

Liberia Education Update

September 2023



Pastor Sam and Pastor Chris at Bishop Judith Craig Children's Village with Rev. Robert Sieh, Village Director.



Pastor Chris and Pastor Sam handing our backpacks at Bishop Judith Craig Children's Village. September 5, 2023



Deaconesses at communion service in chapel of the Central Office of the Liberia Annual Conference in Monrovia. September 6, 2023



Pastor Chris and Cecelia Jaiah gave a food bucket to each deaconess after chapel. September 6, 2023

Distribution of Gifts from Holston Conference

Every year, the Holston Conference (which has churches in Tennessee and Virginia) sends a container to Liberia loaded with school, personal hygiene, and medical supplies and buckets of food and cleaning supplies. This year the container arrived in Liberia at the end of July and on September 4, two pastors from the Holston Conference arrived to help with the distribution. Rev. Dr. Samuel Dzobo (Pastor Sam) is originally from Zimbabwe and now serves as an associate district superintendent for Holston Conference. Rev. Chris Brown (Pastor Chris) is the incoming Mission Chair for Holston Conference.

From September 5 through 8, we were on the go. We had lots of supplies to distribute to programs in and out of Monrovia. When Pastor Sam and Pastor Chris were leaving Liberia, we even stopped to deliver additional supplies for the Charles Britt Senior Citizen Home on the way to the airport.

On the morning of Tuesday, September 5, we began distribution with Pastor George Gboyee's children's ministry at the Abraham Wheh United Methodist Church (UMC) in the Red Light area of Paynesville (the city next to Monrovia). Red Light is a very congested and busy market area that was named for the traffic light that used to be there.



Children live in cottages with cottage mothers at the Bishop Judith Craig Children's Village. September 5, 2023



Tailor Ta United Methodist School students lined the road to welcome the Holston Conference pastors. Teachers, parents, and community members also came to meet us. September 7, 2023



Mother Rescue Daughter Home. September 7, 2023

We went on to Margibi County to the Bishop Judith Craig Children's Village. Pastor Sam and Pastor Chris toured the cottages where 58 children live and the Harriette E. Bailey United Methodist School that they attend. We left backpacks for each child and buckets of food to share at the cottages. Then we walked over to the Charles Britt Senior Citizen Home to talk and pray with the residents and give them hygiene kits. Next, still in Margibi County, we visited and prayed with the residents and director, Jefferson Knight, at the New Life Recovery Center, a rehabilitation program for drug addicted men.

The first Wednesday of each month deaconesses come to the Central Office of the Liberia Annual Conference (LAC) in Monrovia for a communion service in the chapel. So, on September 6, we went to chapel and then gave each deaconess a bucket of food before going to Louisiana (in Montserrado County) to meet with the residents at the St. Paul River District Women's Mother Rescue Daughter Home, a rehabilitation program for drug addicted women. It was my first time going to this part of Louisiana, so I was grateful for Cecelia Jaiyah from the St. Paul River District office who served as our guide. Pastor Sam spoke encouraging words to the women, and we listened to their stories and testimonies of recovery.

On Thursday, we drove to Bong County to take school supplies to our rural Tailor Ta United Methodist School. On the way, we stopped to visit and supply the Liberia Christian Youth Mission orphanage. Pastor Chris gave the sermon in chapel on Friday morning. His very clear message on identity as a Christian was played on the LAC radio station and interpreted in Simple Liberian English. Pastor Chris showed all the identity cards that he carries to show who he is in the world, but what identifies us as citizens of the Kingdom of Heaven? After chapel, we had medical supplies and theology books to distribute and then it was time to leave for the airport. My days with Pastor Sam and Pastor Chris were full- full with travel, fellowship, prayer, song, and laughter. Their visit reminded me of the importance of ministries in the LAC and the generosity of donors.



Pastor Sam and Pastor Chris talked to and sang and prayed with 138 students in the Tailor Ta United Methodist School in Bong County. September 7, 2023

Thank you for supporting education in Liberia by giving to

Construction of New School Buildings #3020670
 Missionary Support #3021129
 Operation Classroom # 3020494
 Scholarships #15125B

<https://advance.umcmmission.org>



Helen Roberts-Evans

Global Ministries Missionary
 Coordinator, Southeast Region

Department of General Education & Ministry
 Liberia Annual Conference/The United Methodist Church

hevans@umcmmission.org



Pastor Sam next to the LAC Health Department's truck loaded with supplies from Holston Conference for our clinics and hospital. September 8, 2023.