

PENTECOST SOCIAL SERVICES

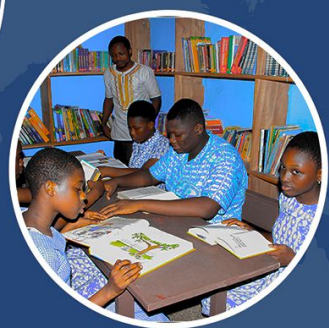
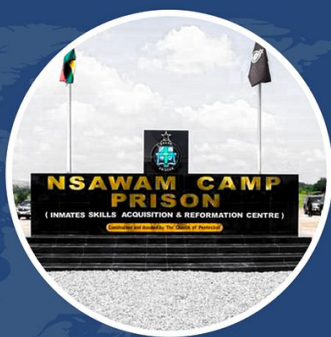
PENTSOS

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Newsletter

Meeting the needs of the needy



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PENTSOS In Perspective

The primary mandate of PENTSOS is to meaningfully contribute towards improving the socio-economic conditions and overall well-being of members of The Church of Pentecost [The COP] as well as other vulnerable and marginalized individuals or group of persons regardless of their race, ethnicity, religion or political affiliation – across nations.

With the right mix of approaches, interventions and technologies, PENTSOS works with both public and private partners in inspiring and delivering sustainable development at scale. PENTSOS work revolves around the following key areas:

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene, Security, Agriculture, Financial Inclusion, Livelihood Empowerment, Education, Health and Transport

Pentecost Social Services (PENTSOS), has organised a two-day leadership and financial management workshop for heads of its institutions.

The event, the first of its kind, was attended by 70 heads of the church's educational and health institutions from all over the country.

Addressing the participants at the opening of the programme at the Pentecost Convention Centre (PCC), Gomoa Fetteh, on Thursday, October 13, 2022, the Chairman of The Church of Pentecost, Apostle Eric Nyamekye, spoke on the topic: "Missions and Social Transformation" – Matthew 28:19-20; John 17:18.

Explaining why the church is involved in social transformation, the Chairman said that the church is sent out into the world as an agent of transformation. Apostle Nyamekye indicated that one way that the church is entering the world is through missions and social transformation, where the gospel is packaged and shown to the world in love.

"All these social interventions that we are doing is to package Christ to the people so that they can come to him and be saved," he said.

He added: "For us as a church, we have been sent on a mission to transform the world, hence building the prisons, schools, hospitals, police stations, and potable water." He called on the Heads to build the institutions to last and to spread.



In a presentation on the topic, "Integrity of a Leader," the General Secretary, Apostle Alexander Nana Yaw Kumi-Larbi, said that God has made Christians as the light and salt of the world to change the system and make it more godly. Reading various scriptures of the Bible with Proverbs 10:9; Psalm 78:72 as his main texts, he noted that what the world needs is men and women of impeccable integrity.

A Trustee of the church, Elder Emmanuel Anane Boate, in a presentation on "Being a Leader in a Christian Organisation," stated that the greatest problem of any organisation is lack of leadership since leadership has a great role in building institutions. He disclosed that those who qualify to lead Christian organisations should be committed and trustworthy Christians. Some of the topics treated were 'Workplace Professionalism and Delivery of Service in a Christian Institution' by Elder Prof. Tweneboah Koduah; 'Building the PENTSOS Ecosystem' by Elder Richard Amaning (PENTSOS Director); 'Strengthening Internal Controls' by Elder Firang Boakye (Audit Manager, Head Office); 'Discipline as a mark of Leader' by Apostle Lawrence Otu-Nyarko (FAD), and 'The Head as a Mediator' by Apostle Philip Osei Korsah (Director of Counselling Ministry). *Source: Pentecost news*



"We must build Institutions to Last and to Spread" - Apostle Eric Nyamekye

PENTSOS constructs a new 3-Unit Classroom block for Zongo Macheri Pentecost School

Through its School Infrastructure Development Project, the Pentecost Social Services (PENTSOS) has constructed a 3-Unit Classroom block for the Pentecost School Zongo Macheri in the Krachi-Nchumburu District of Ghana and the Kete-Krachi Area of the Church of Pentecost. The construction of the new classroom block received support from the Kete-Krachi Area and the Zongo Macheri District of the Church.

The Pentecost School, Zongo Macheri, was established in 1998 and currently has 283 pupils from KG to JHS. The School has had challenges in the past, and especially during the rainy season, it was difficult for teachers and students to have classes. The JHS was using an old, dilapidated pavilion structure as a classroom.

The new 3-Unit classroom block, which commenced in 2020, was constructed at the cost of GHS69,533.00 (The Headquarters through PENTSOS provided GHS50,000 funding for the project while the Kete Krachi Area and the Zongo Macheri District supported with GHS19,533). The new 3-Unit classroom block will improve access for children in the Zongo Macheri community and nearby villages and the 283 pupils in the School. The project will, among other things, also contribute to increased enrolment in the School.

The Area Head, Aps. Joseph Danzerl and assisted by the Chief of Zongo Macheri, Nana Kofi Agyagne II,



The Area Head, Aps. Joseph Danzerl and assisted by the Chief of Zongo Macheri, Nana Kofi Agyagne II, commissioned the newly constructed classroom block on 10th October 2022. At the commissioning ceremony were Ministers in the Kete Krachi Area of the Church.



Before (the Old JHS Classroom)



Now (Newly constructed 3-Unit Classroom Block)



"PENTSOS is dedicated to witnessing God's love for all persons by enlarging people's potential through social, economic, and cultural change and partnering with all stakeholders to bring about the desired transformation"



PENTSOS School Library Improvement Project Takes Off

PENTSOS is implementing the School Library Improvement Project (SLIP) with an overarching goal of enhancing reading habits among pupils in basic schools in deprived areas. The project is funded jointly by ICM Ghana and PENTSOS. ICM Ghana provides library books and accessories under its PEACE Centres initiative, while PENTSOS also provides library infrastructure and transportation to beneficiary institutions.

The SLIP project's implementation cut across six (6) selected schools in the Eastern and Central Regions of Ghana over 12 months. The project, among others, will also equip the students with knowledge of scriptures and build their leadership skills. The project will directly reach over 2,700 pupils in the selected and indirectly over 90 teaching staff in the participating schools.

ICM Ghana is a Christian Non-government organization that represents three organizations in the United States and represents by Rev. Philip Tutu in Ghana. The three organizations are Global Leadership Network, Purpose Driven Life, and Church and Walk Thru the Bible.

The Area head of Dunkwa, Apostle Jones Awuah Afrifa, on August 19, 2022, commissioned the first Library Project site at the Pentecost Preparatory School Dunkwa-on-Offin in the Central Region. The library will directly benefit 980 pupils in the Dunkwa School alone.

"A library is the delivery room for the birthplace of ideas, a place where history comes to life".
- Norman Cousins



School Libraries are Non-Negotiable

A school library is a library within a school where students, staff, and often, parents have access to various resources. The goal of a school library is to ensure that all members of the school community have equitable access to books and information. School libraries serve as "learner-oriented laboratories which support, extend, and individualize the school's curriculum and serve as the center and coordinating agency for all material used in the school.

According to Todd et al. (2012), the role of a vibrant school library system is economical and vital resource that equips students to become reflective learners capable of finding, assessing, and building knowledge from information found in a variety of formats. According to Krashen (2004), school libraries are the only source of reading materials for students in rural schools. Achterman (2008) highlighted the fact that there is a kind of relationship between effective school library services and students' achievement on test scores.

Effective libraries, therefore, support students to develop literacy skills and reading culture and offer opportunities for students to learn at an individual level of enquiry outside their given programme. As asserted by Small & Snyder, 2009, there is a strong positive correlation between a student performance and a student access to a library.

Clark (2010) contended that effective school libraries not only provide books but also serve as learning hubs with a broad range of print and electronic resources that support students' academic achievement.

Pentecost Senior High School, Kumasi, gets new water system



The Pentecost Senior High School (PENSEC), established in 2006, has had challenges with access to potable water supply all year round. Although the School is connected to the Ghana Water Company Ltd pipelines, accessing water during some periods was very challenging for the over 1,655 students in the School, and had to rely on other sources when the taps were not flowing to cook, flush the toilets and for hand washing.

The Hive, a not-for-profit organisation that aims to empower communities, responded to calls by the School by providing a limited mechanized system for the School. The new water facility was commissioned on 2022 by the Executives of the HIVE in Ashanti Region and the Management of the School



SDG 6: Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all.

PENTSOS School Farm Initiative Takes Off

The PENTSOS School Farm Initiative encourages Pentecost schools to create moderate-sized learning farms, producing various vegetables and cereals, using simple techniques so that teachers and students can easily manage the farm and apply learned climate smart agronomic farming techniques easily.



The School Farm Project seeks to deepen student's knowledge and increase hands-on learning by providing educational lessons to investigate where food comes from, how it is grown, and the value and joy of eating fresh foods. Therefore, students acquire authentic and positive experiences within the agricultural field. Moreover, school gardens provide an active learning context and serve as living classrooms or outdoor laboratories where students can apply academic subjects such as science, mathematics, languages, and even fine arts.

PENTSOS established the first "School Farm" at the Pentecost Preparatory School Madina. It is a half-plot mini irrigation farm located within the premises of the School and has various crops such as tomatoes, Cabbage, onions, and cucumber at the farm.



PENTSOS “Eat What We Grow in Ghana” Project Launched in Pentecost Schools

“Eat What We Grow in Ghana” dubbed “The Fruits and Vegetables Day” is an initiative by PENTSOS in collaboration with the Ghana Health Service and the Ghana Education Service with an overarching purpose of building knowledge levels among pupils in School on local Ghanaian Vegetables and Fruits and also to influence their taste and preference over foreign ones.

The initiative seeks to increase the consumption of Ghanaian Fruits and vegetables and also promote them among pupils thereby reducing the consumption of unhealthy drinks and other foreign drinks.

The national launch of the Fruits and Vegetable Day took place at the Pentecost Preparatory School, Madina. As part of the event, students were made to bring Fruits and vegetables from home. After presenting them, they were supported by their teachers to identify the foreign from the local and then also learn about their nutritional and health benefits. Through the continuous engagement, it is believed that the children taste and preference is change towards the locally cultivated Fruits.



Nkunim Foods Donates 32 Hives to Trained Youth in Beekeeping and Honey production

Nkunim Foods, a private sector partner to the PENTSOS Beekeeping and Honey Production Project, has distributed 32 Hives to selected beneficiaries who are making economic livelihoods from honey keeping as part of its monitoring activities in the Sawla Area.

In October 2020, PENTSOS partnered with Nkunim Foods to train 54 youth in the Sawla Area of the Church in Beekeeping and Honey production, jointly funded by both parties. In strengthening market linkages, Nkunim Foods acts as an off-taker for the honey when harvested and, as part of its support to the farmers, has provided additional hives to boost production. Pastor David Amankwa, the Area Head for Sawla, who led the distribution, thanked the Managing Director, Mr. Eric Antwi, for the generous support.

The Beekeeping enterprise is a project under the PENTSOS Livelihood programme titled “Enhancing Livelihoods of Youth for Sustainable Economic Development,” which aimed at building productive capacity and creating employment opportunities for unemployed youth in the church.



Celebration of the International Day of the Girl Child

The Women's Ministry in collaboration with PENTSOS has celebrated the International Day of the Girl Child which falls on October 11. The partnership is geared towards developing the girl child in Pentecost Schools in Ghana and in other Schools.

The partners (Women's Ministry and PENTSOS) believe that if girl-child is effectively supported, it can change the world – both as today's empowered girls and tomorrow's workers, mothers, entrepreneurs, mentors, household heads, and political leaders. They would also serve as a prepared generation to feed into the Ministry in the near future. The initiative is to contribute to bridging any potential generational gaps.

The Women's Ministry at the Area levels across the country visited schools to hold special programmes to commemorate the International Day of the Girl Child. The theme for this year's celebration of the International Day of the Girl Child by the Church of Pentecost Women's Ministry is "Our Time is Now". The desire is to use the opportunity to change the destinies of the girl child.



Celebration at Ho PPS



Celebration at Madina PPS

PPS Madina wins 10th Anniversary; Kathy Knowles Inter Schools Reading Competition Under the auspices of the Ghana Library Board at Accra Teacher Training College(JHS category)

Pentecost School-Madina wins Kathy Knowles Inter School Reading Competition 2022. The Kathy Knowles Inter School Reading Competition is an annual affair which started ten years ago under the auspices of the Ghana Library Board for children in basic schools aimed at encouraging reading among basic school children within La Nkwantanang and Ayawaso Municipalities.

Pentecost School Madina was privilege to join over fifty (50) schools at the preliminary stage and after series of battles qualified for the grand finally which took place at Accra College of Education involving 10 schools on 25th November, 2022.

Through dint of hard work, the Madina team emerged overall winner. The School was presented with a trophy, stationeries, champagne, and anniversary cake.



The Church of Pentecost Commissions Inmates Skills Acquisition and Reformation Centre at Nsawam

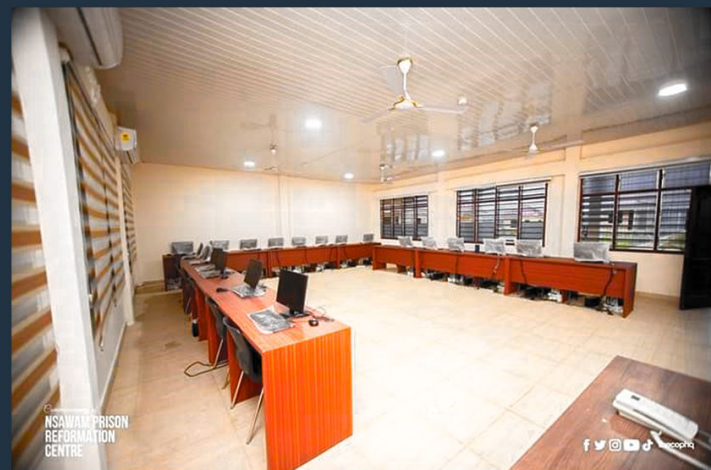
The Church of Pentecost has built an Inmates Skills Acquisition and Reformation Centre at Nsawam in the Eastern Region of Ghana as a move to reform prisoners to become useful and integrate them into society.

The 320 capacity fully-furnished facility, which was handed over to the Ghana Prisons Service at a ceremony at Ahodwo in the Nsawam-Adoagyire Municipality on Saturday, October 22, 2022, has four dormitories, an infirmary, a visitors lounge with a shop, a fully furnished administration block with auxiliary offices, an ICT lab with computers and accessories, a tailoring workshop, a carpentry workshop, a chapel fully furnished with musical instruments, baptistry, kitchen with a dining hall, soccer pitch, and volleyball pitch, CCTV Installations, and other facilities.

The Nsawam Prison Reformation Centre is the second to be built by the church, after constructing a similar one at Ejura in the Ashanti Region in May 2021. The construction of the all-male correctional centre began two years ago. The project was supervised by the Projects Development and Estate Department of The Church of Pentecost General Headquarters. Currently, two of such facilities are at various stages of completion at Damongo and Obuasi in the Savannah and Ashanti regions, respectively.

Commissioning the facility, the President of the Republic, His Excellency Nana Addo Dankwa Akufo-Addo, highly commended The Church of Pentecost and the Chairman of the Church, Apostle Eric Nyamekye, for his sterling leadership. "I can say with confidence that the commissioning of this prison facility is the high point of my working visit to the Eastern Region," he said. He added: "The Church of Pentecost is demonstrating exceptional leadership in its desire to develop this country through social intervention projects such as the reformation and congestion of the prisons."

In his address, the Chairman of The Church of Pentecost, Apostle Eric Nyamekye, said "as Christians, we believe we must not only lead and usher people to Heaven but also show interest in their livelihoods here on earth by making them useful to society. It is for this reason that together with the Ghana Prisons Service, this facility has been christened, "Inmates Skills Acquisition and Reformation Centre."

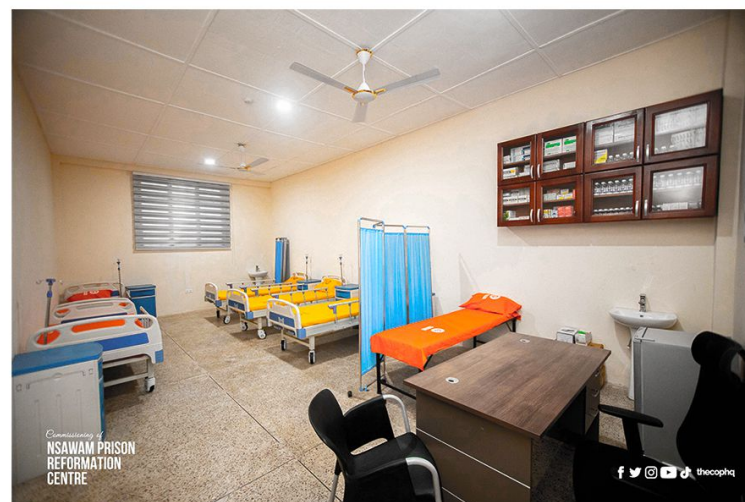
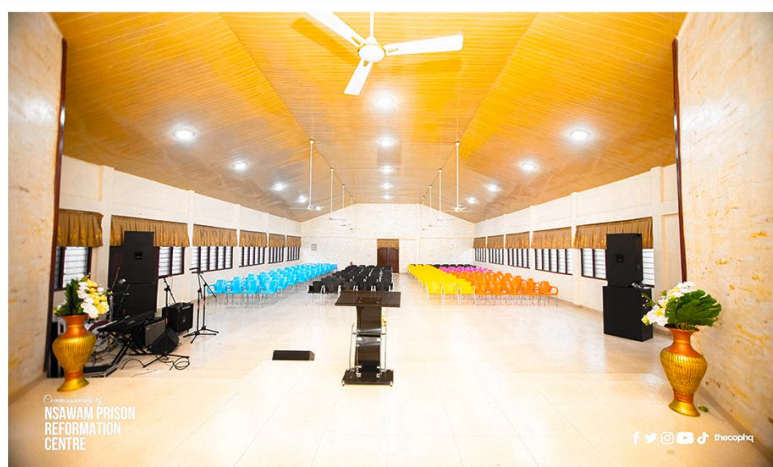
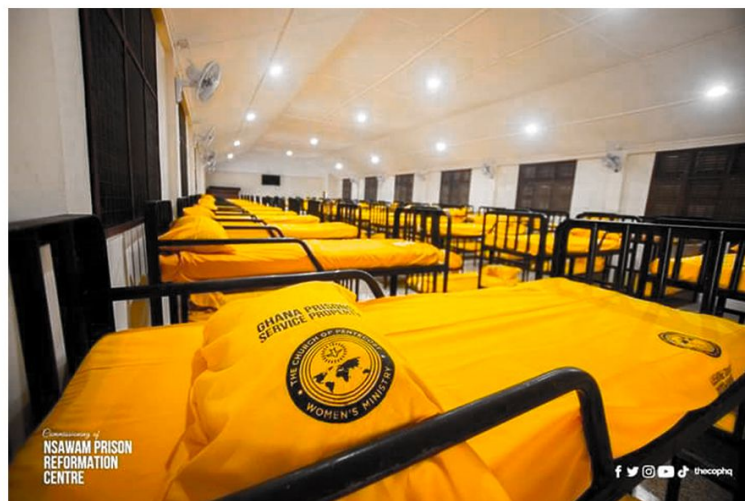


According to him, overcrowding is one key contributing factor to poor prison conditions in Ghana and other parts of the world, disclosing that, as of October 2022, there was a total of 14,957 inmates in Ghana's prisons, as against the maximum capacity of 9,850. He further disclosed that the Nsawam Medium Security Prisons which was built to hold a total of 850 prisoners, is currently holding 3,187 prisoners, representing over 275% above the required capacity.

"Being aware of this reality, The Church of Pentecost took the initiative to partner the Ghana Prisons Service to decongest Ghanaian prisons and provide better living conditions for prison inmates," Apostle Nyamekye stated. The Chairman of The Church of Pentecost further stated that the Prison Reformation Centre is a direct response to the Bible's admonishing in Hebrews 13:3 which states: "Continue to remember those in prison, as if you were together with them in prison, and those who are mistreated, as if you yourselves were suffering."

Apostle Nyamekye hinted that the Ejura Prison Camp project constructed last year by the church is already yielding some dividends. Currently, thirty-six (36) inmates, he noted, are being trained in different trades (Tailoring, Kente Weaving, Leatherworks, Carpentry, and Metalworks). "Moreover, forty (40) inmates have been enrolled on a non-formal or literacy education which began.

Source: Pentecost news



PENTSOS constructs a new mechanized water facility for the Poyentanga District

The Pentecost Social Services, as part of its Safe Community Water Project, commenced in 2019 with the overarching purpose of enhancing access to safe water supply in rural and deprived communities by providing 100 water supply facilities to serve approximately 150,000 beneficiaries by 2023.

As part of the efforts towards achieving this milestone, PENTSOS in 2022 alone is constructing 60 limited mechanized water systems at the cost of GHS2.3 million for Mission houses without access to potable drinking water and in deprived communities where women and children had to walk long distances in search of safe water for household chores.

On August 16, 2022, one of the newly constructed water systems was commissioned for the Poyentanga District Mission house and community by the Wa Area Head, Apostle Daniel Nii Tetteh Tackie, on behalf of PENTSOS. At the commissioning ceremony, the entire community could not hold back their joy in seeing the new water system. The community men, women, and children praised the Church for the timely intervention.

“This borehole project is a very positive initiative and a timely intervention to the water challenges faced by the Minister, his family and surrounding households. It has come to solve a major challenge in our ministry.” Ovr. Kwaku Kwantwi Asiedu, Poyentanga

At the end of December 2021, PENTSOS, with core funding from the Headquarters of the Church and some Church Areas, had constructed 124 water systems (Boreholes fitted with handpumps and limited mechanized water systems).

