LIVING IS GIVING

LIBERIA UPDATE

December 2022

MISSION STATEMENT: The mission of Living is Giving is to provide funds and resources in the form of finances, food, training education, and other life enhancement opportunities for the people of Liberia, Africa, in order to assist in meeting their daily needs and in building a better life for themselves.

Volunteers Harvest First Cassava Crop

When looking back at 2022, it is hard to deny the providence of God, who has helped the Living is Giving ministry (LIG) in Liberia get off the ground and grow. Just one year ago, LIG was only a dream to do something



tangible to help people in Liberia who struggle with food insecurity. Since that time, through the generosity of several donors, LIG has purchased three acres of land

In rural Careysburg, Liberia on which to grow food to supplement the diets of Liberian families. The first acre was surveyed and cleared of vegetation in May. and was planted to cassava by a group of 26 volunteers. The volunteers have lovingly tended the land in the months since that time and are now harvesting the first crop of cassava, sharing equally in its distribution.

The second and third acres have now been surveyed and cleared, and all three acres are being planted to cassava this month. Cassava is a root crop which is a major staple in the average Liberian family's diet. Due to Liberia's tropical location, two crops per year can be planted and harvested.

Many of the volunteers are women who have had hard lives due to civil war, disease, and lack of opportunity. All struggle to put food on the table for their families and sharing_in the harvest will be a blessing.

BILL M. WOYAH LIG's "BOOTS ON THE GROUND" IN LIBERIA



BILL WOYAH coordinates Living is Giving's day-to-day work. He lives in Paynesville, Liberia, just east of the capital city of Monrovia. Bill has had a very eventful life. His family was split apart by civil wars in Liberia. His mother and sisters ended up in a refugee camp in neighboring Ivory Coast, eventually emigrating to America. Bill was abducted by rebel soldiers who were going to force him into military service at age 10, but by a miracle of God's grace he was released. He finished high school and two years of teachers training, and is working on his bachelor's in education administration at Carver Christian University in Monrovia.



Meet **DEBORA DENNY**, who joined our Living is Giving Board of Directors last summer. She is a retired attorney, having worked for many years advocating for native tribes in Nebraska, along with starting and administering nonprofit groups and as Nebraska's director of its Office of Dispute Resolution. Deb has a wealth of knowledge and experience which is greatly benefitting LIG. She and her husband, Jeff, moved to Jamestown from Nebraska two years ago, and they have become actively involved in the community. We are so grateful for her commitment to this ministry.



Meet the newest member of LIG's Board of Directors, **RYAN KINGSRITER**. Ryan grew up in Minnesota, but moved to Jamestown two years ago to become President of his family's business, Liechty Homes, based in Jamestown. He was educated in crosscultural studies, computer science, and information technology and security. Ryan is an entrepreneur, investor, and business leader with a background in real estate, business startups, and consulting. He is married to Andrea and is dad to four children. Ryan's experience and knowledge will be invaluable to LIG.

Bible Talk Organization (BTO) Youth Ministry also part of Living is Giving

Bible Talk Organization was founded in 2021 by Bill Woyah and has now come under the LIG umbrella. BTO gatherings, which are open to youth of all ages, are held on Sunday afternoons at three locations in the Paynesville-Careysburg area. The children come together to sing, praise, worship, and learn about the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Bill and numerous other volunteers work with nearly 300 youths on a weekly basis. As resources allow BTO also provides a meal so that those who attend receive food for their body as well as their soul.



LIVING IS GIVING HAS THE FOLLOWING FINANCIAL NEEDS:

- Legal and registration fees to complete LIG's legal organization and registration with the Liberian government. (Approximately \$2,000)
- Purchase of additional adjacent farmland. (\$4,000-6,000 per acre.)
- Vehicle to transport volunteers to and from the farm, saving expense. (\$12,000)
- Ongoing operational needs—operating budget for 2023 is approximately \$40,000.
 Gifts in any amount are appreciated.

DONATIONS MAY BE MADE THROUGH PAYPAL (<u>LIVINGISGIVING@GMAIL.COM</u>), VENMO (<u>LIVING IS GIVING INC</u>) OR BY PERSONAL CHECK (MAIL TO: LIVING IS GIVING, C/O TIM BURCHILL, 1422 9TH AV. NE, JAMESTOWN, ND 58401) LIG IS A 501(C)3 NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION. ALL GIFTS ARE 100% TAX DEDUCTIBLE. THANKS! WE NEED YOUR HELP!