

RISHAMA INT'L MINISTRY FOR AFRICAN CHILDREN (RIMAC).

NEWSLETTER NO. 2.



INAUGURATION SERVICE

DATE: SUN. DEC. 21,
2014 TIME: 2:00PM
ECWA CHURCH KEFFI

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our affliction, so that we may be able to comfort those who are in any affliction, with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God.

THERE ARE MORE ORPHANS THAN WE THOUGHT TO PRAY FOR! YET, OUR GOD IS BIG!

Motto: "So that we may be able to comfort those in any affliction"

There has been an increasing population of orphans and other vulnerable children in Nigeria in the past few years. This is a great challenge today in Nigeria and some other parts of Africa. Boko Haram has greatly contributed to this

More than three hundred orphans were in attendance at the inauguration service of Rishama International Christian Home held on December 21 in Keffi Nigeria. Some of the orphans present are victims of the Boko Haram's violence. It was so shocking to see many hands when I asked, "how many of you do not have mummy and daddy?" It also baffled me that majority of these orphans are girls! Some of them are victims of sexual exploitations. Many others face the same risk. This ministry is designed to provide opportunities for God's people to come alongside Nigerian orphans and bring their resources and hearts together to find

holistic and Christ centered hope, sympathy and love, for thousands of orphans and vulnerable children in Nigeria. Most of these orphans are in great need of parental care, food, clothing, shelter and school. Some are school dropouts. Some lack access to the true gospel of grace. Our goal is that God should help us to be able to build a Christian Academy mainly for orphans and vulnerable children. I believe that if such a school is built, it will be a center to provide hope, biblical care; Christ centered gospel presentation, as well as to develop the ever-growing number of orphans in Nigeria to be better citizens. This will help reduce the rate of crime and violence in the country.

We got a 2-hectare piece of land (2000 x 2000 ft) at the price of \$40, 000 in a good and safe area. We are currently raising funds to buy it. We therefore appeal to God's people to use their God given resources to contribute to this God given noble project.

About the proposed land.

It is difficult now to get such a big piece of land in a good and safe area like this in Nigeria, but we believe that the place we got is God's provision. We love this environment because it is near the Nigerian Army barracks, 177 Keffi Division. The land is about 15 miles away from Abuja the Capital city of Nigeria. Getting this land will be a great blessing security wise. We believe it is in a safe and protected area. We believe our God is big, and He will show up in a miraculous way. Our vision is not based on our size but the size of our God. We believe that God wants us to get this piece of land for His purpose and glory. He told Israel, "The whole earth is mine" including the portion we are asking Him to give us. We do not know how He is going to do it, but He knows how. **We are asking for your prayers and support.**

Remember we are His workmanship!



Sad story.

"Besides losing parents and relatives, some children lost their eyes, one or two legs, one or two hands, one or the both ears while others, their very life. This guy almost lost his hand, but is in pains. After praying for him he asked me to take his picture so that I will not forget to pray for him. He loves Jesus and accepted Jesus as his lord and Savior. Pray for the Nigerian Christians. Many are dying everyday for their faith in Christ.

Gray Wirth on Thomas's vision for future ministry.



Gray Wirth, President and Chief Executive Officer of Impact Thrift Stores, a Christian non-profit based in the Philadelphia (USA) in his speech during the inauguration service of RIMAC in Nigeria addressed the attendees of the ceremony. Reading from the book of James 1:27 and referring to other Bible passages, he reminded the crowd of God's heart for the oppressed in general and orphans in particular.

He encouraged all involved with Rishama to stay focused on their calling to serve Christ by loving others. Wirth also described how he had come to know Thomas Majjamaa, founder of Rishama, when they attended Westminster Theological Seminary together. Referring to the Nigerian pastor he said, "I have been impressed with Thomas' integrity, work ethic and clear sense of calling to further the kingdom of God in Nigeria, as well as his passion for helping orphans.

Gray Wirth closed his speech with a wonderful prayer for God's blessings upon Rishama International Ministry for African Children.



CINDA MARTURANO AND HER HUSBAND

Cinda Marturano, M.A. is a Master of Arts in Biblical Counseling from Westminster Seminary and hold a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration from Villanova University. Her ministry work includes counseling those who suffer with anxiety, depression, anger, as well as physical detriments such as Parkinson's and OCD. As the founder of Deep Waters Fund, she manages grants given to discipleship, counseling and caring projects locally and world-wide, a very God fearing woman, made the following powerful and important speech at our inauguration service December 21, 2014:

Our personal walk of self-examination and then work called to care and not neglect the orphan is what is important. A helpful and healthy goals for your Orphanage should be to:

PREVENT: Teach children about healthy living and sustainable work through education.

PROTECT: Provide housing that can be safe without demanding slavery work.

PERMANENCY and Sustainability through life. Protect vulnerable children from neglect, abuse and exploitation.

How can your Orphanage be identified and support resources for exploited children including immediate shelter for victims?

How does your community prevent vulnerable children from neglect, abuse and exploitation?
Children will learn personal safety through

children's clubs, during sporting events and at summer camps. Facilitate regular meetings between police and community groups to discuss concerns and ideas for improvement. Reach out to religious leaders to encourage congregations to promote child protection. Link vulnerable households where children are at risk with current micro finance institutions and income-generation activities to increase earnings capacity. Restore children affected by neglect, abuse and exploitation to safety and ensure opportunities for holistic development.

Children who are on the street or are victims of sexual exploitation should receive direct services for long-term safe situations. Because families are the safest and best place for children, reunification and family placement activities, when possible, should be a priority. When this is not possible, the program will support group homes and family like settings for older children to gain education. Is this possible for Rishama?

Psychosocial service providers could be trained to counsel children who have experienced abuse. Do you see this need in your Nigerian community? And lastly, how do you currently partner with churches to support foster care networks? Why is this so important to me? The answer is "WE WORK TO PLEASE GOD AND DO HIS WILL.

FUNDING- Funds for this Ministry are raised through the generosity of men and women who believe that God has called them to bring their hearts and resources together to provide hope for thousands of orphans and vulnerable children where ever they may be found. We would love to dialogue with you or your church about ways to be involved. Here are some suggestions:

Prayer – Recognizing that all we do is in the name and power of Jesus, we depend on the Lord for daily provision for the ministry. We ask for the prayers of God's people for the staff, volunteers, children, foster parents and all those receiving care through the ministry.

Volunteers – This ministry could not continue without the assistance of many who volunteer their time and skills. We appreciate our volunteers and challenge others to get involved in this exciting ministry.

Supporting Partners—A church or an individual can be part of this ministry by becoming a supporting partner. This could be for a short-term or a long-term relationship. We invite you to consider being one of our supporting partners.

One Time Gift—We appreciate those who stepped in and gave their One Time financial assistance. We challenge you to consider giving a One Time gift.



Steve Modricker, his wife Fiona right, and his daughter Faith, left.

Steve Modricker, Computer Systems Analyst for LTK Engineering, while speaking at the inauguration service said, “We had the privilege to meet Rev. Thomas and Hanna Maijamaa while they went to our church Glenside Bible Church. We did not get to know them very well at the church until circumstances had it that they needed a place to stay for part of the summer. We really got to know them when this past summer they came to live with us.

I want you to know how blessed we were to have had them in our home. They are definitely a Godly couple, very hard working, very devoted to God and very passionate about their goals and vision. So, along with all that, we also started to catch a glimpse of ministry of Rishama and the passion on the heart of Thomas and Hanna. After helping with the rishama.org website I volunteered to be a USA board member. So that's some of our connection to you. I want to encourage you that we will stand with you and support you in this ministry. We will both pray for you and support you financially. We will work on your behalf to get other churches in the USA to back this ministry.

I believe that God is behind this ministry. That He approves and commands us to do this. Eph. 2: 10 shows us that it is God himself who has made us what we are and given us new lives from Christ Jesus; and long ages ago He planned that we should spend these lives in helping others. So, my hope and prayer is that Rishama International Ministry for African Ministry will be a place of refuge. It will be a place where those who may have otherwise been in turmoil will now find a place of rest and refreshing. It won't be easy.

With our endeavors for God, there needs to be discipline or a strengthening to



Thomas Maijamaa, the founder, Hanna his wife and some orphans he has supported.

Land Acquisition in Northern/Middle part of Nigeria.

Recalling the words of our Lord Jesus in Luke 16:8 “the children of the world are wiser than the children of the kingdom” I see the principle of land acquisition as one of the Muslim agendas to Islamize Nigeria. In their plans they do not allow Christians to own lands especially in the northern and middle part of Nigeria, they buy every available piece of land. Because of this, only a few Christians own lands in these parts of the country.

But in God's providence, we met a Christian who owns a vast piece of land. He bought it many years ago from the Muslims and is willing to sell it to us. The land is two hectares (2000 x 2000 ft). Initially we wanted one hectare, which costs \$25,000 but the landowner advised us to get the two hectares at \$40,000. We have made a down payment of \$4,000; see details below from the praise/prayer needs. Please pray with us, we are right now raising funds to purchase it. This land will be used to build the Christian Academy mainly for orphans and vulnerable children. It will also be a center for our Vacation Bible School and other Christian activities for the purpose of gospel proclamation.

Praise/Prayer Needs

1. Praise God for a wonderful and successful inauguration service for this ministry held on December 21, 2014.
3. Praise God for the wonderful donations of \$2000 from Deep Waters and \$2000 from some Nigeria Christians which are been used to make an initial down payment for the land, leaving the balance of \$36,000.
3. Pray that the board of Directors, Founder and the Executive Directors of this ministry will work together in Love, unity and in the fear of God.
4. Pray for more donors.
5. Pray for the provision of \$36,000 to pay off the piece of land we got.
6. Pray for our forth coming Vacation Bible School this summer, hopefully July 2015.
7. Pray for the provision of vehicle for this ministry in Nigeria.

PRAY FOR THE PROVISION OF \$36,000 TO PURCHASE A PIECE OF LAND FOR OUR SCHOOL

THE LORD COULD USE YOU!

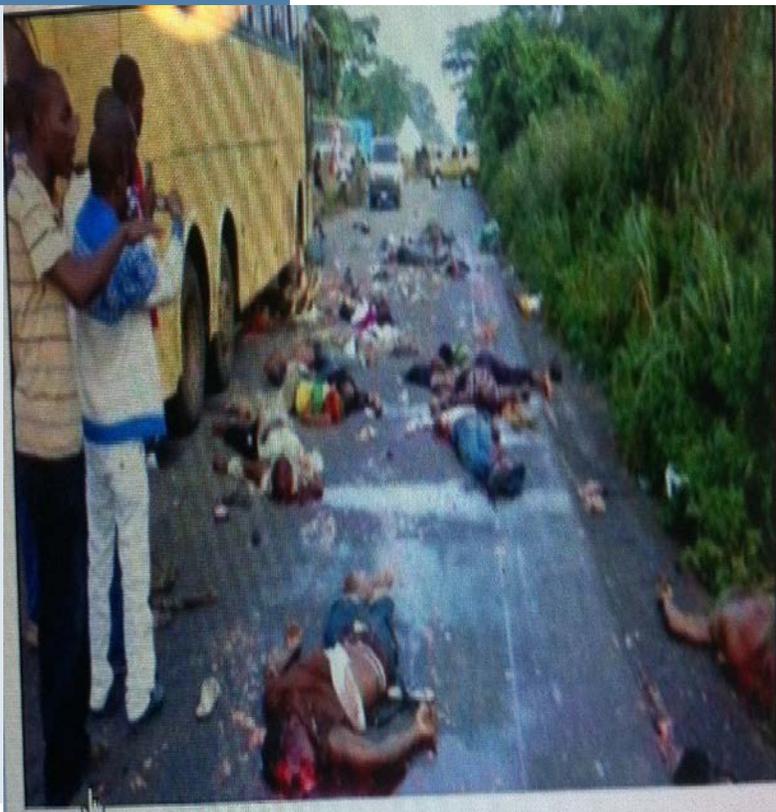
It is really becoming very dangerous to be a Christian or go to school in some parts of Nigeria especially in the far north. Recently Muslims, all belonging to Boko Haram, entered the Christian village of Gwoza and butchered one thousand Christians. They were shot, burned alive, and slashed to death. They were slaughtered with bullets, cooked alive, and hacked to death. They also seized a number of residents as hostages. As Gray Wirth observed in his speech, I am really committed to serving my people in Nigeria. I always pray and weep for my people. It is really pathetic that not only many orphans cannot go to school but that many Christians are asking "why does God seem to be silent." During our inauguration service I tried to persuade them to know that God is alive and at work. His is merciful forgiving. He cares for His children and that through Rishama God is going build a center for hope and comfort; a place to worship and glorify God for His love and kindness towards His people.

Dear men and women of God, consider the Nigerian situation with the Boko Haram a pathetic situation. You may not want to go to Nigeria to help, but your prayer and financial support can go a long way. What we really need at this time is your prayer and action. Our God is big. The whole earth is His. He owns you and your resources. Who knows that He raised you and blessed you for a time like this? Consider this a great opportunity to serve for the purpose of gospel proclamation.

If God is leading you to donate, please send your donations to Rishama International Ministry for African Children (RIMAC):

Tax ID Number: 610934425. Organization Name: First Gethsemane Baptist Church. Address: 1159 Algonquin PKWY Louisville, KY 40208. Contact Name: Rev. T. Vaughn Walker.

Phone: 5022169375



"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our affliction, so that we may be able to comfort those who are in any affliction, with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God" (2 Cor. 1:3-4).



Our prayer in Jesus name, amen.

The founder's prayer while having a hand shake with the landowner!

WE BELIEVE THAT WITH YOUR PRAYERS WE CAN OWN THIS LAND

Contact us at rishama.international@gmail.com or (+1) 267-421-8360, 08055038392. Website: www.rishama.org.

You may send your donations to RIMAC at Tax ID Number: 610934425. Organization Name: First Gethsemane Baptist Church. Address: 1159 Algonquin PKWY Louisville, KY 40208. Contact Name: Rev. T. Vaughn Walker. Phone: 5022169375