



The Hope of Africa BAPTIST MINISTRY

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November - December 2023

Dear Praying Friends,

Thank YOU! Thank you for giving to the Lord. Thank you for working every day to get a paycheck and then supporting missionaries around the world. Specifically, thank you for supporting our family and ministry in prayer and giving. We could not be here fulfilling the Great Commission without you "holding the ropes" for our family.

Praises:

God answers prayer. **In the last two months, we have finally purchased land in the village of Shama.** The church there continues to meet under our gospel tent. They are running between 40 and 50 consistently. We will begin constructing a church building early in 2024. To God be the glory! **Additionally, the church in Kojokrom is in their own building:** the Sunday School room has been completed, and they are meeting in that room. We are still praying for the Lord to provide to finish the building and build a retaining wall. We are so thankful that God has answered prayer and allowed them to start in their own building.

We continue to see the Lord save sinners and transform lives. Our church is now running 100+ consistently on Sunday mornings. Over seventy of those are children under the age of twelve. Can you imagine what God will do with these children if they stay faithful to Him? Counting all five church-plants, we had a combined total of 309 in service on New Year's Day. While the majority of those are children, Jesus said, *"Suffer the little children to come to Me."*

God has blessed Angie and I with a third granddaughter. Our beautiful little Joanna Faith was born to Jimmy and Tori on November 21st. The Lord has provided free round-trip tickets to the States; so we will get to meet her in February. We will be in Tennessee and South Dakota visiting our children for two weeks.

We were privileged to travel to Burkina Faso in November for a Pastor's Conference with Brother Keith Shumaker. What a blessing it was to be with missionaries and pastors who are on the front lines of the gospel advance in dangerous areas! I thank the Lord for the work that He is accomplishing through the Shumakers in Burkina.

Prayers:

The paperwork is nearly complete for our Christian School/Orphanage project. Lord-willing, construction will begin soon on a four-story building to house seventy-six children, a school, apartments for house parents, etc. This building will take eighteen months to complete if the Lord provides the finance in advance. We believe God will provide. *"God's work done in God's way will never lack God's provision."*

We continue to pray for the Lord to provide the needed finances for another container. We desperately need Sunday School literature and Bible Institute books.

We are meeting with the village elders in the village of Tumentu to witness to them and plan to start a weekly service there with the goal of planting another church. There are two other villages within easy walking distance of Tumentu so we hope to evangelize all three villages as our Bible Institute students go there weekly.

We extend a special thank you to each individual and church who sent Christmas cards and gifts to our family.

Your Missionaries to West Africa,
James & Angie Ruckman

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www.ruckmans2africa.com

