

Liberia Education Update

April/May 2022



Cows walking through the unfenced campus of Zwedru UMS. April 22, 2022



I took this photo from the airplane, flying from Zwedru to Greenville on April 28, 2022.



Elementary and junior high school students in gold shirts and senior high school students in white shirts lined up for morning devotion at Zwedru UMS. April 28, 2022



Rev. Sam Kanwea teaching the students that the flame represents the Holy Spirit in the flame and cross symbol of the United Methodist Church. April 26, 2022

In my March update, I wrote that I was teaching high school Biology (and Chemistry to only tenth grade) at the Harrison Grigsby United Methodist School (UMS) in Greenville, Sinoe County until the beginning of April. Well, I'm still teaching and will continue until the end of the school year in August. This is giving me a chance to use what I learned in my graduate studies course on teaching students for whom English is a second language. I'm experiencing the difference between Liberian English and Standard English in a much more thoughtful way than ever before, and I'm asking God for patience while thanking God for this opportunity to share the love of Christ with the students. My class schedule has limited travel to other schools, but in April, I flew to Zwedru, Grand Gedeh County to spend a week with the Zwedru UMS to meet with the 22 scholarship students, discuss the fence project, and observe classroom teaching. Today is Pentecost Sunday. When I was in Zwedru, the principal, Rev. Sam Kanwea, was teaching his ninth grade Bible class about the Holy Spirit.



Students in the 11th grade classroom at Harrison Grigsby UMS. April 4, 2022



Coconuts offloaded from a canoe on Greenville's shore. May 28, 2022



Nana Kru District teachers sit to meet with Rev. Konton after the workshop. May 30, 2022



I went in this small canoe to a larger canoe that was waiting further out in the water for the trip from King William's Town to Greenville. May 31, 2022

Construction of New School Buildings #3020670
 Missionary Support #3021129
 Operation Classroom # 3020494
 Scholarships #15125B
<https://advance.umcmmission.org>



Nana Kru District Superintendent, Rev. Brownell Konton, waiting for this canoe to carry us from Greenville to King William's Town in Nana Kru District. May 28, 2022

I also made a trip in May by canoe to King William's Town in Sinoe County. The Nana Kru District Superintendent, Rev. Brownell Konton, invited me to have a workshop with teachers from churches in the Nana Kru District. The District Mother's Day program was on Sunday, May 29th, so members of all the churches in the Nana Kru District gathered at the Mary Allen United Methodist Church in King William's Town for the program and I was surprised by being honored as "Dedicated Mother of the Year".

Thirteen teachers from 4 churches stayed for the workshop on Monday, May 30th. The day went quickly with discussion, individual work, small group work, and group presentations on lesson planning. There were lots of questions and I promised the teachers that I will meet with them at their schools to continue our discussion and begin a new topic in teaching. After the workshop, the teachers and I met with Rev. Konton on how to work together to move the Nana Kru District forward in education. We need school buildings, but we also need trained teachers. We talked about having teachers leave their towns to go to United Methodist University on scholarship and return to Nana Kru District to teach. This school year there are no education students from Nana Kru District in our scholarship program. We hope there will be in the new school year.

It is rainy season and I'm avoiding travel on muddy roads. We were blessed with beautiful, sunny skies and calm winds for all my travels.

Thank you for supporting education in Liberia with your prayers, consultation, and financial gifts.

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