



JABEZ NEWS



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Request from Rev. Jakes

Palm oil production is a major source of long term local income generation and daily sustenance for individuals, communities and organizations in Liberia, Prayfully, this will be the case for Jabez School and Post-Trauma Counseling, Ganta City.

Any organization that depends solely on outside financial support sets itself up for either a financially painful existence or would have to survive on financial life-support with no certainty for the future.

The 1950s thru the late 1970s were times when Christian Missionaries and Peace Corp Volunteers flooded the villages, towns and cities of Liberia. During their stay, the missionaries and Peace Corp established and financially supported many need-based programs including schools, clinics, hospitals, and safe drinking water in many communities. Life was good! (See page 3)

Unfortunately, as those foreign programs began to draw-down their presence, so did their financial support for those wonderfully vibrant and life-changing programs. Sad to say most of those life-saving programs no longer exist, and those that are still hanging in there are doing so with excruciating financial pain and are on life-support! One of these Missionaries established and fully funded a program that is still in existence, the Ganta United Methodist Mission Station, located 128 miles northeast of Monrovia. The Mission Station is comprised of a high school, hospital and nursing school and guest house. Based on my nine years of service with the hospital and mission station, I can tell you that those programs have been on financial life-support since 1985. The station superintendent and school principal have had to rely heavily on the investment made in local income generating agricultural products including a palm oil farm and vegetable garden, as well as, housing for visitors to the station along with meager oversea financial support in order to keep afloat.

Let's not forget that the original vision and mission of Jabez School and Post-Trauma Counseling Center did not include being an emergency/crisis response program, but, a long-term, independent educational and post-trauma counseling program.

Our goal is to empower Jabez School and Post Trauma Counseling Center to move into the future with hope by investing in local leadership development and income generating projects; one of which is a palm farm. Let's teach the people to fish and not keep spoon feeding them with fish!

In view of all the above, let me provide some insights into the envisioned palm oil farm project:

Among the cash crops grown in the area including rubber, cocoa, coffee, etc. in Liberia, palm is the only crop that is easy to grow and can benefit the farmer in various ways for a long period of time. Some of the ways a palm farmer benefits is:

1. An acre of land would hold 50-60 palm trees. They grow in rich tropical soil that does not need watering except when in a nursery. The trees take three to five years to begin bearing bunches and the bunches increase overtime while ripening and harvesting are done year-round.



Ganta Guest House c. 2014



A Palm Tree Farm



Harvesting Bunches



2. Palm oil is used for both meal and income generation. More than 90% of West Africans/Liberians eat palm nuts and use the palm oil for family meals or sell it to meet their financial needs. Palm oil is used to make soap, burn in lamps and is sold in all the marketplaces. Palm oil is very essential to the livelihood of every person in the West African/Liberian Community.

Therefore, I would prayerfully encourage us to consider investing in this very important local income generating project that would eventually provide long term and reliable income for Jabez School and Post-Trauma Counseling Center in the future. We need ten acres of land for this project. One-acre (4 lots) including deed registration and survey fees costs USD \$2,750.00. I pray that you would allow God to use you to bless this envisioned project by donating to purchase at least one lot or an acre in Jesus' name!

If you would need further detailed information on the rationale for this project, please contact me either by phone: (262) 497-4370 or e-mail: jakesv@yahoo.com. Thank you for your time, and may God richly bless you to continue to be a blessing to others in Jesus' name.

In His service together,

Jakes Voker

Rev. Jakes Voker

Proprietor/Chair- Jabez School Board of Directors



Left :
Processing Palm Oil



Right:
Bottled Palm Oil

Thank you from Jabez

The Administration and students of Jabez congratulates the international board for their enormous support given to the institution over the years, we are proud to see such a support coming from people who don't even know us and our parents.

Now, we know that Christian organization really follows Jesus' foot print that says "Love your neighbor as you love yourself", this has really been replicated in our life by the international sponsors (board members of Jabez school)

Words are inadequate to be express but we look forward to seeing more done in order to improve the standard of the school so that we can be taken from where it is to another level.

Thanks
Mr Dolo
Principal



The Jabez Staff 2019-2020

We the members of the Parents Teachers Association of Jabez Elementary and Jr. High school in Ganta City want to say many thanks to our international board, especially for the work grant support for offering scholarships our needy students for past years since the establishment of the institution.

Having realized that the assistance you are giving to our children is greatly impacting their live and the education of these whom you don't know. I want to whole heartedly congratulate you.

However the PTA want to encourage you to please continue your assistance to our children and even help elevate our school to full high school to avoid students leaving their community to go for far distances for higher education. Congratulations! May the Almighty God bless you and your work grant support team.

Best regards, PTA Chairman Of Jabez school

Hi ,

I am Victoria Duogar, Kindergarten teacher of Jabez Elementary and Jr. High School, who benefited greatly from the development funds.

I am grateful to the international board for its humanitarian support. The support made me to be who I am today: a professional, qualified "C" certificate Holder in the education field. During the program, I achieved more advanced experience which I never knew when I was a mere high school graduate.

The program helped me to obtain vast experience such as classroom management, lesson planning and teaching skills among others in the teaching career. May God bountifully bless you and your family members of the board in America.

FUN SWINGING

All alone it stood,
a lonely swing at a quiet rest area.
I hurried toward it.
I sat on it and grasped its hands.
I flung my legs in and out.
I closed my eyes and touched the sky.
The wind blew its breath on my skirt.
The shrubs nodded to me.
The green grass waved to me.
The sun smiled with me.
The day lilies danced next to me.
Up and down,
down and up I went,
as free as a bird.
I was six years old again.

Jolieth McIntosh / 03.23.2015



Early Missionaries to Ganta

Dr. George and Mrs. Winifred Harley were the first two missionaries to arrive in Ganta in February 27, 1926. Following their arrival there were about 65 missionaries present at the Ganta Methodist Mission Station in 1958. So, while the Harleys were the original founders of the Mission station, other missionaries, like Rev. B.B. Cofield, contributed very much too. Rev. Cofield was mainly involved with evangelism and even constructed the first Methodist Church known as the "Stone Church building"-Miller McAllister United Methodist.



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Blessed
BEYOND BELIEF

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
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261 497 4370

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.

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



Jabez Elementary and Junior High School and Trauma Counseling Center

Contributions for:

Restricted:

General _____

Sponsor _____

Investment: _____

Feeding _____

Palm Farm _____

Name: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ St: ___ Zip: _____ Email: _____

Make checks payable to: Sherman Ave. United Methodist Church

Please note "Jabez School" on the memo line and

Mail to: Sherman Avenue UMC, 3705 N. Sherman Ave, Madison, WI 53704