Your generosity has brought clean safe water to more than 13,000 men, women and children so far this year.





Dear Partners and Friends

Hope Springs is a teenager! Thirteen years ago, we had no idea where God would lead or what He would do through people like those of you reading this. But each time an opportunity was presented we simply prayed and ask God to provide, and He has never failed us.

Zitara, one of the young people featured in this issue, was 9 years old and one of the first orphans to be sponsored in our orphan care program. His parents had died, and he was

one fearful little boy who had little hope for the future. He was also one of the original 29 students when our Primary school began. He is 20 years old today and filled with hope because people just like you provided a family to care for him and an education that gives him hope for the future.

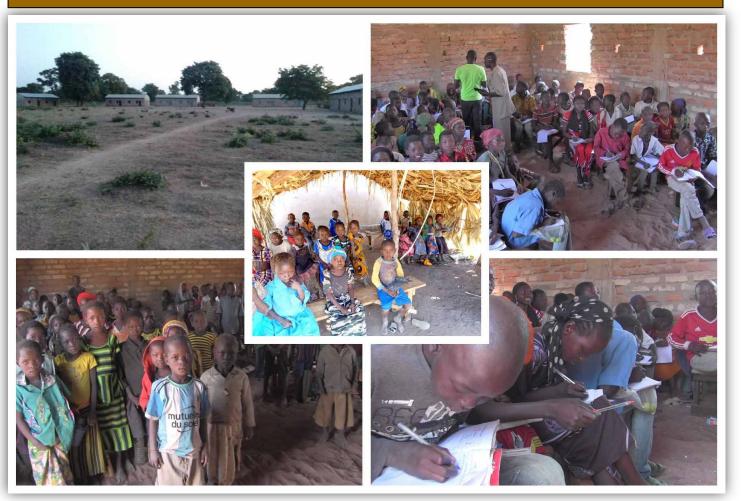
<u>So, once again we are asking God to provide.</u> Five new school buildings will enhance our ability to continue to change the lives of our students. I hope you will pray with us about this. I also hope you will find it in your heart and ability to send a gift to make these buildings a reality. <u>Can we count on you?</u>

Many of you I have never met in person but have grown to love and appreciate you from a distance. Your sacrificial gifts have changed and given hope to thousands of people in northern Nigeria and southern Chad. I am so very grateful!

In Christ and for His glory,

Lu

It is Amazing What God is Doing in Dono-Manga, Chad Because of Your Support



March 2021

What if you had been born in Dono-Manga, Chad?

- Chad has one of the highest levels of hunger in the world -66.2 percent of its population of 15.5 million lives in severe poverty.
- It is ranked 187th out of 189 countries in the 2019 Human Development Index. This means that as a child born in Chad you will be 71% less productive in adulthood than a child who received a quality education and benefited from appropriate health care.
- If you are lucky you will not die before your 5th birthday as 20% of the children born in Chad do.

Dono-Manga is in southern Chad in the middle of that 66.2 percent severe poverty area. Given Dono-Manga's extreme lack of resources and extreme remoteness (45 miles from the nearest paved/dirt road, and accessible only by cart paths and motorcycle trails), the chances that you would have the opportunity for sufficient food, clothing, medical care and an education are virtually zero.

This is exactly the way things were when we came to Dono-Manga in 2009,

...the chances that you would have the opportunity for sufficient food, clothing, medical care and an education are virtually zero.

only worse. Hundreds of children were dying from dysentery and cholera from contaminated water, and malaria for the lack of mosquito nets and simple medications.

The water crisis was solved over the next year or so by repairing wells and drilling new ones. A small dispensary followed that would become a fully functioning health center with a staff of 12 treating 5,000 patients each year. But it is so amazing to see what followed clean water and health care.

A young minister was so encouraged by the progress he saw, he decided to start a school in May of 2011. In a small thatch hut he gathered 29 students to begin a new school. By the end of 2011 enrollment would grow to 95, then 375 in 2012, 795 by 2017, 1,000 in 2019 and today the class of 2020-2021 is 1134 strong, with 884 in our Primary school and 250 in our Secondary school. Almost 40% of all students



are girls which in this part of the world is almost unheard of. To our knowledge this is the only school in southern Chad that teaches English and French (French is the national language). We have 24 teachers, two of which are ministers who teach the Bible, plus two full-time security guards for the compound.

Thatch huts served as classrooms from day one and even today with five permanent buildings providing 10 classrooms, thatch huts are still needed to accommodate the overflow. Overcrowded classrooms and children sitting on the ground do not make for the best conditions for learning.



This year we want to begin doing away with all thatch huts and replace them with at least five additional permanent buildings with two classrooms each. These new buildings will also bring relief to our extremely overcrowded existing classrooms. Our goal is to raise \$75,000 (\$15,000 per building) with benches for seating. As funds become available, we will begin construction.

I realize that \$75,000 is a lot of money, but it is such a small amount when you consider the life change it will make possible. The generosity of those who have part-

nered with us through the years has been amazing. I believe as well that when others see what God has done so far, they will want to join us in this amazing effort to change more lives.

None of us choose the place of our birth and neither did these kids. I believe the God who blessed you and me to be born in the US with all its advantages would be pleased if we joined Him in giving these kids an opportunity to have hope for better a life. The reality is your gifts can change the entire life story of these children.

God brought Hope Springs to Dono-Manga, Chad back in February of 2009 in response to a crisis. Hundreds of children were dying each month. I believe He brought us here and kept us here as a testimony to

what He can do in one of the most remote places in all of Africa if we will just trust Him. If you are a faithful partner with us, God bless you for hearing His call. If you have not partnered with us before now, we pray that God will also touch your heart to see what a wonderful opportunity He has placed before you to join Him in this great work.

I want you to hear from some of our students









Our teachers. Primary on the left and Secondary on the right.



