Training Disciple Makers and Encouraging the Unity of Churches in the Horn of Africa

HFHOA NEWSLETTER

SPECIAL PRAYER NEEDS, Nov 2020



Recently warfare has broken out between the central government and the Tigrinyan ethnic group, whose members constitute around 6% of Ethiopia's 110 million people but have long dominated politics and business. This Tigray Region is the site of the historic capital of the Aksumite Empire, a major center for trade in the ancient Roman world. Legend has it that the kingdom was first established by the son of King Solomon of Israel and the Queen of Sheba. Merchants would travel from central Africa, Persia, India, and Egypt bringing their goods to Aksum to trade. Aksum was one of the more advanced cultures of ancient Africa, developing terraced farming and irrigation, a

written language and minting their own coins. Unlike their northern neighbors of Egypt, Aksum did not build pyramids, but tall stone towers called stelae, nearly 100 feet high. More recently, in the 1980's civil war, it was the Tigrayans who led the fight against the Derg, liberating all of Ethiopia from the communist regime.

thiopia has scores of ethnic groups that have sought more autonomy, and experts worry about further fracturing in a country already plagued by deadly ethnic violence. Feeling marginalized by central government's political actions, tribal groups are reacting. Last week 54 people, including women and children, from the Amhara group were killed in an attack by suspected members of the Oromo Liberation Army. Recently Tigray angered the central government by holding local elections in September which were to be delayed until next year because of Covid-19. Tigray is where our HOUSE OF HOPE is located, right in the middle of this expanding chaos. Hundreds have been killed on both sides, and we expect more casualties with additional air strikes. Over 200,000 Ethiopians are expected to cross into Sudan in the coming days. This could escalate into a regional civil war including Sudan, and Eritrea, destabilizing the Horn of Africa. The United Nations say **nine million** people are at high risk of being displaced. Aid cannot reach Tigray, as it has been sealed off. Banks are not operational, fuel to run water pumps are low, and there are long lines in front of bread shops, and grocery stores.

By JLH

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A Call to Prayer!

Dear HFHOA SUPPORTER:

Would you take time to INTERCEDE for the HORN OF AFRICA region, our ministry, and AMERICA? Without PEACE we have nothing! Our nation is in the midst of the most toxic election cycle in our lifetimes! The HORN OF AFRICA area is still recovering from the aftermath of civil wars, the Covid-19 disaster, locust plagues, and much more. Our NATION is still also dangerously divided. This is a time for spiritual warfare prayers, asking the LORD to bring harmony and common sense to leaders and decision makers. It is also a time for the GOSPEL to be heard as never before.

Disciples of Jesus are **not naïve!** We know the cunning of our enemy to bring destruction and dissension. Covid pandemics, hurricanes, infestations, tribal politics here and in Africa, economic disruption are tools of his trade. We know the dreadful fruits of sinful human nature (the power of self-centeredness, bitterness, envy and violence). We are not shocked by the events of **2020!** If anything, we are shocked by

God's continued undeserved mercy and grace in the midst of our continued rebelliousness! We have not THANKED HIM or HONORED HIM as we should, and



yet our Heavenly Father continues to pour out so much GRACE into our world and lives. We are amazed that He continues to ANSWER our PRAYERS, inviting us to TEAM with Him as He reveals His love, saving more lives for the Kingdom of God!

Therefore, this is not a time for DESPAIR, but for PRAYER! This is a time for **THANKSGIVING!** Our entire Board joins in asking you to take time each day to intercede for AMERICA. Pray for PEACE here and the entire HORN OF AFRICA! Pray for safety for our KIDS, our STAFF, and our EVANGELISTS! We implore the PEACE of the Holy Spirit be gifted to calm the hearts of the callous, bring reconciliation to the foes, rescue the vulnerable, comfort the bereaved, and restore these lands , in Jesus' name! **Thank you**.



Negest Hagos, pictured with pastors from Axum/Aksum in 2019, and above with HoH kids in 2017 in Axum/Aksum

The Privilege of Prayer!

James 4:2 "You want what you don't have, so you scheme and kill to get it. You are jealous of what others have, but you can't get it, so you fight and wage war to take it away from them. Yet you don't have what you want because you don't ask God for it." Some Christians today don't have God's provision, healing, or blessing in their lives simply because they haven't asked for it. I'm not saying that God will give us everything we asked for. But I am saying that many of us are going through life, missing out on many of the things God has for us. The Bible says, "You do not have because you do not ask." Some Christians pray only as a last resort, when everything else fails, after they've called all their friends and all their relatives. When no one can help them, they say, "What else can I do? All I can do now is pray." But prayer should not be a last resort. It should be



our first resort, the very first way we turn. William Cowper hymn says, "Satan trembles when he sees the weakest saint upon his knees." The simple fact is the Devil doesn't want you to pray. He will do everything he can to distract you, divert you, or discourage you from turn-

ing to the Lord in prayer. Why? Because he is afraid of the power that can be exercised through prayer. He whispers, "Don't pray. Try this. Try that. You aren't worthy to pray. God won't hear you. Prayer is boring, anyway, and you are not good at it." He will do anything to keep you from approaching the throne of God. The emergency phone number to God is: 333. That's Jeremiah 33:3 "Call to me and I will answer you and tell you great and unsearch-

able things you do not know." Prayer is a privilege given to the child of God. God will hear the prayer of an unbeliever who calls out to Him for forgiveness, but only a person who has put his or her faith in Christ can have a prayer life. So pray with fervor. Pray with energy. Pray continually. Don't give up, because you never know what God will do.

Pastor Doru Neamtu, Vice Chair

Thank You Sponsors!



ast September, faced with massive new requirements in caring for kids because of international trafficking concerns, we determined to ask the LORD for 40 sponsors! We need two sponsors for each of our 20 kids. Today, only months into our effort, we have 17 sponsors! This is an amazing answer to our prayers from our faithful Heavenly Father, who is only too willing to help those who ask! Who would like to sponsor MILEN, 8 year-old girl? We have many others who still need sponsors. Check our web site.

EMERGENCY FUNDING REQUEST!

While in this ISSUE we are chiefly asking for PRAYER for our NATION, and the HORN OF AFRICA threatened as never before by a regional civil war, our BOARD has also authorized EMERGENCY FUNDING for the incredible needs of this area. This is NOT a BUDGETED item, but as now thousands are displaced, Eritrean refugees are caught in the middle, LONG FOOD lines are forming. Many have

died in the fighting. Right now we are seeking channels thru the Ev Ethiopian Church Mekane Yesus, and other groups we know in Addis Ababa (where we can still get and send emails) to help us get SPECIAL AID to help believers there. When the time is right, we will devise a method and means to send emergency supplies.



WE WELCOME NEGEST'S NEWEST FAMILY MEMBER!

In October, Negest was able to travel to the East Coast to celebrate the arrival of **Elyon**, her 13th grandchild! Her name means, "God Most High!" How faithful God has been supplying needs, and blessing beyond all that we might ask or think! We thank Him for preserving her and her unborn child (now Dr. Michael, Elyon's father) as Negest fled

the communist regime who murdered her Naval Officer husband! We join her in placing our trust in God Most High, the ONE who promises to always be faithful!



RECENT ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- HOUSE OF HOPE moved to larger rental facilities, receiving FIFTEEN new AT RISK boys and girls aged 6-9, adding 17 new SPONSORS!
- NEW LOCAL BOARD of spiritual and business leaders for House of Hope in ADWA.
- **UPGRADED WEB-SITE**, new web designer & new **SPONSOR coordinator.**
- Destiny Discovery Workshop @ Teenage orphans—challenging them to greatness—and second TEEN Conference.
- FOUR PASTORS & EVANGELISTS Conferences
- OUTREACHES in both RAMA and ADWA ministering to Evangelical, Muslim & Orthodox families!
- NEW Quarterly FINANCIAL Reporting