

Westminster Presbyterian Church's
African Family Night

Saturday, November 5, 2016 5 to 8:30 pm

*Transforming the Lives of Children
in Ghana, Liberia & Sierra Leone*



Golub Corporation Guests

Neil Golub, Executive Chairman of the Board, Golub Corporation/Price Chopper Supermarkets

Jane Golub, Director In-Store Marketing Programs

Mona Golub, Vice President Public Relations & Consumer Services

Emcee: **Dr. Frank Essien**; Chair: **Dr. Gabriel K. Ofori-Okai**

Music: **Charles Norbi (NAKOMI Band)**; Authentic African food: **Mary Ofori-Okai**

Program highlights: World of Anti-Defamation League's World of Difference Institute,
Greetings from Elected Officials, Ghanaian Dancer Rebecca Korley,
Silent Art Auction, Westminster Initiatives in Africa and more . . .



WESTMINSTER
— Presbyterian Church —

85 Chestnut Street Albany, New York 12210
p.518.436.8544
email: office@wpcalbany.org
www.wpcalbany.org

Checks payable to: Westminster Church; "African Family Night". Give Online: <http://www.wpcalbany.org/give>

Before Dinner

Opening Activities (*activity slated to close at 6:30 pm)

*Consultants on Legal Issues

- Legal Aid NENY: Melody Harkness, Coordinator, Pro Bono Innovation Fund project; Marien Levy, Staff Attorney
- The Legal Project: Roman Vidal, Consultant

*Silent Art Auction: Daniel Mensah & Sion Hardy

*Sale of Greeting Cards: Art by 2 African Artists - \$10 / packet

50-50 Raffle (Closes 8:25 pm)

*Display of Captioned Photos from TEAM LIBERIA: Organized by John Kucij

Activities for Children: Led by Belinda Quaye.

Greetings from Elected Officials: Congressman Paul Tonko, State Senator Neil Breslin (invited), Assemblymember John McDonald. Unable to Attend: Assemblymember Patricia Fahy

Ghanaian Dancer: Rebecca Korley, accompanied by drummers George Kuubetesuri and David Marku

Pastor Jim Reisner: Opening Prayer; Introduction of Jane & Mona Golub

Keynote Speaker

Keynote Speaker: Neil Golub

Founder & Sustainer of Anti-Defamation League's World of Difference Institute in Capital Region of New York

Dinner Sponsors Comment on:

“Countering racism, cultural bias and prejudice in the Capital District”

- Willie White, Executive Director, AVillage, Inc.
- Rev. Jim Ketcham, Executive Director, FOCUS Churches of Albany,
- Rev. Shannan R. Vance-Ocampo, Transitional Presbyter, Albany Presbytery; Member, PCUSA Synod of the Northeast Working Group on Race

Buffet Dinner (first in line: children & parents; evening speakers; special guests)

Clearing of tables

After Dinner

Dancing for Dollars to Music of NAKOMI Band

Westminster Representatives Comment on “Our Initiatives in West Africa”

- **Reduction of Global Poverty by fostering “basic literacy as a gateway skill that empowers the poor to emerge from poverty”**
John Kucij, Supervisor, WPC Hope Mission School Project, Liberia
- **Support for sustainable agricultural programs that provide income and jobs for partners in West Africa: Agro-Forestry, Small Plot Vegetable Gardens, Apiculture, Snail Raising**
Overview: Dr. Gabriel Ofori-Okai, Committee on Ghana
- **PCUSA-Funded West Africa Initiative (WAI) of Liberia: Proposal for Snail Raising & Apiculture Contracts for Hope Mission School.** Presenter: Felicia Kollie-Gambles, Hope Mission Chair
- **PCUSA-Funded (WAI) of Sierra Leone: Report from Fatmata Hilton, Sierra Leone, Organizer**
- **Reforestation of Denuded Lands & Organic Farming Promoted by Asian Rural Institute (ARI), American Friends of the Asian Rural Institute (AFARI); Partnership of Episcopal Church in West Washington & Episcopal Diocese in Philippines.** Report by Lois Wilson

Recognition of 25 Dinner Sponsors and Sponsor Events

Sponsor Representatives: Stand and Wave

Brief Remarks by Sponsors Requesting Time to Speak:

- Kekeli, Inc.: Carrie Brown, Executive Director (based in Ghana)
- ANCD Announcement of Global Humanitarian Award: Chief Edwin Kaliku, PhD, Chair, Advisory Committee and Dr. Bassey Essien, President

Vote of Thanks and Closing Prayer

Rev. Shannan Vance-Ocampo, Transitional Presbyterian, Albany Presbytery

CO-SPONSORS’ SPECIAL EVENTS, DECEMBER 2016 - APRIL 1, 2017

Organization	Date, Time	More Information or Site
ANUANZEH Association of United Women of the Capital District	March 11 International Women’s Day	Pelagie F. Jackson, 518-229-1695, blesstdarion@yahoo.com, dramatherapist56@gmail.com
AVillage, Inc.	March 9 4th Annual Celebration of Progress	http://www.avillageworks.org/
FOCUS Churches of Albany	February 5, 10 am 50th Anniversary Celebration with worship	First Presbyterian Church of Albany, 362 State Street, Albany
FOCUS Churches of Albany	March 25 50th Anniversary Celebration Gala	See www.focuschurches.net for details
Ghana Association of the Capital District	March 4 Annual Independence Day Dinner	Ramada Plaza Hotel, 3 Watervliet Avenue Ext., Albany
The African Jubilee Association	December 18, 2016, 3 - 8 pm, Children’s Festival	Info: Innocent Ake 518-331-1656 akesika@aol.com
Westminster’s African Ministries	April 1 African Spring Dinner. Keynoter: Saran Kaba Jones, Founder & Executive Director, FACE Africa International	www.wpcalbany.org Reply to 518-436-8544 or office@wpcalbany.org

Supplemental Information

WORLD OF DIFFERENCE INSTITUTE

World of Difference Institute	http://newyork.adl.org/albany/ Contact: Beth C. Martinez Education Director, Albany Region, A WORLD OF DIFFERENCE® Institute Anti-Defamation League 184 Washington Avenue Ext, Albany 12203; Phone: 518-694-9986; bmartinez@adl.org
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FOSTERING BASIC LITERACY IN GHANA

HOCAP Missions, Ghana	Barbara Asempa, Executive Director, has transferred operation of school at Okushibri to Ghana Government of Ghana (after building completed with money raised by Westminster & others). New focus: school at Nyitawuta, Ghana
Scholarships for Disabled Students	For 2015-16 school year, 22 of the 25 students funded through the Westminster scholarship program administered by the Presbyterian Church of Ghana were students with disabilities

SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURAL PROGRAMS PROVIDING INCOME AND JOBS FOR PARTNERS

West Africa Initiative (WAI) of Liberia	Promotes agriculture, apiculture, snail raising, and the planting of multi-purpose tree species. http://www.pcusa.org/news/2012/4/13/presbyterian-church-us-ministries-effort-receives/ Westminster has bid for Hope Mission School projects.
WAI of Sierra Leone:	Both initiatives funded through PCUSA One Great Hour of Sharing
Asian Rural Institute (ARI) in Japan	Annually trains up to 30 rural leaders from Africa, Asia and Latin America for nine months in sustainable food production through organic agriculture, servant leadership, community organization & development. Does not promote chemical-based agricultural technology. www.ari-edu.org/en/about-us
American Friends of Asian Rural Institute (AFARI)	J.B. Hoover, Executive Director, 1121 N. 94th St. #A, Seattle WA 98103-3305; john.b.hoover@gmail.com. J. B. produced Power Point for 2016 Ghana Mission Network on partnership between the Episcopal Church in Western Washington and an Episcopal Diocese in the Philippines. https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B8NiHP-bT6_1VHlrcV9XeFh1UUE/view?usp=sharing In the Philippines over 20,000 trees have been planted in past several years to off-set climate change. Organic agro-forestry created more sustainable jobs and income than prior agriculture with chemical inputs.
ARI & PCUSA World Mission	Both promote growing of vegetables in small yard plots. Reasons: add more nutrients to family dinner tables and boost family incomes.
AFARI, 2016	Our partners have found that reforestation of denuded lands through agro-forestry decreases flash flooding, stops soil erosion and restores watersheds. It is providing sustainable livelihoods for local farmers without chemical inputs.
NY Times, Sun., Oct 30	Page 1 Headline: "Doubts About a Promised Bounty: Genetically Modified Crops Have Failed to Lift Yield and Ease Pesticide Use"