

# TRYING SMALL

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## Nothing Succeeds Like Success

Near as I can tell, most churches in Liberia are continuously planning and holding fundraising programs. The programs are always preceded by letters going out to neighboring churches inviting them to participate. Groups of churches often make pacts: Hey, let's all agree to support one another's program. I confess that I'm pretty tired of all the programs and don't really pay them much mind...until recently. One day this gone November, I had a Kairos moment when my church received an invitation to the Amazing Grace Community Church in Wolo Village. It wasn't just a program, it was a choir contest, which means participating churches are expected to send their choir to compete...the winning choir being the choir that brings in the most donations while singing. What made it a Kairos moment was that the invitation was placed in my hot little hands at the precise instant I had been pondering how we might infuse our youth choir with a little Holy Ghost fire.

You would have thought they had won the lottery! I met with the youth choir after church and told them I wanted them to represent Baysah Farm Lutheran at the Amazing Grace choir contest. I offered some seed

money to help with transportation and for them to start the ball rolling when it was their turn to sing. Their eyes lit up with excitement. Lydia, who is kneeling and wearing white in the photo, stepped up to fill the leadership void and for the next week they gathered and practiced every day. Three to four hours every day. Six choirs showed up at the Amazing Grace choir contest and Baysah Farm Lutheran was victorious! Oh Yeah! They were given a certificate and a lappa which they proudly presented to the congregation the following day. This photo is the choir in my front yard after church. I am very proud, not so much of their singing, but of their pulling together and stepping up to the plate and praising the Lord with a joy and enthusiasm that no one, least of all themselves, expected. God is indeed good.

