

Herald of Hope

Volume 9 | Number 10 | October 2021

VILLAGE OF HOPE RECEIVES MUSIC STUDIO IN MEMORY OF ANNA BETH DAUGHERTY KNIGHT

ANNA BETH DAUGHERTY KNIGHT MUSIC STUDIO

Anna's family has dedicated this studio in memory of her love of music.

Anna was a tower of strength, an encourager and a mentor who found joy in the creation of music.

Above all, she loved Jesus and sought to serve Him daily.

Her family hopes that all who enter find joy in music and the music created here brings praise to the Creator.

SATURDAY; AUGUST 21, 2021

Plaque at the Music Studio honors Anna Beth Daugherty Knight.

The Village of Hope family gathered, in person and online, with friends in the United States, on the afternoon (in Ghana) of August 21, 2021, to take part in the dedication ceremony of a new music studio generously funded by Renai McClanahan and her family. The space for the music studio has existed in the Hackmann Practical Education Building of Hope College for a few years but the actual equipment required had not been purchased until the generous gift from this family was received.

The studio was named in memory and in honor of Anna Beth Daugherty Knight, mother of Renai McClanahan and her siblings. Here, in Renai's words, is a glimpse into the life of Anna Beth Daugherty Knight and why her descendants chose to support the music studio project at the Village of Hope:

Our family was honored in August to attend the virtual dedication of the new music studio at Hope College in memory of our mother, Anna Beth Daugherty Knight. Born in the small town of Seminole, Texas, Anna was often bothered by allergies brought on by the dry, sandy, hot wind of west Texas. So that she might stay healthy, her parents bought a piano to give her something to do inside. She learned to play as a young child, and in grade 4, she also learned to play violin in school. Though she only played violin for a couple of years, she continued playing piano. After graduating valedictorian of her high school, Anna attended Abilene Christian College, now Abilene Christian University, where she studied English literature, Bible and piano. There she met her husband, Bill, who shared her love of music. Anna was smart and disciplined, graduating in just three years.



VILLAGE OF HOPE

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USA

P. O. Box 670394
Dallas, TX 75367
Tel: 682-302-1939

GHANA

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

Email: info@thevillageofhope.com

Website: thevohgroup.org

Facebook: [villageofhope](https://www.facebook.com/villageofhope)

Twitter: [villageofhopegh](https://twitter.com/villageofhopegh)

Instagram: [villageofhopegh](https://www.instagram.com/villageofhopegh)

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



Anna Beth Daugherty Knight

occasionally be heard playing. But her love of music was never lost. As my siblings and I grew and had music opportunities in school, she supported our interests by driving us to countless lessons and rehearsals and always attending our concerts with our dad. I took several years of piano lessons, and my sister, brother and I would all go on to play violin. In fact, I still play in the local orchestra and have done so for 31 years, all because of my parents' love of music.

The greatest love in our mom's life, however, was for her God and Savior. She could be found for many years teaching the toddlers' and two-year-olds' bible classes, working in the nursery, overseeing Vacation Bible School, mentoring young mothers, even sewing and sending bandages to African hospitals. Until just months before her passing in 1999, she continued teaching many ladies the Bible as she had done through the years. God was her constant, her foundation, the source of her peace and joy; His Spirit was her guide; and Jesus was her friend and companion in all things. Truly, her every choice, decision and action was preceded by prayer and directed by her faith.

We believe our mom would be thrilled to see the students at Hope College be given the opportunity to further experience the special language God gives us through music. It is our hope, too, that many will enjoy the music studio and will find ways to honor God through the music made there.

Many thanks to all who made this such a special occasion for our family. We know much time and effort was put into making it happen. And a special thank you to all of the students for your beautiful singing. As you sang, I could only think, as I do every time we've been blessed to sing with you at VOH, how amazing Heaven's chorus will be!

All of us at Village of Hope also say a big "thank you" to the entire family of Anna Beth Knight Daugherty for continuing the legacy of their matriarch thousands of miles away. The children of Village of Hope will benefit immensely from these gifts and will explore their talents to the glory of God. 🙏

Pictures (top to bottom)

Rexford Asumeng leads children to sing at the dedication ceremony.

Students of Hope College attend dedication ceremony.

Joyce Odei unveils plaque honoring Anna Beth Daugherty Knight

Violinist plays for the first time in the Knight Music Studio

Bandsmen play some of the instruments in the Knight Music Studio.



HOPE CHRISTIAN SCHOOL RECEIVES NEW CLASSROOM FURNITURE

The factors that account for academic excellence are multidimensional, ranging from the teacher factor, the condition of classrooms through to the availability of teaching and learning aids. The level of infrastructure in a school plays significant a role in the quality of teaching and learning. It is against this background that the management, teachers and the pupils of Hope Christian School had earnestly been praying for a facelift in the classroom setting. The old, weak and wobbling wooden tables and chairs were not only creating discomfort for learners but also served as tools to deface the uniforms of most students. No single week elapsed without one parent or the other calling to complain about the destructive nature of our wooden furniture. The protruding nails were perforating the uniforms of students without mercy.

Little did the school know that God was preparing something great in response to our constant plea for decent furniture for students until Saturday, July 10, 2021 when the school received 150 new students' tables and chairs. The joy that visited the school campus on Monday, July 12, 2021 was unimaginable. Yes! God has indeed brought His mercy seat onto the Hope Christian School campus.

The euphoria and the celebrations from pupils and staff of the school tell all that we have received an amazing and precious gift from God. The school is half-way through the solution to its furniture needs. Classrooms that were supplied with these tables and chairs look appealing and welcoming for teaching and learning.

In the process of us refurnishing our classrooms, the Nkwatia Methodist Basic School, a school that shares a boundary with Hope Christian School, also had its fair share of God's kindness because, once we had sorted out our old furniture, management of Hope Christian School presented some of the wooden chairs and tables to the Methodist school. In fact, that school has also been battling with inadequate classroom furniture for a while. What a day of rejoicing it was to be receiving and giving out!

We are forever grateful for the generous donations of kind-hearted individuals in and outside Ghana who are writing their names on the hearts of people rather than on marbles. It is our constant prayer that the marvellous grace of our loving Father abound unto all our donors in every endeavour they pursue. Management of Hope Christian School will diligently ensure that these new tables and chairs are cared for properly to prolong their lifespan. [📞](#)

- Richmond Twum, Managing Director, Hope Christian School



HEAVEN GAINS TWO ANGELS



Karen Chisholm

We had been praying fervently for both of them as they were lying in their hospital beds, miles away from each other, but somehow connected because of Village of Hope. One of them, Karen, had always been a mother figure to the entire Village of Hope family; the other, Kwadwo, had been a son of Village of Hope for just about a year.

As news got to us that each of their medical teams were not seeing improvements, we continued, individually and collectively, to pray for the best.

On Sunday, September 12 in Olathe, Kansas, USA (already Monday, September 13 in Accra, Ghana), the answer came. God had decided that it was time for both Karen and Kwadwo to come home and so, within a short space of time, he called them both. As much as it makes our hearts heavy, as children of God, we know and believe that they have merely let go of this fleshly garment and moved on to a better place for eternity.

The children and staff of Village of Hope never met Karen Chisholm but they knew her name. She was the “Karen” in the Tom and Karen Chisholm Computer Laboratory. She was the wife of Tom Chisholm, which meant that, for many years, she was, in principle, one of our mothers; however, this was also true in practice as was demonstrated by the consistent support she gave to the children of Village of Hope in diverse ways, especially in the area of selecting, buying, and packing supplies to be shipped to Ghana. Karen was truly passionate about mission work in Ghana and she hosted many people connected with many of the church-related missions in Ghana including Heritage Bible Institute, Rural Water Development Project, and Village of Hope.

Kwadwo Fosu is the boy who was featured in the cover story of the September 2020 edition of Herald of Hope. His mother had abandoned him at three months old; his father had died later; his grandmother was bedridden. At the age of eight, he did not have parents; he was malnourished; he was ill; he had never been to hospital; he had never used a toothbrush before. One day, Kwadwo was lying on the ground dirty and almost at the point

of death. A kind passerby, Kwame Bannor, saw him, had pity on him, and initiated the process that eventually brought Kwadwo to Village of Hope. He was immediately admitted at the hospital for a number of days, and it was there that it was determined that he had a heart condition that should have been treated during the very early months of his life. He became one of the children under the constant watch of the medical personnel of the hospital. George and Cynthia Arthur became his parents, and cared for him with so much patience and love.

It was God’s will for Kwadwo to spend the last year of his life feeling loved and cared for and we can only count ourselves blessed to part of that last year of his life until he passed away after a few days at the Korle-Bu Teaching Hospital in Accra.



Kwadwo Fosu and Kwame Bannor (the Good Samaritan) arrive at the Village of Hope Campus.

On Monday, September 20, we started the morning at Fetteh with a short service to say goodbye to Kwadwo Fosu. Kwadwo’s classmates from preschool, the boys from his home, house parents, administrative staff, teachers and hospital staff gathered in front of the George and Mary Chisholm House, where Kwadwo lived, to sing and pray and comfort each other. Kwame Bannor, the good Samaritan who found Kwadwo in his moment of despair, also joined us. The adults continued to the Fetteh cemetery to bury Kwadwo Fosu. Later that same day (morning in Olathe), those who were able, joined the memorial service for Karen Chisholm online.

We are grateful to God for giving us Karen to show us a mother’s love, and for giving us Kwadwo to teach us how to love. Heaven has gained two angels who are now free from any physical pain. May God comfort us all. [🙏](#)



Children and staff gather in front of George and Mary Chisholm House for the farewell service for Kwadwo Fosu.



Solomon Mireku, Fred Asare and Rexford Asumeng perform Kwadwo's burial.



Kwadwo's casket is put into the pickup truck for the short trip to the cemetery.



Staff of Village of Hope join in prayer at Kwadwo's graveside.



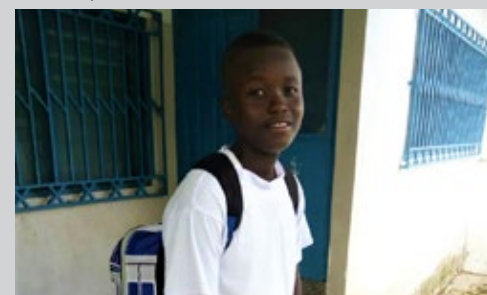
Kwame Bannor (arms folded), Kwadwo's good Samaritan, shares final words at the graveside.

CHILDREN OF VILLAGE OF HOPE VISIT THEIR RELATIVES

For years, the children of the Village of Hope, as required by law, spend at least one school holiday with any available, living relatives. The purpose of this is to keep the connection with their biological extended family alive. For all of 2020, and half of 2021, none of the residential children of Village of Hope could leave Fetteh partly because of COVID-19 restrictions. They had, therefore, not seen any of their relatives in almost two years. This year, it was decided that a visit to relatives was in order so,

after Hope Christian Academy went on break on July 30, the relatives started showing up at Fetteh to take the children home for a full month. The 9th graders, however, had to stay for a couple of weeks to finish mock examinations before they could leave. The only children left on campus were a few recently admitted children, and the biological children of our house parents. Suddenly, the Village of Hope campus was extremely quiet and we could not hear the shouts and laughter of little children. We welcomed all of

them back on September 3, just in time for classes at Hope Christian Academy to commence on September 6. Life is back to normal until the next long school holiday.



MELSONS PROPEL EMMANUEL NIMAKO

The Melson family of Florence, Alabama have been sponsors of Emmanuel Nimako since they met him at Village of Hope, about six years ago, when he was in elementary school. The love that the Melsons have for Emmanuel is wonderful and, apart from monthly sponsorship support, they send birthday gifts and Christmas gifts to Emmanuel every year. Emmanuel is quite the artist and so after 9th grade at Hope Christian Academy, he went on to study art at Abutia Senior High School in the Volta Region of Ghana. In high school he was introduced to various technical aspects of art and graphic design and he started designing for friends.

On one of his school holidays, Emmanuel went into a shop in his neighborhood to print one of his designs - a sticker. He got talking with the owner who eventually offered him an unpaid internship on condition that he completed a test assignment. Emmanuel submitted the digital design the next day and the shop owner was more than satisfied.

Emmanuel started to work on designs during school holidays and man the shop in the owner's absence. With the experience Emmanuel gained from the internship, soon after high school, he transitioned to working on his own from his grandmother's home where he lives with his sisters and grandmother.

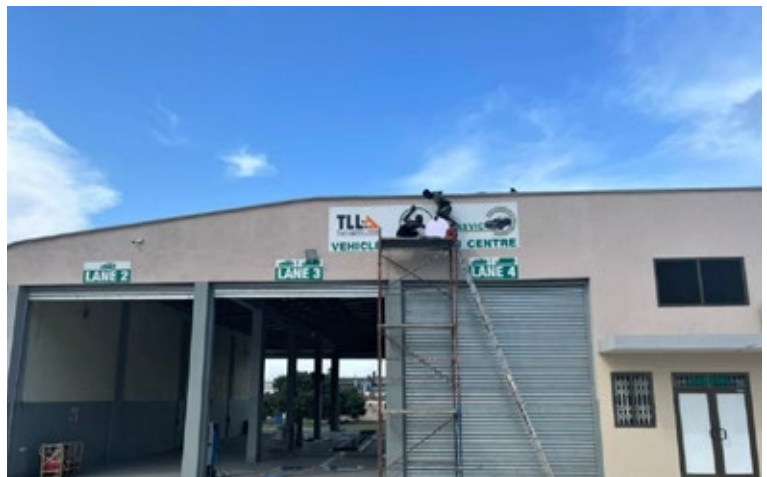
Emmanuel's areas of work include abstract paintings, room decor, poster and banner design, screen printing, photo framing, and heat transfer. In August, the Melson family generously provided Emmanuel with a new laptop computer whose performance is suitable for his graphic design work. Emmanuel is also a great soccer player and his sponsors support him wholeheartedly. We are grateful to the Melsons for giving Emmanuel this boost that will help him work to assist his grandmother who can no longer bake bread and relies primarily on the benevolence of others. [📄](#)



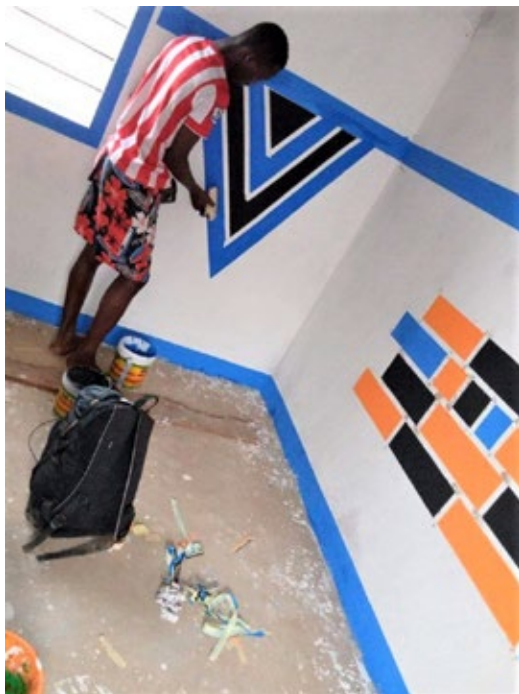
Melson Art: Poster designed by Emmanuel and placed at the entrance to his home to attract customers.



Emmanuel finishes up work on a sign to be mounted on a building for Trust Logistics Limited



Emmanuel assists his "boss" to mount the completed sign for Trust Logistics Limited.



Emmanuel decorates the walls of a clients' house.



This painting is by Emmanuel.



Emmanuel receives his new laptop computer.

NEW UNIFORMS FOR SECURITY AND ESTATE STAFF



Two of the most important groups on the Village of Hope Campus are the security team and the estate team. The security team is usually the first point of call whenever anyone visits any of the Village of Hope campuses, while the estate team is responsible for what the campus looks like on the outside. Without the men on these two teams, it will be a disorganized and unkempt campus.

New uniforms for the security department were long overdue and the estate workers had never been issued uniforms. As soon as funding became available, Hope Training Institute was provided with the materials required to make these new uniforms. Other accessories were purchased from approved suppliers. Each security man got a hat, two customized polo shirts, two pairs of trousers, a reflector jacket, and a pair of boots. Each member of the estate team received two customized overalls, one customized polo shirt, and a pair of jeans. On a rainy morning, the uniforms were officially outdoored at a small parade on the Fetteh campus. 🇳🇮





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P. O. Box 670394
Dallas, TX 75367



TOWARDS OPERATIONAL SELF-SUFFICIENCY

HOPE CHILDREN'S VILLAGE (ORPHANAGE)

Renovation of first 5 Children's Homes/Cottages

	\$
1. George & Mary Chisholm House	9,000
2. Douglas & Margaret Boateng House	5,800
3. Traverse City Church of Christ House	5,360
4. Prestoncrest Church of Christ House A	10,000
5. Prestoncrest Church of Christ House B	10,000

Total

40,160

We are almost there!