



Celebration

Houses of Hope Ministries Int. Ghana
2015 - 2020 

Houses of Hope Ministries Suriname
2005 - 2020 



Newsletter October 2020

Dear friends of Houses of Hope Ministries International,

We would like to share the latest developments with you. In Ghana we see Covid-19 contamination stabilizing and even going down. There are still strict measures that are maintained. In contrast to Europe it seems to move into the right direction, even though there is still a long way to go.

Churches

We are very happy that nobody in our HoH-churches has been hit with the Covid-19 virus. Something to be grateful for. Often in African countries you see that the poorer part of the population has most infections.

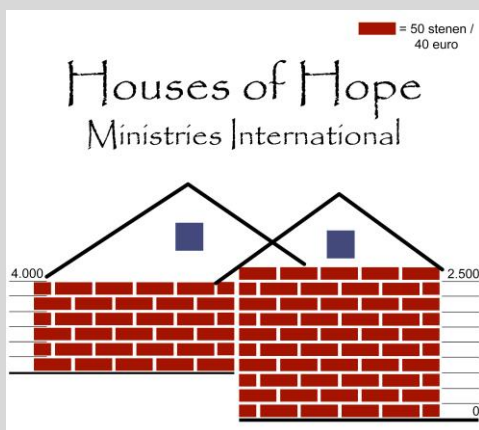


The brothers and sisters of our churches will be re-packing the donated packed rice-bags into smaller portions. To distribute them among the poorer families in the churches.



The gratifying news is that, by helping the people in our churches, a stronger solidarity has developed and a bigger involvement with each other. That is the basis of being a Christian. Love for God and love for each other and building the church.

In Africa it can be very hard sometimes for pastors of churches that do not preach prosperity, but are simply focusing on the Word of God and love for one's neighbour, and their pastoral assignments among the very poor. Many so-called pastors go after the quick money and they promise mountains of gold, but they do not look after the people at all, let alone mind the damage they cause to Christianity.



Do you want to help build?

Target: 4.000 stones at 80 euro cents.

Once again we want to draw your attention to our ongoing action: 'Bricks for Ghana'. We are looking for donors who want to buy bricks for the building of our churches. We were able to lay the foundation of one church, using the donations we received. This is about the churches Houses of Hope Accra-Asofan and the Berekum and Drobo churches, Brong Ahafo Region.

Last August we were able to put the roof on our Houses of Hope Ministries Berekum church-building. Despite the fact that we receive fewer gifts than before the Covid-19 crisis, we were able to save money for a few months and could finish the roof. The meetings are now held in the new building, be it that people still need to improvise as there are no walls yet, nor electricity. Everybody is happy and delighted that we have our own building on our own ground.



The Sunyani HoH-Int.Church is still struggling with the problem that they cannot meet in the school-building where they are used to have their meetings. The school-buildings will at least be closed until January 2021. The people often meet in the open air and sometimes at people's homes, but the group is too large and this is not allowed anymore due to Covid-19 regulations. Now the problem is the rainy season.



Gathering in Sunyani under an improvised lean-to. This is sun-resistant, but not able to stand against the rain-showers of the coming rainy season.

The Drobo HoH-Int.Church does not have these problems as we rent a building and everything can continue there with attention to the Covid-19 regulations.

Annual Leadership seminars

During the period of October 19-29 2020 we will have the annual leadership seminar. This year the leadership seminars will be held in the different local churches of Accra, Sunyani, Berekum and Drobo with the pastors and their local church-leaders. Senior pastor Cenninck Boateng, who oversees our churches in Ghana, will lead these seminars. Every church will have a three-day programme.

The pastors of the different HoH-Int. Churches will have a one-day seminar in the church of Berekum.

General aid

In the middle of September we sent a number of boxes with food and clothing to Ghana. We could also send a number of folding guest-beds there. People often do not have enough space to live, let alone space for regular beds. Often children sleep on the floor and at best on a blanket or a thin mattress made of foam rubber. These folding beds are for sale at thrift stores for little money and are a practical solution. Often the quality is better than the beds/mattresses in Ghana.

We could also buy a bicycle for pastor Cennick and send it to Ghana, so that it is easier for him to travel to lead the church-activities, do his home-visitations and attend his parttime theological classes twice a week.

Generally speaking, looking at the circumstances, developments with the Houses of Hope Ministries Int Churches in Ghana are reasonable. Of course there are remaining points demanding our attention and that we would like to draw your attention to as prayer-points.

Prayer-points

Quite a lot of people, also in our churches, have no or hardly any income and therefore are unable to buy food for their families. There are days that parents and children go to bed without any food.

Because the schools are closed the young children miss the daily meal they receive at school. Which is often the only daily meal they get. Many children and young people do not have proper clothing or shoes.

The leaders are in urgent need of English Bibles, study-books and reference-books for leaders and pastors. If you have some of this in your bookcase and do not use them anymore? Maybe then you can donate them so that we can send these to Ghana.

We pray you will continue to support us with your prayers and gifts. We see the ministry developing well, but the needs are higher and donations and gifts are going down since the outbreak of Covid-19.

We are grateful for the support that we receive and the prayers. We work together as a big team, in all simplicity, to carry out the wonderful message of faith, hope and love into this world.

United with you in Christ,



Pastors Wim and Sonja Odendaal

Servants of the Lord, our God.

**Founders of Houses of Hope Ministries International,
Suriname, Baltimore, USA & Ghana.**

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