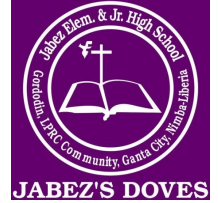




# JABEZ NEWS



March 2024

Publication of the Jabez Board of Directors USA

Vol. 9 Issue 1

*A Message from Miss Jolieth*

## **READING IS GOOD**

*Reading is a good skill to have.*

*You can read about your area,*

*the lives of the people there,*

*the places you have never been*

*and the things that are happening there.*

*If you can read,*

*You can read to your sisters and brothers.*

*You can read to your parents and grand-  
parents.*

*You will feel happy to be called on to read  
in class or at a church service.*

*Reading can help you to do better in  
school.*

*If someone calls you a bookworm,  
do not stop reading.*

*It is better to be called a bookworm  
than to be called a worm.*



**Exciting News!!**

**Our Web Page is up!**

**Please visit us at**

**<http://jabezschool-lib.org>**

**Greetings, Friends and Families of  
Jabez Christian School and Post -  
Trauma Counseling Center.**

I prayerfully hope this first Newsletter of the year 2024 meets you in the best of health, healing, and strength in the blessed name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. We thank you and give our God the glory for the successful ministry and missional services we're accomplishing together via Jabez School's programs in both recent and distant past years. Thank you for all you are, have been and continue to be in support of God's vision for the least of his children, the most vulnerable brothers and sisters of ours, all of whom are the direct beneficiaries of Jabez Christian School, near Gompah City, Republic of Liberia and the world the world at large.

Let us now take a look at our ministry and missional journeys together during the past academic 2022/2023 year. Simply put, our journey together during the year under review was one of a "Roller-Coaster"!! Our journey led us in many directions, some of which were very smooth, while others very challenging to cover, yet through it all with God's guidance we prevailed. The following are some brief highlights and descriptions of our ride.





First, the school year 2022/2023 began with 166 students. At closing on July 7, 2023, 135 students successfully completed the academic requirements and were promoted to their respective classes; 30 students dropped out of school due to various reasons including parents' fear of possible violence from the presidential and general elections, and 2 students failed. Remember the fourteen years civil war that sadly took away the lives of over two hundred fifty thousand Liberians that was one of the results of a rigged presidential and general elections held in 1985. Since then, Liberians have always been very skeptical, to say the least, of their security during any general election year. Thank God that the

electoral process is over and a new government is in power!

Second, our long-time dream and prayer to provide meal for the students and staff is being answered. Below are photos of the progress we've made with help of the "World Food Program (WFP). Meals will be served three days a week. The Administration will need additional funds to purchase additional utensils, and ingredients. Also to provide stipends for the two volunteer cooks. The WFP does not cover those expenses.



**Newly Constructed Cafeteria**



**Unfinished Kitchen**

**Four tins of cooking Palm Oil. There are three additional tins in school storage.**



**Gari Meal**

**The first 16 bags supplied by the World Food Program (WFP). The next shipment included bags of rice.**

**Pots for cooking meals, each pot can be used to cook 30 cups of food at a time.**





Finally, another huge move experienced on our roller coaster journey is my retirement from the Wisconsin Annual Conference and as Proprietor / U.S Board Chair of Jabez School and my decision to return to Liberia, my country of origin. My new role will be to serve as the U.S Board's appointed "Chief Executive Consultant" (CEC) to Jabez Christian School effective March 15, 2024. As the "CEC," I will ensure Jabez Christian School operates in strict accordance with the Governance Policies that stress Christ-like values and principles such as love, integrity, accountability, effectiveness, and efficiency in all aspects of the school's administration and relationships.

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## WE ARE RETURNING HOME!!!

Dearest Friends, Esther and I truly appreciate your prayers as we return to Liberia to serve in their new ministry and missional role both at Jabez School, the Gompa community and Liberia at large.

Thanks so very much for all of your partnership in providing spiritual/prayers, moral and financial supports that enables Jabez School transformative ministry and mission amongst God's most vulnerable children, one child and a family at a time, in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Compassionate friend.

Blessings,  
Rev. Voker and Esther



### The Voker Family

Rev. Voker's Retirement Party  
First United Methodist Church  
Racine, Wisconsin  
December 31, 2023

**Congratulations!**



40 foot cargo container on the road to Liberia!

## Summary of USA Board meeting on January 16, 2024

Rev. Jakes reported on the World Food Program. The physical kitchen/cafeteria has been finished with about 40 arm chairs. The World Food Program (WFP) has issued the school's administration a "Money Card" with certain amount that would be used to purchase the food items from local farmers. Unfortunately, some of the needed food items are not yet available. Hopefully the needed food items will be available by the 22 of January for purchase and subsequent distribution. The way the program works is that a facility is given a "money card" which has a withdrawal made on it by the WFP. No money is given to the facility. Only the products are sent. This is a way to keep track of how the funds are used.

Rev. Jakes said that the number of students has increased to about 185, the sewing and computer classes are functioning and there seems to be some level of calm and peace. There is still concern about the government but hope seems possible.

An update on employees show there are 20 people in contract including a watchman, janitor, and 2 people hired to do the cooking when the WFP starts.

Tuition and fees are not coming at a rate equal to the number of students. This is not a change from the past, just a heads up. Contributions are quiet.

Rev. Jakes noted that \$10,000 was received from the Buehler family for the purpose of improvements such as doors, drainage questions in the courtyard and renovation of the well that was built in 2011. Roots and other problems are hindering the well and water is essential to the people. It may take more than the grant to fix all these items, but the grant will give a great start.

The need for contributions are high to continue the work of Jabez School.





**Jesco and student leaders**



**Morning Devotions**



**The Board of Directors**

**Rev. Jakes Voker, Chief Executive Consultant**

**Officers**

Jerry Andersen, Treasurer  
Vernita Green, Secretary

**Board Members**

Jolieth McIntosh  
Steve Limbach  
Carol Rossitti

**Supporting Board Members**

Maureen O'Connor  
Patsy McDonald  
Gwen Beck  
Maurice Beck  
Austin Freest  
August Grulich  
Kenneth Walanski's Family  
Dr. Ellen Spriering

The GPS coordinates for the Jabez School and GUMC Mission House are:

Jabez School  
(7.1982217,-8.9791855)

GUMC Guest House  
(7.2334649,-8.9772242)

Type the coordinates into Google Maps



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**I bless you to be a blessing. Gen. 12:2**

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**To Make a Donation**

Donations may made to :

The Wisconsin United Methodist Fund

Please make your check payable to:

**WUMF**

Jabez Christian School

Account Number C 10721

and

Mail to:

The Wisconsin United Methodist Fund

750 Windsor St. Suite 305

Sun Prairie, WI 53590

**Or Online:**

**Click here <https://www.wumf.org/>**

Acct Name: Jabez Christian School-Account # C 10821

**Donations may also be made through a local United Methodist Church–**

Jabez Christian School Advance Special Number 7225

**Donate locally:**

Make your check payable to Jabez Christian School

and

Mail to:

Jerry Anderson, Treasurer

6420 Hwy G

Caledonia, WI 53108

We are a 501(c3) organization, a tax-exempt organization. Our Treasurer, Jerry Anderson, will send you a letter to use for tax purposes saying you received no gifts or services in exchange for the monies given. Your gifts allow Jabez to serve the children of the area with an education and a way of life that will bring each child closer to God and closer to his potential. The Jabez Board of Directors USA, the children, teachers, and workers at Jabez, the administration, and the local school board all send their individual and collective “THANKS”