

## **END OF YEAR REPORT OF GHANA CHRISTIAN MISSION, 2016**

**BY ENOCH NYADOR, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

### **INTRODUCTION:**

The Mission of Ghana Christian Mission (GCM) is to give the Hope of the Gospel to all the people of Ghana, spiritually and physically. We endeavor to be caring hearts, praying mouths, giving hands and going feet for the Master of the harvest, our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. We thank him for the grace given us to serve him in our four key areas in 2016, namely Church Planting, Medical Outreach, Christian Education and Community Development. We also thank all our donor partners who continue to pray, give and visit us to make the mission a dynamic tool in the hands of the Lord. TOGETHER, we continue to serve the Lord in Ghana.

### **1. CHURCH PLANTING:**

The Church planters (21 rural and 3 urban) worked hard with joy but also with a lot of difficulties in the year 2016. They travelled across the length and breadth of our country; drove their trucks and rode their motorcycles on rough roads into the remotest rural communities; crossed lakes and rivers and endured scorching sun and stormy rain with only one purpose – to find the lost and bring them to Christ. As a result, 344 new converts were baptized and 3 new churches planted.



**Four new converts baptized by Francis Addae in September 2016**

## **CONVENTIONS:**

The women of the Nkwanta Area churches held a Women's Covention at Tutukpene in February 2016 to promote evangelism and discipleship. In August two Christ in Youth (CIY) Conventions were held at Breweniase and Boraë to inspire the youth unto closer walk with the Lord while in December Conventions were held at several locations to celebrate the birth of Christ and to promote evangelism and discipleship.

## **2. MEDICAL OUTREACH**

Through medical outreach, we demonstrate the love of Christ through compassionate health care delivery in our clinics and also through community preventive care education outreaches. Work in these clinics is often boosted by the visits of short-term medical teams from the U.S.A. We are grateful to Dr. Dwain Illman, who led a team from Global Health Outreach to serve with us in July/August. He announced on the trip that this was his last medical short-term visit to Ghana. We are very grateful to him and his wife Marilyn for their many years of short term medical care to the people of Ghana.

Total number of patients treated in the year include:

27,121--- General cases

4545---- Women received ante-and post natal care

616----- Babies were delivered

380----- Community health education outreach visits were made to various villages

32662----- Total number of patients seen in our clinics



**Patients being treated at free medical outreach at Avegargorme in July 2016**

## **EDUCATION**

Education is a key source for evangelism and discipleship. The key expectation is that we will be able to give not only quality education but also good moral teaching to the children who will become future leaders of the church and nation. The main school we support now is the Faithway Christian Academy of the Faithway Christian Church while we assist one other school, Papaase Christian School in the Central Region with supplies occasionally. We thank God and major donors like Compassion Christian Church, Savannah and Plainfield Christian Church, Plainfield, for assisting us to complete the entire ground floor of 12 classrooms plus 6 washrooms at each end. The school currently has over 300 students and is on the path of sustainable development.

GCM in partnership with Feed My Starving Children (FMSC) is carrying out a research in school feeding in northern Ghana involving 1046 students in four schools. The manna pack rice made of rice, dried vegetables, soy and vitamins is donated to our mission. Two forty footer containers of rice were received this year with a third one waiting in the harbor in Tema, Ghana to be cleared in early December. We thank FMSC for their partnership with us.





Children of the Faithway School



Joshua enjoys lunch at Obanda Primary School



### **COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT:**

Our goal in community development is to empower the communities to take responsibility for their long-term wellbeing, spiritually and materially. In partnership with IDES and other donors we drilled two wells in northern Ghana this year, one in Nandikura and the other at Salaga to provide much needed clean drinking water. We thank IDES and other partners for helping to provide clean drinking water for the various communities.



**Pastor Sam Dzobo with some of the villagers at new well at Namdikura**



Clean water for Namdikura villagers

## **CHALLENGES**

The major challenge we faced in 2016 was with the decision of a group of churches in Ghana to form a denomination and thereby causing a split between them and those of us who want to remain independent churches. The denominational church is called Restoration Christian Church while the independent churches belong to a group called Pistis Christian Churches. The ripple effects of this split which occurred in August 2016 continue to affect individuals and churches and communities. Much prayer is needed for healing and unity in the Body of Christ in Ghana. Sam Dzobo of Borae Christian Church speaks for all of us when he reflects: ***“The division brought about by the Restoration Christian Church which birthed Pistis Christian Churches has taken over my concentration and stability from evangelism”.***

## **STAFF EMPOWERMENT**

Staff of GCM were empowered to attend various seminars and conferences in the year to help sharpen their skills in serving the Lord and enhance their personal growth in the Lord. These include the participation of 40 leaders in the Simply Mobilizing Conference held in Accra in

July to encourage church wide participation in missions. Comments below from some of the participants summarize the impact of this conference:

“Dear Sponsors, I thank you very much for sponsoring me to the first SIMPLY MOBILIZING Conference held in Ghana on 18th to 21st July, 2016. The conference has encouraged me to go out and mobilize the local churches and their leaders to become MOBILIZERS”.

“The conference is an eye opener to me. Previously missionaries were sent from the West to the rest of the world, including Africa. They were prepared to die for the sake of the Gospel. We who have received the Gospel must also send missionaries to the Unreached people. As a leader I have to mobilize the people of God for missions.”.

“I am very grateful to the sponsors of the conference. I have been blessed immeasurably. I hope to wake up the sleeping giant in me and the church for active mission of the Lord.”

“I have now been challenged to stop considering my local church as a mission field but see it as a mission force”.

“The conference has helped me to know that true worship, must result in our lives being morphed into one complete and continuous service to God”.

“The conference has rekindled my spirit as a cross-cultural evangelist and also challenged me to plan for training both the youth and adults in the local church as well as mobilizing other pastors to be trained to expand this great vision of mobilizing God's people for world evangelization”.





**GCM participants at Simply Mobilizing Conference in July 2016**

### **FAITH2SHARE**

Six GCM staff were among 50 participants in a discipleship conference organized by Faith2Share and Ghana Evangelical Missions Association in October 2016. Participants were taken through presentations, workshops and group discussions. The conference instilled in participants the sense to be disciples everywhere – at home, at work, office, market and every area God puts them to share their faith in word and action.

### **LIVING STATUE AND DRAMA BIBLE STUDIES (BIBLIOLOG)**

In September eight staff of GCM were able to attend a training program in using drama as a tool for preaching and teaching organized by Birte Papenhuasen, a German WEC missionary affiliated to Ghana Evangelical Missions Association. Wisdom Nyador, one of the participants reflects:

“This is a method that helps to move away from looking at the Bible as a strange distant world that we only read about to becoming a world we actually feel to be a part of. This type of Bible Studies systematically takes the students through the history, the emotions of major characters, and even getting to think like these characters till the main lessons are drawn out.”

## **VISION FOR 2017**

As we thank God for the progress made in 2016, we envision a sustained and improved effort in 2017 and beyond. The following are projected goals for 2017 and beyond:

- ❖ To start preparatory work towards placing a new church planting team among the Chakali People Group in Upper West Ghana.
- ❖ To replace four old motorcycles with new ones at a cost of \$3,000 per motorcycle.
- ❖ To start a fund for the purchase of an additional pickup truck to meet transportation needs in visiting the churches and clinics. We currently have one new truck purchased in 2014 and an older one which was purchased in 2005. The cost of a new truck is \$25,000.
- ❖ To work with IDES and other donors to provide clean drinking water for 4 communities in northern Ghana.
- ❖ To start a succession plan which should result in a smooth replacement of Enoch as director in the next 5 years. The vision is to mentor and hand over to a 30-40year old evangelist with a graduate degree in missions who has potential and ability to lead well.
- ❖ To support 2-4 students in pastoral and missions training in Ghana. More trained and competent leaders are needed in opening frontiers of the Gospel in Ghana, Burkina Faso and other nations north of Ghana.
- ❖ To hold quarterly seminars in the history and values of the Restoration Movement to instill deep values of biblical non-denominational Christianity among GCM staff and other church leaders.
- ❖ To intensify preparations towards ICOM 2017 in Peoria, IL where I would serve as president. I need lots of prayer and moral support towards implementing the timeline given to me by the ICOM Executive Director, Dave Empson:

## **TIMELINE TO NOV 2017 ICOM IN PREORIA, IL**

**April/May 2017**— I would join Dave Empson and others to take a Restoration Tour through Illinois to introduce the ICOM 2017 theme which is “TOGETHER, God’s Plan to rescue the world” to many churches and invite them to come to Peoria. I will be in the U.S.A for four weeks.

**June/July 2017**— I will attend North American Christian Convention in Kansas City, in July 2017. ICOM and NACC exchange invitations at each other’s conferences. So, I will have a chance to invite the folks at the NACC to come to Peoria. I will speak in other places and be in the U.S.A for a total of four weeks.

**Aug. 30 to November 2017** (actual conference) — I will travel to churches in central Illinois and other parts of the U.S.A, especially, colleges and universities to promote the conference.

**CONCLUSION:**

We thank God for His grace that empowers us to do all the above and we pray for more grace to do even more in 2017 and beyond. We also thank and appreciate all the churches and individuals who partner with us in prayer, visits, finances and other ways to make the ministry functional and dynamic. Without our donors, we could not survive financially to continue to serve. Together we form a winning team for our Lord, the initiator and perfecter of missions. To Him be all the Glory.