

NEWS BRIEF

YEAR IN REVIEW JANUARY 2019



This is one of my favorite News Briefs... we are taking a moment to look at all that God has done in and through our students and staff. So let's take a moment to glance back month-by-month and marvel at how God has moved and shaken this world for Christ!

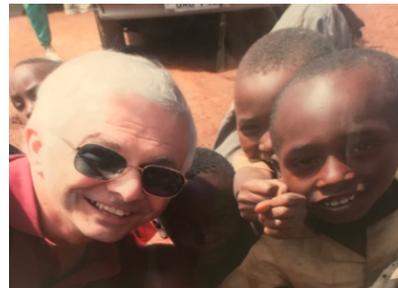
January 2018

One year ago you were challenged by founder, Russ Carr to "Count your Blessings", to take a moment and close your eyes allowing the Lord to fill your mind and heart with all that He has done for you and those you love. Also, we wanted to thank you for standing in the gap for us and our students in prayer. It is only through your prayers that we are able to continue to share the light of Jesus in a world of darkness. That covering of prayer is the most important part of any ministry.

Also in January we were saddened to share that our dear friend and Director of Finance, Don Cudworth, passed away suddenly of a heart attack. Although he is missed by our entire GSSM staff we take great comfort in knowing he is now in glory with his Lord. Please continue to pray for the Cudworth family.

February 2018

In this month we had the privilege of sharing about the 2017 Christmas outreach. Wow, did God ever move in this village! Dozens of children, many without much in the way of clothing or shoes, were given Kids Kits which brought numerous tears of joy! Also, Family Food Packs were delivered to the most needy. Our GSSM students were all involved in sharing at the soccer matches, video programs and other activities including two community Christmas dinners. The Christmas story was shared, the Gospel presented, and many lives were altered for eternity. All in all, 91 precious people came to Christ during this 5 day event. **PTL!**



March 2018

"Love your Enemies" was the theme of this News Brief. We shared about Jimmy's background and how, even through the neigh-sayers, he persevered and continued to follow God's calling on his life. He started ministering in a slum near his home and now this year has expanded his reach to 2 more slums. Not only is he feeding 500 kids a day but he has started a drama and dance ministry, soccer leagues, and is training the next generation of older kids to disciple and minister to the younger kids. Talk about loving your enemies despite their treatment of you and focusing on God's calling! Because of his faithfulness, hundreds have and even more will come to know our Savior. Continue to pray for Jimmy as God opens even more doors for him and that his farm will be prosperous in order to sustain his ministries.



GLOBAL SCHOOL OF SPORTS MINISTRY

April 2018

What do you do when you plan a major outreach and 3 days of torrential rains flood the site of your program? Do you cancel, postpone, or go ahead as scheduled? Graduate Daniel Mwale was faced with this scenario in Malawi last spring.

Faith replaced fear and the event was held in spite of many who questioned the wisdom of going ahead under such circumstances. Because of their faithfulness, 130 youth gave their lives to Christ as a result! But there is more... 49 adults also accepted Christ! The majority of the 49 were men around 35 years of age. Most of these men are now part of the churches who supported the outreach. Because of this event, participating church leaders now want to support future sports ministry events as they saw first-hand the powerful results. Incidentally many of the pastors have requested a training workshop on how to use sports ministry to reach the youth in their areas. Can we say AMEN, to God be the Glory! Look at how God moved the hearts of many and now it is multiplying!

May 2018

Traveling from point A to point B in many African countries can sometimes be a challenge. Take Macgeofrey Mwale for example, a pastor and GSSM graduate from Malawi. He was asked to speak to a group of pastors and other believers in Mozambique. Getting there was going to be an adventure. While traveling seated on top of truck carrying people, goats, and other cargo it started to rain heavily. The rain was so intense that the truck was forced to pull over. Everyone, including Macgeofrey and all of his belongings along with his laptop and phone, were drenched. Amazingly the carton of bibles he brought with him to give to the pastors never got wet! Halfway to his destination the bridge washed out.

After waiting 5 hours for the water to recede a large number of bicycle taxis were helping transport people on the nearly impassable roads. But because of the situation, they were charging excessive amounts. However, one older man approached Macgeofrey and offered to give him a lift. Despite his frail appearance, Macgeofrey agreed to ride with the driver even though he was uncertain if he could make the journey. Now getting dark and still 25 miles from the destination he thought, "This is becoming an impossible task." The load was heavy on this single geared bicycle; how could they make it?? This frail man continued pedaling with no stops and no water into the darkness. In disbelief they arrived at their destination. When Macgeofrey thanked the man, he asked how he was able to pedal his bike with such a heavy load non-stop for hours. His reply shocked Macgeofrey, "**I saw myself being lifted up by men dressed in white and so it was not me cycling, but those men lifted us up and I am amazed too for it has never happened before in my life**". Indeed, God does the impossible and all we can do is praise Him!



May was also the month that we welcomed our newest staff member, Sequoi Phipps! She is the Director of Communications and heads up all things concerning social media, website, etc... Sequoi is also going to join forces with volunteer Instructor, Dave Carr, to further develop our sustainability portion of our course. This will, in turn, assist our current and graduate students in sustaining their ministries.



June/July 2018



What sporting event was watched by half of the world's population in June & July of last year? If you answered the World Cup, you are correct! During the World Cup a number of our GSSM students and graduates held tournaments of their own, showing videos, conducting clinics and hosted a variety of activities that drew hundreds and exposed many to the Good News of Jesus that has now changed their lives for eternity.

In the month of June, Steve Burke, part of GSSM's leadership team went to Malawi, Tanzania and Zambia to administer exams, observe and evaluate sports ministry programs and meet with prospective students. While there, he had the privilege of awarding diplomas to the graduates of the GSSM programs in a celebration service.

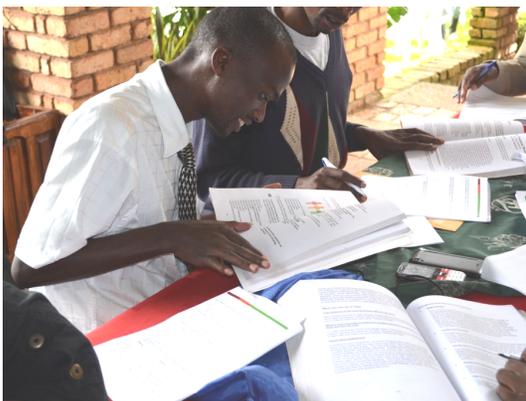
August 2018

Sustainability programs are being developed as Barnabas' "Farm to Missions" project is showing great promise.

Recent GSSM graduates in Zambia, Malawi, Kenya, Liberia and Uganda have also submitted different plans to reach their respective countries for Christ in addition to some of the countries bordering their homeland. Nationals reaching nationals!!! Who better to reach their countrymen than the ones who best understand the culture and people! Pray over these students as they go daily into the harvest fields and faithfully serve Christ by fulfilling the great commission.



September 2018



A recent graduate in Tanzania has submitted detailed plans to initiate sports ministry programs throughout his country and is asking GSSM to have our textbook translated into Swahili so he can train a large number of potential students who cannot understand English. After sharing this news in the newsletter, two anonymous donors generously gave to have over 200 textbooks translated into Swahili! God provided in such a big way. Just think of how many people will be reached because of these donors who listened to God moving in their hearts!

PTL!

In Uganda, the first annual GSSM sponsored camp for Slum children was a winner! 60 children were selected to attend the 5-day camp and 15 precious young people accepted Jesus as their personal Savior. We can't wait to see how God moves next year!

October 2018

The theme of this news brief was based on Mark 1:16 & 17 **“Come and follow me and I will make you FISHERS OF MEN”**. GSSM is training more and more “fishers of men” as our new term opened this month. 49 students from 7 different countries began their studies in preparation to plant additional outreach programs. Pray for these faithful few as they follow God’s calling into ministry. Just imagine with me how many people will be reached through these 49 students, it blows my mind every time. On average each student has the potential to reach approximately 50-100 people per outreach. Now multiply that by 49!!! Whoa, right! Pray over those to whom our students will be ministering, that their hearts would be prepared and open to receive the Good News of Jesus!



November/December 2018

Christmas in a Forgotten Village. Our students were preparing to reach a small village called Rukungiri in Southwest Uganda. In this 5 day event they would do community service, put on sporting events and kids games, distribute Kids Kits and Family Food Packs, host a Christmas party for the entire village and most importantly during the entire event the students shared the Christmas story and the Gospel. We prayerfully asked that you considered giving joy and blessing a village through the provision of Family Food Packs, Kid’s Kits, Christmas Dinner plates and helping our GSSM students meet their practicum requirement by providing their way there, food and lodging. And all I can say is Wow! Through you, God provided in such a huge way for this forgotten village and our students. We cannot begin to thank you enough for your generosity and most importantly your prayers. You will find an update on how God moved and changed a village in an upcoming news brief.

Also in the December News Brief, we shared a story from last year’s outreach about a Muslim man who was deeply puzzled why this group of Christians would march into his village and host a dinner. Don’t Christians hate Muslims and Muslims hate Christians? Would he and his family be turned away? Then suddenly, his wife came running up to him and told him about the Family Food Pack that some of the visitors brought to their home. He was stunned. He knew his family was almost out of food and had no idea how or when they would be able to get more. He did something he thought he would never do, he went up to Barnabas, GSSM’s African Director and thanked him for including him and his family even though he was Muslim. Barnabas smiled and embraced him. That is what it is all about, right? **Despite our differences, we must always be showing Jesus! There is no greater testimony than demonstrating His love and compassion.**



GLOBAL SCHOOL OF SPORTS MINISTRY



I mean!!!! Can you believe how God has moved this year? Many times I stand back and take a moment to look at all that God is doing in and through our staff, students and graduates and frankly it moves me to tears. I am so encouraged by their dedication, faithfulness and determination; to see them persevere in their calling truly touches me emotionally. We at GSSM cannot thank you enough for your continued prayers and support over this past year. Who is excited to see what 2019 will bring? I for one cannot wait to see what God has in store!!! As we tell our students **in following after God's calling we shall "NEVER, NEVER, NEVER GIVE UP"**! How will you serve Him this year? I challenge you to pray through that thought!

Thank you again for making all of this possible! Your prayers and support as God leads and enables you is greatly appreciated.

In HIM <><

Alma Cau Mahone

Executive Director

&

Chris Lee

President

Read on for a special announcement!



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2019 STUDENT EVALUATION TRIP



In February, 3 of our staff members will travel to Uganda for our **2019 Student Evaluation Trip!**

Aimee, Alyssa, and Sequoi will administer exams as well as meet with staff and prospective students. The team will also get to visit ministries and programs of current students and alumni.

If you are interested in helping the staff meet our financial goals for this trip, please visit globalssm.org/donate and select "Africa 2019 Aimee" or "Africa 2019 Sequoi".



You can follow along and learn more about our trip on Facebook and Instagram!



Grand total: \$6,800

