

**January 2012
Ghana Ministry Update**

Dear Friends and Supporters,

To begin 2012, I am delighted to share my reflections on a very successful Christmas Deaf Camp 2011. Participants in our active ministry continue to flourish each year. We had 236 campers, from various villages and towns, mostly students, between the ages of 2-50 years old. We are very fortunate to have our dedicated staff and long standing deaf campers now in leadership roles helping with Bible classes and chapel hours providing high-quality much needed services to our campers.

In one of our chapel hours, our Board Chairman – Rev. Yeboah Gaisie, spoke to an audience of 200 campers on Ephesians 2:8 "A Gift Sent By God", which was our theme message: Campers were reminded That Jesus was God in the human flesh, a "GIFT" sent by God to be the Saviour of everyone who believes this, repent of sin and receiving Jesus in to their lives. After his message, an invitation was given. Have you done this?

Six deaf persons accepted Christ, on the 24th of December morning chapel. After the Christmas Bible Lessons on the "GIFT SENT BY GOD", several deaf young adults responded to the invitation to receive Christ as their Personal Saviour. Forty campers indicated that, they wanted to accept Christ. I asked Thomas Marfo, a pastor of one of the largest deaf churches in Accra, to come and talk to those who indicated they wanted to be saved. Each day after Bible lessons/Chapel Services, Brother Marfo meets with 2-4 deaf campers. Some of these deaf campers do not attend church at all and mostly first-time campers. Pray for the follow-up of these deaf campers.

It is a privilege to serve God at Echoing Hills Village where so many special needs campers come to know Christ and grow in Him. God has blessed us with excellent health, staff, friends, family volunteers, etc; what more could we want short of heaven? We are thankful for all the projects and routine work that has been accomplished at camp Echoing Hills, Handi- Vangelism, Children's Home and around home during 2011. The Blessings are many. Our family is fine, my two oldest, Leonard and Dorothy, together with staff, served in the kitchen and lots of clean-up at the Dining Hall. We are trying to get them to the United States, this year to continue with their education. ***Please pray*** that the Lord will help us secure the visas needed.

We would appreciate any help to buy a new engine for our 13 year old Toyota Bus for the center. ***The centre faces a serious challenge with transportation. It has two vehicles, a Toyota mini-bus and a KIA truck, both of which are less efficient due to overuse and age. The bus conveys residents or clients to other service centres – hospitals, excursions, logistics, follow-up on campers, distribution of wheel-chairs and services for short-term mission teams from overseas .Please pray.*** Victoria still works on week days but gets weekends off. Please pray that she would have strength to serve both the family and the ministry. With her nursing skills, she is able to help our residents, ministry and family as well.

LOOKING AHEAD

- I. **January 20th-26th**- Rev. Timothy Sheetz (HVMI Executive Director) and Paul Lehto (HVMI Missionary, USA), visit to Accra.
- II. **March 15th-25th** – Echoing Hills Mission Team
- III. **April 18th-27th** – Hope Community Church Missions Team

Please pray toward these short-term Mission Team Visits – 2012. It is our privilege to be your co-labourers in the Gospel.

We could not have achieved these things without you, volunteers and mission teams. Working together, we can achieve our goals and help even more persons with disabilities the success they deserve. Thank you for all of your continued support. ***It is a blessing that you care!***

We send you our love,

Larry & All HVMI FAMILY GHANA