

June 2025

Issue 180



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WEST AFRICAN MERCY MINISTRIES

Here I Am!

Checking Out the Starfish

The Starfish Story (to the right) is a familiar one, but well worth remembering in the context of Mercy Ministry. Debbie and I are preparing to go to Ghana for June and July and each time we go we get the opportunity to see how God is working through our coworkers and people who support this ministry to “[make] a difference for that one.”

Isaiah 58 reminds us that God is present when his children are active in feeding the hungry, housing the homeless, clothing the naked, etc. So when we visit Ghana we get to experience the presence of God.

We acknowledge that WAMM can’t do it all and

The Starfish Story

An old man was walking on the beach one morning after a storm. In the distance, he could see someone moving like a dancer. As he came closer, he saw that it was a young woman picking up starfish and gently throwing them into the ocean. “Young lady, why are you throwing starfish into the ocean?”

“The sun is up, and the tide is going out, and if I do not throw them in they will die,” she said. “But young lady, do you not realize that there are many miles of beach and thousands of starfish? You cannot possibly make a difference.”

The young woman listened politely, then bent down, picked up another starfish and threw it into the sea. “It made a difference for that one.”

- Adapted from the original by Loren Eiseley

sometimes it seems like our efforts are somewhat feeble. But we get to see what God is doing for some select starfish when we’re there.

This issue of “*Here I Am!*”

has been designed to highlight some of the “starfish” God has chosen to help and some of those he has chosen to use to provide that help. Take a look inside.

June 2025 Prayer Requests

- For the resources necessary for Jeremiah’s treatment and for Charity’s surgery (See Pages 2).
- For the resources necessary for Hannah’s schooling (See Pages 3).
- For Debbie and me as we travel in June and July
- For the 2 ministry teams coming this summer one to work at HOME and one family of videographers. More info to come!

2025 Annual Prayer Requests

- Full Missionary Support for Dekus.
- Opening/Use of Building 2 including staff.
- 20% of WAMM-Ghana Support from within Ghana.
- Expansion of Our Solar Power System.
- Pockets of Prayer (Hosts and “Homes”).
- Financial partners for the Odekrom Church Plant.



Starfish #1: Jeremiah

The first of the little starfish that God is scheduled to help is Jeremiah. As you can see by the picture to the right, this little guy has difficulty walking. His feet curl up so that he

actually walks on the tops of his toes, not the tips, the tops.

Jeremiah is scheduled to see the orthopedic doctors at FOCOS Hospital on July 3rd (while Debbie and I are in Ghana). We are so thankful God has chosen to provide doctors who can help this little one and look forward to seeing him walk normally very soon—Please pray with us to that end.



**Please Feel Free to Share this Newsletter
with Anyone You Believe May Be Interested!**

Starfish #2: Charity



Charity is the second of the starfish God seems poised to help. As you can see (and as many of you know by now) Charity was born with only one leg. But that is not the condition that is scheduled to be treated in July.

Charity has a severe umbilical hernia that is causing her a considerable amount of distress and, according to the doctors at Korle Bu Teaching Hospital, surgery is required. She has an appointment scheduled for July 7.



We are praying for Charity since hospital stays can be traumatic for any child under the best of circumstances (which these are not). Please pray with us not only for her healing but also for the tender mercies of our Lord to make her hospital experience as easy as possible.

Starfish #3: Hannah



Our third highlighted starfish is Hannah. This precious, though spirited little one was born legally blind (though she does seem to be able to see some light and shadows)

Hannah's visual impairment has made it impossible for her to attend school in our community. But the Lord has provided a residential school within a 20-30 minute drive from HOME that Hannah can attend. Akropong School for the Blind has accepted Hannah for the fall term.

It is a boarding school that provides scholastic education and practical,



day-to-day skills training designed to help children like Hannah learn to function independently. Please be praying for her and for the Dekus as she moves away from HOME. Fortunately the school is close enough for some weekend and holiday visits back home to HOME.

Running For HOMe-Starfish Rescuing

As much as we love to highlight our starfish, it is not the starfish to whom God promises his presence. It is the Starfish Rescuers.

It is people like the Dekus who invest their lives into the lives of these children. And it is people like you who also invest your resources in the lives of these children.

One such group of people we are thanking the Lord for are those involved in Running For HOMe. Trey, Ellery, Jonathon, Aaliyah, Megan, Nicole, Sasha, Emma, Audrey, Ryleigh, Nate, and Emily are running in the **Bank of America** half marathon

in Chicago on June 1st. Their goal is to run 13 miles for our 13 children with a goal of raising at least \$13,000 for WAMM!

We thank the Lord for these 12 runners who are putting forth the effort to raise funds and the effort to run.

We also thank the Lord for many of you who have supported this ministry throughout the years. It is only "Starfish Rescuers" like all of you, people who make surgeries for children like Jeremiah and Charity and schooling for children like Hannah possible. We thank the Lord for moving your hearts to help and we



thank you for being sensitive to that leading and responsive to that prompting. We can't help them all, but thanks to you, we can help some.



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The Mission of Our Mission

Glorifying God by Loving Jesus through Mercy Ministry is the mission of West African Mercy Ministries. Glorifying God should be every believer's mission. The Bible tells us that everything we do should be done for this purpose (1 Corinthians 10:31). And God told Moses that his glory would be seen as his mercy was displayed (Exodus 33:19). That is why "Glorifying God" is an essential part of our mission.

The Bible also tells us that when we show mercy to the marginalized of society we are showing love to Jesus (Matthew 25:40). In some supernatural way, our acts of love demonstrated to the "least of these" are actually acts of love being experienced by Jesus. That is why we have included "Loving Jesus" as part of our mission.

"Mercy Ministry", then, is the practical way we accomplish our goals of "Glorifying God" and "Loving Jesus". It is what brings these two theoretical desires into the realm of practical reality. We really can glorify God and we really can love Jesus by extending mercy to the orphaned and oppressed in Ghana. And you can too!

Support Opportunities

If you would like to . . .

- ☐ Sponsor a Baby Bed at HOME (see <https://youtu.be/ZpHik3mG0CI>).
- ☐ Help Support the McIntyre's—insuring their continued involvement in WAMM
- ☐ Help Support the Dekus—our Ghanaian Missionary Partners
- ☐ Partner with WAMM in planting mercy-ministering churches in Ghana

With a . . .

- ☐ One-Time Gift of \$ _____
- ☐ Monthly Gift of \$ _____
- ☐ Annual Gift of \$ _____

Please fill out this form and mail it with your name and address to

West African Mercy Ministries, P.O. Box 2028, Waukesha, WI 53187 or to Brian@WAMMGhana.com

Or Check out our PayPal option on the Website: WestAfricanMercy.org