

# Dachung & Stefanie Johns Newsletter

**NOVEMBER 2024** 

Dear friends,

Greetings from the beautiful town Monheim am Rhein, Germany. Yes, we are still in Germany! But more about that later.

The last nine months in Germany have been very eventful for us as a family. The children have struggled their way through the German school system while I was very busy teaching a Year 1 class. During the holidays we spent most of the time relaxing in Monheim. Meanwhile things were busy at Kids of Hope and Heart of Hope in Nigeria, too.

# KIDS OF HOPE KINDERGARTEN, PRIMARY SCHOOL AND SECONDARY SCHOOL!!!

We are delighted to announce that in July 2024, our first



12 pupils graduated from our Primary School. All of them passed the central exams and were promoted to Year 7. This is a huge milestone for us and we are proud of all the students and teachers who made this possible. We thank God for fulfilling this dream for us, for the children and for their families!



Nonetheless we are not saying goodbye to these children, but they are continuing with us. Our 7th grade is now our first Kids of Hope Secondary School Class! The children are super proud and are looking forward to a new uniform, new teachers and new subjects such as Economics, Hausa (as a second language), Politics and Agriculture. These are given by the Nigerian curriculum and are necessary so that the kids can pass the Nigerian centralised school-leaving examination in six years time.

### **NEW BUILDING**

Due to a lack of space, we have converted our garage into two classrooms and are quite happy with the result.

Nevertheless, we are praying for funds for a new building.

At the moment we are in touch with two potential donors.

Please pray with us that it will work out and that we can start building in the new year!



#### **NEW KINDERGARTEN CHILDREN**

Once again we welcome a new set of three year olds into our kindergarten class. Ten of them come from disadvantaged families and were selected by raffle draw. As we have far more applicants than sponsors and space each year, we introduced a lottery procedure a few years ago to determine who would get one of the highly coveted places at our school. We would like to thank everyone who started sponsoring a kindergarten child this summer. Without you, our work would not be possible. If you are interested in sponsoring a child with us for 40 euros a month, simply get in touch by email. This will enable a child to receive a high quality education.







With 30 Pounds
a month, you
can make it
possible for

one of these children to attend our school. All our students get quality education, a Biblical foundation, and a warm meal every day.

# LEARNING TO READ PROGRAM

In January we want to start a new afternoon program that teaches reading. The program is designed for children from age 8, that attend local schools (other than ours) and have not learnt how to read yet. Unfortunately there is a big need in that area and many teenagers attend the program, too. As all participants come from less privileged backgrounds, we need your support in this area. For a one-off donation of GBP 20, you can enrol one child into the program for one year. In this year he or she will learn how to read and write and he or she will be empowered for life.

#### **CHRISTMAS GIFTS**

If you are sponsoring a child with us, you have the opportunity to bless him or her with a Christmas gift. For a gift of GBP 12 into our Globe UK account, we will buy a piece of clothing, a toy and a book for your child in Nigeria. If you prefer it more personal, you can also send a parcel. However, the parcels will probably not arrive before Christmas. I'm happy to send you more information about the Christmas presents on request.

#### THE JOHN FAMILY

We have been in Germany since the end of November 2023 and are enjoying being close to family and the constant electricity and water supply.

We are very pleased that our work in Nigeria is continuing well without us. We are in frequent contact with the local leaders and regularly take part in online meetings. We are proud of our local team!

For the school, it is time to focus on growth. The primary school needs a new building to accommodate two streams. Sooner or later the secondary school will not only need a building, but also (more and better) computers, a physics and chemistry lab and art and music rooms. We would like to have a multi-purpose hall that can be used as both an assembly hall and a sports hall. In addition, we would like to enable our pupils to learn a trade at school. Over time, various workshops will be built on our property.



Last but not least, the kindergarten should also eventually move out of the rented rooms and onto our own property. As you can see, there is still lots to be achieved! In order to help ours and other schools in Nigeria to boost the quality of education, we would like to establish contact with an American textbook publisher that will enable us to print and distribute materials in Nigeria ourselves. This has the potential to improve the quality of education for many hundreds of students through the use of good materials.



In order to achieve all this, we have registered for a leadership training programme at YWAM (Youth With A Mission) Orlando in the USA.

In February 2025, we plan to leave Germany and go to the USA as a family for a season. We want to learn and grow there, but also make contacts that can help us in the areas mentioned above. We believe that God still has a lot planned for us in the school in Vom in Nigeria, and we trust that our time in Germany and the USA will bear fruit on various levels.

We believe that it will be a time to experience God's work, provision, protection and power first hand.

We are grateful that you are a part of this work and this vision. God bless you.

Dachung und Steffi mit Niri, Sam, Tyang und Kim

# **WE'D LOVE TO HEAR FROM YOU!**

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## FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Most of you know that Dachung and I don't earn a salary. Our monthly income comes from individuals who choose to support us and our ministry. If you are interested in being part of our work by supporting us financially, please contact us for more details. We are grateful for every pound!

