

LifeWells Launches in Ghana



The Chief and leaders of Gyenvuur on the outskirts of Jirapa near Wa, the Upper West region of Ghana. (Photo credit: Richard Aduku)

From Maryland to Wa

Faith Missions is a faith-centered, non-profit organization committed to humanitarian projects, currently operating out of their office in Waldorf, Maryland (United States). As people of faith, we believe God’s plan for his creation is for us to live a life that reflects his goodness and unconditional love. A plan that includes living in peace, in good health, displaying compassion for one’s neighbor and being good stewards of the environment.

Faith Missions aspires to build a network of believers committed to demonstrating God’s love and power in their community with those tenants in mind. In 2019 Faith Missions Ghana (FMGH) was created as an affiliate of Faith Missions US.

- LifeWells: is our “potable water” project in northern Ghana engaged in drilling deep wells in the remote village areas particularly north of the Country. **LifeWells is the first international project under the umbrella of Faith Mission Ghana.*

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- Helping Hand: is a building project focusing on primary & elementary schools in villages and small towns in Ghana.

When communities come together

History has shown and recent research acknowledges the negative effects of the policies of colonialism in Africa. Policies that intentionally created a reliance on imported goods and external support; rather than elevating the community's ability to create economic solutions internally.

Today, the effects of colonialism continue to feed and foster a culture of dependency; a dependency that exists in direct opposition to the cultural practice of community reliance and shared accountability. In our work with communities, we encourage mutual learning, shared understanding, and community accountability. We consider the presence of these factors to be essential for community growth and sustainability.



(Photo credit: Richard Aduku)

LifeWells is both an infrastructure and community accountability project. Prior to the installation of a well communities must meet specific criteria:

1. A verified need for access to potable water;

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2. Community participation and engagement: The community led by their Chiefs, Elders, and or recognized Leaders will identify a central location for the well that is accessible for the community;
 3. Shared Responsibility: The wells must be maintained through communal arrangement. The community must agree to invest in the development of all necessary infrastructure to support the wells, which may include piping, water storage, & electricity.

*The LifeWells project team will provide training in general water conservation, preservation, well installation, and maintenance.

Responding to the need for clean water

Ghana is a beautiful country steeped in its culture, art, and history. There has been significant progress in providing basic water services at the national level. However, only 36 percent of people use a safely managed water source. Here are a few facts about the water condition in Ghana:

- 6 million people don't have clean water. That's 1 in 5 of the population.
- Almost 1,000 children under 5 die each year from diarrhea caused by dirty water and poor toilets.
- Almost 23 million people don't have a decent toilet. That's over 8 in every 10 people.
- 60% of water bodies are polluted due to illegal mining and other activities; with many in critical condition
- Deforestation and illegal gold mining further exacerbate the problem by further polluting the **limited water supply**. Seventy-three percent of the population, or about 23 million people, use water that may not follow sanitary standards. This would mean that only 3.9 million people in Ghana can access water that is safe.

What's Next: We're going back to Wa!

LifeWells has successfully partnered with 3 villages and committed to install 3 community wells at **Gyenvuur** - located 20 km outside of Jirapa; **Kunyukuo** (located near Metaw and Tolibri); and the central town of **Babile**. The LifeWells team is currently continuing with research and data collection to ensure successful drilling.

Drilling for the first well is scheduled for th April 2023.

LifeWells (and Faith Missions Ghana) operates under the leadership of Pastor Alex Yoda and his wife Felicia Yoda. The LifeWells Project Team & Partners are:



Mr. Richard Aduku, Executive Assistant & Field Organizer.

Pastor Paul Dombo is our acting Regional Director for the Upper West Region.

Pastor Kuunaangmen Aileen is the Regional President of Daughters of Zion Ministries International and serves as our coordinator for Upper East & West Regions of Ghana.

Rev. Juliet Wiafe-Agyei of Fountain of Grace Missions International serves as a member of the executive team.

Get involved & Support our work

Donate to support our work!

Visit our organization's website <https://www.faithmissionsghana.org>

Got Skills? Consider joining us in Wa

If you are interested, contact us via pastoryoda@faithmissionsghana.org or use the contact us page on the website.

Follow us on Social Media (IG: [@faithmissions_gh](https://www.instagram.com/faithmissions_gh))

Pray for Faith Missions!

Keep our team, volunteers, project partners, and families in your prayers. Most importantly, pray for the millions of people who don't have access to clean, safe, drinking water. Lastly, the next time you pour a glass of water; say a prayer of thanksgiving.

The LORD will guide you always; he will satisfy your needs in a sun-scorched land and will strengthen your frame. You will be like a well-watered garden, like a spring whose waters never fail. - Isaiah 58:11