

**every
faith**

can be put into action.

You are
Blessed!
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Faith in Action: A Newsletter of Pikes Peak Habitat for Humanity

May, 2020

Seeking to put God's love into action, Pikes Peak Habitat for Humanity brings people together to build homes, communities and hope.

Edited by: Dustin Alarid

The first-ever Thrivent Faith Build *Virtual* Ground Blessing!



Preparation for the 2020 Thrivent Faith Build Ground Blessing in Fountain, CO.



Partners in building better futures

Thrivent Faith Build Ground Blessings are more than just a symbolic breaking of ground. They mark the beginning of a life forever transformed for the better. This year's Ground Blessing will be the first of its kind and we invite you to join us--from wherever you are.

In a few short months, 2020 has forced all of us to test our resilience, to expand our creativity, and to count our blessings. In congregations throughout the world, worship services and times of fellowship have gone virtual--a necessary inconvenience that keeps us safe while allowing us to remain engaged in our communities of faith. Likewise, non-profits have also been forced to find ways to fulfill their missions through innovative means and outside-the-box thinking.

Habitat Ground Blessings are events that celebrate the beginning of a new life for a deserving family. They are the first step towards a lifetime of stability and self-reliance. And normally, Ground Blessings are a time for the community to gather together, to extend their hands in prayer, and to rally around our future homeowners.

As our nation slowly begins to open back up, health and safety remains our top priority. Although we cannot meet in person to bless the future home of Crystal and her family, our mission continues and the heart of our work remains. Therefore, we decided to "go virtual" with the 2020 Thrivent Faith Build Ground Blessing. We invite you, from wherever you are, to join us as we extend a blessing to Crystal and her future home.

On **Thursday, May 7th, at 3 pm**, we will be recognizing the National Day of Prayer by premiering the 2020 Thrivent Faith Build Ground Blessing. You can watch the virtual Ground Blessing on our [Facebook Page](#) and our [YouTube Channel](#). Not only can you join us by watching, but there are other ways you can participate as well:

- Leave a comment on the video for Crystal's family
- Share the video on your church's Facebook page
- Share the video on your own Facebook news feed for your friends to see
- Replay the video for your congregation during your Sunday service (the video will be approx. 4 minutes long)



Thrivent Faith Build Volunteer opportunities still available

Starting in June* and lasting through December, up to 10 members of your church can sign-up to spend a Saturday volunteering at our construction site. No experience is necessary and everyone 16 and older is welcome. It is a great opportunity for small groups to work together in fellowship, to learn some new skills, and to make a lasting impact by serving your neighbors in a meaningful way.

Contact us at volunteer@pikespeakhabitat.org to get the dates and to reserve a spot for your group. Don't delay--dates are limited and are in high demand.

*Subject to change depending upon the health and safety guidance provided by local, state, and national authorities. Check our website, www.pikespeakhabitat.org, for the most up to date information.

interfaith
build for unity 2020

Be part of a monumental movement of faith, unity, and hope.



On May 28th, we will be publicly announcing the launch of a monumental new project that has been years in the making and is more important now than ever. The inaugural *Interfaith Build for Unity* will be a project where we put aside our differences and stand together in unity to serve El Paso County. Despite our theological differences and political leanings, we all can agree that now, more than ever, *everyone* deserves a safe and decent place to live.

COMING SOON!

Tithing partners Côte d'Ivoire & Nepal adapt to a season of lockdowns



A Habitat homeowner working in front of her home in Côte d'Ivoire. Photo courtesy of HFHI .

We all know, far too well, the effects of lives being put on hold here in the United States. For many places around the world, especially in least developed countries, the COVID-19 pandemic could have even more devastating effects, potentially pushing people into extreme poverty. Please keep our tithing partners, Habitat Côte d'Ivoire and Habitat Nepal in your prayers.

Here is a message from Jean Jacques, the National Director of Habitat Côte d'Ivoire:

Dear Partner,

Early this year, the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic has thrust our communities, our countries, our cities, our governments, our different organizations throughout the world into unknown territory. First and foremost, our hearts go out to you [...] who's been significantly impacted by the virus, either directly or indirectly. Our Country, [sic] and HFH operation in Côte d'Ivoire has also been impacted. We are all safe in the grace of God. We are working from home and we miss all of you our supporters, beneficiaries, volunteers and partners. Our thoughts are especially with those who are impacted, or are facing difficult times during this pandemic. You are constantly in our thoughts and prayers.

We would like to let you know how much we miss you, we pray for you every single [sic], how much we care and worry about your affiliates, your families, your friends and colleagues in these times of health and economic turbulence. It is hard to find balance in the emotional turbulence. But in God we totally trust and even though we are distantly afar, we are spiritually connected.

May you find strength in God and may you and your family be protected. Receive all our encouragement and support. We are witnessing many acts of courage, compassion, and community that provide inspiration and underline the power of people. We can see all around a resolute desire to not only survive but to thrive. Let us continue to join the chorus of collaboration and celebration of the best of humanity in the face of adversity.

When this pandemic pass [sic], our collective character and future potential will be defined by the choices we made to protect the most vulnerable. Not how we protected industries. It will be strengthened by the lessons that we learn. Each and every one of us holds a piece of the better world we need, where compassion and cooperation are the keys to a safer fairer future. That's why we are sending out this letter to you because we know you have not only be [sic] special to our organization but you have always [sic] there when we needed you, when the communities needed you.

There is no way today we can go through these tough times without sending out our prayers to you, without showing you that in the midst of these storms, we care and we dare believe in a good and bright tomorrow. Let's pray together for all of us, our collaboration, our vulnerable people, and for a better future, where everyone can have a simple, decent, and safe place to call home.

Thank you for your continued partnership.

Blessings,

Jean Jacques YAO
National Director
Habitat for Humanity Cote d'Ivoire