

Upcoming Events

- Nursery Available (Ages 0-5) - Parents > attendant will escort you
- Every Sunday - L.I.F.E. Groups @ 9-10AM - All Ages
- Sept. 25th (Thur) - "We Are Free" Golf Tournament @ Valleybrook
- Oct. 5th (Sun) - DEMO DAY! >> We need your help
 - Starting right after church
 - Heavy Lifting - Removal of pews & carpeting.
 - Lunch will be provided
 - If you have tools / gloves that will help, please bring them.
 - Ques? See Don Hickson
- Oct 9th - 11th (Thur-Sat) - Ladies Retreat, Wildwood, NJ
Ques? > Lisa Cotter
- OCT 14th - FBC Monthly Board Meeting @ 7PM
- 10% of ALL our Giving goes to Global Missions
Designated Offerings can be made to Local Outreach, Changemakers etc.
- Get CONNECTED with God, His Church & His People see - CONNECT Card
- Wednesdays @ 7:00PM Bible Study & Prayer
www.fairmeeting.net/fbcblackwood

— MISSIONARIES —



New York (Garifuna)

- Cherry & Terma Gamboa
- gamboacherry9@gmail.com

Persecuted Christian

- BENIN -

ABANDONED BY HUSBAND. SUPPORTED BY BODY OF CHRIST

Despite her suffering, a Christian woman is standing firm in her faith & discipling others as well. Lenna was raised as a Muslim in northern Benin. When she came to faith in Christ a few years ago, her Muslim husband abandoned her & her three children. Not long afterward, Lenna was in a motorcycle accident & lost her right h& & part of her arm. She then struggled to support herself & her children. After learning of her situation, VOM helped her start a small business selling basic food items. Lenna also uses her business for kingdom purposes. "She is full of joy & faith in Jesus," said a front-line worker. "In her work at the shop, she is consistently sharing the gospel with other women." Lenna is meeting with other persecuted women & discipling them in the Lord. The front-line worker added that VOM is currently working to provide Lenna with a prosthetic hand.

Benin is a small country bordering western Nigeria. It is the birthplace of voodoo, & Christianity is viewed by many in the north as a threat to their traditional beliefs. Every village & many homes in the north have a designated place for animal sacrifice (& sometimes human sacrifice). Voodoo is an official religion, & Voodoo Day is a public holiday. Witchcraft is deeply ingrained in the local culture & is openly practiced. Christianity is considered a foreign religion that steals a community's youth & prevents them from being properly initiated into the local tribes. Every village chief serves as both a political leader & a voodoo priest.

About 30% of the people in Benin are Christians. Nearly 40% practice ethnic religions, & another 30% are Muslims.

Believers are persecuted by their family & community. Persecution is prevalent in the north. New converts to Christianity are beaten & sometimes killed, while church buildings are routinely destroyed. Villages keep evangelists out & prevent construction of new churches. Bibles are available, but they are hard to find in rural areas. Give Bibles

PLEASE PRAY:

- That voodooists will find new life in Christ.
- That Christians who have been attacked by voodooists will be encouraged & stand firm in their faith.
- That churches & pastors will shine a light through the darkness in Benin & glorify God.
- For sisters Renee & Rebecca, & others who are persecuted by their families for following Christ.

WWW.PERSECUTED.COM/STORIES

