



For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, which is Christ the Lord. -Luke 2:11

Merry Christmas!

From all of us at Hope Seeds as we celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ, our Savior and our Lord! Join us in prayer that we will all grow in our understanding of the priceless gift of salvation. What an incredible night that must have been, over 2000 years ago, when the Prince of Peace came into the world! We encourage you to ponder the words of the hymn, "Silent Night," first sung in a tiny chapel over 200 years ago in Austria on Christmas Eve after a flood rendered the organ useless. May it serve as a reminder of the greatest Gift of God. Join us as we pray that those we serve around the world may experience the peace and joy found only in the love of Christ.

✳ **Prayer and Praise from our partnership in Burkina Faso!** *"Thank you so much...We give thanks to the Lord. The message of Hope will be a blessing. We will be passing out the message of Hope as well as the seeds to youth groups, men training groups, women training groups and sharing with the local churches." - Missionary Praise be to God that the seeds and the Message of Hope are now being distributed in Burkina Faso, a country that has been under daily attack by Jihadists causing many to become refugees within their own country. The family packs have been a source of great hope for this ministry and the people of Burkina Faso. Word is spreading across villages and many are coming, eager to hear the good news and to receive seed and be taught. Please pray for the missionaries (who must remain anonymous) as they conduct training sessions and share the Gospel in spite of the risks and health concerns. Pray for their protection and that the seed will bring forth a bountiful harvest, but most of all, pray that lives will be transformed for Christ.*

✳ **Prayer and Praise for our partnership in Cameroon!** We praise God for this opportunity to provide seeds and the Message of Hope to the people of Cameroon as they face great challenges. According to our partnering missionary (whose name we must protect), much of the country is essentially a war-zone. Rebels have forced government schools to shut down and entire towns are put on "lockdown" for a day or longer each week, often with no warning. Travel is restricted, commerce is at a stand still, and countless are displaced from their homes. However, in the midst of all these difficulties, this ministry is providing health care, clean water, education, and the love of Christ in tangible ways through seeds and the message of Hope. Pray for our missionary friends that they may have strength and courage to stay the course as they present the Gospel.

- ✳️ **Prayer and Praise for new opportunities in Cuba!** Through ECHO's International Ag Missions Conference a new door has opened for Hope Seeds in Cuba: we sent 250 family packs with a national missionary to Cuba, a country which has been virtually closed to missions. Pray this door for Hope Seeds swings wide open in 2020 so that more seeds and copies of the message of Hope will be shared in this nation, revealing Christ's love.
- ✳️ **Prayer and Praise for Haiti!** Haiti has been through many trials over the years. Recent reports from long-term missionaries describe the current situation as the worst they have ever seen. Much like Cameroon, commerce has stopped, supply routes interrupted by rioters, UN has left the nation, medical facilities and schools closed. However, there is good news in the midst of what seems to be a dire situation. Thanks to the last 20 years of progress in development, especially agriculture, food is still available. In addition, we have been able to continue to supply seed through a strong partnership we have in Haiti. Pray for safety for Hope Seeds' Haitian missionary/ agronomist, Josias, who has expressed concerns for the future of Haiti and his family. Pray for the people of Haiti, who have shown great resilience, that the peace of Christ will come and provide needed stability for suffering families. Keep praying for open doors for Hope Seeds. Through just three of the organizations we partnered with in Haiti this year, we have supplied over 15,000 family packs. Pray for Medical Ambassadors which is currently conducting CHE (Community Health and Evangelism) training and reaching many for Christ through the message of Hope contained in all 6,000 of the family packs sent this year.
- ✳️ **Prayer and Praise for Uganda!** We are encouraged that our Hope Seeds director of HS4SEA, Raymond Kaija, reported distributing family packs in Nyumanzi refugee camp in the North and in Nativale in the South, and also to two groups of women in the Southwestern region who are being trained on growing vegetables in urban areas, nutrition, soil management, and seed saving. Pray for Uganda and that 2020 will bring more encouragement, and for Hope Seeds as we expand our outreach through new partners in this region and into Southern Sudan. See pictures below, from seed packing in the US to training in Uganda with Raymond Kaija!



Qualified Charitable Distributions (QCDs)

What's that? A QCD is a way of giving to a charity that all folks over 70 & ½ should know about. After an IRA holder reaches 70 & ½ the IRS requires a minimum distribution (RMD) be made from the IRA account. Receiving this required withdrawal into your personal bank account immediately makes it subject to IRS taxes. If it is instead transferred directly from the IRA account to a qualified charity it becomes a QCD and it will not appear as income in your tax return. You pay no taxes on the distribution and you benefit your charity with this donation. Check it out with your tax consultant and your financial advisor. For those over 70 & ½ this can be the best way of giving especially with the new tax laws. A QCD must be completed by 31 Dec 2019 for the current tax year!

Hope Seeds Inc is a 501(c) organization and your gifts are tax deductible as allowed by law. #65-0911582

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