

Liberia Education Update

July 2020



12th grade students at John Lewis Morris UMS in Paynesville (the city next to Monrovia) wear masks in class.



John Kofi Asmah UMS in the West Point community of Monrovia open for class on Saturday, July 13, 2020.

Give to Advance Projects

Construction of New School Buildings
#3020670

Missionary Support #3021129

Operation Classroom # 3020494

Scholarships #15125B

State of Emergency Ended

Liberia's state of emergency ended on July 21, but the number of confirmed cases of COVID-19 continued to increase. During July, there were 406 new cases; 670 persons recovered from the virus, and there were 75 COVID-19 deaths. July ended with 411 active cases and the total number of confirmed cases reached 1,186. The Ministry of Health is still advising that we wear masks in public, observe social distancing, and wash hands frequently. I'm now used to wearing a mask whenever I'm away from home.

School Visits Continue

For the entire month of July, the 12th graders were back in school six days a week to complete the 2019/2020 academic year and to prepare for the West African Senior School Certificate Examination (WASSCE) which will be from August 17 to September 2. As the Associate Director for Supervision, I continued my visits to observe the students in class and meet with school staff.

The teachers' focus was on presenting and reviewing material for the WASSCE. At John Kofi Asmah United Methodist School (UMS), I sat through a literature class in which the teacher was explaining the plot of *Native Son* by Richard Wright. I also read this book when I was in high school but had my own copy and read it at my own pace at home. Students will be tested on his novel as part of the WASSCE but all students do not have a copy to read. The class discussions are interesting and informative but cannot entirely address the literary richness of the text. I would like every student to have access to a copy of the books that are used in class.

School Supply Launch

On July 15, I was back in the William V. S. Tubman High School library for the Ministry of Education and Partners' Joint Launch of TLM (Targeted Learning Materials) and Health Kits Distribution to schools in Liberia. The Global Education Fund provided funds for supplies for the 139 government high schools. The funding for the 568 private and faith-based high schools came from the World Bank. Representatives from partner agencies, including UNESCO, acknowledged the financial difficulties that schools and families are experiencing and the need for this support. Tubman High School 12th grade students attended the program and thanked the donors for the supplies. I was asked to give the opening prayer and Father P. Sumo-Varfee Molubah, acting coordinator for the Association of Christian Mission School Systems in Liberia, made closing remarks.



12th grade student of William V. S. Tubman High School thanks the Ministry of Education and partners for donated supplies at the Launch of the TML and Health Kits Distribution.

The distribution in ongoing and several United Methodist Schools have received supplies.

Holston Conference Container Arrives

Every July, the Liberia Annual Conference is blessed with a container of supplies shipped from the Holston Conference. This year, I was not expecting a container because I know that the United States is facing many extraordinary challenges, but on July 21, a 20-foot container from Holston Conference arrived at the port of Monrovia. The health kits, buckets of food items, cooking and baking supplies, school supplies, a 48-inch flat screen, garden tools, and more will be used in our schools, conference center, clinics, orphanages, the New Life Recovery Center, and our agriculture programs. Thank you so much to the Holston Conference for the time, coordination, and finances that went into gathering supplies, packing, and shipping this container.

Congratulations to Sanniquellie UMS Principal, Maxwell M. Gausi

I wrote about Sanniquellie UMS in my January 2020 update. The principal, Maxwell M. Gausi, is a graduate of Africa Bible College in Yekepa, Nimba County where he earned a Bachelor of Art degree in Mass Communication & Biblical Studies. In July, he was awarded a master's degree in Strategic Leadership from LeTourneau University, in Texas. We are grateful for Bro. Gausi's leadership as principal of Sanniquellie UMS and his commitment to nurturing students in the Christian faith.



Sorting supplies from the Holston Conference.

“Because of the Lord’s great love we are not consumed,
For his compassions never fail.
They are new every morning;
Great is your faithfulness.”
Lamentations 3:22-24(NKJV)

I am thankful for the spiritual and material blessings we are experiencing. I am thankful for God’s love. I am thankful for your prayers and support. Be well and safe in God’s Kingdom.

Helen Roberts-Evans

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Maxwell M. Gausi at Sanniquellie UMS.