

Fourth Quarter 2018





Michael Williams Family

GEMS SCHOOL OF MISSIONS

In 2012 when God asked me to start GEMS and model the Mission after Hudson Taylor's China Inland Mission, I was confident in what God could and would do both in calling laborers and in supplying the funds for them to go to the mission field by faith without the guarantee of support. I had no idea of God's timing or the mountains and valleys that would be involved to get the Mission to that place, but I knew God would do what He promised.

When I left Ghana in 2017 to return to the U.S. for a short furlough, I had no idea what lay ahead. I was armed with a supreme confidence in a handful of promises that God had given to me during some sweet times of fellowship with Him. He had made it clear the time had come that He was going to move the Mission forward by sending laborers into His harvest by faith; however, I was puzzled that He was also making it clear that I would also be involved with countries that were not a part of my then-present focus.

In the last year, we have seen God send the Brown family to Ghana by faith with no deputation necessary as they are fully supported by GEMS. We have seen the Ndjaboues join the Mission, quit their jobs, and, without calling to set up meetings, begin traveling to raise awareness of GEMS Germany. We have watched God fill their schedule in miraculous ways. Then we have seen the Thompson family join the Mission and head to Romania, also without traveling on deputation. Romania was a country we had not before considered, but when God speaks, we act. We have seen others surrender to the call of missions and are simply waiting for God's timing and direction in the matter.

As I look back, I realize God has already done what He showed me in July of 2017, and I believe with all my heart He is not done yet!!!

It is exciting to see what God is doing with our Mission and it is even more exciting to be a part of it. In recent days, God has given us a large piece of land for our Mission in Ghana, and we believe He would have us move forward in partnering with individuals and Bible Colleges in training missionaries on the field. We already have housing for a small group of trainees and are planning, in the near future, to build a larger mission station with housing for the resident missionary family as well as dorms for trainees. With all that being said, let me introduce you to:

GEMS MISSIONARY TRAINING (GMT)

GMT will start out as a Summer Training School where students can come and train for two months of their summer break.

GEMS MISSIONARY TRAINING (GMT)

We believe this will be an invaluable training time because of:

On-Field Training 1.

The student will have the opportunity to learn missions above and beyond the traditional college setting by getting first-hand experience.

2. Mentorship Program

The student will participate on the field at the side of will be to instill in its students these priorities: a missionary learning not only sharing the gospel/teaching/training/discipling, but also aspects of health/food prep. and storage/medical, etc.

3. Remote Training

The student will have the opportunity to remove himself from American culture and be trained to look. The student will be introduced to the obstacle of at missions not from a cultural perspective but from an unbiased Biblical perspective.

This will enable him to disciple men and plant churches armed with a Biblical culture perspective.

4. **Priority Training**

The student will have the opportunity to be removed from the hustle and bustle of American society which will better enable him to place the highest priority on what Jesus originally ordained His apostles to do, to be with Christ! The focus of GMT

- * God's Perspective
- * God's Priorities
- * God's Presence
- * God's Power

5. Language Study

foreign language and through immersion and study will gain experience and knowledge to help him/her cope with the important matter of foreign language down the road.

We are inviting those who are interested in the summer of 2019 to contact us by email at Gems4Christ@ymail.com or call 901-795-5407

SUPPORT/DONATIONS:

Once again, we have changed our U.S. headquarters to Memphis, TN. Please discontinue sending support to Michigan and instead forward it to:

GEMS 3812 Kirby Pkwy Memphis, TN 38115

Board of Directors:

Dr. Robert Hooker - President/Mission Pastor Pastor Lou Jurva – Spiritual Warfare Director Pastor Paul Williams - Advisory Director Missionary Michael Williams - Executive Pastoral Director

Bro. Jeff Hopper – Financial Director and Treasurer Sister Amy Yarn - Financial Secretary Sister Ava Kinsey – Secretary



Josh and Emily Brown



Praise the Lord for what He has done over the past three months!

Philippians 2:13 For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of his good pleasure.

Looking back on everything that has happened since our last update, it is overwhelming and humbling to see God doing just as He promised! It is not possible to communicate how He has worked over the last three months, but I will attempt to share some highlights.



Interpreter John Walter (left) sharing the plan of salvation using a soulwinning card.

Soulwinning

Over the past couple of months, we have been focused on training church members on how to share the Gospel with the lost. In Ghana, the deception of works salvation is exceptionally strong and requires clear and in-depth teaching of the Truth to break the power of the lies. As a tool to help in this area, we designed a card with the plan of salvation that focuses on verses that deal with faith vs works, that is in both English and TWI (the local language).

Outreach

This has helped to equip the church members to combat the lies. We have members who have already taken this card and shared the Gospel with the lost. Praise the Lord!









Dompa Village

In our previous update we mentioned that we purchased some land for the church in Dompa. After this time, we were given the opportunity from one of the men at the church to buy six additional plots that would bring our land up to the lake front. I told the man that we would pray. Though the land was desirable and the price was fair, we did not have the funds to purchase at the time. Within two weeks the man contacted me and dropped the price by a third. The reason for this was because there was some milling machines that were for sale that he would use to start a new business! God found a way to make the land affordable and still caused it to be profitable for our church member! Praise the Lord!

After this time a representative from the villiage of Dompa contacted me and stated that the villiage wanted to GIVE the mission 20 additional plots for FREE! Free is not a word usually heard in Ghana, especially when it comes to something as valuable as 20 plots of land. At this time, I don't have the exact measurements as I will need to have the land surveyed, but it looks as though God has blessed us with 12-15 Acres total in Dompa! There is little doubt that God has big plans for the lake region and this land will play a part in advancing His Kingdom!

Prayer Requests

- Protection and growth for the churches and Members.
- Wisdom and direction in building programs.
- The Annual Prayer Camp and Village Crusades January 15-25.
- God is doing a mighty work, please pray for him to send more laborers!
- More Proclaimers to help spread God's Word to new villages.
- Please pray for our family and our immune systems to become adapted to a new environment.

Recently, as my son Joshua and I were visiting in one of the villages, we had several people gather around us in astonishment to see that my son had collected three large lizards. Since the villagers regard the lizards as poisonous (don't worry, they're not), we used this as an opportunity to witness, and we had seven that accepted Christ as their Savior! That's not to say it was without opposition. As soon as the subject of the conversation turned from lizards to Christ, A man decided to repair a small engine and the noise threatened to drown out the message. I am convinced that was not just a coincidence!

Left: Joshua beginning to draw a crowd using lizards.





Left:

These five photos show the newly-purchased-and donated land on which the church at Dompa will soon build a new building.



Proclaimers are audio Bibles in the local language that can be charged via solar power, hand cranked or AC adapter. They are loud enough to reach crowds of up to 300 people.

Right: Lunch during the men's prayer and devotional Meeting





Proclaimers

A Proclaimer is an audio Bible that is in the local language. These are invaluable since many in the village are unable to read. We have established 14 locations in 3 villages where the Proclaimers are played daily at 7:00 PM. It is wonderful that God's word is being proclaimed throughout entire villages where it was previously unknown. People are faithful in coming to hear, and many of them are not members of the churches!

Discipling

We began holding Men's Prayer Meeting and Devotional time each Tuesday morning. This has been a fruitful time that has helped draw the church leaders together as we study God's Word and appeal to the Lord for the ministries of the churches, church members, and the lost. Through this time, it is clear the Lord is blessing in the lives of these men!



Patrick and Christelle Ndjaboue

John 13:35 By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another.

The month of September has carried us into Michigan, Illinois and Ohio. We are much thankful to the Lord for the outpouring of love and affection by the churches; He has given us many new and wonderful friends in the ministry. I was reminded that such a divine love is an evidence of the reality of our living Savior; the world knows no such thing! And indeed by this shall all men know that we are His disciples.

We equally rejoice over the new supporting churches; additionally, three churches have pledged to support us as soon as they feel financially able to.

Did you know?

The city of Frankfurt,
Germany encompasses
about 180 nationalities,
and about a third of the
residents hold a foreign
passport.



We are particularly thankful that the Lord has enable us to minister to many churches through preaching: early in October, we made an unscheduled visit to a church in northern MI, and found out that the church was in a campaign of reducing their worldwide mission efforts; yet the Lord used our visit to stir up the hearts of the people for Europe, and the church invited us back a couple of weeks later to preach and teach on Sunday morning; It was sweet to see God influence this church to enlarge their vision for the Lord Jesus.

Please continue to pray for travel mercies; we have just left the Michigan area for Memphis, TN where we will be planing and praying with the leadership of our mission agency regarding our upcoming work in Germany; God has greatly burdened our hearts for the city of Frankfurt metropolitan area and its 5.5 million souls. Please pray that the Lord will open the hearts of the people of Frankfurt to the Gospel, and that he will raise up more laborers to reach that great city. Thank you for lifting us up in prayer and supporting this work financially.

P.S. Upon receiving our September prayer letter, a reader inquired about the restaurant owner who trusted Christ in Missouri. We have, therefore, added his picture in this issue and provided more details about his conversion. I have included some information previously mentioned to give a complete picture to those who are receiving our newsletter for the first time.

We stopped at Mike's restaurant for lunch, and after seating us, he inquired if we were religious people. I told him that I was a preacher, and that we were returning from a mission conference. Mike was very friendly and sent a waiter to our table.

After ordering our meal, Mrs. Christelle went to the restaurant's souvenir shop to look for German artifacts for our ministry presentation table. A few moments after she had returned to the table, Mike came and inquired if she liked to collect items; To our surprise, he decided to donate to us those items we intended to buy.

As we were exiting the restaurant, we thanked Mike for his generosity. He answered, "I can tell that you are good people, when I look at you. In the world, there are so many bad people, and I do not understand how an innocent baby can become so wicked when he grows old." Helped by the Spirit of God, we took it from there and preached the gospel. As the Holy Spirit opened his understanding, Mike kept saying, "It makes sense now." A few moments later, a wonderful sight unfolded before us as this 71-year-old man bowed his head and called on the Lord Jesus to save his soul.







Roy and Lois Thompson





Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

We arrived! On Sunday, November 25th, Lois' family met us at the airport. Lois was sick the first two days and so it wasn't until Wednesday that we were with Tataia and Mamaia in Bucharest, there three days. We are collaborating with other brothers and a sister to help him get exercise and fresh air everyday and regular haircuts. Tataia is in good spirits and simply needs someone to take care of him and take him out most every day for exercise, fresh air, and friendship. Mamaia is unable to do this as she suffers from health issues of her

own. Therefore, we are grateful to have the opportunity now to be with him to meet his needs. We trust the Lord has put us here for such a time and need as this.

On Sunday we attended a Baptist church in Lucianca, a few kilometers north of Darza, accompanied by a neighbor. Following the message and some special songs, I was invited to speak, an opportunity to



encourage the guest preacher and his message on Psalm 15. I also responded to the question of my status as a pensioner, referring to our purpose as a family in returning to Romania. Next week we are invited to a sister church near the airport which is larger and has a resident pastor, a perhaps better suited for our children to serve. We will sing as a family there.

Pray for us in our witnessing opportunities as we are in contact with folks in government offices and businesses resolving home and residency affairs.

Here in a Bucharest suburb for the foreseeable future, The Thompson family