



Jabez Elementary & Junior High School
Gordodin LPRC Community
Ganta City, Nimba-Liberia
Blessed to be a Blessing. Genesis 12:2

Blessings and Welcome to the fifth **Jabez Newsworthy Notes** from USA Board of Directors of Jabez School, November 2024.

Painting by Brownscombe



In 1621 Edward Winslow describes the **First Thanksgiving** in part as follows. “Our harvest being gotten in, our Governor sent four men out fowling, so that we might rejoice together, after we had gathered the fruit of our labours. At which time many of the Indians coming amongst us, and among the rest, their greatest king, Massasoit with some 90 men, whom for three days we entertained and feasted.”

The focus is usually on the celebration and feasting held in mid-Autumn of 1621 as proof of their thanksgiving to God for

His provision for them. But the real proof was that Sunday after Sunday throughout even the worst of times, they gathered to publicly thank God for what He had done and petition Him for His grace and mercy. **That is the Godly heart of thanksgiving.**

In that vein the **Board of Directors of Jabez gives thanks for all the people who are praying, giving time and funds and in many ways helping to make Jabez Christian School the place where God is first and children can reach their potential.** The school administrators and teachers are a huge gift and to them we say “thank you, God” and “thank you, staff of Jabez”.

Another **big thanks goes out to Rev. Jakes** who after retirement from the pastorate in Wisconsin has gone back to Liberia to live. Rev. Jakes has been asked by the USA Board to work with the Administration and the community to increase the breadth and depth of Jabez School. He has accepted our challenge. He will report and help prioritize current needs, and support the Administration as they work together to provide the information required by the Board in their decision making capacity. The USA Board is helping to cover some of the expenses Rev. Jakes encounters in this work. His presence is expected, and has already proven, to be very valuable as Jabez School grows. Donations are needed for this expense.

For the next few months we will be recapping some of Jabez' history. "Jabez Elementary and Junior High School and Trauma Counseling Center was envisioned and born out of the historical events that impacted the lives of all Liberians, especially the Gompa Community, its environs, my family and me." Rev. Jakes Voker

Liberia was founded by the American Colonization Society in 1816 to repatriate and resettle the Freed African Slaves and in 1947 became an independent country. The country has suffered many devastating political unrests. The final blow was in 1989 with a full blown civil war amongst six splintered rebel groups. That lasted until 2004 when the United Nations with the backing of President Bush intervened.

Rev. Jakes' family was gravely affected and are survivors of the brutal rebel war which saw a loss of life, flogging, and the burning of their homes. Twelve years into the 15 year war, Rev. Jakes was blessed with a half-tuition scholarship. He came to the United States alone. Eventually his family was reunited with him in the United States. Their comment, "*Why such undeserved blessings?*" After prayerful discernments, their response was, "*Blessed to be a blessing*".



Water, a mainstay of life! **We have started the "Water Tower Project"**. A second contractor has been chosen with a better price and using galvanized and PVC pipes and a 1000 gallon Poly Tank to be mounted on the 18ft high water tower. It also includes a submersible pump. The price is \$3000 USA.

One half of that has already been raised, so we are looking for donations for the second half, approximately \$1500. Rev. Jakes' comment was "I can only imagine how important and impressive this tower will be on campus of our beloved Jabez' Christian School!"

Being in mission with Jabez School Board, no matter how small or large, is a constant reminder and affirmation of God's immeasurable power and faithfulness to His promise to use anyone who truly believes in His Son Jesus Christ, as an instrument to mold, shape and transform human lives.

Jabez is a 501(c)3 organization. Make checks payable to Jabez Christian School.

Please send donations to:

Jerry Andersen (Board Treasurer) 6420 W. Hwy G, Caledonia, WI 53108