

NAIC 4/5/2023

Attendance: Cheryl Massie, Nonny Egbuonu, Sheilla (church of LDS, Peterborough), John Rowntree, Charles Okorie, Allison Palm, Meta Vornehm, Michael Reinke, Cindy Owing, Carla Tolomeo, Kelly Turney, Jocelyn Sharp-Henning, Sarah Jane Knoy, Tom Woodward, Kim Hester, Joanne Perez, Matt Hodgkiss

UU Nashua will host May 3 meeting

Community question: Speak about a time when you had inadequate access to clean water or any water at all?

General meeting: Charles Okorie from the Thank You Project:

Mr. Okorie thanked the group for the opportunity to speak about the vision and mission of the Thank You Project to this group of faith communities.

Thank You Project is only possible with the work of the Thank You Project board.

They have graduated their first student, a young woman, in Mechanical Engineering. Their second student is in medical school. Now, they're undertaking water.

Nigeria has a population of 200 million.  $\frac{1}{3}$  of the population (over 70 million) do not have access to clean water. Last UN report says that 100K children die from contaminated water every year. They get water from dirty rivers and streams and do not purify it before drinking.

Mr. Okorie gave a detailed report of his journey to starting the Thank You Project, which is detailed in the uploaded handout saved alongside these minutes.

Today, the Thank You Project is about 3 areas: 1) provide water for the folks in his and his wife's village, which is increasing their life expectancy; 2) gift scholarships for kids; 3) build a community center/church in the area. Right now, completing the 6th water bore hole, and preparing for the 7th.

Water walk is September 16th, ALL are invited—everyone you know!

A well costs \$35,000 and is solar powered. They started with generators, but solar works. The scholarships for university cost \$2,000 per year.

More information [www.thankyouproject.org](http://www.thankyouproject.org).

Announcement: NH Council of Churches annual meeting May 6th from 9:30 to Noon at Wesley United Methodist Church in Concord, NH. Sharing more about the mission process the council has been in for the last year.

Mike Apfelberg: Youth Sleepout is coming up in May. Youth groups, ages 12-18 are invited. Sat May 6-May7. Registrations being accepted now for this dynamic, engaging program on homelessness.

Nonny: Let's Talk group has been ongoing via zoom on Thursday mornings at 9:00. She sent the following announcement directly after the meeting:

"At today's NAIC, I announced the continued effort in expanding community collaboration, using the already existing "Thur. @noon" Zoom 'Let's Talk' meetings. Every 1st and 3rd Thursday. This extended effort is upcoming between the United Way-facilitated Retirees Group of Nashua and MSUMC-Emmaus Institute collaborative endeavors.

It's an attempt to reach more retirees and the elderly members of the community, especially the home bound, using Zoom (audio/video).

Further announcements will be made as progress is made on this front. To ensure that all community members are aware of this opportunity to keep on talking/interacting with one another."