



West Africa Mission Happenings



“... Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature – Mark 16:15”

A work of the church of Christ

May - June 2013

Greetings from West Africa to all those throughout the world who are walking that path of righteousness that is leading to our heavenly home. We pray that you are continually overcoming all the obstacles that you encounter along your way. Jesus is coming! The prize is in sight! Stand fast in the faith, and our Lord will reward you bountifully. This year has been a busy one with continual travel throughout West Africa and the USA. After a quick trip to the States for a few meetings, I am now in Ghana again. We are planning campaigns over the next few weeks in Ghana, Togo, and Burkina Faso, and we have another graduation scheduled in September for our extension school in Kpalime Togo. We completed graduations during July and August in our schools in Tamale and Nigeria, and we will tell you more about these in our next report. We thank God that many are being trained to teach and preach the gospel. Life is busy, but very fulfilling.

Reporting and Special Needs

The time is approaching when I will be doing annual reporting to the congregations who are helping to support this work. I will be contacting many of you in the next few weeks to attempt to set up a time to meet with you later this year. We must consider a number of special needs. We have a desire to begin a couple of new schools of preaching in West Africa. We are ready to train additional men if we have the opportunity! Some of our existing schools need to renovate or complete their buildings. We also have some brethren who need assistance due to undue hardships. We have other preachers who are requesting help with materials, evangelism, and other special needs. Please be considering how you may help with any of these, and keep all of these brethren and schools in your prayers. I am looking forward to seeing you soon!

West Coast School of Preaching - Ghana

Everything is going well at the Bear Valley extension school in Takoradi Ghana. The final term for the year began on May 13 with five second-year and fifteen first-year students. These twenty men have the ability to have a significant impact upon the church in Ghana. There are many in the school, both students and instructors alike, who are dealing with health issues and need your prayers. Please lift up some special prayers for our director brother Daniel Ampadu Asiamah, who has been encountering some health challenges of his own. May our Lord give him the strength to continue this wonderful work! With your help, we gave the school three laptops during the period bringing their total computers to six. They need ten computers to complete their computer room. The school also needs funds for structural repairs on their dormitory building. We would ask that you keep our Liberian brother Jerome Tohr in your prayers as he attempts to raise the funds needed for him to return to his home in Liberia. We thank God for all the wonderful works taking place in Takoradi.

Tamale Institute of Biblical Studies, Ghana

The preaching school in Tamale took a scheduled break in May and June as our second graduating class ended, and a new class begins. Before closing in May, they completed a well-attended special leadership training seminar in their new building. Thirteen students graduated in July, and there will be pictures of this ceremony in our next report. Our recruitment efforts continued during May and June, and we now have over sixteen new students who began their training in July. Both students and instructors participated in evangelistic efforts during this period as we continue to labor to bring souls to Christ. The school has been preparing a school farm to help with their feeding during these campaigns. Please keep this wonderful work in your prayers!

Cameroon Bible Institute of Wotutu

We are presently training twenty-seven men at the Bear Valley extension school in Cameroon. The students and instructors are bringing many souls to Christ through their evangelistic efforts, and have experienced great success with their open-air radio program, and personal work. The school welcomed Bill Stewart from Bear Valley Bible Institute in Denver during June to teach on Marriage and the Home, while David Ballard the Bear Valley coordinator came a week later to teach on the New Testament Church. We thank both men for their great sacrifice for the kingdom. Praise the Lord!

Center for Biblical Studies - Togo

We have fifteen students scheduled to graduate in September from the preaching school in Kpalime Togo. They are continuing to embark on campaigns and spread the gospel in this French-speaking country. They baptized a Jehovah Witness during the period and the principal at the school has now started a class for fifteen of his denominational friends. We pray that they will all come to a knowledge of the truth, and be added to our Lord's kingdom. There has been much evangelistic success in other areas through their radio and personal work. As they spread the good news, the kingdom is expanding throughout the country of Togo. Let us pray that many more souls will be saved through the efforts of these men!

Southwest School of Evangelism - Nigeria

The Southwest School of Evangelism continued their labors to train preachers throughout the present period. They engaged in numerous evangelistic campaigns over the last few months especially utilizing World Bible School and personal work. The thirty-seven students from both campuses along with six of the instructors gathered for a joint session in Ibadan Nigeria at the end of May. The two-week meeting began with a study on leadership followed by a visit from Bill Stewart of Bear Valley Bible Institute to teach on Marriage and the Family. The highlight of this conference was the dedication of their new building to brother Doug Wheeler for his outstanding contribution to the work throughout Nigeria. Although they still have some final additions, the SWSE has realized their dream of occupying their own space as they are now utilizing both structures on their property. May our Lord continue to bless the efforts of these faith Christians!

Bear Valley Bible Institute Website

You can read all the up to date information about each of our extension schools on the Bear Valley Bible Institute website at the following address:

<http://www.wetrainpreachers.com/extension-news/>

*For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek.
(Romans 1:16)*

Financial Support

We want to thank all of the supporters for their contributions to this exciting work in West Africa. Without you, this effort would not be possible.

Contributions by check need to **be made payable to:**

Mountain Home church of Christ
For: West Africa Mission

Mailed to:

Mountain Home church of Christ
380 North College Street
Mountain Home, AR 72653

Any questions can be directed to the church office at **870-425-4330**.

Or you can contact Steven at:

Email: **samtncome@yahoo.com**
USA Phone: **971-270-8535**

Please email Steven if you would like to receive this newsletter by email.

*Thanks So Much,
With Christian Love*

Steven Ashcraft

Some New Christians In West Africa



One of our students at the Tamale Institute of Biblical Studies in Ghana is baptizing a new sister into our Lord's church. We thank God for the gospel!



The open-air radio program at the Cameroon Bible Institute of Wotutu brings another soul to our Lord. Here one of the students is baptizing a listener into Christ.



This denominational pastor studied the Bible with one of our instructors at the West Coast School of Preaching. We thank God that he understood and accepted the truth!



A graduate of the Center for Biblical Studies in Kpalime Togo baptizes a woman for the forgiveness of her sins. She has been washed by the blood of Christ!

**Tamale Institute of Biblical Studies
Tamale, Ghana**



Tony Johnson has been a wonderful addition to the team at the Tamale Institute of Biblical Studies. Here he is teaching a large group of church leaders in our new building.



We have found that the porch of the TIBS building is a good place to hide from the sun during a program. Fortunately, our porch is over one hundred and fifty feet long.



The food may be different in Ghana than what we eat here in the USA, but it does have something in common. It puts a smile on their face.



An important part of any program includes feeding the participants. Here we have sisters in the church cooking in their makeshift kitchen behind the TIBS building.

**Cameroon Bible Institute of Wututu
Wututu, Cameroon**



Bill Stewart from Bear Valley Bible Institute in Denver recently went to Cameroon to hold a marriage seminar. The participants are renewing their wedding vows.



Here a new sister is baptized into Christ by brother David Ballard. David is a wonderful evangelist and Bible teacher, and a great strength for the school in Cameroon.



Here are the 27 students at the Cameroon Bible Institute with David Ballard who is the Bear Valley coordinator. We thank God for the sacrifice of these men!



Here are the CBIW students in the classroom taking examinations at the end of their second quarter. The students study diligently to become more effective workers for our Lord.

**Center for Biblical Studies
Kpalime, Togo**



Here are the students in class at the Center for Biblical Studies (CBS) in Kpalime Togo. We currently have fifteen students who are scheduled to graduate in September.



Mr. Aluka of the Jehovah's Witnesses is baptized into Christ in a town near Kpalime. The director of CBS is now studying with thirteen of his Jehovah Witness friends.



Instructor Senghor is seen here teaching the church administration and management class at the Center for Biblical Studies in Kpalime.



Brother Willie Gley, who is the director of the school of preaching in Kpalime Togo, is addressing the student body about their work plans after graduation.

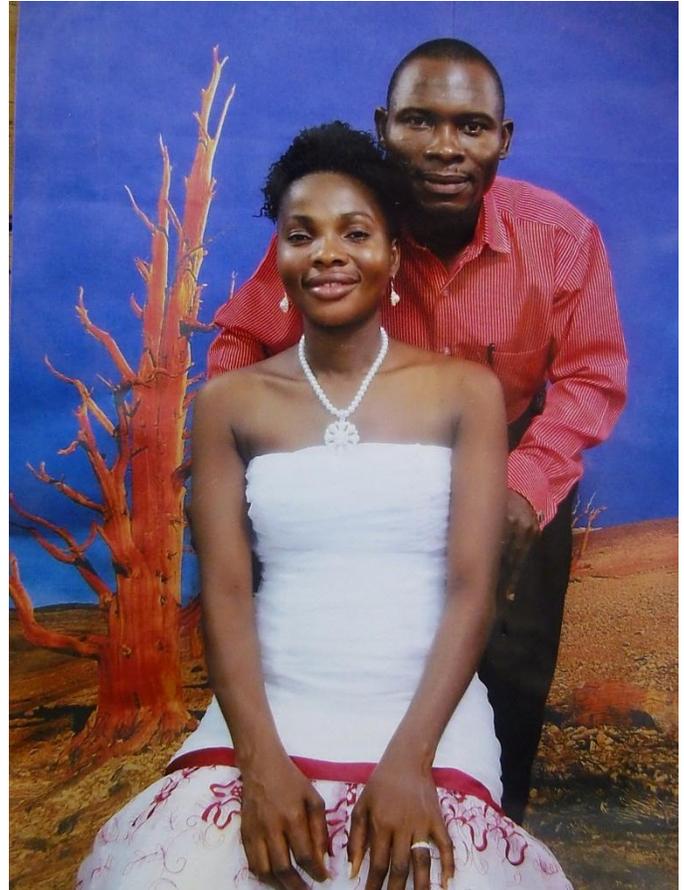
**West Coast School of Preaching
Takoradi, Ghana**



Here are twelve of the fifteen students in the first year class at the West Coast School of Preaching. This school is doing a wonderful job of training faithful men to preach!



Here are the five men who are in the second year class at the school of preaching near Takoradi Ghana. Each of these men can have a significant impact upon the church.



I showed you a picture of brother Jerome Tohr in my last newsletter. He is a Liberian refugee who graduated from the WCSOP. His lovely wife Louise Tohr died at the young age of 31 this year, and left Jerome with two children aged 12 and 7. Jerome wants to go back to Liberia and needs help with their transportation (\$1,300), and living expenses (\$200 per month). He anticipates needing assistance for two or three years after they return to Liberia. Can you help Jerome?

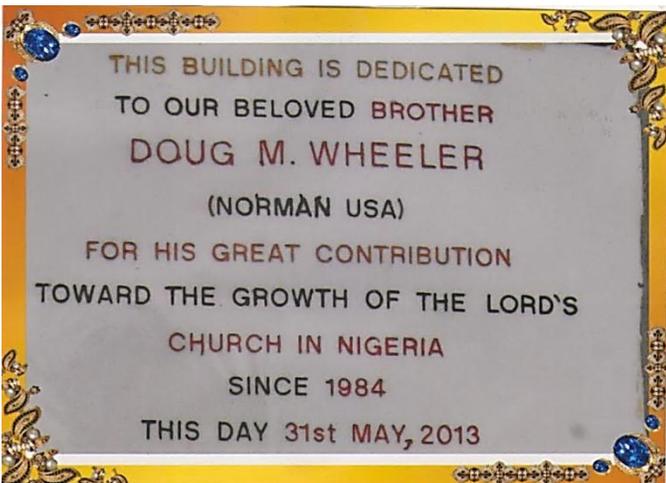
**Southwest School of Evangelism
Ibadan, Nigeria**



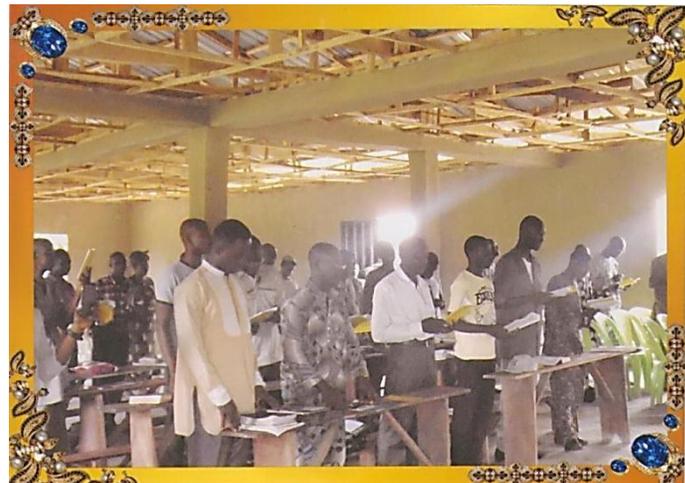
A woman is baptized during a recent evangelistic campaign in Egbeda where a new congregation was planted. We thank God for the salvation of these precious souls.



Here are some of the students at the Southwest School of Evangelism in Ibadan Nigeria. You can see that they have been studying in very cramped quarters.



Brother Doug Wheeler is recognized during the dedication of the new SWSE building for his Great Contribution to the work in Nigeria. Thank you Doug!



Here are some of the participants at the dedication ceremony for the SWSE building. There is still some work to be done, but now the students should not feel so cramped.

Some Children in West Africa



Brother Tony Johnson in Tamale has been working with the Kingdom of Hope Orphanage in northern Ghana. I have included a number of his photos on the next page.

This little boy's boots caught my attention. Most children in this part of the world wear flipflops or go barefoot. It looks like he is ready to do some serious work!



The poverty in some parts of West Africa is beyond the comprehension of most of us in the Western World. These children would think that extreme poverty is normal.

We have local children who are running in and out of the Tamale Institute of Biblical Studies site. Hopefully, she will be a member of the congregation someday.

**Kingdom of Hope Orphanage
Northern, Ghana**

