



# Operating for Christ

WINTER 2014  
VOL. XII  
ISSUE I

## Thanks to our Donors!

Due to the generosity of numerous donors and volunteers, the Faile Foundation provided nearly \$100,000 of support to Baptist Medical Centre (BMC) in 2013. This funded 2 long term physician volunteers, \$1000 scholarships for 12 medical students and residents, a volunteer coordinator, support for a Ghanaian medical student committed to BMC for 4 years, food for the Nutrition Center, fuel for the hospital generator and public health vehicles, and equipment support by a US engineer.

## INMED Conference and BMC Reunion

At the [INMED conference](http://www.inmed.us/events/exploring-medical-missions-conference) May 29-31 in Kansas City, MO (www.inmed.us/events/exploring-medical-missions-conference) past BMC staff and volunteers (BMC alumni) will receive a 15% conference registration discount and can attend a planned social event.

Please join us in celebrating your service and the partnership between us and INMED!

## Welcome to Faile-Supported Missionaries

Lynn Coppola is an OB/Gyn and now Medical Director at BMC and her husband Mark is a pastor caring for their daughters and doing local evangelism. They started a long term assignment in July 2013 and have been hard at work since!

Peter Faile is the son of George and Elisabeth Faile (22+ years of service at BMC). He and his wife Erin will work as volunteer coordinators which involves managing the volunteer schedule as well as

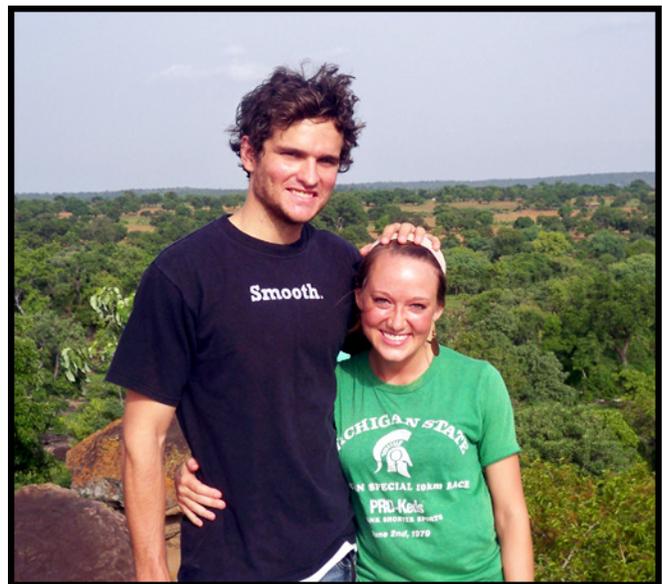
overseeing volunteer transportation, housing, meal preparation, and vehicle maintenance. They provide a much needed service to the 80+ number of volunteers per year and provide the Faile Foundation with an ongoing person to person liaison with the staff at BMC.

Way to go Peter and Erin!

Please pray for them as they serve in these demanding roles.



Mark and Lynn Coppola and Family



Peter and Erin Faile

## Staff Spotlight

Bart and Jane Anne Gibbs are career missionaries with the International Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention who have served in Northern Ghana since 2011. They live at the BMC compound and provided us with some of the history and personal stories of the spiritual and evangelical work related to BMC:

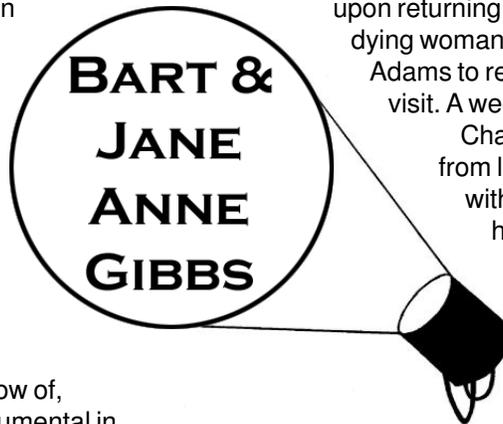
The Nalerigu Baptist Association is presently made up of 54 village churches, spread over a wide area from west of Walewale, a couple of villages east of Sakogu and as far south as Gbintiri and Tooni. The neighboring Nakpanduri Baptist Association reports 23 churches. All of this work grew out of the witness of the BMC over the years.

There are six other village preaching points right now that I know of, one of which the Corams were instrumental in starting at the TB village, or Alafia Tinga.

From the hospital chapel meetings (9:30 AM every clinic day), I offer the following conservative estimates:

At least 9000 people were within earshot of a gospel presentation during the past year. From among these, some 2,250 made affirmative responses to invitation to faith and/or to request prayer. From what I have observed over nearly three years, you could infer similar numbers from year to year over (at least) the past five years.

When I went to the chaplains for stories of those rescued from "deep spiritual darkness," they began by affirming that examples of those who have responded to gospel presentations given to dying patients are beyond counting. On top of that, Rev Adams Atanga shared of a time when a certain woman was diagnosed with a terminal illness by Dr. Hewitt. He asked Adams to come with him to see her in the isolation ward and share the Good News with her. But when they went, the patient was unconscious. So they spoke with the caregiver who was there, along with eight other patients and family members there in the ward. They all received Christ during that meeting, and it was later reported by area pastors that many of these joined their village churches



upon returning home from the hospital. And the dying woman also prayed with Dr. Hewitt and Rev Adams to receive Christ, herself, during a later visit. A week after that she passed away.

Chaplain Victoria shared of a patient from last week who has been diagnosed with terminal cancer and subsequently had one leg amputated. He was from a Muslim background, but he had grown tired and weakened by the Muslim facts he was forced to observe. So Chaplain Vicky shared with him the story of Lazarus and the Rich Man from the Bible as his Muslim brother

sat beside them listening. She concluded by asking the man, "Do you wanted to go to heaven or to hell?" The man himself laughed and said he wanted to go to heaven...who doesn't? But the brother was more resistant as they talked. Victoria said that salvation "was only available by following Jesus Christ, who is the way, the truth, and the life. No one can come to the Father but through following him."

The man asked to be saved right there, and so she prayed and led him through the sinner's prayer. She noticed that the brother was listening with growing interest as they prayed, too, but he made no decision. The man with the terminal cancer and amputated leg now claims to be a Christian, but he says because of his leg he cannot get away from Muslims when they also come to pray for him. He has been discharged from the hospital for now.

We have also had a couple of occasions of unbelieving or doubting volunteer doctors who have come to faith in Christ due to a combination of the witness of other doctors and missionaries here and the whole experience of working here at the BMC.

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## Keenan Wilson and Samaritan's Purse

We are thankful to report that Keenan, a past long term BMC physician volunteer, who suffered a stroke in 2012 is back in action serving in an administrative and recruiting position with World Medical Missions, part of [Samaritan's Purse](http://www.samaritanspurse.org/what-we-do/world-medical-mission-2/) (www.samaritanspurse.org/what-we-do/world-medical-mission-2/). We are also thankful to Samaritan's Purse for providing a planned 2 year commitment from a family physician couple beginning later this year.



## Thanks!

Lisa Mohrman finished a year of service to BMC as a post graduate Surgery Fellow. In a partnership between the Faile Foundation and [INMED](http://www.inmed.us) (www.inmed.us). Lisa received funding and academic support for one of the most challenging years of her life. She provided much needed care to thousands of Ghanaians-an invaluable asset! Thanks again and we pray for your continued success.



## Special Prayer Needs

First, the Ghanaian government recently changed guidelines for long term residency visa status affecting those planning to serve at BMC for more than 3 months. While BMC and other mission agencies may be granted exemptions to new rules, there may be the burden of having to leave Ghana then re-enter with a new visa-likely a 2 day or longer process. This is time consuming, expensive, and a major inconvenience to those affected. Please pray that this bureaucratic problem be solved quickly and not hinder those working in the service of God.

Second, the Ghana Baptist Convention will be given total control of BMC and related compound this year. Pray for a smooth transition and continued success of the hospital. Also pray that potential housing issues will be resolved and the continued presence of long and short term volunteers be assured. BMC could not function at its current level without their service.

## Warehouse Space

Thanks to Jim Givens of Auctions United in Rome, GA for providing temporary warehouse space-we're planning a container shipment in about 3 months including large equipment items.

## Chicken Payment

The Board Members of the Faile Foundation not only volunteer their time at home for meetings and administrative work but also serve in a "hands on" capacity by working at BMC.

Both Dr. George Faile and Dr. Cindy Shumpert did this in the past year and Cindy reports a story that reflects much of what we do and the gratitude we receive.

In January, 2014 a man brought his 8 year old daughter to BMC after a severe head injury from a fall out of a tree while trying to pick fruit (an all too often scenario). It was clear that neurosurgical care was needed and arrangements were made to transfer the child to Tamale—about 2 to 3 hours away. The father had little money as he had suffered a debilitating foot injury himself years earlier. This limited his ability to work as most jobs in N. Ghana require physical labor. Volunteers collected money and paid for the transfer.

The girl received good care in Tamale but unfortunately died. The father could have been bitter, angry, and resentful. Instead he repaid those who had helped as best he could—with a fine chicken and 4 yams (our version of big potatoes). It may not seem like much, but it was the best he had (see 2 Corinthians 9: 7-15). This man was and is a Christian proclaiming God's Glory despite his daughter's tragic death.



**Dr. Cindy Shumpert & Dr. Christian Heesch, a recent and frequent volunteer**

**How You Can Help!**

**Pray for our efforts.**

**Contact us if you would like to volunteer for medical, electrical, or plumbing assistance.**

**Donate financially.**

**Support the Nutrition Center!**

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**AMOUNT OF DONATION: \$** \_\_\_\_\_

Please note that you can also donate online via PayPal at [www.failefoundation.org](http://www.failefoundation.org)!

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**EMAIL ME THE NEWSLETTER!**  
 DOING SO WILL HELP US DEFRAY THE COST OF PRINTING AND MAILING, ALLOWING US TO SPEND MORE MONEY HELPING THOSE FOR WHICH THIS FOUNDATION WAS CREATED.

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