

Global Ministries Commission



Evangelical Congregational Church

2018 Liberia Trip

Rev. Rick Sergi

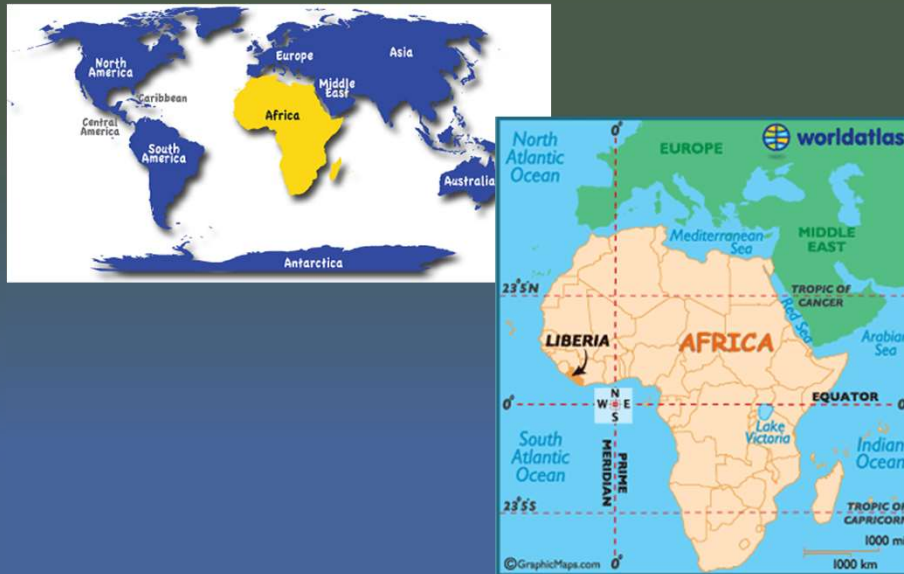
Emmanuel EC Church
Bethlehem, PA

www.emmanuel4me.com



About Liberia

About Liberia!



About Liberia!

- The current population of Liberia is approx. 4.8 million people
- The median age in Liberia is approx. 18 years. (US: ~38)
- Capital city: Monrovia
- Major religions include: Christianity, Islam, indigenous beliefs
- Richly endowed with water, mineral resources, forests, and a climate favorable to agriculture, but poor in human capital, infrastructure, and stability, Liberia has a fairly typical profile for Sub-Saharan African economies – the majority of the population is reliant on subsistence agriculture, while exports are dominated by raw commodities such as rubber and iron ore. Local manufacturing, such as it exists, is mainly foreign-owned.
- Liberia is emerging from a horrific civil war that lasted 14 years (1990-2003) and experienced turmoil from 1980 with the overthrow of the democratically-elected government. The impact of the war will remain a factor in Liberian recovery and development for years.

About Liberia!

- Insufficient access to education contributes to poverty and hunger in Liberia. Only 26.7 percent of children are enrolled in school.
- The World Bank estimates that 54 percent of the population of Liberia is living below the poverty line. This means they live on less than \$US 2 a day with approx. 18% living in extreme poverty.
- It further noted that poverty was higher in rural areas compared to urban, 70 percent versus 43 percent respectively. But the larger share of the population living in urban areas, according to the report, means that there is roughly the same number of urban poor as rural poor.
- At 2 percent, Liberia has one of the lowest electricity access rates in the world. In the capital city of Monrovia, less than 7 percent of the population has access to electricity. Monrovia's grid is largely supplied by expensive diesel-fueled generation resources.
- Larger facilities such as hotels, restaurants and office buildings self-generate electricity at their premises at levels estimated to be ten times greater than the existing installed generation capacity for the nation.

Out-and-About

About Liberia – Out & About!



Liberia's Capital Building

About Liberia – Out & About!



About Liberia – Out & About!



Monrovia Market

About Liberia – Out & About!



About Liberia – Out & About!



Maternity Clinic

About Liberia – Out & About!



Car washes frequently pop up wherever water can be found

About Liberia – Out & About!



Village Water Pump

About Liberia – Out & About!



About Liberia – Out & About!



About Liberia – Out & About!



Mechanics at work

About Liberia – Out & About!



“Football” is EXTREMELY POPULAR!

About Liberia – Out & About!



About Liberia – Out & About!



About Liberia – *“Remembrances of War”*



Massacres in Liberia's Civil War

Massacres in Liberia 1989-2003

One of the hallmarks of the Liberian Civil War which broke out on December 28, 1989 has been the proliferation of armed factions, all of which targeted civilians and were responsible for massacres and systematic human rights abuses, and none of which was fighting for any recognizable cause or ideology.

Since the outbreak of armed violence up to September 2003, tens of thousands of innocent Liberians have been brutally murdered in cold blood by armed factions that fought to have state power by force. The

The People!

About Liberia – The People!



Liberia –
The People!



About Liberia – The People!



Liberia – The People!



Liberia – The People!



Video...

Liberia – The People!



About Liberia – The People!



About Liberia – The People!



Video...

About Liberia – The People!



Video...

“Daily Bread”

Aka - Survival!

About Liberia – Daily Bread!



Video...

About Liberia – Daily Bread!



Returning for another load!

About Liberia – Daily Bread!



Manual road construction

About Liberia – Daily Bread!



Coconuts!

About Liberia – Daily Bread!



Transporting Charcoal

About Liberia – Daily Bread!



Cinder Blocks Made Manually

About Liberia – Daily Bread!



Making Gravel with Hammers

About Liberia – Daily Bread!



Making Gravel with Hammers

About Liberia – Daily Bread!

Selling Plantain Chips



49th Annual Conference of the ECCOL

49th Annual Conference - ECCOL



Tubmanburg

49th Annual Conference - ECCOL



49th Annual Conference - ECCOL



49th Annual Conference - ECCOL



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Bassa Choir

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English Choir

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Giving of an African Name: "Mana" (*Blessing*)

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The Things You Do For Love! 😊

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The "VIP" Lounge!

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Officiating a “Christian” Marriage (w/ rings!)

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Video...

Video

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Dedicating the Baptismal Tank

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Dedicating the Baptismal Tank

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26 Baptism Candidates!

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Evangelical Congregational Church

Liberia Committee

Rev. Rick Sergi (Chair)

Lois Pfeffer (Emmanuel, Bethlehem)

Laura Senkow (Emmanuel, Bethlehem)

Rev. Gary Morrell (Zion ECC, Allentown)

Sima Pirooz (Emmanuel, Bethlehem)

Liberia Committee

Supporting ECCOL &
3 Initiatives

**ECCOL
Christian
School System**



**Bassa
Literacy
Program**



**Pastoral &
Leadership
Training**



Liberia Committee Initiatives
"ECCOL Christian School System"



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Video

Liberia Committee Initiatives
"ECCOL Christian School System"



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49th Annual Conference - ECCOL

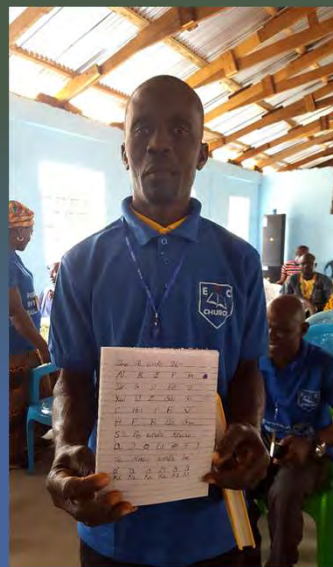


Getting updates from Leadership Training & Bassa Literacy Programs

49th Annual Conference - ECCOL



49th Annual Conference - ECCOL



49th Annual Conference - ECCOL



Leadership Meeting

A Tragic State...

Killed during the wartime that spanned from 1989 to 2003. Children were robbed of their youth and forced to act as soldiers, trained to carry guns and kill on demand. In fact, over 50,000 children under the age of 17 have been killed in direct combat. And every Liberian child has been affected. Many are orphaned. Some suffer from hunger, homelessness, uncontrollable violent tendencies; they live in constant fear.

This picture of tragedy need not be a permanent state for Liberia. The end of the fighting in 2003, a new governmental leadership team elected in 2005, and the awareness, efforts, and prayers of people around the world have brought hope for

E.C. School System

Education in Liberia was severely affected both by the civil wars that ravaged Liberia from 1989 to 2003 and the Ebola Virus

Adult Literacy Program

In our rapidly changing, technology-driven world, low levels of literacy can hinder the economic development of a country. This has proven true in Liberia where the estimated adult literacy rate has only just reached approximately 45%. Adult Literacy is an gauge of the percentage of adults aged 15 year or older who can, with understanding, read and write a short, simple statement on their everyday life.

To address this, the E.C. Church of Liberia has begun a program to help adults learn to read and write, thus giving them tools with which they can improve their economic opportunities and break the cycle of poverty. Beginning in communities where E.C. churches exist, the initial goal is to help adults become literate in their native language of Bassa. This is an important first step as it not only serves as a stepping stone for further learning but equips them to grow in their understanding of and relationship with God.

NOTE: Monthly donations will be processed on the 1st of each month.

IC School System can be supported by your gift to the new or existing school. Please return this gift card to: ECC - IC Church, 1200 West Park Avenue, Myerstown, PA 17067

Pastors & Leadership Training Program

One of the greatest needs in the church is for trained pastors and leaders to minister to those coming to **SAWING GRASS** in Liberia. While this is true in any area of the world, the need is especially acute in this country where many are functionally illiterate and formal theological training presents tremendous hurdles. The urgency of this need is increased by the growing presence of prosperity gospel as well as the Ministry of the Holy Spirit.

The E.C. Church of Liberia is working to overcome this obstacle by providing simplified, equipping those who serve as pastors and leaders throughout Liberia. Biblical training programs and resources are developed as part of their Pastors & Leadership Training Program. Pastors & Leadership Training Program will provide their own spiritual walk, and equip their congregations with competent training in subjects that include:

- Sin & God's Plan of Salvation
- Christian Discipleship
- Bible Study Methods and Interpretation (Hermeneutics)
- Church Life and Administration
- Teaching Principles and Methods
- Old and New Testaments

Support for this program helps provide resources and provides training and lodging for the pastors, teachers, and teachers who sessions are held. Sessions are being offered on a regular basis to start but the frequency as funds are available.

Uplift Liberia

An Initiative of the
Global Ministries Community
of the
Evangelical Congregational Church
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