



LIGHTHOUSE

MINISTRIES INTERNATIONAL

52nd Edition
Summer 2018

Lighthouse Newsletter



Mark Your Calendars!
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The Annual General Meeting



In May of this year Delfred and Doris Weber and myself spent a week in Ghana to oversee the work we are doing there and to attend the Annual General Meeting of the Lighthouse Children's Home. Here is a brief diary of the trip

Monday, May 14th. Spent the day traveling. Arrived in Accra in the evening and slept at the Baptist Guest house close to the airport

Tuesday, May 15th. We stopped by Swedru and met with Williams Yirenyki from Inspired Global Ideas. Williams began a ministry in the Swedru area sponsoring school children in 2010. This ministry has since grown to have its own school as well as sponsoring other village children that are attending public schools in the area. We had some preliminary discussions about the added benefits if we were able to

take over some of the child sponsorships funding and it was clear that it would be a big help to them. I shared that we are interested in getting involved in funding primary grade school age children and explained why that would be of interest to our support community. After a bit of pressing, he shared that a sponsorship of 30.00 USD a month would be adequate to get children into a school who are currently unable to attend. Williams' focus is on very poor villages in the area and the belief that people would be better off staying in the local villages rather than believing that it is better in the bigger centers because that is not the case. We parted with the hope/plan that we could arrange to meet again later in the week and discuss in more detail how we could work together.

Wednesday May 16th.

This morning was a quiet one. Brother David came to say hi this morning, so we figured out what the agenda for the week looks like. There is a LHCH board meeting planned for Thursday at 11:30 and lunch after that at the University clubhouse. That is the extent of the official meetings we will

have in addition to the AGM as relates to LHCH. A car was arranged for us to rent while we are here and Sylvester brought the car to the Guest House so I was able to meet him for the first time. Around lunch time we went uptown to get Delfred's Ghana phone and our internet working as one of the people in this group is quite stranded without data access.

After the "grocery" run was completed we went to the Children's Home. When we got there the children were in school, but some staff were there, so we got to meet them. They had heard that we were coming sometime this week, so they were all prepared to feed us soon after we got there. It would not have been polite to not be hungry so we "enjoyed" a serving of fufu and chicken. Sylvester was away at the time we arrived but returned later and we spent some more time talking and getting to know each



other. Delfred and Doris went to pick up the gifts they had brought for the children who spent that time with Sylvester in his office. Sylvester is passionate about the ministry aspect of his job. He quickly got to talking about the things he is doing in teaching and training the children in things spiritual as well as just plain solid values etc. One of the things he said he is doing is sharing his own school experience. This allowed me to ask for his story and it is quite impressive. While I was in his office his phone rang and after hanging up he told me it was the local area director for Social Welfare saying that they had someone at their office wanting to donate some items to a children's home and he would bring them over. The director and the donor came over later in the afternoon after the children were home from school and what we got to witness was a truly heartwarming event. The Home appears very well managed, the children are happy, and content and it was delightful to be there.

After supper this evening Sister Joyce had us review the paperwork that she has on the LEAF students. Meticulous and very detailed would best



describe her work, I's all doted and t's all crossed. She shared also about the research that she has done on needy young children that she has found playing on the streets of Accra during school hrs. I was impressed. She researched the parent(s) situation, why they were not in school, what the adult situation was in the child's life, what it would take to get them back into school and thinking about how the caregiver could be helped so that they might be able to take proper care of their child. We were interrupted by visitors to see Delfred, so we will need to finish this meeting later.

Thursday May 17th. Today we had a Lighthouse Children's Home board meeting. The meeting today was basically

an update session for us from Canada. We received the financial report for the home since we changed to the current funding program and they are managing their money well.

We were also given an update on a resident named Elizabeth that was removed from the Home to be returned to her father. Her father is blind and lives in a very small room with others so that was less than ideal. However, it gets much worse, as they have found out the child was sent to another NGO for a monthly remuneration to the father. It is likely that the father had "help" inside Social Welfare to pull this off. It is highly probable that someone at Social Welfare is also benefiting from money flows from this arrangement. They are all quite distressed about this, but they are powerless to do anything about it currently. The board confirmed that the current pressure on Social Welfare to not bring needy children to a Home such as ours, but to instead keep them in their communities, was causing a backlog of children in the system that should be in our care. We should be prepared that there could be quite a rise in the number of children at

LHCH if the dam breaks on the backlog.

Overall my impression is that the challenges they face are not as many or as serious as they were a couple of years ago when I was here. PTL

Friday May 18th. Delfred and I were able to meet with Williams' from IGI today. We had a very good meeting and have agreed in principle how we could begin working together. It would be a smaller scale "pilot project" to make sure that we are in sync with each other and to get any kinks worked out of the processes.

We stopped by the Lighthouse Farm on our way back to Cape Coast. It was rewarding to see that the farm is being worked (some corn was planted, and the rest had been plowed). The young man that was there told us that there are over 30 head of cattle on the farm now.

Over supper this evening at Anomabo Beach I brought up the subject with Joyce again about the research that she has done on children that are not in school for various reasons. She had shared the other evening that she has a list of 23 children that she has researched and by her

calculations she would be able to get them all into school for 5,000 Cedi a year. It is clear to me that she has a passion for helping these children and I believe she would be a faithful caretaker of any funds we would allocate to this project.

Saturday May 19th. AGM was held as planned. No fireworks, no surprises, nobody sleeping. Many kind words, good reports, valuable discussions. Dinner after the meeting as usual.

Sunday May 20th. Church started at 8:00 am this morning so that worked well for us as we left for the airport in the afternoon.

Post Note: It was another worthwhile and rewarding trip. We feel very blessed in having people that are giving of their best to the Master in the missions supported by LMI in Ghana. May God bless each one and make your work fruitful in His kingdom.

Arnold Frey



Board Report

Greetings in the precious name of Jesus, the One who gives life. Recently as I was studying John 11, the story of the resurrection of Lazarus, several things stood out to me.

Firstly, when Christ first heard of the sickness of Lazarus he delayed his coming because this sickness was not unto death but for the glory of God. To Mary and Martha this delay must have been a disappointment and surely did not appear to be for the good. However, what appeared to be a negative in the eyes of man worked out to be a positive for the glory of God. Today God still doesn't withhold good from His children unless He has planned a far greater "good". May we remember that many times our perceived negatives are positives to bring glory to God.

Secondly, in this chapter Jesus says, "I am the resurrection and the life." It is clear that only through Him can we be given spiritual life. Symbolically, just as Lazarus came forth out of the tomb, we too must answer the call of Jesus to be brought out of our sins into the abundant life in Christ. It is only Christ that can give us life.

Thirdly, as Lazarus emerged from the tomb we find that he was bound with grave clothes. He was alive! Everyone who saw knew and believed that Lazarus was alive. He was walking toward them! Now we see an interesting turn of events; Jesus could easily have proceeded to free Lazarus from the binding grave clothes but He did not. He commanded the witnesses to loose him and let him go. No one but Jesus could give life and Jesus could have done the work of loosing Lazarus as well but instead He gave others that responsibility. The responsibility still rests on believers today to remove the grave clothes of old habits, addictions, former lusts, poverty and trials that rob us of the joy in Christ.

May we help each other achieve greater heights as we bear one another's burdens and remember to look not every man on his own things but also on the things of others. As these commands are fulfilled all can be blessed with the feeling of brotherhood throughout the global church of Christ and our witness, the salt to the earth, can draw more to respond to Jesus' call to come out of the tomb to newness of life.

At LMI we wish to thank each one for partnering with us as we take brotherhood across international borders.

Matt Frey

Current Sewing Students

I laugh when I remember a moment a few years ago when Wismith was telling me about his vision for a school and he was suggesting that I could help with a sewing class, because that is exactly what has happened. I serve as secretary and home-maker here in Haiti, but I also help with our sewing class. I've always loved sewing, but I never imagined that it would be such a valuable skill for living in Haiti – not because of the power of sewing but because of the doors it has opened for me.



In the sewing room I've learned how to take measurements and turn them into a pattern that's custom made just for you, but most importantly I'm learning (present continuous tense) the language and culture of Haiti. My students are my teachers and I'm always learning something new! They each have a story, and I'm honored to be part of their lives. Many of our students that have graduated do sewing as a small side business for added income when they finish the classes.

Rebecca Joseph

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Board Members: (left to right)

Colin Shantz (Secretary/Treasurer) | (519) 591-9891

Arnold Frey (Board Member) | (519) 846-5898

Calvin Frey (Vice Chair) | (519) 698-0336

Matthew Frey (Chairman) | (519) 638-0122

Kevin Weber (Board Member) | (519) 292-1327

Annual Fundraiser Supper

Tuesday, August 28, 2018

**NOTE NEW LOCATION:
Wallenstein Bible Chapel**

Supper from 5:30-7:30

Program starts at 7:45

Singing starts at 6:30

Singing before and after the program

Special Singing by:

Surrendered

Markham Youth Choir

Everyone is welcome; your early confirmation is appreciated.

Tickets are available from the events committee.

Dennis & Laurie Frey | 519-498-3309

Ben & Luella Martin | 519-699-4689

Marlin & Wendy Reist | 226-820-4842

Randy & Julia Snyder | 519-502-8008

Tickets are:

Free Will Donation - no receipt issued for donations for the meal



Special guest speakers:
Wismith and Rebecca Joseph