

DRS. TOM AND
KAREN ASHER
4534 SULGRAVE DR.
TOLEDO, OH 43623
419-349-1399
ashersinafrica@yahoo.com

Praise/Prayer Requests

Praise the Lord for 1
sight for 32 people!

Praise the Lord for 2
all the people willing
to come and serve
the hospital and the
church in Sierra

Praise the Lord! The 3
SVOC and Gben-
dembu Bible school
received new tools
for their carpentry
program.

Please pray for The 4
Sierra Leone
Wesleyan Church
and the Gbendembu
bible college's 22
students.

Please continue to 5
pray for Matt. His
address there is:
MSC Box C0245
Liberty University
1971 University Blvd.

Praise the Lord! 6
Marc is back in
school at WVU!

- To become a financial or prayer partner in our personal ministry support: [Click Here](#)
- [Global Asher family fund WYM04-0332](#)
- [We thank all the people willing to continue to pray for us.](#)
- [Read about Kamakwie or donate to the projects at www.waemm.com](#)

Ashers In Africa

More people can see, Internet on the KWH campus, a new Pharmacy computer program and a new nurses aid program.

Being in Sierra Leone is constantly a lesson in pressing on to the goal. Since I last wrote to you there have been some wonderful changes at the hospital. Dr. Buchan, an ophthalmologist from UK, came to Kamakwie and with his team from Freetown did over thirty cataract surgeries. I think this is such a great way to show the love of Christ to people in need. We don't charge for this surgery, just a registration fee, so many people ask "why do you do this for us?" It is a great way to introduce them to the love of Christ that was bought with an enormous price and yet is freely given to each of us if we ask.

I must admit that I find it quite exciting when they come back to me for their recheck and tell me "I can see you." There are so many in the villages that are blind and could benefit from surgery. Please pray that more surgeons will volunteer their time, we keep adding to the lists and praying for surgeons to come.

Another new addition is the satellite internet dish at the hospital. Last weekend we installed the "nodes" so that wireless is available all over the hospital campus as long as there is electric to run it. But more about that later. Now we are working on figuring out how to extend the signal to the other places in town that are willing to

help share the bill to make this sustainable for the hospital. Any of you internet wizards out there who would like to help, we could use your input. The other three offices are about 3/4 mile away in opposite directions, and do not have line of site.

The Pharmacy has a new computer program to keep track of all the medications we use and we need. We are very thankful to Judy for all her work on the program, and to the teams from PA and MI who worked tirelessly counting and organizing all three pharmacy rooms. This will help us stay on top of the medications. It is always a struggle for the hospital to pay for the medications we need but it helps to have counts and to be able to predict the volume we will need. We would like to be able to order from IDA again in the future, but that will take a huge amount of money that we currently just do not have. Pray that God will provide a way for the finances needed to purchase good quality medications in amounts that are needed.

I might have mentioned the new guesthouse in Freetown, the Summer Hill Villa Wesleyan Guest house, "the guest house with a mission." It is up and running now and having more and more guests. We have even had a few sold out nights. Esther and Tempo are doing a



wonderful job running the guesthouse. All proceeds after expenses go toward the hospital budget to allow us to pay qualified staff and retain them. We must never forget that our work is a mission and has been blessed mightily by God. We thank him for making this opportunity available to help the hospital with its very limited budget.

And our newest addition is the Nurses Aid training program. Judy Leach and Meredith Thornton, registered nurses from Indiana have come to start the new training program. After many interviews and admission testing they have admitted 7 students into the first class that will continue until June. We depend on nurses aids for the bulk of the patient care as there are only one to two registered nurses in the hospital per shift. Please pray for Judy and Meredith as they teach so that the students develop a good work ethic and a true desire to learn more. Also pray for Brimah Samura and the program as they look for a nurse to take over this program for future classes.

On the church front is the

strong! They had their first baptism service and 65 new Christians were baptized! We attended service there last week and Rev. Sam Kanu was the guest minister. The pews were filled! The official handing over and dedication ceremony is scheduled for later in April. The church members are really excited to have the church officials from the Wesleyan Church of Sierra Leone coming. We are not certain if the national superintendent or the Assistant National Superintendent are coming, but the church members are planning on a lovely ceremony and a weekend filled with opportunities for people to hear about Christ! They hope to begin raising funds to build a parsonage so they can have a full time pastor.

In Philippians 3:14 Paul speaks of pressing onward toward the "goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus." I imagine he must have felt much like we do at Kamakwie Wesleyan Hospital some days. Last week we had a particularly tough week. We had a little girl named Rogiatu who we met on morning rounds on Tuesday morning. She was very ill. Her father was so concerned, he knew she was very ill. She had come in during the night, but because we have such a staff shortage, there was no nurse in pediatrics to see her decline. By the time we got there in the morning to make rounds she was nearly comatose. We wrote for blood for her as her hemoglobin was only 4. I went to OB to see a patient and as I stepped into the hall, I saw the father carrying in one hand the blood he had just donated for his precious 4 year old and the dead body of that child who would never receive the blood.

Later that same week we had three children who all had pneumonia and desperately needed oxygen. They were all receiving their antibiotics and other medications, but they needed breathing treatments and oxygen. Only two of the three made it through the night. This last year we have had three oxygen concentrators donated that have batteries for use without the generator, but each one only lasts 1-2 hours. They get charged every time the generator is on while we do a surgery, but we have two of the three generators broken and the only one running takes about 3 gallons of fuel per hour to run. So why don't we "just run it" and why are there not "enough staff." It is because our hospital, the only hospital for 50 miles does just what its mission is, we serve those who need it, no matter of religion or belief or ability to pay. This hospital can never generate enough funds in patient receipts to run. We depend on those who are willing to "run the race", financially, with us. We have a plan to make the hospital have a combination of solar and generator power that would be totally sustainable but we need to raise the remaining \$180,000 to make it a reality. The seriousness of our situation was not lost on the medical students who saw these precious ones die. They pooled their own small resources to buy a battery and a charger to make the oxygen last longer. This will help for awhile, but the same verses in Philippians 3:13 speak of "forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead." We have had many short term fixes at KWH. We believe that God wants to move the hospital forward. There is very little more that can be done without full time electricity. We recently received notice that a charitable organization in the US will send over the containers with the electrical supplies if we can get the supplies. They will also include medical supplies. We are praying that God will bring in the \$180,000 for the electrical system and find us a CR machine to process digital x rays as ours is not repairable and we can not afford the film and chemicals that wet processing requires. Perhaps God has someone out there that manufactures batteries or solar material that could donate this to the project. I don't know who it is, and I don't know how they will do it, but I know God will provide it. I hope you will join us as we pray for God to speak to the hearts of those he has chosen to help Kamakwie Wesleyan Hospital. I hope you enjoy the photos of some of the people and events we have been blessed with at KWH.



The girl scouts give bracelets for babies



Bud and Jack fix the well



Caitlyn is happy that this one made it!



Counting Medications Takes a lot of time!!!





After presenting it to the WCSL, Daniel took the Jesus film out to the people



65 Baptized at the new Kakomba church with the DS!



Faster, reliable internet is becoming a reality for KWH!



Mr. Sesay was so happy to get tools from DUM in Canton, Ohio!



Lorena puts so much energy in her teaching!



Judy and Meredith and their new nurses aid students!

Matthew is doing well at Liberty University in the Electrical Engineering program. He is praying for an internship for this summer and a way to help earn some tuition money. Marc is still a member of the WV national guard, has returned from Kuwait and is now attending WVU again in Morgantown. Mimi and Chris are well and enjoying WI. Mimi continues to teach four year old kindergarten. We finally have our website up and running! So please go to the web site and learn a more about what God is doing in Kamakwie. I hope to have more and newer pictures on it soon. If you would be willing to donate to the electrical project you can do it online or at WAEMM West African Educational and Medical Mission 2509 W. Sylvania Ave Suite 13 Toledo, Ohio 43613 C/O Arthur Allen CPA 419-475-3020. [Click here](#) | Again we thank all of you for the prayers and support. We know you all are serving here with us! In His service, Drs. Tom and Karen Asher