

**Elmer & Joann Reifel**



**INTERNATIONAL  
MESSENGERS**

**...equipping for service the servants of God  
and ministering His love to all...**



**APRIL 2025**

Dear Friends,

It seems like it should be a lot longer than one month since we wrote about the work we finished in Bumpe, but I think that is because *so much was crammed into April!*

I still think that it is interesting that the finishing of our work in Bumpe coincided with Passover, and Easter coincided with the completion of two more wells. One was actually not a new well, but one that had been done by a Muslim group years ago which was no longer working.

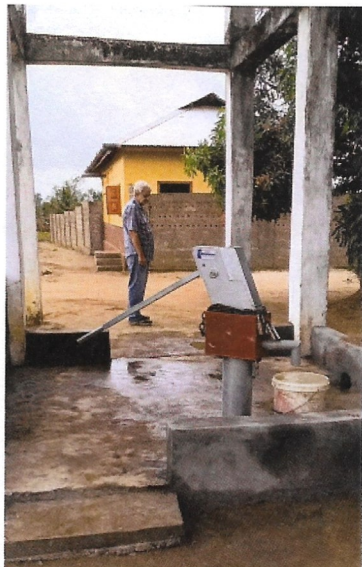
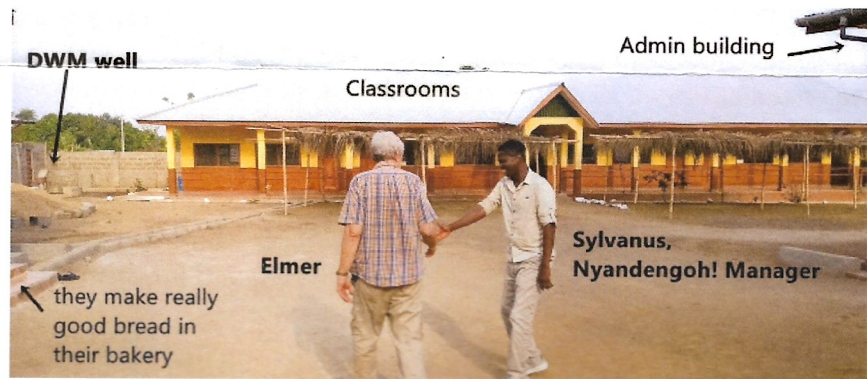
Some will remember that we put a well in for Nyandengoh! In 2023. Nyandengoh! Is a school for children with special needs in the Jong River area near Matru. This ministry was begun by Helene Yoder. Nyandengoh! has moved to their new site and the well is part of their compound now, so Helene petitioned the Paramount Chief and other elders to refurbish the old solar well that was no longer able to pump since the solar panels and pump had been stolen.

Since this well needed a new pump and a new cement surround placed under the tank stand, this was a little different to our usual work. We began work on this well as soon as we finished with Bumpe. We demarcated the surround after dismantling the old cement cover,

decided where to send the runoff water to and assigned jobs. Once that was poured it needed to cure for a while, so the men moved across the river to the village Ngama, where three year old Rebecca lives with Grandma as her primary caretaker.

#### **What the men had to do:**

- Cap off old pvc pipe housing for wiring that is no longer there (because it was stolen)
- Dismantle original cement around original well pipe and protect well pipe integrity
- Frame in cement foundation and runoff gutter channel dig suck-away across the small road
- Rope off the work area to prevent accidents (rope was stolen that night)
- Frame in suck-away and make sure







the angle of the pipe is right to send overflow into suck-away

- Cover the concrete to cure (and water occasionally so it didn't dry too fast)
- Build walls around the cement floor and pour cement in place to hold the drainage pipe
- Plaster the suck-away sides and fill with stones
- Use a plastic and sand form to help pour a (very heavy) cement cap that would make a perfect lid...
- ...take it apart (using pry bars, jacks and a few strong men), pull the form out and put the lid back on
- install **120 feet** of pipe!



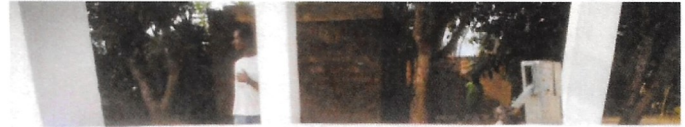
## #45 Rebecca's Well:

To get to Ngama we needed to cross the Jong River in a ferry that has been operating since colonial days, by use of a heavy cable and men who draw the ferry along it via club-like grips. This was my first time and it's definitely a bit more challenging than the Bumpe ferry as far as getting on and off. *We will post a video of the ride over on our Facebook page if we can.*

**Nyandengoh!** Is involved in Rebecca's care. She has Down's Syndrome and her mom left her with Grandma. There is a stigma in this culture, against children with disabilities, and for this reason Nyandengoh! has a very special role here.

Rebecca's Well will be the primary well in this community. The old well was deepened, treated and the cylinder was rebuilt so everyone could have water while the new well was dug, but most of the efforts were spent on Rebecca's well, which is sponsored by a Chinese Christian church in the US!

Thankfully this well was quite simple in comparison to Bumpe (thank you for praying or that!). The well does not recharge quickly so the pump will be left open throughout the day to allow people to draw water as they need it, rather than creating a high demand either in the morning or evening, as many communities often do.



Repaired with support from  
Nyandengoh!  
and  
Deep Well Ministries  
March 2025





Elmer and I have been non stop working with the teams on these and other projects so we are ready for a break. We took Easter Monday, a national holiday here, to not do much other than help the men get what they needed to repair the community well at Pastor Yambusu's place, here in Bo.

We are in Freetown now, to renew our work permits, meet with Rev Kanu and take a few days off, maybe even hit the beach! The rains seem to be starting early and our well drilling is winding down because of that and because well funds are low. We have one more well we are talking about doing locally because we know the water table, and it is a privately owned community site here in Bo. We will focus on completing the Daru Solar tower next.



**One thing that has become apparent is that our well fund is drying up after all this work.** Wells like the one in Bumpe eat up the funds (literally, the men work hard and eat well and we had to hire extra labor due to some equipment getting stuck in the hole). We are making a special appeal in this letter for donations to sustain this ministry. Would you *prayerfully consider making a contribution towards our well ministry?*

**THANK YOU to those who have been very generous and faithfully supporting DWM through the years. The actual number of wells that we have drilled is 45 as of this month!** (We were not able to do wells during the year and a half that Ebola was present, nor during Covid.) *Maybe we should do something special for number fifty. I have NO idea what, but keep this in mind!* We still need to send Tommy and Fredica out to do MWASH training in place like Ngama. MWASH education amplifies the health benefits to the community when the training is implemented after a new well is drilled.

**Thank you so much for praying for the ministry our glorious Lord Jesus (James 2) has brought us into.** If you are not able to support our ministry financially, PLEASE do pray for it: the salvation of the men on our team; the growth of those who already believe; their positive influence in the communities where they work and for their interactions with each other for the ministry of the Jesus Film and an evangelist to come to pass for the funding we need to continue to provide clean water. We would appreciate continued prayers for Joann's family, who are going through a stressful time right now,

**Serving West Africa together with you for the Gospel,**



*Elmer & Joann*

SURELY GOD IS MY SALVATION; I WILL TRUST AND NOT BE AFRAID. THE LORD, THE LORD, IS MY STRENGTH AND MY SONG; HE HAS BECOME MY SALVATION; WITH JOY YOU WILL DRAW WATER FROM THE WELLS OF SALVATION.

ISAIAH 12:2-3

CONTACT US ANYWHERE USING EJREIFEL@GMAIL.COM

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