



**JERE NGEEN JEF
(THANK YOU ALL)**

Luke Huffman, a member of Johnston Chapel and student at Boyce College, had the

incredible opportunity to serve as a summer intern with ABWE in The Gambia. The following are excerpts from his missionary journey:

- Life is certainly different in Ndungu Kebbe. I learned many things about the importance of good conversation and putting people before business. Someone trying to sell something to you practically knows the status of your whole family before the exchange is over and I absolutely love it. I think we could all learn from the hospitality of Gambians.
- I had the opportunity to eat many different local foods, mostly due to *everyone you visit* insisting you stay and eat. In these times, I was very thankful that the Lord gave me a mother who taught me to eat what was put before me, even if it repulses me initially (e.g., a bowl of overcooked rice accompanied by a generous layer of spoiled milk. The dish still makes me gag occasionally.)
- I had a more practical language-learning experience than your usual Rosetta Stone. Learning by going out into the village (typically accompanied by my good pal Adama), and learning by repetition the common phrases. My comprehension of Wolof isn't impeccable, but I basically know how to say "Hi" (which involves a lot more than you would imagine) and how to buy most things I've needed.
- No amount of feigned confidence could get me through these days, but the Lord has been good and provided me with more than I could've asked for. I want to express my deepest thanks to my church family(ies) for their support and prayers. I wish I could repay you all for the investment you've made in some



tangible way. My life has been changed. The Lord has taught me lesson after lesson. I have one request: That prayers will be directed at Muslim nations. Pray that the kingdom of God will begin to flourish in places like this. Pray that more will be sent to Islamic cultures.

"It is a trustworthy statement, deserving full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners..."

Dear Missionaries,

Greetings from the Johnston Chapel family! Thank you for your commitment to preach the truth of the gospel in the face of many hardships. We love each one of you, and we are lifting you up in prayer. Please continue to pray for us as we share the hope of salvation for sinners throughout Mercer County.



Pastor John King recently completed a Sunday morning sermon series called *Becoming a Servant of God* which highlighted the life of Moses. In the G.R.O.W. class on Wednesday nights, Pastor John is teaching what the Bible says about man and sin. These series are available on our website: johnstonchapel.org/media/newsermons/.

Pastor John and Jeanie King were invited to Tokyo, Japan by our supported missionaries Joe and Noney Mita in early June. John had many opportunities to preach at Bethel Baptist Church and at a conference at Grace Baptist Bible College. He was also able to teach classes at the college and to share the missions strategy of Johnston Chapel. Through a ladies seminar, Jeanie was a special blessing to the wives of pastors and missionaries as well as the women of the church. They also enjoyed some sight-seeing in Tokyo and a visit to the beautiful Mt. Fuji.



It was a special blessing to host Pastor Lonya and Luba German from our sister church in Krasnosyolka, Ukraine. They are vital partners of Dr. Miriam Wheeler, our sent missionary to Ukraine. We were both encouraged and challenged by their passion for reaching their people with the gospel through church ministry, medical ministry and refugee ministry.

Our pastors and their wives enjoyed a memorable meal with these faithful servants which was prepared and served by Lonya and Luba at the missions apartment. They were also able to speak in another one of Miriam's supporting churches, visit relatives, and experience the Creation Museum. We love them and count it a great honor to partner with them in the ministry of the gospel.

On June 12, we enjoyed a special Celebrate Recovery Sunday. God has blessed this ministry immensely as we aim to make inroads into our community with those struggling with hurts, habits and hang-ups. Ministry Leaders Jason and Tera Dillow shared their vision as well as the eight recovery principles. Paula Elliot, the CR Training Coordinator, shared her personal testimony. It was a wonderful day of worshipping God for His great healing power.



Heritage Sunday: Past, Present, Future

On August 21, we celebrated the rich history of Johnston Chapel. We designated the first portion of the service to remember and honor the 12 associate pastors who served alongside Preacher Jimmie Jones and Pastor John King in years past. We then recognized the present day church staff and launched a brand new church intro video. This video can be viewed on our website: <http://www.johnstonchapel.org/im-new-here/>. Finally, we pondered the future. Pastor John King announced his retirement in our July business meeting (read more here: [Retirement Announcement](#)), so on Heritage Sunday, there was an official dedication of the Pastoral Search Committee. Pastor John plans to retire in the summer of 2018. Much like Preacher Jimmie, Pastor John is loved and respected for his humility, wisdom and passion for preaching the Word of God. To conclude this special service, Ken Grubb, a former associate pastor, preached a powerful sermon, *Hero Worship*. It was wonderful to have Doug Smith, an evangelist and singer, with us as well to share in music during the service and fellowship meal. We are so grateful to the Lord for pouring out His blessings on this ministry, and we anticipate a bright future.



The Next Generation of Servants

For our August Missions Sunday, we focused on the summer mission trips for both the students and children. The middle school and high school students were challenged to reach the unreached at Wayumi, a ministry of New Tribes Mission. The week was full of excellent teaching and challenging testimonies. The students truly learned what it takes to carry the gospel to those who have never heard. From sleeping in hammocks in the jungle camp to learning a language in the tribal village, this trip was one that the students will never forget!

The Kids Club Krew, children grades 4 and 5, served locally in a variety of ministries. In the mornings, they served at Tender Mercies cleaning the facility, handing out food and clothing, organizing food in the pantry, and praying with visitors. In the afternoons, they spent their time loving on the residents at The Havens, an assisted living community. These times were filled with bingo, crafts, songs, encouragement and sharing the gospel. In the evenings, the kids led a backyard VBS with games, snacks, songs, and Bible lessons. On Wednesday, the children prepared and served food at Bluefield Union Mission. The week of service was celebrated by a visit to a water park and a trampoline park on the final day. Please pray for our young people as they consider a future in missions!



PRAISES

- We have baptized 15 individuals in 2016.
- We have added 35 new members in 2016.
- Two members of the youth group publicly dedicated their lives to missions.
- The children enjoyed camp at Alpine Ministries with several making decisions.
- The summer VBS was a success as children from the community heard the gospel and children from our church grew in the Lord.
- It was an exciting year for the 3D Archery ministry which has grown to 100 people.
- Gracia Burnham shared the story of her kidnapping in the Philippines. Hear the service on our website: [Burnham's Story](#)
- The Richardsons Family Fun Day with special speaker Anthony Eubanks was successful in raising funds for our sent missionaries.
- Women from our community joined in prayer for a spiritual awakening in America during the *Cry Out Simulcast*.

PRAYER REQUESTS

- A container of food for starving people in a closed country was recently packaged and shipped by Heaven Sent Ministries.
- We launched a new college and young adult small group in September.
- We are in the process of developing a volunteer security team for church safety.
- Church members continue to enjoy training through the e4-12 program of Piedmont International University. The current course is *Evangelism*.
- Our fall target ministries are underway, including GriefShare, DivorceCare, DC4K and MOPS.
- Please pray that God would raise up laborers for the harvest from Johnston Chapel.

Thank you for remembering
Johnston Chapel in your prayers!



Johnston Chapel Baptist Church
Love • Grow • Serve