2020 Dearborn Bible Fellowship (DBF) and Stones Cry Out Annual Report

New ministry developments in 2020:

-Significant further expansion of the support of the Liberian Orphans.

-The addition of Zoom technology for the DBF Sunday and Wednesday evening meetings.

Year 2020 Financial summary:

About \$ 6400 was donated to this ministry during 2020. (There was a beginning balance of \$ 1350 carried over from 2019.) About \$ 7070 of this was disbursed during the year leaving a balance in the bank of \$ 682 at the end of 2020.

Of the total money disbursed, 66% (\$ 4700) was used to support the Liberian Orphan ministry in Liberia. (It should be noted that additional money to support these people was sent directly by Patience and people she knows living in the U.S.A.)

33% was designated and used for the general ministry support.

Any contributor may request the annual, monthly income/expense summary spreadsheet for further details.

Just a reminder to anyone who wishes to donate to this ministry:

Any money received can be designated by the donor for any of the following funds: General Ministry (This includes Stones Cry Out and Dearborn Bible Fellowship support) Liberian Orphan Ministry Special Designation Benevolent fund (to be disbursed to DBF members if and when they experience financial hardship)

Stones Cry Out Evangelism and Training Ministry Updates

Door to door evangelism of East and South Dearborn (Mostly Muslims)

About 15 years ago, we began going door to door on a weekly basis in East and South Dearborn to proclaim the gospel to the Muslims living here. For the first time since we began, the door to door ministry was paused for several weeks due to the COVID 19 pandemic. During that pause, we continued evangelism efforts mainly in the parks. During the summer, the door to door ministry began again. Typically, weekly reports were sent out that detailed the conversations so Christians could pray for those contacted. We were initially commissioned by Grace Evangelical Fellowship (Taylor, MI) to proclaim the gospel with a goal that a church be established to meet the spiritual needs of those we meet going door to door. A small church is now established (DBF). Besides my long-time friend Pat McMahon, it has consisted mainly of people we met going door to door. The number of people who attend varies over time. One of our members died during 2020 supposedly from COVID 19. Currently, there are still no people with a Muslim background that attend regularly as followers of Jesus. Generally, the Muslims that have visited do not embrace the gospel yet, but we fully expect that God will raise many Muslims to new life in Christ in the future as Christians pray. I believe that the gospel is God's power to bring about the ultimate

salvation of all who believe. Therefore, I have every reason to believe that God will indeed raise many who have heard and continue to hear the gospel here in Dearborn as a result of this ministry.

Evangelism training and support ministry

God continues to bring Christians from other parts of the country to Dearborn and we occasionally have the privilege of providing training and orientation to them.

To address a weakness prevalent among those doing evangelism these days, Tom Bear produced a training video called Let us be Preachers of Righteousness. This is recommended for all Christians.

Book Ministry

During 2020, Tom revised his most popular book, "<u>How to Evangelize</u>." Two new sections were added and the book was slightly reorganized to improve readability.

A small quantity of Tom Bear's books are obtained each month mainly from Amazon and the royalties, though minimal, go toward the Liberian Orphan ministry.

In addition, *How to Evangelize*, *The SCOT Giant Print Gospel of John* and *The Christian and Habitual Sin* can now be purchased from <u>Barnes and Nobel</u>.

Dearborn Bible Fellowship Ministry Updates

This is a small flock of Christians made up mainly of people we met through the door to door ministry. Though the number of those attending is small, those attending are learning God's will and growing in their knowledge of the gospel and obedience to it.

Liberian Orphan Ministry update

In Liberia, when the parents die, the children receive no help at all unless a relative takes them in. Many run the streets trying to survive. The 2020 COVID 19 pandemic affected millions of people in Liberia causing many people to become homeless. Many people are now living in the bush. We have a connection with a pastor living among them and Patience (DBF member) has known him for many years from her time growing up in Liberia. The pastor has assumed pastoral responsibilities for the entire community. These Liberians have come together as a community (in the bush) and are trying to care for each other and the many orphans among them. Patience and this DBF ministry are engaged in supporting them. There are now over 500 orphans receiving help through this ministry. God has shown His power.

In just 6 months, an eight-room school building has been constructed and is nearing completion. Education is a critical component in this care. Because it is so critical in Liberia, this ministry launched the building construction project. Starting January 4, 2021, classes began for the orphans. (Most schools require tuition, but this school does not.) There will be ongoing financial support needed for minimal salaries for the teachers. This school is like the heart of the community for these people and especially for the orphans living among them. It is necessary for stability. The land and the building are deeded in Patience's name. She envisions the purchase of a little land that can be used for agriculture so these people can create income for the school and community. Also, they could really benefit from having a small clinic eventually. To see pictures taken in early January (2021), click the <u>2021</u> Liberian Orphan Ministry Update. In case anyone is curious, as of 1/5/2021, they estimate that \$8750 will be

required complete the school building. (\$1600 of this amount will be required mainly for labor to completely finish the roof.)

In addition to the school building project, money has been provided to these people for food, school uniforms, other clothing, medical assistance and a few books and Bibles.

We have heard of some Muslim people coming to Christ over there. Some Muslims are among the people in the bush.

Care of the elderly at an assisted/independent living facility in Southgate, MI.

After Pat McMahon's wife Darlene passed in 2019, Pat ended up eventually in an assisted/independent living facility. Since Pat is in excellent health and can drive, he spontaneously began assisting others in the facility in various ways, but especially by driving those who do not drive themselves. The COVID 19 pandemic made this ministry more difficult but Pat continues to minister to these people by God's grace.

Ongoing prayer requests

Door to door outreach:

That God will raise many Muslims to new life in Christ

That God will keep moving us to proclaim the gospel in the power of the Holy Spirit and keep us from Satan's snares.

That God will raise up at least one of the Muslim men to new life in Christ who will become a pastor for his people who begin following Jesus.

Dearborn Bible Fellowship (DBF):

That God will raise up a man from within DBF (future member or existing as He so desires) that will be able to eventually take over the pastoral duties of DBF or another church planted through this ministry.

That God will continue to shape DBF's views and practices in accordance with His will and His truth.

That God will direct in the facilitation of more ministry opportunities for the various members of DBF.

Liberian Orphan Ministry:

That God will protect and provide for the material and educational needs of the Liberian orphans.

That God will also give wisdom to Patience who has a vision for expansion of the ministry. She hopes to make a trip back to Liberia within 3 years to begin shaping that expansion.

Misc:

While we have experienced God's loving care throughout 2020, we have also experienced many disappointments and heartaches. Bill, one of our DBF members, suffered a health setback and died in a nursing home.

Link to Stones Cry Out Web Site: <u>Stones Cry Out Ministries</u> Link to Dearborn Bible Fellowship web site: <u>Dearborn Bible Fellowship</u>