

DID YOU KNOW?

There's a quick and easy way to help Blessing the Children each time you make a purchase using PayPal:

1. Visit: <https://www.paypal.com/fundraiser/hub>
2. Search for & click on "Blessing the Children International"
3. Click "set as favorite charity" link

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Then, each time you make a purchase using PayPal, you can choose whether you would like to add \$1 for the BCI ministry. 100% of this donation will be received by the ministry, with no PayPal fees deducted.

You can also help BCI with your everyday Amazon purchases by typing "smile.amazon.com" in your browser before searching for and purchasing items. You will select Blessing the Children International as your organization one time, and a percent of all future purchases will be sent to BCI. Just be sure to use smile.amazon.com each time you make a purchase. This costs you nothing and provides the ministry with a little blessing each time you shop: a win-win!



Post Newsletter

VOLUME 21, ISSUE 3

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WWW.BLESSINGTHECHILDREN.ORG

INFO@BLESSINGTHECHILDREN.ORG

BLESSINGS ARE FLOWING

Clean, safe drinking water is on its way to the BCI Academy! It has been nearly four years since we expanded the school to include a second campus, and our newest campus has been in dire need of a water well throughout this time. The school is located in an area that suffers from chronic water shortages.

This infrastructure need reached fever pitch in 2020, when sanitation came to the forefront as a result of the pandemic. Our donor family rallied together to make it possible for us to take on this infrastructure project, even during the toughest of financial times.

The children loved taking part in our fundraising efforts by lacing up their sneakers and participating in the Wooha (water) Run. Local police blocked off the streets so they could run freely and complete their course. The mayor stopped by to recognize the efforts of the children and ministry in bringing this project to life.



Wooha Run participants line up



Water well drilling in progress

The well will provide consistent access to clean water for nearly 2,000 students, staff and teachers as well as local community members, with whom we intend to share this blessing. We're thrilled to report that drilling has begun on this project and the well is expected to be completed within a matter of weeks. Blessings are flowing even in difficult times. Praise God!

LITTLE AMANUAL NEEDS A SPONSOR

This sweet face belongs to 4-year-old Amanual Tatek. Amanual lives with his mother, Miser, and his older sister. His mother is ill with TB and her illness has weakened her over time, making it difficult for her to work and earn a living. Miser is currently employed as a waitress and earns 1,300 birr per month, which is equivalent to \$31 USD. This income is not sufficient to pay for school fees or anything beyond rent and a small amount of food for her children. Amanual's father is no longer living with the family and does not provide support for his children.

Amanual is young and doesn't know any other kind of life. He has a brilliant smile and is a very loving boy. As he grows, he will struggle more with hunger and lack of education and resources. Now is the ideal time to intervene to change his course for the better. Future suffering can be mitigated through child sponsorship, which will give him the resources he needs to thrive as he grows.

Can you help Amanual by sharing his story? It takes just one special person to help him escape a life of poverty.



Amanual with his mother, Miser

SPOTLIGHT ON HEALTH

Annual medical checkups are underway on the BCI Academy campus. Nurse Meseret is checking in with all of the children to assess their vitals, growth and development, and to look for any signs of illness or concern. We are blessed to have a qualified nurse on staff who can keep a close eye on the children and be available to address any health issues.



Nurse Meseret examining a child

Nurse Meseret has taken the initiative to start a Red Cross Club for students at the BCI Academy. They learn about health, wellness and first aid, and participate in a variety of outreaches. Most recently, the children organized and hosted a community-wide blood drive. This provided a wonderful opportunity for our children to give back and we appreciate Nurse Meseret's leadership.



Community blood drive

YEAR OF KINDNESS - BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS

In January, we introduced our "Year of Kindness" project. After the challenges of 2020, many of which continue to spill over into 2021, we are looking for small ways to add brightness and hope to the children's lives.

We offered an opportunity to surprise a family with a month of rent and it was a massive success. Check out our YouTube channel to see videos of their reactions: <http://www.youtube.com/BlessingtheChildrenIntl>

For the month of May, we are offering the opportunity to surprise a child with a birthday gift. Our children by and large do not receive any gifts or recognition for their special day and would be thrilled to receive a surprise. Recommended giving is \$25 USD per child.

To get involved, make a One-Time Gift through our website and indicate that your gift is for "May Kindness":
<https://www.blessingthechildren.org/donate.html>

Alternatively, mail a check with "May Kindness" in the memo, or give us a call at (888) 269-2719. Be sure to follow along on our social media, where we will post updates about this heartwarming project:

<http://www.facebook.com/BlessingtheChildrenIntl>
<http://www.instagram.com/BlessingtheChildrenIntl>



Selam and her mother receiving rent funds

IMMEDIATE NEEDS

Sponsorship of Amanual

Provide monthly sponsorship for 4-year-old Amanual Tatek to meet his needs and help him thrive.

Need: \$90/month
Raised: \$0
Remaining Need: \$90/month



May Food Support

Provide critical food support for families in crisis due to the effects of the pandemic.

Need: \$30/family
Raised: \$0
Remaining Need: \$1,200



Tablets for Education

Provide tablets to keep the children connected to education during the pandemic.

Need: \$180/tablet
Raised: \$7,200
Remaining Need: \$28,080



You can **make a donation** by phone at (888) 269-2719, by web at www.BlessingtheChildren.org or by mail to:
Blessing the Children, 2265 Fraser Road, Kawkawlin, MI 48631