here, even all of us experience a big problem about coronavirus. This is only trials for all of us. Matt.14:22/Heb.12:2 I don't like to give a headache or problem. All of us we suffer our daily needs especially our foods. We are all hungry because our government is poor, they can't supply us our daily needs. Calituban and Talima church members are crying when they call me for help for food. Rey and I can't go to Calituban and Talima because we are now in ECQ enhanced community quarantine. All of us stay at home, The only way that we can communicate with them is internet and cellphone. Every Sunday we have live show during our Sunday worship, Rey is preaching that is the way to have a communication there. Every Wednesday and Saturday our cottage prayer meeting the is a live show thru internet. I always follow up with them. In Calituban I'm sending 2 sacks of rice for food to eat, Talima 1 sack of rice. Please include us in your prayers. Lori I'm so sorry to telling you our situation here, we need help for our food to eat, all of us are hungry. I have no work. I'm so sorry We love you . Cheery

Descar Auzeel, St Marc, Haiti

I want to greet you in the precious name of Jesus. I hope God protects you and your family. I would like to salute all those who have contributed to the spread of the Gospel in Haiti, especially our sponsors. We thank God for grace towards us. During the Covid-19 pandemic, the State of Haiti did not allow any institution to meet. But we do not gather in large numbers, we meet in groups of 10 people while respecting hygienic principles, to avoid the spread of Covid-19. I would like to explain the following to you about our congregation in Saint Marc. After the political crisis in the country where people could not meet their needs, members of our Church are struck by this crisis and keep the situation worse for our members during the Covid-19 pandemic. They are asked to stay at home so the government does not give to the people anything. The world needs our prayers only God can help us with this pandemic our duty is to pray for each other.



EK, India
We have distributed Rice, Oil, and Dhall to the Poor people



In a Blink of an Eye...

Mario

God Guard you and fam
Christian church go on preaching at home.hab 3:2

Yiosbel & Tammy

Hi! Sister Lori. We thank you for your concern. In our community (Marianao, La Habana) are around 18 cases but controlled so far. All our Preachers are safe in their homes. They are taking care of their congregations as much as they can. No infected in our congregations. We're having prayer meetings at home, every family. We're communicated by phone and some on internet. We're affected and struggling by a troubled time getting basic supplies and probably it will continue for 2 or 3 months. Children are home as well, they are taking TV classes. We hope that you and your family are safe and healthy. A warm hug from your brothers and sisters in Cuba, May God Bless You And Keep You

Aliosis

Sister Lori, Thank God we are safe and healthy. the brothers and sisters of the Christian Church in Lawton Havana Cuba, we keep in touch via telephone. The internet is very difficult for communication, but thank God we speak on the phone and sometimes by mobile, because there is no budget for that, God has not abandoned us despite the fact that many brothers are without a working relationship, We recognize that God is creating a balance in humanity and still there are many who do not believe in His power and Deity. All we are safeguarded by the precious Blood of Jesus Christ our Lord and King, but we must be cautious and obedient.



While we are happy that a few churches are meeting in Cuba, we are concerned for our other preachers and congregations around the world. We've been asking God to keep all preachers and congregations strong and continue to minister to those around them.

One day when I started thinking and fretting about the future and what all of this will mean for all of us, I started getting notes from the various churches and preachers and what was going on with them during this time period. They were little uplifting blessings in each message. Although they are in poor shape, they are dedicated to God's ministry and doing what they can to continue to minister. I want to share these with you. I want you to see how other countries are dealing during this time.

John Sumo, Liberia

There is a stay home order / state of emergency in my community for two weeks now. We cannot leave our county to another, cannot leave our homes. We are only permitted to go out of home to find food if we have the money and that is from 6:00am-2:00pm by 3:00pm everyone are at home. Churches were ordered closed, but by the special grace of GOD we have divided our services to five sections. They are led and headed by church Elders at their homes. These home services are mostly teachings and prayers based and are secretly done. Additionally, the churches are finding it difficult to do secret meetings. Financially we're unable to help in this condition. People depend on church to help with washing hands buckets, soaps, detergents and other materials to help fight Covid 19. Community members can hardly find food. We asked for your prayers.

The Rest of the World

Suman Signh, India

Request from India. Greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. I pray this finds you and your sweet family are well and safe in God's protection. We have been in this pandemic coronavirus. We are lockdown for 30 days country wide and it will continue till May 3rd. This quarantine has affected everyone, everywhere. There are 17 people infected with coronavirus in our town. We are in the red zone. Our state has 757 coronavirus affected cases now. No Church gatherings and house prayer meetings only. Our Preachers have no income and are out of food and have no medicine. They have no money to make these purchases. Humbly I request to you and the White Fields family please pray for the preachers and church members and school teachers and children. (Gal 6: 2,10) Thank you for your prayers for us. You are in our prayers daily.

Jean St. Juste, Haiti

In our community every thing is mostly shut down. The government order everybody to stay home, and provide no support to help them survive the staying home order. We are experiencing two calamities at the same time. One is the virus the other is the home jail. As you may already know most people in Haiti make their living on a day to day basis. Therefore not going out to find their daily bread for just one day means that family is going to bed hungry for that day. Most people are saying the home jail is harder than the virus. The vulnerable families in my country are getting deeper into their vulnerability. As for the churches, the government issued a no meeting order if there's emergency, for that it must be under 10 people. We gather with small people who can meet. Sometimes we meet over the phone.

As a lot of church members are seeking help for food from me as their spiritual leader. I myself I'm in the same situation as them. I'm locked up in a house with 40 children, I think it's safe to say I'm in the same position as everyone.

Elena Yordanova, Bulgaria

Bulgaria is locked down - no schools, no church. We meet online.

What makes most people angry is the government just say stay home but no help system for anyone. The old people, they are sick - but there's no system to buy food and medicine. The government allows others to visit the old, 8-10am to bring food and medicine. This is not enough. They are very hungry and sick. I have used my time buying some food and baking to take to some old people. School is out and most of the kids I help are in the villages, I cannot leave my town. I visit with them by internet. The situation is very hard all over the world. Here, we start to have few people who kill themselves as result of isolation and depression and fear of bankruptcy.



I'm thankful at home we are fine and healthy - not so easy to live in small apartment but learn how to do...
Love, Elena

Albert Arumugam

Praise the Lord. Albert distributing each 2kgs rice for 40 families as corona relief at Seenikuppam.

The Rest of the World

Seth Effa, Ghana

We are fine in the name of Jesus Christ our Savior who always guide His people from all troubles. Here in Ghana only 4 cities got the lockdown for 3 weeks, the president has lifted it only yesterday but we are still not allowed for group meeting. During these 4 Sundays I was giving communion to the members, 3 by 3 because of the social distance, They came to my house and we will continue to do that until the covid-19 goes back to where it came from. I want to say that anyone who will read this letter should understand that God knows His people, we should not fear anything. Using of mask and washing of hands I can say only about 2 percent people are using it in our country, Ghana.

Oscar Cottom, Antigua

Antigua is on shutdown. Even the Churches cannot open.

I will send spiritual uplifting messages to our members to keep their spirits up.

So far no one from our congregation has caught the virus. Praise Almighty God!!!

Only 24 people have caught the virus in Antigua

Our government has closed the borders. No flights can come in.

Please continue to pray for us. As we do the same for you.

Many thanks for going beyond the call of duty to send our support so faithfully each month.

So, So sorry about brother Reggie's passing, we were very close and share many precious times together, but praise God he is in heaven by the power and glory of God.

Yours faithfully.

Oscar & Joycelyn Cottam.

Steven Enoch & Anna Enoch Orphanage, Liberia

We are having services with our children and other church members from the Community. We are all fine. We even bought some rice as a church and sent it in town to the members who are there when the quarantine started. We just repaired the school gates. We are praying for you all too.

Francius Joseph, Haiti

As for the Raboteau Christian Church we meet for church service (3) times with (3) different groups, there are groups of 20, 25, 30 or 35 there are some of them who didn't come to the church. We start the 6:00 am to 7:45 am, 8:00 am to 9:45 am, and 10:00 am to 11:45 am. This is for each Sunday morning meeting and the door of the church is open each day, there are always different groups of 10 people who always come together to make prayers. Like you know the people in the area are very poor and because no activities the people stay home because of the covid-19. The church members and the community are doing good by the grace of the Lord, as for me and my family, we are doing good also the church ministries are ok. Like you know the Covid -19 gives a lot of problems for churches to meet together, please pray for the world and for the country of Haiti and I will continue to pray for the world, for your country and for the church ministries, and for you and for your family. May God bless you and your family daily.