

Herald of Hope

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Hope College Records Record Enrolment



Group Discussion on College Campus

Hope College welcomed its largest class in the history of the college this academic year. One hundred and seventy-two (172) tenth graders have enrolled for the college's Class of 2020 bringing the total number of students to four hundred and twenty-seven (427). The current 11th and 12th grade classes number 105 and 150 students, respectively.

Hope College began on October 1, 2012, with only 36 students. That number rose to 74 by the time the pioneering students graduated in May 2015. The second graduating class entered the school in September 2013 and graduated in May 2016. They numbered 54. The third

graduating class that graduated last year numbered 80.

This academic year's large class size is a big vote of confidence in the school, by parents, at a time when almost all private high schools in Ghana are experiencing dwindling enrolment figures. Up until this academic year, parents paid fees for the high school education of their children whether they attended a private or a public high school. However, in fulfilment of a campaign promise, Ghana's new government began implementing a new policy of free high school education for 10th grade students who entered high school in the 2017/2018 academic year. Government also provided each student



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USA

P. O. Box 670394
Dallas, TX 75367
Tel: 682-302-1939
thevillageofhope.us@gmail.com

GHANA

P. O. Box GP 18169
Accra, Ghana
Tel: 233-24-431-3404
Tel: 233-20-201-2229
info@thevillageofhope.com

LOCAL OVERSIGHT

The Elders of
Vertical Centre Church of Christ,
Community Six, Tema, Ghana.

SUPPORT

VOH-Ghana,
A 501(c)(3) Non-profit.


MINISTRIES

Hope Children's Village
Hope Training Institute
Hope Christian Academy
Hope Christian Hospital
Church of Christ School
Hope College
Agriculture
Church of Christ at Village of Hope
Campus Church of Christ - Ayawaso
Evangelism
Church Planting and Strengthening

with free school uniforms, textbooks, stationery, as well as free boarding. Owing to this new policy, many parents opted for public high schools for their children instead of private high schools. The resultant effect has been a huge drop in enrolment for private high schools. Some schools did not enroll even a single student and have folded up. It is in light of this situation that Hope College's enrolment of the highest number of students is significant.

Even though parents had the option of a free education for their children in a public high school, they chose Hope College. Most parents said that their choice was because of Hope College's Christian education that emphasizes Christ-like character, rigorous scholarship, selfless servanthood and servant leadership. Parents have been impressed with the turnout of Hope College's alumni. In addition to passing the national 12th grade exam at a rate far higher than the national average, the alumni have also exhibited godly traits that have set them apart from other high school graduates. They have been the school's greatest ambassadors and their parents have been the school's greatest advertisers.

Hope College offers courses in the arts, business, home economics and science. Each student takes classes in mathematics, English language, integrated science and social studies. These subjects form the core curriculum of high school education in Ghana. In addition to these core subjects, each student chooses four additional subjects from elective areas of studies – arts, general science, agricultural science, business, home economics, visual art, technical studies, etc. At the end of the 12th grade, each student is tested on eight (8) subjects in an international exam for English-speaking West African countries. One's performance determines whether or not he or she enters university or a tertiary institution of learning.

Hope College is unique from other high schools in Ghana in that, apart from the 8 subjects that students study at high school, students of Hope College also study Bible, sign language, life skills, leadership and entrepreneurship. These areas of study enable our students to have a broad education that better prepares them for life after school. Hope College is one of the very few high schools in Ghana that require students to do community service. Each student of the college is required to complete a minimum of 100 hours of community service – certified by a recognized community leader – before entering the 12th grade. Hope College's holistic preparation of students to triumphantly face the realities of life has earned it a special place among high schools in Ghana and its excellent reputation has gone beyond the borders of the country. The school has had students from Nigeria, Liberia, Cote d'Ivoire, Senegal, Italy, the United Kingdom, the United States and Jamaica, making it an international community of learning and training. It is our prayer and hope that the students and alumni of Hope College would not only transform themselves and their communities but would positively impact the world. 



Sign Language Lesson



Clothing and Textiles Class



Food and Nutrition Class



Classes End for the Day



Christian Religious Studies Lesson in Session



Physics Lab Session

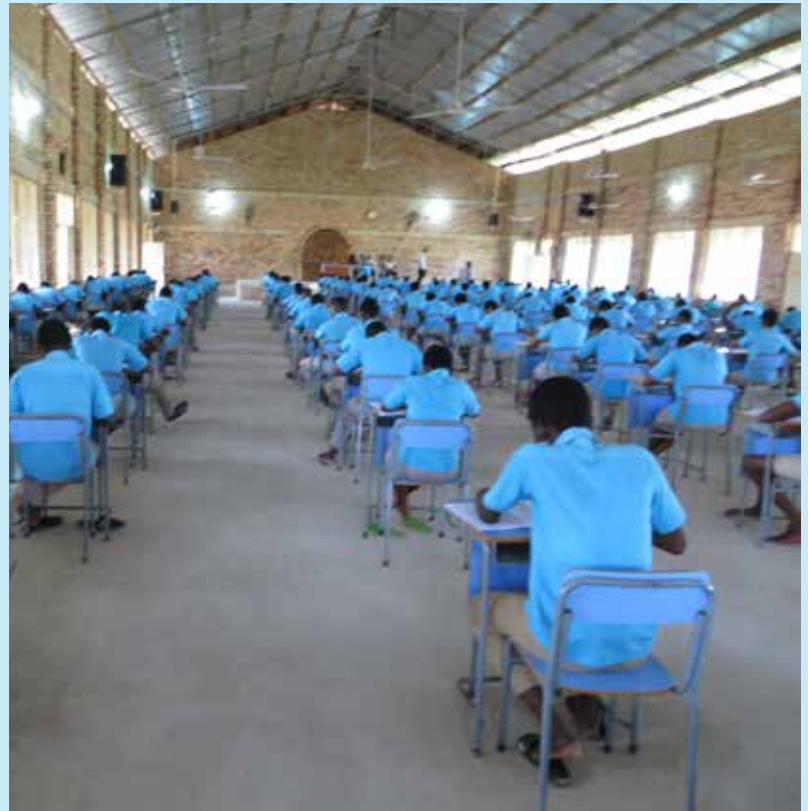
Towards the Finish Line:

12th Graders of Hope College Write Final Exams

One hundred and fifty (150) final year students of Hope College are writing their final high school exams. The exams, known as the West African Senior School Certificate Examination (WASSCE) is written over a two-month period by five English-speaking countries in West Africa. These are Ghana, Nigeria, Sierra Leone, Liberia and The Gambia. It is an internationally recognized examination conducted by the West African Examinations Council (WAEC). Its results determine admission into university or other tertiary institutions.

The exam period is usually characterized by a lot of tension as students know that the results to a large extent determine their destiny; and teachers know that, to a large degree, their performance as teachers would be assessed by how well or how poorly their students do in the exam. That is why, after much preparation of the students over nearly three years, we provide a lot of psychological, moral and prayer support to the students during this period.

We humbly ask you to join us in fervent prayers for our students and the hundreds of thousands of students writing their final high school exam across West Africa. Thank you for remembering these students in your prayers. 🙏



**Above & Below:
Final Exams in Session at Hope College**



Festival of Hope & Tertiary Students' Conference of Churches of Christ Held at Hope College

From Thursday, March 29 through Monday, April 2, 2018, 451 college students, youth and adult members of churches of Christ from across Ghana gathered on the campus of Hope College for a wonderful time of Christian fellowship as part of this year's Festival of Hope. Festival of Hope is a program of Hope College which brings members of churches of Christ together for a time of Bible studies, fellowship and fun. It has been held on the first week of September each year since 2013. However, this year, the program was shifted to the Easter weekend to enable more people to participate. [Good Friday and the Monday after Easter Sunday are both public holidays in Ghana]. This year's program also merged the activities of Festival of Hope with the conference of members of churches of Christ who are students in tertiary institutions in Ghana. The program brought together college students from 12 colleges/universities in Ghana as well as members from 8 congregations and alumni of Hope College. It presented a unique opportunity for adults, college students and high school students to engage in inter-generational interaction that was beneficial to all.

The theme for the program was "**Moving onto Maturity**" taken from Hebrews 6:1. Three keynote lectures were delivered on "**Managing Diverse Opinions**" (by John Tamakloe), "**The**

Need to Move Beyond Elementary Teachings of Christ" (by Dr. David Essuman) and "**Perfecting Love**" (by Isaac Donkor). 25 different classes were held covering various topics on evangelism, family and relationships, education, work and finances, devotion and Christian life. The idea of holding different classes simultaneously was new to most of the participants but they participated fully after some explanation. Participants also engaged in daily morning devotions held in the various dormitories of Hope College and Hope Christian Academy where they were accommodated.

Other activities during the Festival of Hope included a health walk to the village of Fetteh, visits to the beach, sporting activities with both indoor and outdoor games, debates and a Bible quiz competition on the book of Romans which was won by students representing the Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology in the city of Kumasi.

Total attendance for Sunday morning worship service (in which members from various congregations joined Festival of Hope participants) was 747. Ebenezer Sackey of Village of Hope preached the sermon on the theme for the festival, "**Moving onto Maturity**." The following are some pictures from the event:





Setting Up a Scholarship Fund for Needy Students at Hope College

The dream of many parents is for their children to have a good education that would give them a chance to escape the quagmire of poverty and, hopefully, eventually pull up other family members out of poverty. The aspiration of many students is to be given the opportunity of a good education that will help them have a chance to compete for entry into a university. Sadly, such dreams and aspirations are dashed for many students year after year because of unfair social and economic systems that deprive the poor of making it past elementary school. For many, their education ends at the 9th grade because there are not enough vacancies in the less than 1,000 high schools to absorb all the graduates from more than 14,000 elementary schools. Access to high school is a major challenge many students face but it is not the only one. Even when a student gains admission into high school, making it through is not easy. Most high schools are overcrowded and a student could easily get lost in the crowd. For some teachers, teaching is just a job. They are completely uninvolved in the lives of their students beyond the classroom periods. They show up in the classroom, do the minimum required of them and then leave. As such, they are unable to complete the required syllabus for their assigned subjects before the 12th grade final exam for high schools are held. Many parents therefore pay teachers to give their children private tutoring in order to prepare them adequately for their final exam. Once again, the poor who cannot afford private tutoring struggle through high school and often do not make the grade to enable them enter university.

That is why some parents seek to educate their children at private Christian schools like Hope College. At Hope College, the teacher-student ratio is 1:14, every student receives the attention, teaching and training they need. No student is left behind. Teachers go the extra mile to teach students. Teachers are involved in the lives of their students. They educate not only the mind but train the heart and prepare students for eternity. We offer scholarships to help poor and needy students receive the quality holistic Christian education at Hope College. With education, they can come out of illiteracy and poverty and help others to do the same. With Christ, they will not only be saved but will become ambassadors of God, bringing the lost to Christ and reconciling the world to God.

We need your help to make this happen. You could set up a scholarship fund for needy students to receive Christian education at Hope College or you could sponsor one or more needy student(s) at Hope College. You could also contribute towards a general scholarship fund to help needy students.

If you would like to help provide scholarships for needy students at Hope College, please contact us at info@thevillageofhope.com or send us a letter at Village of Hope, P. O. Box 670394, Dallas, TX. 75367 or call us on +1-682-302-1939.

May God bless you as you respond to this need. Thank you very much. 🙏



10th grade students of Hope College who could not have attended Hope College but for the scholarships they received from the College. From left to right are Millicent Abor, Richard Anim, Vivian Mensah and Angelina Sekyi.



11th grade students of Hope College who are on scholarship. They are (from left to right): Julia Dassah, Samuel Nti, Prince Dadzie and Angela Thompson.



All these 20 final year (12th grade) students of Hope College receive some form of scholarship – full or partial – from the school. Without these scholarships, they could not have attended Hope College to receive quality Christian education that is preparing them for leadership and service in their communities and the world at large.

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P. O. Box 670394
Dallas, TX 75367

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