



## *EthioFaith USA: Developing Christian Special Education for Ethiopia*

### NEWSLETTER: Summer, 2023

*EthioFaith USA; 3500 Eastview Dr. NE; Grand Rapids, MI 49525*

#### **It's Not Just About School**

We're wrapping up another school year, the first in our new location. We're finishing with nine students. In previous newsletters you've learned about one of these families and the stigma attached to having a special needs child. It's no coincidence, then, that most of our families are families with great needs.

During Orthodox Easter a few weeks back, some friends of the school pooled some of their funds and gave each family a gift of money. The pictures show this act of kindness and their gratitude.



If you dig deep, you realize that this small act of kindness is symbolic. Easter—God's gift of his Son to us! The majority of these families are Muslim, so it is no small thing to share God's gift to them in this way. Whether day by day in the school setting, or in these small but significant acts of giving, Christ's light shines even with these families who do not yet know him.

#### **What it Takes**

Faith School runs totally by supporters like you. And given the differential between the US dollar and the Ethiopian context, we can achieve much with an annual budget of \$21,000 US. This modest amount allows us to have 4 full time people on staff, provide lunches to the children, pay for our facility lease, provide internet connections, and pay governmental fees. 92% of what we raise goes straight to Ethiopia; the remainder covers expenses in the U.S. (web page, on-line giving fees, government fees, etc.). It's almost sad to consider that such a modest amount covers all of those expenses in a local economy that is beset by spiraling inflation.

Each year, through your generosity and God's grace, we receive approximately 21,000 in gifts! In this way all of our needs are met. This year, approximately half way through the calendar year, we have received about 12% of the annual need—which isn't the 50% which you might respect half way through the year. While we don't doubt God's continuing provision, our financial situation half-way through the year is the lowest it has been. We pray that your giving will continue.

In addition to funds, it takes wise leadership to ensure Faith School thrives. The U.S. board is small but effective. It includes the following faithful individuals:

Board Chair: Bob Ippel, Executive Director of Rehoboth Chr. School, New Mexico.

Board Treasure: Rick Hamilton, Retired Hospital Systems and Trinity Chr. College professor, Grandville, MI.

Board Secretary: Linda Kamps, Friend of Ethiopian ministries, Grand Rapids, MI.

Board Member: Vinnie Adams, special education teacher and advocate (Resonate Global Mission), Managua, Nicaragua.

Board Member: Berhanu Wmariaum, Friend of Ethiopian ministries, Grand Rapids, MI.

Volunteers: Getenet Timmermans and Steve Timmermans, Grand Rapids, MI.

#### **Get Involved!**

**Our email: [ethiofaithusa@gmail.com](mailto:ethiofaithusa@gmail.com) Website:**

**[ethiofaith.org](http://ethiofaith.org)**

**Give on line at the website or mail to EthiofaithUSA;  
3500 Eastview Dr. NE, Grand Rapids, MI 49525. And  
pray!**