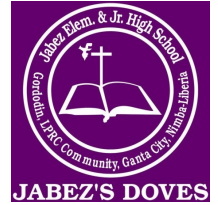




# JABEZ NEWS



August 2023

Publication of the Jabez Board of Directors USA

Vol. 8 Issue 2

## *A Message from Miss Jolieth*

*BE THE BEST OF YOU*

*Children,*

*soar like an eagle,*

*fly like a hawk,*

*swim like a barracuda,*

*dance like a butterfly,*

*sing like a robin,*

*jump like a kangaroo,*

*gallop like a horse,*

*hop like a rabbit,*

*work like a donkey*

*and protect like a dog.*

*Children, you are you,*

*be the best of you.*

*Jolieth McIntosh*



**Exciting News!!**

**Our Web Page is up!**

**Please visit us at**

**<http://jabezschool-lib.org>**

## **A Message from Mr. Penpeh Gbea**

I am Penpeh Gbean who joined Jabez Elementary & Junior High School in the 2022-2023 academic year. I am the vice principal and a junior high Mathematics teacher. I obtained an Associate of Arts Degree in Education from the Liberia International Christian College (LICC) in 2016 in Ganta, Liberia. In 2009, I also obtained a "C" Certificate from Zorzor Teacher Training Institute in Lofa County, Liberia. I am presently working towards Bachelor of Arts Degree in Mathematics at the Liberia International Christian College.

Greetings to all members and chairpersons of both local board and the USA board for their tireless efforts for providing learning opportunities for Liberian children. Jabez Elementary & Junior High School is one of the many schools in Ganta, Liberia that has a modern school building, modern auditorium, modern latrines facilities, Electricity, student's library, computer lab for students, agriculture program for students, sewing machines, work grant for needy students, a very big campus for students play and scholarships for talented students. The school also has eight acres of oil palm for a future endowment fund.

Based on the above mentioned facilities and learning opportunities, I classified Jabez Elementary & Junior High School as one of the best schools in Ganta. I envision that in a decade from now, Jabez Elementary & Junior High School will be a full self-sustaining high



school in Liberia. However, in order for this dream to come to reality, requires the collective efforts of participations of committed teachers, PTA, local school board and the USA board. Therefore, I strongly vow to commit myself to positively work with Jabez Institution to bring glory and positive change.

I encourage every member of the teaching staff of Jabez Elementary & Junior High School to work hard academically and pedagogically with commitments so as to accomplish this dream. We are here to make a difference meaningfully. We are in Jabez School not just for a salary but to be sensational and transformational for the betterment of the students, the dream of Jabez Elementary & Junior High School and the Liberian nation. Teachers should be the role models with good integrity and with every academic and outside curriculum activity we do so we shall lead the students to Christ.

### **Challenges**

I also express to both local and the USA boards that there are challenges in the school regardless of the facilities and learning opportunities. The issues of trained and qualified teachers in the areas of the tailoring department, computer lab and senior high instructors if we deem it expedient to elevate the school and meet the challenge. There is a need to train committed teachers who will serve the institution in the areas stipulated above so as to overcome these challenges for improvements and meeting our goals of Jabez Elementary & Junior High School.

The reasons are: most of the tailors in Liberia prefer to work in their shop, earning more money at the end of the month than a school stipend or salary. Training a computer teacher as well as some senior high teachers in major subjects such as Mathe-

matics, Sciences and Language Arts areas will enable Jabez School to have her own committed teachers who will serve the school permanently. Those teachers will develop more passion or commitments to the school. This will give rise to the school in a decade from now.

Finally, let us all strongly and collectively work hard towards the dream of Jabez Elementary & Junior High School for improvements, positive transformations, integrity, Christ connectedness and making Liberia a better place.

**VPI/Teacher  
Penpeh Gbean**



### **Meet Our New Board Member**

#### **Carol Rossitti**

Carol served as a Peace Corps Volunteer in Togo, West Africa in the 1960s. She brings her corporate and non-profit work background in Human Resources Development to the Board, and is eager to contribute to the advancement of the vision and mission of the Christ-centered Jabez Elementary and Junior High School.

Carol was introduced to the Jabez School by her brother Ken who also served as a Peace Corps Volunteer in Liberia. Through Ken's relationship with Rev. Jakes, she began to support the efforts to sustain and develop the programs that are an integral part of the school and trauma center.

Carol is retired, lives just north of Dallas, Texas, has two adult children and four grandchildren.





THE GUEST SPEAKER PASTOR TONGER HANDS OUT AWARDS TO HONORED STUDENTS 07-07-2023

**Congratulations!**



NOTE: School year ended with 135 students and 132 received promotions to the next classes while 3 didn't meet the requirements. Thank God for both those promoted and those who didn't make it!



PRINCIPAL ABEL & TEACHING STAFF AND THE SCHOOL'S CHOIR ESCORTING THE STUDENTS IN A PROCESSION INTO THE AUDITORIUM FOR THE CLOSING PROGRAM. 07-07-2023



## A Message from Rev. Jakes Dear Jabez' School's Family and Friends.

Greetings in the name of Jesus Christ in whose vineyard we are called to serve. It's been quite a while since you last heard from us, and thus we sincerely apologize! During the period of the silence, we've been very active working behind the curtains. The Board of Directors has been meeting regularly on schedule, the Jabez School has been running smoothly as well as other relevant businesses being attended. To God be the glory for all that he continues to do and accomplish through our committed efforts, however faint, for the transformation lives in his name!

The following photos are highlights of some of the major events that have taken place in the life of the school. Finally, thanks to all of you, members of the Board of directors, the Local Board, PTA administration, staff, students as well as our donors for staying the course for another successful academic year. Your gifts of time, money and prayers continue to help Jabez Christian School reach its ministry/missional goals each year. We are and will continue to be grateful and prayerful that God would replenish your energies and materials used for the transformation of lives in the name of Jesus Christ. Again, thanks for all you are and do on behalf Jesus Christ!

Blessings, Rev. Jakes Voker

Proprietor / Chair- Jabez Christian School of Jabez Christian Elem. & Jr. High School



### K-2 TO GRADE ONE GRADUATING CLASS.

Per the government's mandate, and at the discretion of the school's administration, some of the older kids who really did well in all their lessons were given "Double promotions," to grade two instead of one.



MID-WEEK CHAPEL SERVICE-JABEZ SCHOOL



REV. JAKES' PICTURED WITH JABEZ SCHOOL'S STAFF AND LOCAL BORD MEMBERS AN EXCITING AND FUN TIME FOLLOWING A PICNIC!

### Grant Applied for

Jabez has applied for a grant of \$5,365 from the Self-Help Fund of the US Embassy. Approval is pending the review process. The request is to provide hand tools, a storage shed, and related expenses for the Jabez palm project. The palm products will generate income that will help support the school, with an ultimate goal of becoming self sustaining. Members of the school, as well as the community, are active in maintaining the palm farm.

If you are aware of other organizations that might provide funding/ grants, please don't hesitate to contact any of the USA Board of Directors. Everything helps.





## Highlights of the U.S. Board Meeting June 2023



### 1Jabez Board Meeting Summary

The Spring Board meeting gave us the opportunity to welcome a new Board Member Carol Rossetti. She brings a different set of gifts which compliment the gifts of other Board members and will benefit Jabez greatly.

In reviewing the life of Jabez, Rev. Jakes reminded us that over 1000 students have been served at Jabez. Besides that the school's auditorium, which holds 150 people, the well and the Peace Hut all are available and used by the community. What a gift Jabez is to the community!

At the present time the current financial paralyze in Liberia is causing Jabez and its families to struggle to meet tuition and fees. And as would be expected, expenses are up.

The website needs some updating/correcting. Anyone that sees an error or has a problem is asked to tell a Board Member who will bring it back to our next meeting for correction.

A grant proposal from the U.S. Embassy in Monrovia has been finalized and delivered to the Embassy. The grant request is built around the Oil Palm Farm. The grant, a one time gift, will help Jabez become self-sufficient. Self-sufficiency is a goal so important to the work of Jabez. The request is for around \$5000.

The administration has requested that Jabez Bd consider adding grade levels. We know that Ganta is the fastest growing commercial city in Liberia. We also know that in Liberia transportation is a problem so having a school near that serves all children would be a plus. Considering the economic situation this could be difficult. However, we also know that Jabez is serving the community well and that the kids are excited about school and seem committed. The Board will pray, learn and discuss the situation and our part in it.

The Board will meet again in summer. Anyone is welcome and requested to ask questions and give us feedback as well as monies to help us continue our work in Liberia.

#### The Board of Directors

##### Officers

Rev. Jakes Voker, Chair  
Jerry Andersen, Treasurer  
Vernita Green, Secretary

##### Board Members

Jolieth McIntosh  
Steve Limbach  
Bill Hutchison  
Carol Rossitti

##### Supporting Board Members

Maureen O'Connor  
Patsy McDonald  
Gwen Beck  
Maurice Beck  
Austin Freest  
August Grulich  
Kenneth Walanski's Family  
Dr. Ellen Spriering

**BE SAFE**

**BE SMART**

**BE HAPPY**



shutterstock - 653210011

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**

# JABEZ ELEM. & JR. HIGH SCHOOL



**GORDODIN, LPRC COMMUNITY  
GANTA CITY, NIMBA COUNTY - LIBERIA**

**Contact: 0886-947-051 / 0886-553-199 / 0886-972-049**

*Motto:* **Blessed to be a Blessing** *Genesis 12:2*



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

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Donors, We are now a 501(c3) Now that we are a 501(c3) organization, a tax exempt organization, the treasurer can now directly receive donations of money. **To send donations directly to our treasurer, Jerry Anderson. His mailing address is 1940 Taylor. Racine, WI 53403. He will send you a letter to use for tax purposes saying you received no gifts or services in exchange for the monies given.**

Please make checks payable to **Jabez Christian School**. Your gifts allow Jabez to serve the children of the area with an education and a way of life that will bring each child closer to God and closer to his potential.

The Jabez Board of Directors USA, the children, teachers, and workers at Jabez, the administration, and the local school board all send their individual and collective "THANKS" and "BLESSING"