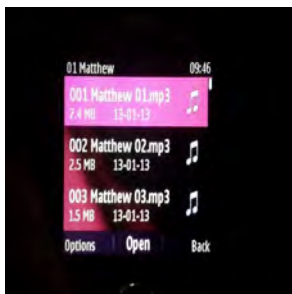




## November-December 2013

**How to really help people:** “When Helping Hurts: How to Alleviate Poverty Without Hurting the Poor .. And Yourself” by Steve Corbett and Brian Fikkert of the Chalmers Center, [www.chalmers.org](http://www.chalmers.org). This is an excellent resource on how to help poor people identify and mobilize their strengths so that they can work toward their own development. Even if people are poor materially they are not helpless, they know how to do things. Good intentions are not enough, rather than doing things for people we must help them do things themselves. This will be a major part of my work after I arrive in Ghana in Spring 2014.

Church planters Moses, Seidu, and Elijah go out each week to encourage the believers in the churches to grow stronger in their walks with the Lord, and there are regularly 50+ children coming to hear Pastor Seidu teach God’s story on Sundays in Kurawura Kura. The village church is still growing and reaching out to other villages to share God’s story. Moses Baba Saaka is working hard and learning much in Tamale, where he has been faithfully recording at GILLBT (Ghana Institute of Linguistics, Literacy and Bible Translation) story sets in three languages. Permaculture Training Center Manager Allosis continues developing the center, he and his wife are expecting a baby. Terry and Amy Ruff are visiting friends and supporters in the US until January. Bobby, Mandy Graham and their three children are acclimating to Ghana four months after their arrival. The Grahams eight-year old daughter Emma was baptized on December 13. The Graham’s house helper Gloria is delighted to receive a barrel so she can store water and not have to fetch water before each meal. Since Gloria is unable to read or write the Grahams also gave her a Proclaimer that speaks the Bible scriptures in her mother tongue. She was so happy to be able to hear the Scriptures that she never shut it off while she worked.



Sharing the Gospel in the Gonja language on a cell phone.



Carrying water home for cooking.



People boarding a bus in rural Ghana.



Selling bananas in a Ghanaian market.



Selling cloth in a Ghanaian market.



Making pottery in Ghana.

## Praise & Prayer:

- **Praise God** for the International Conference on Missions the Ruffs attended in Kansas City in November, and the Team Leaders Summit they attended in Louisville.
- **Praise God** Bobby and Mandy attended a week long Community Health Evangelism (CHE) training in Tamale in November and are preparing plans to begin work in Buipe and surrounding villages.
- **Pray** for our colleague Chris LaBoube and his work at GILLBT and his research into Internet radio as an additional oral tool for the Gospel.

**Serving God Where We Are While Supporting Those Who Serve God Elsewhere.** God created each of us to serve Him, the Great Commandment and the Great Commission, to love Him and our fellow people, despite obstacles. Our evangelism and servant efforts elsewhere are only a partnership extension of what each of us is called by God to do in our own community, where we are. Transformational development focuses on reconciliation of broken relationships with God, self, others and creation. Teaching transformational development in a community leads to community transformation. *The Christian faith motivates us to develop ourselves and our relationships and to help our neighbors to develop themselves. The Gospel of Jesus Christ has the supreme power to radically alter a person's worldview, and obeying it first involves changing the person. As people's worldview changes, they are no longer slaves to old ideas and habits and have hope that their situation can improve.*



### October 2013 Finances

Balance 10/1/2013	7,547.86
October receipts	1,713.00
October expenses	1,059.93
<b>Balance 10/30/2013</b>	<b>8,200.93</b>
Churches	673.00
Individuals	1,040.00
<b>Expenses Detail:</b>	
100 Salary	500.00
150 Housing allowance	500.00
650 Supplies in the US	59.93

### November 2013 Finances

Balance 11/1/2013	8,200.93
November receipts	1,498.00
November expenses	1,400.00
<b>Balance 11/30/2013</b>	<b>8,298.93</b>
Churches	673.00
Individuals	825.00
<b>Expenses Detail:</b>	
100 Salary	1,098.70
160 Utilities	50.00
700 Promotion	251.30

## From Team Expansion's

### President

Dear "Preferred Team Expansion Partner,"  
Seems like everybody has "preferred customer" cards these days. Airlines, gas stations, hotels, and even grocery store chains have learned the value of creating a "brand loyalty" program. The customer gets coupons and promotions related to his/her world, and the vendor or business gets valuable marketing information for custom advertising campaigns. Team Expansion doesn't sell groceries or gas, but we do appreciate our preferred partners (those who make our work possible). These are the churches and individuals who undergird the outreach of Team Expansion workers around the world. In your case, you receive a special report that includes news, prayer requests, and full financial disclosures -- every month. The field worker receives your prayers, your financial gifts, and your encouragement. So ... thanks to all our "preferred partners." That includes YOU!!!



Doug Lucas, President, Team Expansion  
[www.teamexpansion.org](http://www.teamexpansion.org)

## Thank You

Partnering with every successful ministry is a strong team of believers who are praying faithfully, investing financially, and supporting physically. Thank you for being my prayer and financial partners in advancing God's Kingdom in Africa. I couldn't do it without you, and feel privileged to be on the same team with you, honoring God by helping people improve their lives both spiritually and physically. It's your faithful support in prayer and financial gifts that allow me to use the gifts that God has given me to serve in Africa. Together, we can bring the good news to the people of Ghana. Your financial contribution is tax-deductible.

## Contact Us

Please send financial support to:

**Team Expansion**  
c/o Mike Squires  
38451 Fremont Blvd.

Fremont, CA 94536-6030

Make the checks out to Team Expansion. Include a separate note to indicate your interest in the ministry of Mike Squires.

Online donations to: <http://web.teamexpansion.org/#/give-online> Donors can set up a bill pay with their bank and then the check is mailed directly to the forwarding agent.

**Mike's Forwarding Agent:**  
Kevin Erber  
[kevin\\_erber@sbcglobal.net](mailto:kevin_erber@sbcglobal.net)

**Reach Mike:**  
510-331-9023  
[msquires@teamexpansion.org](mailto:msquires@teamexpansion.org)

**Skype:** mike\_squires **Facebook:**

<http://www.facebook.com/mike.squires.568>

**Blog:** [mikesquires.blogspot.com](http://mikesquires.blogspot.com)

**Twitter:** [@michaeljsquires](https://twitter.com/michaeljsquires)

**Video:**

Watch my YouTube video at  
([http://youtu.be/08s8-Uw\\_go0](http://youtu.be/08s8-Uw_go0)).

**LinkedIn:** [www.linkedin.com/in/mikesquires1](http://www.linkedin.com/in/mikesquires1)