

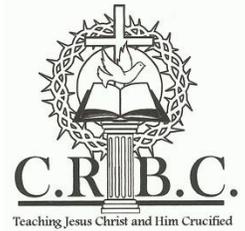


Christian Research Bible College Newsletter

Volume 1: April 2021

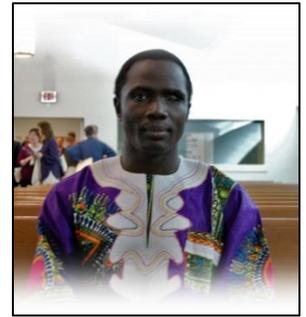
Koindu, Sierra Leone

Editor: Charli Yana



Introducing Anthony Joseph Yillia

After two consecutive years of visiting Ghana, I was approached by brother Francis Amara of the Camp Hill, PA congregation who was originally a refugee from Sierra Leone (*now a citizen of the US*). He was interested in getting a brother from home, Anthony Joseph Yillia, into formal studies at the Ghana Bible College. When Francis approached Joseph about the Ghana Bible College and that he knew someone who might be able to procure financing for him to go, Joseph was encouraged yet skeptical, as were his family and congregation. When Francis returned to the states he approached me on the subject and I responded that we needed to get Joseph connected with Emmanuel Antwi (*President/Principle of the GBC*) to make this happen.



Francis Amara



Joseph with Emmanuel Antwi

Joseph had no formal training but was preaching the Gospel “in spirit and in truth” (*John 4:24*) nonetheless. And neither do most of the other preachers Joseph has been acquainted with from West Africa. Churches of Christ in the U.S. have since aided Joseph in going to Ghana Bible College for training and he is now at home with a three year degree (*after less than a year and a half due to his due diligence making every effort to attend classes while on break*). He is presently in Koindu, Sierra Leone working on establishing a preacher training school and is currently working on his master’s degree. (*See Joseph’s biography below.*)

Ongoing Construction

With the support of churches of Christ in the U.S. Joseph was able to obtain property for the school (*now titled “The Christian Research Bible College” or CRBC for short*) along with other necessary items such as a printer, laptop, generator, motorcycle, monthly income (*from the Lighthouse Church of Christ in DE*) and financial aid in helping the poor. With the help of a member from the Loveland Heights congregation in Ohio Joseph was able to purchase property and has been obtaining the materials necessary for construction which will include a health clinic on campus. The labor is being completed by brethren of the congregation there who have skills in carpentry, masonry, electric and plumbing (*there is a well on the property*). As of April 1, 2021, funding for this project, including Joseph’s income, by brethren of the churches of Christ in the U.S. has totaled \$13,283.00 which began December 30, 2019.



Joseph’s desire to initiate a preacher training school that would be open to the public, but mostly benefit other preachers who are in the same predicament Joseph was in, has become a reality by the grace of God. The school, by God’s grace, will coordinate with the Ghana Bible College and benefit from the Biblical knowledge it affords.



Setting Up a Board of Trustees

A board of directors including a dean (*Emmanuel Focko who studied at Bear Valley in Sierra Leone*) and registrar (*Peter Makundu who studied in Nigeria*) will serve as some of the instructors.

These men, nine in total, were “selected from different congregations of the churches of Christ based on their efficient, experience and long held service and devotion to the things of God, for the oversight of the school, and to effectively work with the school administration for the sustainability of the school. They will supervise, monitor, evaluate and guide the college against any abnormalities and inefficiency.” - Anthony Joseph Yillia

Joseph’s Bio

Anthony Joseph Yillia, currently 32, married to Victoria with two sons, Gabriel and Caleb, is a native of Koindu, Sierra Leone, West Africa. He is a high school graduate with a National Diploma degree to teach secular education. He served as church secretary of his congregation of 200 and was appointed



Victoria, Gabriel and Joseph

assistant preacher in 2012. With the support of the Camp Hill and Lighthouse congregations Joseph has attended and graduated from the Ghana Bible College in 2019 where he received a bachelor’s degree in Bible and Church Ministry. He is currently working on his master’s degree online through Bear Valley. He has traveled throughout nearby Guinea and Liberia as well as regions in Sierra Leone in order to unite the preachers of the churches of Christ and promote the Christian Research Bible College.

Joseph once asked if I wished to take part in naming “your new grandson” and it is an extreme honor to have such a role with such a lovely family. Since “Caleb” is one of my favorite names in the Bible (*I have a son named Caleb*) that was my suggestion and it was agreed on.



Caleb Fayia Yillia

Sierra Leone

Sierra Leone’s religion is predominately Muslim. According to Joseph they are “peaceful” and can be converted if only they have the Gospel preached to them. (*I received a text from Joseph recently stating, “Where I went for evangelism in the Muslim dominated place we baptized 10 souls” and “We [are] beginning a new congregation there on Sunday” [4/4/2021].*) This is a



prime opportunity to get involved on the ground floor of what could be, by the grace of God, another great institution in the brotherhood to train the next generation of preachers in a country where Christianity is on the increase. Photos of Joseph's schooling, graduation, family, campus construction and work can be viewed at <https://www.truthdiscovered.net/index.php/photo-galleries>



Iron rods are purchased for reinforcement of the concrete pillars and lintels. Boards are mounted in order to form the lintels over the doors and windows.



The Campus

Mixture and formation of bricks for the buildings is done on site. Seen here they are laid out in the sun to dry; once dried they are stacked and ready for the masons.



Welders weld metal together for secure windows.



The Real Work

The whole purpose of the school is to fulfill the Great Commission by formally training men to preach the Gospel in truth, teach the true plan of salvation through submission to the righteous ordinance of baptism and continue equipping, strengthening and educating those men and women who are converted to share the message of hope.

Mat 28:18 And Jesus came and said to them, “All authority in Heaven and on earth has been given to Me. **19** Go therefore and **make disciples** of all nations, **baptizing** them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, **20 teaching** them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.” (ESV- emp. added)

Support Information

If you or your congregation is interested in funding Joseph's mission, checks can be made out to: "Lighthouse Church of Christ"; memo line "Joseph Yillia/CRBC" (address listed below). If you know of anyone who would like to donate a vehicle (preferably a small SUV) for Joseph's mobility that is in fair condition, please inform us so we can raise the necessary funding for shipping it to him.



Charli, Joseph, Emanuel, Arbie, Omari
Ghana Bible College, March 2019

Lighthouse Church of Christ
c/o Terry Straight
132 West Lucky Estates Drive
Harrington, DE 19952

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Thank You! Funding/Support Donors for the CRBC as of April 5, 2021

Evans: \$750
Glen Rock C of C: \$68
Krause: \$80
Lighthouse C of C: \$5025
Loveland Heights C of C: \$2200
Missions (Yana): \$2350
Rayborn: \$950
Yana: \$2060

\$13,483.00

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Koindu, Sierra Leone, West Africa
Anthony Joseph Yillia- President