

September 2010

Our Mission in Ghana

Pastor Ben's first visit to Ohio

Dear Friends,

In November of 1993 the paramount question was: Should I leave my wife, Julie, and our four children to come to the USA for surgery? Our third child, Ida, was born in Liberia and had been heavily traumatized under Charles Taylor's rebels. Our older children, William and Isabella had lived in Ghana while we were in Liberia, and we all needed to become united again as a family. Also, our youngest, Benjamin, had just been born.

My hip was degenerating fast - which ultimately would have caused me to become crippled - and it was threatening a fulfilling ministry. If I came to the USA for surgery, my family would get back a strong & healthy father, and it ensured that the ministry could continue.

On November 8, 1993, I left my family in Ghana and arrived in Lorain. I was taken to Pastor Jimmy's house which has become my US home since then. The warmth I was later to enjoy, throughout my almost 6 month stay in Lorain, started at the airport. The 'welcoming party' displayed, with no pretense, a warmth that could only be described as 'being made part of the First Lutheran Family!' I continue to enjoy this feeling even today!

My arrival in November was the first time I had ever tasted weather so cold! As autumn became winter, and 1993 turned into January of 1994, I found myself sleeping between two electric blankets. Dealing with the cold and separation, after the ordeal in Liberia, made me miss my family a lot. I wished to go home, but I needed the 'healing' of surgery. But I survived thanks to the warmth of friendship and fellowship.

Dr. Denis Radefeld and Dr. Michael Kolczun are wonderful instruments of God... (who) believed that God had a plan in bringing me to the USA. My hip replacement surgery was on December 14, 1993. Surgery, medical facilities and prosthetics were provided free of charge...(Truly many people) were used for God's purpose so that I would be restored to continue my ministry.

Pastor Ben



The water is flowing.

Pastor Ben writes, "Dear friends, you have been very patient and very understanding... Yesterday, (8/10) I got a call that the Water Company Crew were in the village to do a demonstration of the pressure flow in the pipe...It was a day of celebration after (the village) waited for about 11 years since the first water connection. Today I drank some of the fresh water.

Let me say a big "THANK YOU" for doing this for the people of Akrampa.

Pastor Ben