

Liberia Education Update

April 2021



Harriette E. Bailey UMS principal, Rev. Dr. Charles Fiske, at senior high school building annex in September 2020.



Pastor Yang leading a Mind Education class at J. J. Roberts UMS on April 17, 2021.



Rev. Dr. Charles Fiske at senior high school annex of Harriette E. Bailey UMS on April 16, 2021.



Harriette E. Bailey UMS senior high school students singing in the Duarzoohn United Methodist Church building before the ribbon cutting for the annex on April 16, 2021.

Mind Education

"The fundamental objective of the United Methodist Elementary, Junior High and Senior High Schools is to provide Christian-based education for all students. It is prayerfully expected that those who benefit through this system of education will develop a deep sense of service and commitment to God and humankind as Christ teaches us to do." This is our objective, but concerns are being raised about the negative attitude and disrespectful behavior of some students in our United Methodist Schools. In response to these concerns, the Department of General Education & Ministry of the Liberia Annual Conference asked Pastor Jae Kyung Yang to meet with our principals about Mind Education. Mind Education is a program developed by Pastor Ock Soo Park, founder of the Good News Mission, to teach people to change their perspective and move from impulsive and self-righteous thoughts to self-control and positive relationships.

For eight Saturday mornings beginning on April 17, 2021, I met at the J. J. Roberts United Methodist School (UMS) with Pastor Yang, principals from 5 United Methodist schools and 4 staff from J. J. Roberts UMS to learn about Mind Education and how it can be used to transform the thinking and behavior of our students and ourselves.

Dedication of Senior High School Annex.

When I came to Liberia in 2008, Harriette E. Bailey UMS in Duarzoohn, Margibi County was an elementary school, but it has been growing and adding grades and classrooms. In September 2020, the principal, Rev. Dr. Charles Fiske (one of the Mind Education class participants) showed me the work that was started to



Students in class at the Samuel Ziah United Methodist Elementary School in Kpah's Town, April 27, 2021.



Samuel Ziah UMS staff. The principal, Abraham Moore is in front on right and the local school board chairperson, Eliiah Johnson is in front on left. April 27, 2021.



Kpah's Town, April 27, 2021. Teacher salary for the only school in this town is supported by Escanaba UMC in Michigan.

Thank you for supporting education in Liberia by giving to

Construction of New School Buildings #3020670

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build an annex for the senior high classes.

On April 16, 2021, I returned to Harriette E. Bailey UMS for the dedication of the annex.

The annex is being used, but there is more work to be done on the building. Before the ribbon cutting, we gathered in the Duarzoohn United Methodist Church. Students sang and danced and raised funds for the building.

Samuel Ziah United Methodist School

Our Global Missions Fellow, Lily Maijama'a, had never been to Rivercess County and I thought it would be nice for him to see more of Liberia before returning to Nigeria at the end of May. So, we traveled together to Samuel Ziah UMS in Kpah's Town Rivercess County. Lily joined me in meeting with the teachers and seeing the students in class. We walked around the town and down to the creek where the residents of Kpah's Town get water. Lily worked in agriculture and volunteered in a computer class at the J. J. Roberts UMS in Monrovia and this was an opportunity for him to see the contrast between urban and rural school settings in Liberia as well as the lush Liberian forest.



Global Missions Fellow, Lily Maijama'a on way to the creek in Kpah's Town, April 27, 2021.