



## Seeing God at Work!

It truly has been almost two years since we arrived in Ghana. My family and I find ourselves preparing to return home for our first home assignment. We are so excited to see friends and family again.

As we near the end of our first two years in Ghana, I thought it would be good to reminisce a bit. Four times each year we have sent out a newsletter entitled "Here I Am!" with the idea of highlighting how we have seen God at work in the ministry to which he has called us. So I thought it might be encouraging to highlight some of the ways we have seen God at work while we have been here.

1. God was in the rescuing of an abandoned, malnourished infant from the streets of Ghana.
2. God was in allowing us to be vehicles through which he cared for this little one
3. God was in taking this little ten pound one-year-old and turning her into a happy and healthy toddler.

4. God was in the answering of the prayers of a family who believed that God wanted them to open their home and family to a child who needed both.
5. God was in the heart change we experienced one at a time, that moved us from various levels of discouragement to acceptance of our new surroundings (for in acceptance there is peace).
6. God was in the opening of the eyes of members of three different mission teams to the need for mercy in its many forms here in Ghana.
7. God was in the prompting of the hearts of people in the States in response to medical needs shared by some of these team members (see article on pg. 3).
8. God was in the provision of a Ghanaian pastor to a struggling Ghanaian church that could not afford to support a pastor and his family.
9. God was (and remains) in the provision for our family's needs even during the financial crisis that the U.S. has been experiencing (for which we thank not only God but also many of you).
10. God was in saying yes to our needs by saying no to our prayers through his wisdom when he allowed delays to our plans.
11. Most recently, we have seen God in the provision for the support of Pastor Gaisie, FIM-Ghana's church planting director (see article on pg. 2).

I am sorry that the constraints of time and space prevent me from listing more incidents or from giving more details about those I have cited. But that is alright. Two months from today (as of the writing of this article) will find us traveling back to the States for our first home assignment. And this just gives us an excuse to sit down and talk with you in more detail about these things and much, much more.

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## *God's Work and God's Provision*

"God's work done by God's people in God's time will never lack God's provision." George Muller, one of my spiritual heroes made this statement nearly 200 years ago. It was his prayer that God would use his ministry to demonstrate to the people of his day that this remained true in their time.

It is our prayer that God might be pleased to use our ministry to offer the same encouragement to people today. For some reason it is easy to believe that God provided mightily for his children in biblical times. We can even accept that he did so during the more recent past as in the case of George Muller's ministry to orphaned children in 19th century England. But why is it so hard for us to believe that God continues to work the same way today?

Let me encourage you with a recent example. On Saturday,

September 12th, the FIM-Ghana board convened an emergency meeting to discuss, among other things, the support for Pastor Gaisie (our church planting director here in Ghana). Due to some unexpected disappointments, we are facing a deficit in his support which is just a part of our overall church planting budget.

We discussed the matter at great length and concluded that it was time to pray in earnest, realizing that God alone was going to be able to supply this need.

The following Wednesday I received an unsolicited e-mail from a man I do not know asking if I knew how he could get in touch with Kofi Gaisie. He shared that they had been classmates in seminary and that he had lost touch with him, but had heard that he was entering a new ministry and wanted to support him financially.

What makes this story even more amazing is that I have no idea how he connected me with Pastor Gaisie, nor how he knew there was a short-fall in his support. But less than a week after we committed to pray, God began to answer.

I don't know yet to what extent this man intends to support his old friend, but I do know this: the God who moved the heart of this man can move the hearts of others as well.

Will you pray with us for the resources necessary to continue our work in planting churches here in Ghana? I would also invite you to keep posted on how God might choose to answer. I hope that God will use this example to encourage your heart concerning his continued willingness to provide for his children—including you!

## *A Final Update on Abena*

Abena is home. She left our home on the 6th of September to go to her new home in the States. We are praising the Lord and missing her like crazy.

I was riding in a taxi the other day with our regular taxi driver, Edward. Out of the blue Edward said, I was considering

Abena's story the other day and it is just like Moses. God took this little girl who had been apparently abandoned (though not by him) and now look where she is. God is good.

Another of our African friends said to us a couple of evenings ago. I remember Abena when

she first came and I didn't think she was going to live. Now look at her.

And all we can do is praise the Lord who moved mightily in this little girl's life. We hope she won't be the only one, but even if she is, we consider our time in Africa as well worth it all.



## Dinah's Doings

We thank God for his safe-keeping of our family to this point in time. Summer vacation is over and the children have returned to their schooling. All are doing well.

The church is also doing well. During the summer holidays we had a team visit from the States (mostly from Wisconsin, but with one young lady joining them from Missouri). They held VBS at Frafraha Baptist Church (formerly Greater Grace Baptist Church). This lasted for one week and each

day there was over 100 children in attendance. We thank God. Please pray with us as the church follows up with these children and their families.

If you remember, I shared with you last time about a little girl named Vincentia. We praise God that someone has provided the money her family needs to begin the treatments for her condition (see the article below). I would ask that you continue to pray for her, specifically that God would grant her good health.

Please pray with me as well as I continue to work on paperwork for a visa. We continue to hope that The State Department (U.S.) will see their way clear to allowing me to visit soon.

Thanks, and God bless you.

*In His Service, Dinah Kwao*

P.S. Earlier this month Dinah celebrated her ??th birthday—she's not telling which one it is. We were able to help her celebrate American style with a birthday cake and some gifts.



### Dinah's Contact Information:

P.O. Box 10182  
Accra North, Accra,  
Ghana

Phone :011 233 243 464 062

E-mail: [dkwao@fim.org](mailto:dkwao@fim.org)

Please Send Support to:

FIM, 555 S. 24th St.  
Allentown, PA 18104-6666



## Another Opportunity Taken

There seems to be a theme to this quarter's newsletter: God is active in Mercy Ministry in Ghana.

Three months ago we shared with you concerning this little girl, Vincentia. As can be seen, she suffers from hydrocephalous, and her condition continues to degenerate. Dinah referred her family to a doctor who gave the family some good news. Vincentia's condition was diagnosed as treatable. He prescribed some medicines as the first step in preparing her for surgery to follow. The initial costs were predicted to be in the range of \$360.00 (U.S.).

But as you might expect, this cost was well beyond what the family can afford. But that is

the great thing about being involved in Mercy Ministry—it has very little to do with what a particular family can afford and much to do with what God can afford. And God can afford well more than \$360.00.

Indeed God took this opportunity to demonstrate that his mercy extends to little children in need. He did this by using a team that visited us here in Ghana this past summer. One of the things on their schedule was a visit with Dinah to the village in which Vincentia lives. While they were there, they had an opportunity to meet her and her family. And her condition touched their hearts. Upon returning to the States, one young lady shared the need with her church and some indi-

viduals she knows and within a week or two, God prompted the hearts of these children of his to respond to this need.

So now we are in the process of taking God's provision through these faithful stewards and getting the necessary treatment for this precious little girl. In fact, the provision reached further than the initial need and will be applied to the subsequent costs of the surgery .

Please continue to pray with us for Vincentia. We are not sure what the total cost for her treatment (including the surgery) will be but we do trust that the God who provided beyond the initial need can and will provide for the remainder of the need as well.



U.S. Address: 953 Meadowview Lane,  
Mukwonago, WI 53149  
U.S. Phone: (262) 347-7172  
U.S. E-mail: WAMM@centurytel.net

Ghana Phone: 011 233 273 178 259  
Ghana E-Mail: <bmcintyre@fim.org> or  
<dkwao@fim.org>

Check us out at  
WAMMInc.org

*Please Send any Support to  
FIM, 555 S. 24th St.  
Allentown, PA 18104-6666  
(Indicate for whom the support is intended)*



*Derek, Brian & Debbie, Jessi, Tommy*

### ***Here We Are, But Not for Long!***

Do you realize that the next issue of this newsletter will be written from North Prairie, Wisconsin? This means that for the first time since we left the States in 2007, we will be able to spend Christmas with our families and friends. All of the kids are excited about this, especially the biggest family member who is the biggest kid of all when it comes to Christmas.

### ***Here We Are Update on the McIntyre Family***

I asked each member of the family (Josh, Jami and Mike excluded since they are not here), "Besides family and friends what have you missed most about the holiday season over the past two years?" Here are the responses I got:

**Jessi:** Playing in the snow, especially sledding.

**Derek:** Snow as well, though his included how weird it seems to have Christmas without snow.

**Tommy:** The football games (beginning with the Lions and Packers on Thanksgiving right through the bowl games of New Year's day).

**Debbie:** All the preparations leading up to Christmas including the music on the radio, decorations, programs, etc. She also said it is very difficult to think of it being Christmas when it is 90° outside.

**And finally the biggest kid of all:** I miss Starbuck's Christmas blend, Chex party mix, Stephanie Radkte's fudge, Jean Kinkade's toffee and our Christmas Eve Birthday Party for Jesus with pizza and a Dairy Queen "Cake" (are you noticing a pattern here?).

So yes, we are all looking forward to being home for the holidays, even looking forward to the snow and cold (of course that could all leave December 26th). But of all the things we have missed and are looking forward to, the top of the list is our family and friends.

So brew up a pot of Starbuck's Christmas blend (or Caribou's Reindeer blend for Debbie) and let's get caught up on the time we have missed.

*Pastor Brian for the McIntyres*