



LIVING IS GIVING

Tim Burchill, Editor



Youth Group Is A Major Focus of LIG

This issue of our newsletter features Bible Talk Organization (BTO) which is part of the Living is Giving project.

BTO was founded in 2021 by Bill M Woyah thus predating LIG by about a year. Bill had been concerned for a long time that many of the youth in his community of Paynesville had little to do on Sunday afternoons. In Liberia most people attend church Sunday morning for 2-3 hours but once church is over the young people have free time the remainder of the day. (And you know the old adage about idle time!)

Bill's idea was to form a Christian youth club where children from all (or no) denominations could come together to pray worship and learn about Christ. Thinking also about the children's physical needs, Bill envisioned feeding the children a nutritious meal when they gathered. This meal may be the only one some of the children would have that day. Also the promise of a meal could be a great encouragement for the children to attend.

The first chapter of BTO was organized in Bill's home town of Paynesville, a suburb of Monrovia, the capital. Within a short time BTO had expanded to three other communities: Soul Clinic, 11 miles NE of Monrovia, Buchanan, 81 miles down the coast, and Careysburg, about 20 miles from inland from Monrovia. The Careysburg group meets near the village of Frank Town which is only a quarter-mile from the LIG farm.

Each branch of LIG has a volunteer who acts as program coordinator for their group. Each of these coordinators is accountable to Bill, who is the overall director of the program. The coordinators ensure that meetings are conducted at a time and location that is conducive to teaching, learning and fellowship. They make sure that BTO rules and guidelines are followed and all interactions with the children are conducted in a proper manner. Bill visits each of the four BTO chapters on a periodic basis to lend his leadership, guidance and support.

BTO is completely non-sectarian. In Liberia there are hundreds of churches of many denominations. BTO ministers to children of all religious backgrounds and welcomes those who are unchurched. Care is taken to stick to the basics of the Gospel and not get into lesser doctrinal issues. BTO is not intended to replace the local churches or their roles in the community but to supplement it in creative ways focusing on the youth. Much of the learning is done through artistic activities such as choirs, dance groups, and drama productions, as well as Bible memory work for all ages.

When LIG was organized in early 2022 it was decided by the Board of Directors to bring BTO under its umbrella so as to provide a broader means of ongoing interest and support. That has worked out very well and it is a blessing to support these groups and minister to the young people of Liberia.

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New Farming Strategy



A pilot project to be launched in 2025 will feature a new approach to farming LIG’s land. A portion of the acreage will be divided between small teams of women from the local area, each of which will be in charge of a designated piece of land. Each team will be responsible for raising crops for their own needs on their allotted plot, using the Farming God’s Way (FGW) philosophy on which they were trained in 2022. The FGW methods will allow each team to maximize productivity so they can provide as much food as possible for their families. Some of the women have been LIG volunteers in the past, and others are new to the farm. Rules and guidelines for this new approach are being developed. There will likely still be a need to hire day laborers on occasion to do some of the heavier work, but the teams will otherwise provide the labor needed to grow food crops on the land.

Another component of this pilot effort is the prospect of starting a school on LIG’s land, to educate the children of the women who are working the land, as well as other children in the area. Preliminary school building sketches have been made, and rough cost estimates developed. We are praying about whether God wants us to do this, and if so, what the timing should be. It is no small consideration. Will you pray with us for God’s guidance and direction?

LIG Inc. Board of Directors

- Christine Burchill:** President
- Tim Burchill:** Secretary/Treasurer
- Debora Denny:** Recording Secretary
- Ryan Kingsriter**
- Emmanuel Adams**
- Wanita Parsons**
- Bill Wotan:** Executive Director



BTO Children Receive Bookbags

By Bill M. Woyah
Executive Director

Thank you everyone for the monthly support to Bible Talk Organization. In September the children in all 4 branches received note books and book bags.

Parents were very happy because this is one less expense they have to be concerned about. The children and young adults were excited to chose their very own bookbag.

Thank you again and may God continue to bless our mission through cheerful givers.



From page one . . . Youth Group is Major focus of LIG



LIG constructed a shelter on the farm near Frank Town/ Careysburg as a meeting place for Bible Talk Organization. Shown are the new chairs and sound equipment. Not shown is the generator that is used for multiple purposes.



Children from BTO help on the farm with weeding & with harvest



A celebration was held to dedicate the new shelter



200 Bibles were purchased by LIG to distribute among the children from the four branches of BTO. Most of the kids had no access to the Scriptures before now, and were excited to have a Bible of their very own. Also, six cartons of Bibles and New Testaments of various translations have been shipped from North Dakota for general distribution



Chairs were purchased for BTO groups at Soul Clinic, Buchanan, and Frank Town, Liberia

Cassava Harvest & Replanting Underway



Ways to Donate

By Check (no fees):

Payable to Living is Giving Inc.

Send to: Tim Burchill

1422 9th Avenue NE
Jamestown, ND 58401

VENMO: @Livingisgivinginc

Zelle: Living is Giving Inc.

Website: livingisgivingliberia.org

Plea for Funds

LIG, like any humanitarian ministry, is in need of ongoing financial support. We understand not everyone is able to make a financial gift, and we appreciate your prayers. For those who are able to make a gift, please consider helping. LIG's budget for 2025 is around \$25,000. One time gifts of any size are much appreciated. We are also asking friends of LIG to consider a recurring monthly gift. LIG will soon have ACH capabilities, so that donations can be automatically deducted from a checking account each month. Other ways to give are listed above. Please prayerfully consider what you can do to help. Thank you so much.

Produce Distributed to Those in Need



Mama Mataly
from
Kessehtown

She is no longer able to farm and get food. LIG has been a blessing to her.



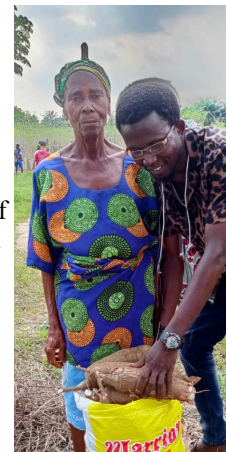
Mother Comfort Morris
from
Gboloestown

She has injured her foot so cannot go out to earn money for food.



Ma Tumue
from
Frank Town

She is now one of LIG's volunteers. She farms to support herself



Kpanah Fahn
from
Gboloestown

She was a farmer in the past but is no longer strong enough to farm

Exciting Travel Plans!!!

Time passes quickly, and it has been nearly two years since Tim and Christine had their first adventure traveling to the country we have grown to love. In February 2025, Burchills will make their second trip to Liberia. This time, they will be accompanied by LIG board member Ryan Kingsriter and his son, Asher. We are excited to see up close the project we have been working on for the past three years, and meet the people who have helped LIG get to the place it is today. Additionally, we hope to make connections with officials at the U. S. Embassy, as well visit universities with agriculture programs. We will also visit Leaders Academy, a school built by Jerome Zamgba of Jamestown (a Liberia native), looking to the possibility of starting a school on LIG's farm property at Frank Town. We will meet with the volunteers who are raising crops on our land, and hear about their needs and ideas for the future. It will be exciting to have Ryan and Asher with us, and to see Liberia through their eyes. They will experience first hand the abject poverty and social problems which plague the country, alongside the warmth and hospitality of the Liberian people. (NOTE; No travel expenses for the trip will be paid from LIG funds, but will be the responsibility of those traveling.)