



December 2020

GODWIN AND GAIL EKANEM

SERVING IN

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*Happy Christmas! Maybe when you hear those words this year, you may be thinking that there is nothing particularly 'joyful' about this Christmas. Certainly, it may not be Christmas as we know it! It has been a hard year, a year full of uncertainty and fear. Some people are very sick, others are lonely and still others are missing from the celebration this year and our hearts are heavy. So, is there really anything to be happy about? Yes, Jesus is **Good News!***

*"But the angel said to them. 'Do not be afraid. I bring you **good news** of great joy that will be for all the people'" (Luke 2:10). "You know the message God sent to the people of Israel, announcing the **good news** of peace through Jesus Christ who is Lord of all" (Acts 10:36). The **Good News** is still exactly 'what it says on the tin.'*

*The **Good News** of our Saviour's birth is worthy of celebration!*

News from the Ekanems

I was very thankful to be able to hand the children back to their 'real' teachers in mid-September. The hard work has paid off and we are getting glowing reports from their teachers. The children have just begun their first term of a new school year. Their first break comes on 24th December.

I have just concluded the first semester of the 2020/2021 Session at William Wheatley Theological College. My two courses were Theology of Missions and Exposition of 1 Corinthians. The students will be sitting their exams from the 7th December.

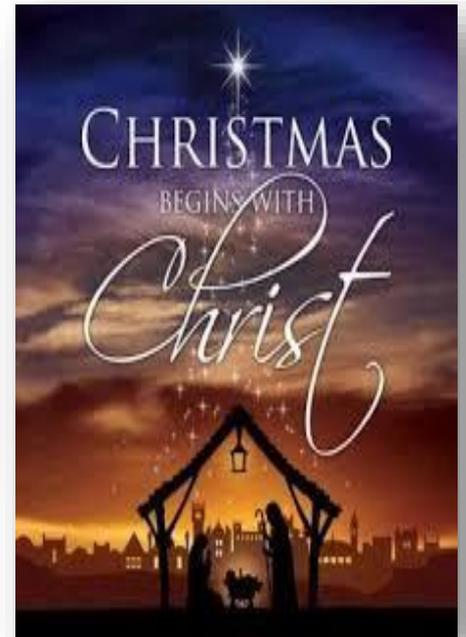
Godwin was involved a lot in Bible Studies in our local church, as the pastor was on training in preparation for his ordination which takes place in December. The studies included equality issues, what would Jesus say to ENDSARS protesters, and forgiveness.

Aniedi is still patiently waiting for the resumption of his University course. It has not been easy for him this past eight months especially seeing the others return to school. But he has not been idle. Apart from painting jobs at home, he has also been busy with his youth fellowship, which he leads in his local church.

Ekaette resumed her course at the College of Nursing since September and we look forward to having her back with us for Christmas.

'Jesus is Good News' Boxes

This year, with the help of our contact group from Lowe Church, we have been able to put together Christmas gift boxes for children who otherwise might not receive a Christmas present. Pray that these gifts will draw children closer to Jesus. There is still a lot of work to be done, so pray for grace and wisdom to finish the task!



PRAYER POINTS

- Pray for the students of WWTC as they write their exams during the week beginning 7th December.
- Pray for the Ogbonna family as they prepare for the burial of Iris on 14th Dec. Pray for comfort for them and for us, as we are all grieving her loss.
- Pray for the peace and security of the nation of Nigeria.
- Pray for the UEC Church Conference beginning on 7th December. It takes place in Eket, which means it is not too far away from us this year. Pray for the 63 pastors who are being ordained during the Conference.
- Pray for us as a family as we expect more members to join us here for Christmas. It will be a full house!



*Best wishes and Happy Christmas
from all of us here at Uyo,
Godwin, Gail, Angel & co.*