

“...that the message of the Lord may spread...”

2 Thes. 3:1



**Dixon &
Christiana
Gbeanquoi**



“ When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and when you pass through the rivers, they will not sweep over you. When you walk through the fire, you will not be burned; the flames will not set you ablaze.” (Isaiah 43:2)

God works according to His own timing

It has really been long since we wrote our last newsletter. We must apologize for the long silence; it was not intentional on our part. We have been going through some challenges and still mourning the death of our beloved son (Ethan). We know that God has not left us alone to mourn our loss; He has been with us throughout this period and indeed, He is still with us.

One of the greatest challenges we are facing has to do with where God is calling us to serve. It seems at first there was no clear direction. Many countries were suggested to us and in our human self we felt that these countries were good to serve and perhaps where God wanted us to be, with particular references to Botswana, Belize and then Jamaica. Having left everything we have to follow Christ and serve him in whatever way possible, only to come to a point where everything seems to come to a standstill, we felt probably, maybe, we had made the wrong decision in becoming missionaries. With particular shock was the passing of our beloved and only child. However, we kept the faith and knew that it was God who called us and He was surely going to show himself strong in our life and ministry, despite our ups and downs.

One lesson we have learned during these periods is that God works according to His own timing and not ours. We may have all our plans for the future and what we intend to do for God but when it is not according to God's own purpose and plan, it will not succeed.



So we kept praying even when things did not seem to be very clear. Since we signed up with Global Lutheran Outreach in April of 2012, the road has really not been as smooth as it could be. This we already knew when we signed up, but it is hard to assure our parents that this is indeed what we were called into (a life of sacrifice).

A new opportunity

However, recently we have been invited by the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Tanzania, East of Lake Victoria Diocese to consider working as missionary with them. We are excited about this and praying and trusting that this is really where God wants us to serve finally. We really do not yet know what this entails until the end of May. We have been invited to visit to see what God will want us to do in that part of His kingdom.

I (Dixon) have decided along with GLO to visit Tanzania from the 24th of May to the 3rd of June. We are kindly asking you and other brothers and sisters



out there to support this trip. This trip and all the expenses involved will cost around \$1800. Presently, we don't have such an amount in our account with GLO. (Without a confirmed area of service it has been difficult for us in raising support for our ministry.) GLO has agreed to advance us money for the trip. We will then have to raise support to pay this back. If you will like to support our ministry and this trip in whatever way possible, please feel free to contact GLO and make a regular or one time donation (see below).

Special Prayer Request for bombing incident in Tanzania:

A few days ago there was a bombing incident that took place in Mwanza, Tanzania at the diocesan headquarters where I will be visiting. Only one person was injured on Monday evening when an object believed to be a home-made bomb exploded at the church premises in Mwanza,

According to the Citizen News, the incident occurred at 8:20pm at Makongoro Mission Guest House when a church worker, Ms Benadeta Alfred, was attending her duties. Eyewitnesses say that Ms Alfred was trying to lift something with a gift wrapper that had been left in the room by an unknown person when it exploded, injuring her face and legs. You can read more about this here: <http://www.thecitizen.co.tz/News/One-injured-as-bomb-explodes-at-church/-/1840392/2306064/-/vva70q/-/index.html>

This is a clear indication that nowhere in the world is safe. For those of us in Nigeria, we are no strangers to this kind of terror act. This is what the director of Global Lutheran Outreach has to say about this: "As we seek to bring the Good News to a lost world, we know that sin and evil are very real. The recent bombing of the guest house of the East of Lake Victoria Diocese of the Lutheran Church of Tanzania is yet another reminder that "our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the principalities and powers and rulers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil" (Eph. 6:12). We trust in the Lord; He is our refuge and strength" (Rev. Dr. James Tino)

It is our prayer that the ongoing investigation will yield quick results and the perpetrator or whosoever involved will be brought to book. We also pray for our sister Benadeta Alfred, for her quick recovery and may God give her peace in her soul as she goes through that horrific experience.

Also, we ask you to join us in prayers for Nigeria and the more than 250 girls who were abducted by Boko Haram militants. It seems authorities might not find them very soon from the way the media and government security agencies are analyzing it. For those of us who trust in the resurrected Christ, we believe nothing is impossible through Christ. With our faith united together in prayers, those girls will be rescued soon.

Would you consider supporting us?

We will need about \$1800 to make the initial visit and then funding for our first year (including travel, immigration, equipment, new home setup, transport, training, medical and living expenses).

Donations can be made online at:

www.globallutheranoutreach.com/gbeanquoi (click the "Give" button.)

In the US, checks can be mailed to:

Global Lutheran Outreach,
6709 Ficus Drive, Miramar, FL 33023.

(Make check out to "Global Lutheran Outreach" with "Gbeanquoi" in the memo line.)

Donations in the US are tax-deductible

In Nigeria: Donations can be deposited into

Acct. Name: **Mission Advocates**

Acct.Num.: **0021538498**

Access Bank branch: **16, Ahmadu Bello Way, Jos**

Sort Code: **044211438**

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Designate deposit as: "for Gbeanquoi mission"