

**Report to Supporters of Goll Farm School from  
Fr. Prince Wreh, November 27, 2015**

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**Fr. Prince Wreh Sends Greetings  
On Goll Farm School's Anniversary**

Marking the start of the third year of classes at the Goll Farm Elementary School, Fr. Prince Wreh has sent a formal greeting letter to supporters, along with many pictures of the celebration held at the school. His message of thanks comes at the time of our American Thanksgiving Day.

The message and a few of the photographs of the school ceremony are reproduced below.



*Preparing for the celebration, carpenters put up the ceiling in Castellanos Hall on the school campus. Labor and materials were purchased with donated funds.*

Dear Friends,

The accompanying photos are of the Keenan Institute's (Goll Farm Elementary School) Gala celebration. We think that you need to always be informed about major developments, progress, and step along the way of the Liberian children for whom you have made and still continue to make invaluable sacrifices and commitment..



*Parents and siblings of Goll Farm School students are shown in Castellanos Hall for the school's anniversary celebration on November 19.*

As we can see expressed in these photos of the school's Gala Anniversary, Relhetta and I, the teachers the administration, the parents, and the entire community of Goll Farm feel deeply proud and grateful to share with you the fruitful results of our collaborative and transforming efforts in the lives of these children, who before your intervention, were neglected by society as incapable of learning.



*With students from other schools attending the Goll Farm School's anniversary celebration, a football game was included among the student activities. Shown above is the Goll Farm School football team. Several academic competitions also marked the special day.*



*In Liberia, when boys play soccer, girls have a kickball game. Kickball is played like baseball, but with a soccer ball that is rolled out by the "pitcher" and kicked by the "batter." Above is the victorious Goll Farm School team.*

These photos bear witness to the fact the Liberian children on whose faces your transcendent love has put smiles are gradually becoming well and alive now, and are happily celebrating the light they were denied because of the social and economic conditions they found themselves in, light that you have shared with them to lead them along their way as they step further on each rung of our social ladder. By sharing these photos with you, we want to assure you that we are deeply grateful and remain undaunted in spite of all the oppositions to our strong faith in education as the equalizer. It is often said that a people's development cannot extend beyond the level of

their education. We strongly believe this and must thank all of you who join us in transforming society through our faith in education.

We here are fully aware that education is the best tool for genuine empowerment and positive social and economic transformation. We are also aware that because of this transforming and equalizing power of education, most power elites and dominant groups of most societies are always determined to deny this powerful tool to the underprivileged and the disinherited in order to perpetuate their dominance.

In their lack of the slightest knowledge of the connection between education and socio-economic development they continue to speak of education as the key to building a strong nation. This predatory self-interest for dominance blinds the dominant groups so much so that the old adage that “education is the key to success” has become only a mouthing platitude. But we have no doubt that with your support we all can unleash our voices to the highest peak until we are heard and are able to force them to address this ugly situation of mass ignorance and abject poverty of our people which permeate our society and can no longer be ignored. This is our way of helping to dismantle their self-interest ideology which claims that the children of the marginalized, the disinherited and the poor are unable to learn and therefore we need not waste our resources.



*In his message, Fr. Wreh refers to the recruiting efforts of his wife, Relhetta, to get parents to allow their children to attend school. This picture, from 2012, shows Relhetta on such a recruiting visit in a nearby village.*

Perhaps we need to do what we may call "a pictorial retrospection," that is, thinking about and looking at the past events, situations, and conditions of the children in these photos, compare them with the present pictures in front of us and carefully notice that these very kids whom we see in their beautiful uniforms with smiles on their faces and joy in their hearts are the same kids whose natural gifts and potentials were at the verge of being wasted, squashed and buried by the neglect of our social and economic system which has contributed and continues to contribute to the mass waste of talents and potentials. We are very proud to gratefully call you, our partners, supporters, friends, and donors, "SPECIAL MANAGERS OF HUMAN POTENTIALS AND TALENTS FOR PRODUCTIVE USE OF SOCIETY." May God bless you. Looking at

these kids in these photos we have no doubt that you all deserve this special message of thanks, especially when you are giving thanks to God today [American Thanksgiving Day] for all he has bestowed upon you and your entire nation.

We remember that in September 2012, Relhetta walked in the rain with umbrella, going from house to house talking with parents, trying to convince them about the value of education and learning. [See photograph at left on this page.] We also remember the conditions of these very kids who were the first students of the school; most of them were half naked and barefooted with little or no hope and with a bleak future. But today in this Gala celebration the story has changed in a positive way because of your sacrifices time, energy, resources, and determination to make this dream a reality.

What is so heart-warming and encouraging is that during the occasion of the Gala celebration these very kids who are now the beneficiaries of your scholarships were able to be so creative and concerned about their and were able to organize a scholarship program in order to help four of their friends whom they know are desirous and capable of learning. They were able to raise LD35,000 (an equivalence of \$400) and gave it to the administration to help their friends join them in the school. The amount may not be much; but the fact that these kids were able to share the love they have received from you with their friends is magnificently unimaginable and deserves sharing with all of you who took the initiative to show them love and the value of education. We thank God for all of you as you celebrate your THANKSGIVING today. May God continue to bless you with the abundance from his inexhaustible fountain of blessings. Again, thank you so much.  
Prince and Relhetta

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**The start of the 2015-2016 school year marks the return to the country's normal academic schedule following the disruption caused by the ebola epidemic. More than 4,800 Liberians died in the epidemic.**