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January Newsletter



Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation

We just finished taking His message to a part of the world, 8,000 miles away. The staff and students at Living Hope High School were once again overjoyed to have the mission team come. The word "Mission Team" to them is synonymous with spiritual worship, fun bible studies, intense prayer, all mingled with fun, excitement, and friendship with brothers and sisters in Christ. Our team this year was made up of wonderful Methodists from all over the state and beyond: Sandy and Paul Binotto from Augusta; Debbie and Gary Seldomridge from Keyser; Pam Francis from Keyser; Diann Hayes from Lewisburg; Sarah Fletcher from Canaan Valley; Raquel Rodriguez from Orlando, Florida; Connie Damon from Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; Godswill Danlami from Nigeria; and Karl Barth from Morgantown. These members did a wonderful job witnessing to our Savior and treating the Living Hope students to so many fun activities that it is difficult to name them all. Check our website for the upcoming Mission Team video, www.livinghopehighschool.org.

For He is thy health and salvation

Once again the mission team worked on health issues by testing all the students for malaria, STDs, pregnancy, and AIDs. Praise the Lord, all were negative! Once again all our sophomores (Form Two students) took the official Kenyan Red Cross certification class. Thank you Pam and Kenya Red Cross! We are still the only school in the country who gives Red Cross first aid instruction to every student.

Ponder anew, what the Almighty can do

The team did something this year that had never been done in that locality, a living manger scene. Not just Mary and Joseph, the shepherds and wise men, but all the cows, sheep, donkeys, and a camel. All the neighbors were invited and what a manger scene it was!



Fitting thee well for the tasks that are ever before thee

The Healing Hut is almost finished. Nick will be ready to work on the inside soon. We can't wait for the dedication and possibly a small mission team to go to Living Hope and work on the outside beautification in August? Call Helen if you are interested, 304-567-2254.



Praise the Lord who doth prosper the work and defend thee

The 2016 graduate test scores are back and God has prospered our work once again. This year we had 10 graduates out of 20 qualify for government scholarships. This is almost more "prospering work" than we can handle. Thank you Lord! We'll find out how we ranked in the country and the district soon. Congratulations graduates and a pat on the back to every teacher! We are so proud of all of you!

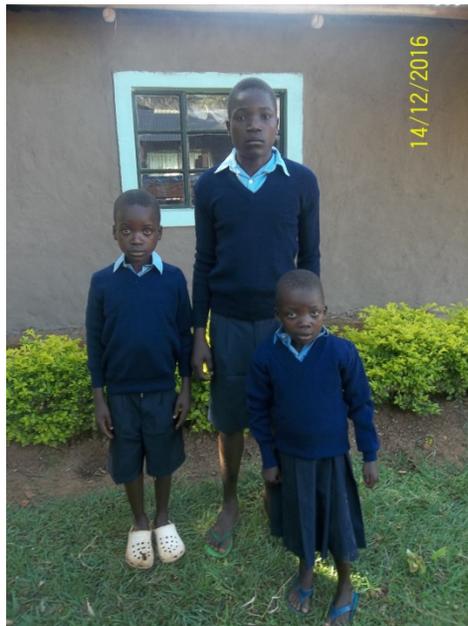
God's care enfolds all whose true good He upholds

Our 20 new freshmen students are in their second week of classes and are settled in and happy. All of them remarked how nice it is, not to have to worry about having something to eat. It hasn't quite sunk in yet. We are wishing them well on their Living Hope journey. If you know of someone who would like to sponsor a high school student, please have them look on our website, www.livinghopehighschool.org and have them click on Sponsoring a Student to see pictures and biographies of each of the new students. Call Helen Markwell with your choice and we'll get you started sponsoring a freshmen student. 304-567-2254.

Jesus's Hands and Feet

Then to thy need, God as a mother doth speed

At least once a month, and many times more, the good Lord places very needy people in our path. We can't help them all, but we can help some. And so we do. During December, one of our students, Gabriel Walela, got word that his house had completely burned down. When we went to investigate, we found that his brothers and sisters had been living in a house with barely any roof and the walls falling down. The family was hungry and destitute. They had no one to turn to so Living Hope stepped in the gap. Gabriel's brothers and sisters came to with nothing but the clothes on their backs to stay at Living Hope until the mother and father could ask churches and neighbors for donations to start building a new house. His older sister took care of the younger ones, did the washing, etc. Gabriel stayed and worked on the Healing Hut with the construction crew. As school time approached, Living Hope got each child a new uniform and two sets of used clothes and blankets. A few weeks after school started, Gabriel's new house was finished and the family moved home. We thank God for the opportunity and the provision that He gives us, so that we can help others and be His hands and feet.



Let the amen sound from His people again; gladly forever adore Him.

*Bwana asifiwe
In Christ, Helen*