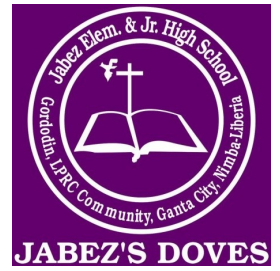




# JABEZ NEWS



August 2019

A Publication of the Jabez Board of Directors-USA

Vol. 3 Issue 3

## TAKE CARE OF YOURSELF

Take care of yourself  
 so that you can be the best of you.  
 When you tell me to take care of  
 myself  
 then I can see that you are taking  
 care of yourself  
 and I will be inspired by you.  
 Joliethe McIntosh / 03.30.2017



### JABEZ SCHOOL'S MISSIONAL FLAG

A "Flag" by definition is a piece of fabric with unique design and color used as a symbol. Like all others, the flag of Jabez Elementary and Junior High School shares similar purposes.

Let's reflect on the origin and symbolism of the Jabez School flag. The flag was thought of and designed by the 2016/2017 Student Government. The unfinished samples of the flag were presented to the visiting team of Volunteers-In-Mission headed by Rev. Jakes Voker. As a sign of the Local Board's desire to support every positive vision and mission endeavor of both the School's Administration and students the flag was approved and updated to its present form.

The Jabez flag brings together and reflects three important historical symbols: First, in the upper far-left corner is the flag of the Republic of Liberia. This flag was adopted August 24, 1847. The Liberian flag has a resemblance to the flag of the United States of America. It has eleven stripes representing the number of signatories to the country's declaration of independence on July 26, 1847. The eleven alternate red and white stripes symbolize courage and moral excellence. The lone white shining star in



Jabez students making popcorn at the  
 End of School Year party.

the blue field represents the only independent African nation with a western-form of government.

The next historic symbol is the flag of Nimba County. It has three colors symbolizing: red for valor, white for purity, and blue for fidelity. Attached in the upper left corner of the Nimba Flag are the flag of Liberia and a globe with half brown bottom (Iron Ore), a blue sky descending on a green forest from which a large tree is ascending into the sky while the sun rise lights up everywhere. The county is named after Mount "Neenbaa", the highest and most iron ore rich mountain in Liberia. Wonderful symbolism!!

The Jabez Flag incorporates elements of the flags of the country and county in which it is located as a sign of courtesy. However, the School's flag has some distinct symbolisms that were prayerfully considered because they align with its vision and mission. Those symbolisms are as follow:

1. While the purple and white represent the School's uniform, the two colors were chosen because of their deeper Biblical significance. Biblically, the color purple represents royalty, wealth, status and that aligns with Jabez School's Vision and Mission to provide education that would empower its students and graduates to be economically self-sufficient.
2. The white circular logo symbolizes Jabez School's desire model authentic, pure Christ-centered environment and education that would mold and shape lives toward the saving knowledge of Jesus Christ.
3. The circle represents God's endless love and blessings available to all who believe.
4. The book is the Bible, representing the authority upon which the ministry and mission of Jabez School was founded and operates.
5. The Cross represents the sacrificial work of Jesus Christ that serves as a motivation for all believers to serve others irrespective of who they are and where they are.
6. The Descending Dove represents the continual power and presence of God that affirms us as His children and guides us just as He did at the Baptism of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Jabez School's Moto is: "BLESSED TO BE A BLESSING," based on Genesis 12: 1-2; 1Chronicles 4:9-10). This is the mantra that informs and guides all of our ministry and missional endeavors!

On Saturday, 17th August 2019, Jabez School Board of Directors celebrated the school's Sixth Anniversary at Sherman Avenue United Methodist Church, Madison WI. There were about thirty-five people in attendance. Since opening its doors to the Ganta community and its environs for the enrollment of students in September 2013, the School has touched the lives of over six hundred students with knowledge and skills while at the same time providing employment opportunities for over twenty instructional and support staff each year.

As the enrollment continues to grow, so the school also continues to look forward to increasing its capacity to provide additional skills in computers, agriculture and sewing. Therefore, we are prayerfully seeking for funding to help us purchase fifteen new laptops/desktop computers at a cost of three hundred dollars apiece. The Board of Directors USA is also working to raise about three thousand dollars to help ship fifty sewing machines and other donated material to the school. They are working with the Local Board as well to establish a feeding program and an agriculture program. (ed. note: Please see article on page 5.)

As the Lord moves your heart to donate to his work, please make your check payable to SAUMC Jabez School and mail the check and coupon found on page 5 to Sherman Avenue United Methodist Church, Attention: Mr. Ed McDonald, 3705 N. Sherman Avenue, WI 3704.

Thanks ever so much for being a part of God's work that touches, molds, shapes and transforms lives in the name of Jesus Christ, one child at a time!

In His service together,

*Jakes Voker*

Chair- Jabez School Board of Directors

## Sixth Anniversary of Jabez School Celebrated

The afternoon of Saturday, August 17th was a joyous time at Sherman Avenue United Methodist Church. The tables were covered with purple tablecloths and a table decoration which included the Jabez school flag. Purple and white balloons hung high by Supporting Board Members Gwen and Maurice Beck. Hugs and hellos greeted each person. The tables filled up and we needed to put up another. The food table was overflowing. An “anniversary cake” was our dessert.



Rev. Jakes and Patsy McDonald were the leaders of the celebration. Gwen and Maurice shared reflections on their Mission trip to the school in 2016. Rev. Jakes had made up a song about “Blessed to be a Blessing”. Everyone learned the song and we all sang to open up the celebration. Rev. Jakes gave thanks to everyone for coming, for being interested in Jabez and for being a supporter. Patsy enthusiastically shared slides which showed the history, the people, the activities, and the school’s development.

The program ended with Jolieth McIntosh calling the children forward to share with them a poem she had written for the children of Jabez. She passed that poem on to the children present. Anniversary booklets and donations envelopes were given out and small Jabez flags were available. The day certainly was a celebration of thanksgiving for the past and hope for the future. If anyone would like more information about Jabez history, present needs, and future endeavors, please contact Rev. Jakes.



*Thank You!*

### The Board of Directors

#### Officers

Rev. Jakes Voker, Chair  
Patsy McDonald, Vice-chair  
Jerry Andersen, Treasurer  
Vernita Green, Secretary

#### Board Members

Jolieth McIntosh  
Maureen Beck  
Steve Limbach  
Bill Hutchison  
Ed McDonald

#### Supporting Board Members

Gwen Beck  
Maurice Beck  
Austin Freest  
August Grulich  
Ken Walenski’s Family



The GPS coordinates for the Jabez School and

GUMC Mission House are:

Jabez School

(7.1982217,-8.9791855)

GUMC Guest House

(7.2334649,-8.9772242)

Type the coordinates into Google Maps

#### To Contact Us

Jabez Elementary and Junior High School  
and Trauma Counseling Center

Rev. Jakes Voker

First Racine United Methodist Church

745 Main Street

Racine, WI 53403

261 497 4370



# The Closing Ceremonies July 2019



## The Year in Review 2018-2019



# Jabez: The Possibilities

## The Agriculture and Feeding Program

A large percentage of the students don't have enough food, which directly impacts learning and attendance. The Board understands the need and the advantages of providing a basic, but healthy lunch at school. We are investigating the costs and logistics. One option is to serve Power Gari, a fortified and flavored hot cereal, which is grown and produced locally. The initial cost estimate to provide a meal, 5 times per week, for all students and teachers is approximately \$350 per month for the Power Gari. The Local School Administration is investigating the possibility of starting an agriculture and garden program to help feed students as well as provide local revenue for operating expenses.

## Cargo Container

Brothers International donated 50 new sewing machines to Jabez School. The Board has accepted other large material donations for the school. However, the Board is responsible for shipping the donations to Liberia. The Board is working on a collaboration with Friendship International and other groups working in Liberia to arrange a shipment in late 2020. The cost for a 40 foot shipping container is approximately \$7,000.00. The container and cost would be shared with the other groups working in Liberia.

**Your donations are welcome to help support these projects!**

**Donations to support any of the Jabez Projects funds can be made by sending the filled out coupon and a check to the address on the coupon.**

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**I bless you to be a blessing. Gen. 12:2**

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### Jabez Elementary and Junior High School and Trauma Counseling Center

Contributions for:

General \_\_\_\_\_

Investment: \_\_\_\_\_

Restricted:

Building \_\_\_\_\_

Sponsor \_\_\_\_\_

Feeding \_\_\_\_\_

Other \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ St: \_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to: SAUMC/Jabez School

Mail to: Ed McDonald, 1918 Gulseth St., Madison, WI 53704

**Unused restricted contributions not used within two years may be used for the General Fund.**