



## Reaching The Deaf in Africa

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Subject: **A shepherd is to feed the sheep.**

Dear Praying Friends,

*Ezekiel 34:2, “Son of man, prophesy against the shepherds of Israel, prophesy, and say unto them, Thus saith the Lord GOD unto the shepherds; Woe be to the shepherds of Israel that do feed themselves! should not the shepherds feed the flocks?”*

Greetings in the mighty name of our Lord Jesus Christ. As we are approaching to close 2013 and welcome 2014, I am privileged to have this chance to share exciting news with you from Tanzania. Let us distinguish the phrase “woe...” from the above mentioned verse. I am distinguished that woe into me if I am not conformed to the pastoral or missionary principles related to mission enterprise by asking myself...do I feed myself or do I feed the flocks in both spiritual and physical needs? I actually don't know what will the WOE concern your pattern at the end of this year.

### The Church



Our Bethel Baptist Deaf Church has reached 2<sup>nd</sup> anniversary of serving the deaf and hearing people. We had 25 members during those two years. However, due to economic hardship; some members had to move to other states in the country searching for livelihood by doing labor enforcement. Most of our members have moved to the Capital State of Tanzania, Dodoma. It's true that no church that wants its faithful and growing members to scatter to the region where there is no spiritual nourishment. This is a challenge for the church to keep laboring in replacing people for the empty benches in the auditorium. Hearing churches are available almost everywhere. The hearing people are not worried about the local church when they move out, but the deaf churches are not available in many provinces even in most countries in the world. This has been affecting their spiritual well-being when they move to a certain place where a deaf church doesn't exist. Please consider what the WOE will impact you about the deaf world for Christ.

### Salvation



How so great the news of the 6 people who joined the Kingdom of God by accepting Christ as their Savior during the past months of August – November, 2013. Two of the 6 saved people are hearing ladies who were attending Catholic Church and the rest of the 5 people are deaf. Unfortunately, those 5 converted deaf souls don't go to church because they live long distance from our local church.



**“And how shall they hear without a preacher?” Romans 10:14**

#### **Sending Church:**

Hampshire View Baptist Deaf Church • 360 Ednor Road • Silver Spring, MD 20905

#### **Mission Agency:**

Baptist International Outreach, Inc • 1136 Romans Road • Jefferson City, TN 37760



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### Help church members economically



There has been a severe economic hardship in the third-world that mostly affecting marginalized community of the people with disability. This condition has been causing some members in church to relocate to another province. Due to this hardship facing the unemployed members, I was determined to use some funds from



mission support to purchase 2 sewing machines and other basic facilities related to tailoring work as a part of physical service for our members. I managed to establish a Tailoring Workshop for deaf ladies in our ministry. I am looking forward to establish a Carpenter Workshop for deaf men when the funds become available. These projects are under our ministry aimed to help members to earn income to support living and combat poverty. They give tithe to the church from their small income from working in the workshop. If you have any sewing machine or carpenter equipment that you don't use,

then would you consider donating to those groups in our ministry? In addition, if you wish, you may donate some money so we can buy the equipment here in Tanzania.

### Prayer Requests:

- Pray for those 6 converts for their spiritual growth as they live long distance from our local church
- Pray for God's power upon our ministry to keep winning the lost sinners
- Pray for our members to remain faithful to God's service regardless of hardship
- We need a van or mini-bus
- Financial needs to purchase a land

Thank you very much for your faithful support.

Sincerely in Christ,

Frank Laurent

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