

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

Blessings and Welcome to **Jabez Newsworthy Notes** from The USA Board of Directors of Jabez School, March, 2025

All students from 4th grade to 9th are enrolled in the tailoring program.

Also, two women and a young man from the community are enrolled at this time. Both students and outsiders pay a very minimal fee to help cover the cost of materials and maintenance. Each participant wants to express appreciation for all the support they receive. The sewing machines seen in the picture were given to Jabez by the Brothers Sewing Machine Company.

The tailoring program is dedicated to developing skills that could be income producing in the future. There is a direct benefit both to the students and the community.



Jabez's Community Christian Congregation was started in June of 2023 by a group of Jabez School's staff. The congregation began after years of prayerful contemplation and discussions amongst two of the past administrations and Rev. Jakes whenever he visited.



When the call came saying the church was actually a reality, Rev. Jakes and Esther welcomed the idea and began supporting the effort with both prayers and funds. Rev. Jakes wrote "When Esther and I arrived in Liberia in March of 2024, the congregants warmly welcomed us." The people also asked the Vokers to help develop and restructure the young congregation, which they have done. Since his arrival Rev. Jakes has served as the volunteer "Directing Pastor" while one of the founding members serves as the "Outreach Pastor".

As a prelude to the first year anniversary on June 8 of 2024, twenty-three converts were baptized. Presently there are twelve persons attending baptismal classes in preparation to be baptized soon. The church has worship services on Sunday, Bible Studies are held on Wednesday and Friday, and the Baptismal classes are held on Saturdays. The Administration of the school is working alongside the church to encourage the students to attend Sunday School and to actively participate in Sunday Morning Worship. As we see the church grow, we give God the Glory for much has been accomplished.



The conclusion of our history of Jabez focuses on the projects that began in 2020. They have taken several years to accomplish and we are now able to see the results of our preparation and work. The first endeavor was to plan and begin the agricultural program which is well underway. The land and plants were purchased and the palms are growing. Our newest Board member,

Sei Kidau has expertise in this area and we look forward to his assistance to ensure the continued development of the program especially as the maintenance factor becomes even more important.

The second endeavor was the tailoring program which is described in this issue and now open to the villagers. The third endeavor was a food program which began as a trial, funded by Bill and Kathy Hutchison. The immediate need was to identify possible options. Now Jabez has a kitchen and meals are being served to our students! Still the goal is to increase the consistency, amount and the nutritional value of the food for the students. The fourth endeavor was a reliable computer lab which required significant electrical work. That is completed and now we look at how to serve a greater number of students satisfactorily. Additional computers have been ordered with some funding still needed.

Okra farming is another tool for learning. While in our last issue we focused on the benefits of okra farming itself, here's how the school and students benefit from this project. The okra garden is one means by which the practical aspects of farming are practiced by the students. The Ag teacher demonstrates the work of soil preparation, nursery preparation, transplanting and watering. Then these responsibilities are carried out by the students under the



guidance of the Ag teacher. The student involvement continues until the okra fruit matures and is taken to the local market to be sold. This income for the school will be used to serve the students.

What motivates our donors and prayer partners to support Jabez? Board member Vernita Green speaks to that question. It is a chance to "pass it on".



"When I see a group of Jabez children, I see myself. I grew up in the sparsely populated high desert of northern Nevada with few of the city experiences but many experiences of being a part of a community that watched over, cared for and sought the best in education for its children. Jabez is a place where I can be a part of the "grown-ups" passing on that kind of love. The more I give the more I know that Jabez is the place for me to pass on what I received...God's love shown through people who care."

Join us. We are 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. **To God the Glory. To You the Thanks.**