

Herald of Hope

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VICTORY AFTER 31 YEARS



This case is one of the oldest in this court's cause list." These were the opening comments by the High Court judge when passing judgment in the case of E. Q. Tetteh versus Village of Hope, and Others (Suit No. 2156/1989). In her ruling, the judge also stated that, "the court notes that this case is one of the oldest in the entire High Court, having been commenced in 1989."

In August 1989 when Jerry Reynolds, an American missionary to Ghana; and Emmanuel Alfred Asante and Christian Nsoah – two Ghanaian evangelists of the Churches of Christ – purchased land at Ayawaso for the purpose of establishing an orphanage in Ghana for the churches of Christ, little did they know that they would be faced with a legal challenge to the title or ownership of the land. Unfortunately, three months after purchasing the land, the Tetteh Okudjeituo Family (represented by E. Q. Tetteh) filed a law suit at the high court in Accra claiming ownership of the land and asking the court to perpetually restrain Village of Hope from possessing the said land.

We attempted an out-of-court settlement of the lawsuit. However, this was rejected by the plaintiffs so we had no option than for the case to

go to trial in court. The case passed through the hands of several judges. Some were transferred to other courts and others died during the course of the case. Our lawyer who began the case, Mr. Kwasi Danso-Acheampong (who was also an Elder of the Odorkor church of Christ in Accra), also died before the end of the case. After a very long 31 years in court, the verdict was pronounced in favor of Village of Hope.

The court held that: "On whether or not the disputed land belongs to the plaintiff's family, the court is of the unshaken conviction that the plaintiff has been unable to adduce sufficient evidence of possession and title. It is accordingly held that the land in dispute does not belong to the plaintiff's family." The court further held that, "... the disputed land was acquired from the proper quarters..." by Village of Hope.

We are so happy and really excited that, with this victory, Village of Hope will now be able to fully develop the Ayawaso campus to serve street teenagers and at-risk children to the glory of God.

Join us in thanking the LORD for this sweet victory. PRAISE THE LORD!!! ALL GLORY BE TO GOD MOST HIGH!!!!!! 🙏



VILLAGE OF HOPE

Rescuing. Repairing. Preparing. Propelling.

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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

COVID-19 PANDEMIC UPDATE: PARTIAL RE-OPENING OF SCHOOLS FOR FINAL YEAR STUDENTS

All schools (primary, secondary and tertiary) in Ghana were closed down by the government because of the COVID-19 pandemic. Owing to very limited access to the Internet across the country, studying online has not been an option for the vast majority of students. Therefore, after three months of closure, the government asked only final year students (who have a few weeks to graduate) to return to school to write their final exams and graduate. This is a big relief to many final year students who seek to bring closure to a phase of their lives.

Final year students in college/university returned to school on June 15, 2020. This was followed a week later by final year students in high school (12th graders) who returned to school on June 22. Then, on June 29, final year elementary school students (9th graders) returned to school. A lot of preparations went into getting schools ready to receive students back on campus. Schools had to be disinfected and fumigated. Schools were also required to have running water and soap for students to frequently wash their hands. Students were required to wear face masks in classrooms and on school premises; and to practice social distancing at all times. [@](#)

Here are some pictures of the return of final year students of Hope Christian Academy and Hope College.



A science laboratory of Hope College gets disinfected before students return to campus.



A teacher checks the temperature of a parent before permitting her to enter the academic building of Hope College.



The school's nurse checks the temperature of a returning student.



Teachers look on as a parent witnesses her son signing a bond of good behavior in school.

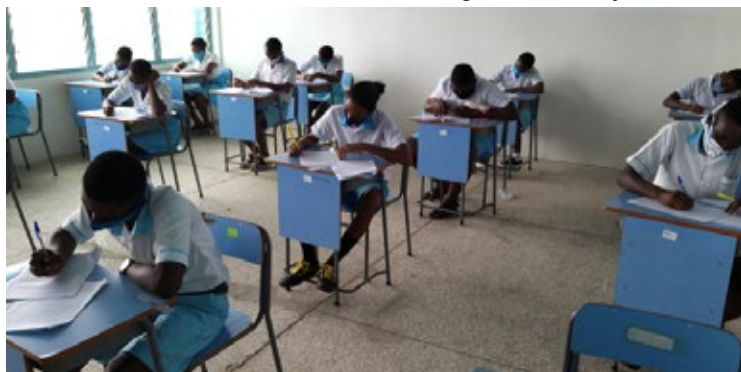


Teachers inspect students' luggage at the Becky Holloway Courtyard before they enter their dormitories.





Four girls from Linary Church of Christ House about to leave home for school



9th grade students of Hope Christian Academy write an exam in preparation for the final national exams which will be written in September 2020.



12th grade students of Hope College write a mock/practice test in preparation for the final international high school exams which will be written in August 2020.



Two students answer a question on the board during a class, under the supervision of a teacher.



Students study on their own in a classroom.

OUT AND ABOUT ON THE FETTEH CAMPUS OF VILLAGE OF HOPE

Since March 15, 2020, the Village of Hope campus has been closed to the public to prevent children and staff being infected with the coronavirus. All children on the Village of Hope campus have also been prevented from going out of campus to protect them from the virus. It was not until June 15, 2020 that the final year college students were permitted to leave the Village of Hope campus and return to school to complete their final exams and graduate. This was followed a week later by the 12th graders who also returned to school to complete their final exams and graduate from high school.

How do you keep about 200 children, teenagers and young adults on a twenty-five-acre campus for three months? That has been a tough challenge. We did our best to kill boredom among them but we must highly commend our children for being obedient and not breaking the rules we set for them, and for staying on the Village of Hope campus for the entire three months without rebelling.

Here are pictures of some of the numerous activities that took place on the Village of Hope campus at Fetteh during the COVID-19 "lockdown."



House parents pruning trees on the Fetteh campus



A house parent sweeping leaves from the roof of a house on campus



"COCONUT DAY"

Children - under the supervision of parents - plucked, collected and enjoyed coconuts from trees on the Fetteh campus.





Girls playing “ampe” (pronounced “am-pay”), a local game



Boys playing basketball and soccer



Kwaku Sarkodie (Managing Director of Hope Children's Village) teaches mathematics to some high school children who are at home owing to the closure of schools.



Painters apply finishing touches to the Tilton Education Building.



Alex Kwetey (left), a 12th grade Clothing & Textiles student, practices needle work while Seth Dwumah, also a 12th grade student, studies from a textbook.



The lawn mower gifted to Village of Hope 5 years ago mows the lawn in front of the Hackmann Assembly Hall of Hope College.

Family Worship



Children in Douglas & Margaret Boateng House listen to the sermon being preached by Samuel Otchere, house parent.

Prestoncrest Church of Christ House A at worship.



Priscilla Anokye leads singing at Prestoncrest Church of Christ House B, an all-girls home.



Samuel Afriyie, house father, preaches to his household during a family worship.



The family at CDH Financial Holdings Home worship in spirit and in truth.



Selassie Agbeko prays during a worship service at Traverse City Church of Christ House.



George and Cynthia Arthur and their children at worship on the Lord's day at the George & Mary Chisholm House, an all-boys home.

Baptized children and their parents take the Lord's supper at the Gaylon & Deanna Smith Hall.



Some teenagers await their turn to wash their hands before entering the Smith Hall.



Members approach the communion table one-at-a-time to dine with the Lord.

Rexford Asumeng, a house parent, drinks the fruit of the vine - symbolizing the blood of Christ - in remembrance of the Lord's death.

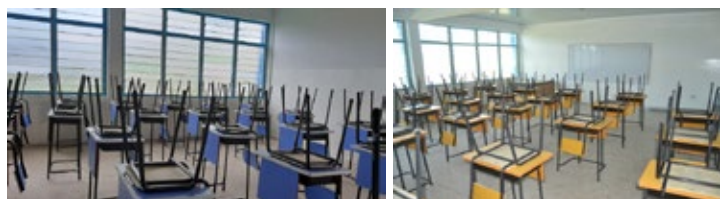
UPDATE ON VISION OF HOPE 2020

Your support has enabled us accomplish some of the goals set out in the Vision of Hope 2020. The following projects have been completed:

AT HOPE CHRISTIAN ACADEMY



The Josiah & Bonita Tilton Education Building has been completely renovated and repainted.



Furniture has been provided for the classrooms of the Tilton Education Building.



The construction of the new Boys' Dormitory for Hope Christian Academy has been completed.



The John & Jane Sackey Nursery Building has been repainted.

AT HOPE CHRISTIAN HOSPITAL



A fence has been built around the hospital's facilities that will prevent patients and visitors to the hospital from trespassing on other parts of the Village of Hope campus and getting into areas for the children's homes.



X-ray equipment has been installed in the X-ray Room, air-conditioners have been installed, and a lead door has been fixed. All is set for the final inspection by the Ghana Atomic Energy Commission for authorization to begin operating the X-ray Department of the hospital.



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VISION OF HOPE - 2020: TOWARDS OPERATIONAL SELF-SUFFICIENCY



I. HOPE CHILDREN'S VILLAGE (ORPHANAGE) Renovation of first 5 Children's Homes/ Cottages

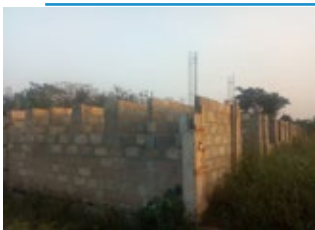
	\$
1. George & Mary Chisholm House	10,000
2. Douglas & Margaret Boateng House	10,000
3. Traverse City Church of Christ House	10,000
4. Prestoncrest Church of Christ House A	10,000
5. Prestoncrest Church of Christ House B	10,000
Sub-Total	50,000



II. HOPE CHRISTIAN ACADEMY (PRE-K THROUGH 9TH GRADE)

	\$
1. Completion of Construction of New Boys' Dormitory	32,000
2. Renovation of Josiah S. Bonita Tilton Education Building	20,000
3. Furniture for Classrooms	8,000

Sub-Total 60,000



III. CHURCH OF CHRIST SCHOOL (PRE-K THROUGH 9TH GRADE)

	\$
1. Completion of Construction of Nursery Building	50,000
2. Renovation of Primary and Junior High School Buildings	12,000
3. Furniture for Classrooms	8,000

Sub-Total 70,000



IV. HOPE CHRISTIAN HOSPITAL

	\$
1. Oxygen for Wards Funded!	14,000
2. Lead Door for X-Ray Room Completed!	4,000
3. Roofing & Terrazzo Floor of Walkways Funded!	20,000
4. Completion of Remodeling of 3 Barnett Houses	20,000
5. Fencing-off of Hospital Facilities Completed!	12,000

Sub-Total 70,000

GRAND TOTAL: \$250,000.00

