

**EVANGELICAL CHURCH OF LIBERIA (ECOL)**  
**NATIONAL OFFICE 1<sup>ST</sup> QUARTER REPORT COVERING DECEMBER 2016-APRIL 2017**  
**DELIVERED BY REV. MOSES G. PAYE, ECOL PRESIDENT**  
**AT THE 1<sup>ST</sup> QUARTERLY MEETING OF THE NATIONAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ECOL AT ECOL**  
**HEADQUARTERS ON APRIL 22, 2017**

We are very grateful to God for the privilege of serving the body of Christ during the period under review, and to report to this august body on ministry activities during said period.

1. TRAINING:

A total of four training events were conducted during the period under review. They included the following:

- a. River Cess ministry leadership training (February 2-4). 78 participants from 17 churches including 15 non-ECOL churches attended the training. Pastors Paye served as facilitator. Also, 28 pieces of ELWA fixed-tuned solar radios donated by EMAUSA were distributed among pastors during the training.
- b. Kongba district training which was scheduled for February 17-18 in Timma Village, Gbarpolu was canceled due to the death of the late Pastor Sando Foday. In its place was a coaching session held in Timma Village on February 18 with leaders of the church, and a similar one at Bomiwood Evangelical Church, Bomiwood, Cape Mount County on February 19.
- c. Discipleship training on February 27-March 2 at the Camp Lawana on ELWA campus. 24 participants attended the training which was facilitated by former SIM missionary, Chuck Broh.
- d. Leadership training at the Evangelical Bible Church in Grand Bassa County on April 6-7. Pastor Moses Paye and Pastor Jeremiah Kollie served as facilitators.

2. MISSIONS:

- a. Missions remains at the heart and motives of the national leadership. A team of four ECOL leaders visited Sass Town, Grand Kru County on December 9-15 as part of a larger team that included former SIM missionary Tim Geysbeek and Max Sacra (son of SIM missionary Dr. Rick Sacra). The team's original trip to Sass Town was to research information about a Liberian, Tom Coffee. The ECOL team which included Pastors Paye, Lorpukollie, Brown and Washington also used the visit as an assessment trip for church planting purpose in the southeast. We also visited Karquipko, Sinoe County for similar assessment. The team was welcomed by authorities in both counties and we were given the approval for church planting work. We now have Pastor James Richards assigned in Sinoe as an ECOL missionary, and he has started a church in Karquikpo Town. We are yet to send a missionary to Sass Town due to inadequate fund.

1. Albert Flomo was brought on as the third ECOL supported missionary in December. He is assigned in Palala, Bong County and pastors the Palala Evangelical Church, one of our newest planted churches. We now have a total of five local ECOL missionaries (or home missions volunteers) on the field. Together, these missionaries have planted five new churches since last year. We have been able to provide monthly support to three of the five missionaries due to financial constraints. Many ECOL churches have either not grasp the importance and biblical mandate of the Great Commission, or are simply reluctant to rally support to the ECOL missionary program, thereby leaving the burden on a few faithful churches. The program is our collective response to the biblical mandate and requires the support of all ECOL churches if we will truly honor God's Word and multiply as the body of Christ. Missions support received from ECOL members during the period under review amounted to \$LD 16,830.00 and \$50.00 USD.
  - b. We have reached a decision to have a church planted at the ECOL national headquarters. The national leadership reached the decision based on a survey that showed that the national office had no church nearby, and that a lot of young people visit the property to engage in sports. We will begin engaging the community in May.
  - c. The national leadership yesterday purchased a set of P.A. system including mixer, a pair of microphones and speakers, and microphone stand, etc. to enhance worship, conferences and large training events. The cost of \$1500 USD was provided SIM through the Equip project. We are very grateful.
3. VISITATIONS:
 

The national leadership made the following visits to our churches/districts: Pastors Paye, Senah, Jallah, and Johnson were on team from visit a-f.

  - a. February 13 – Harris Field Evangelical Church
  - b. February 14-15 – Kumgbor Evangelical Church and Borbor Bee
  - c. February 15-17 – Zuie Evangelical Church
  - d. February 17-18 – Timma Village Evangelical Church
  - e. February 18-19 - Bomiwood Evangelical Church
  - f. February 19-20 - Tarkpoimah Evangelical Church
  - g. On February 26 - (Pastor Paye visited) - International Church of Monrovia (ICM)
  - h. March 5 – (Pas. Paye) - Cotton Tree Evangelical Church in Margibi County.
  - i. March 12 – (Pas. Paye) - Evangelical Temple Church, Brewerville.
  - j. March 18-20 – (Pastors Paye, Lorpukollie, and Kollie) - Evangelical Bible Church in LAC, Grand Bassa County.
  - k. March 26 – (Pas. Paye) - Brewerville Evangelical Church in Brewerville.

- I. Perry Moore and team from EMAUSA visited Liberia on March 31 – April 9. The team of seven also had time to visit Kpayaquelle Evangelical Chapel and the Living Faith Academy in Bentol, Montserrado.

4. DONATIONS:

We received the following donations during the period under review:

- a. 600 boxes of Manna Pack Rice received from EMAUSA in December, 2016. We are currently distributing the food. 130 boxes were distributed recently at the Cotton Tree Evangelical Church in Margibi.
- b. Five boxes of books including Bibles, hymnals and Sunday School materials from Don Walker (Former SIM Missionary) on March 21, 2017. Missions Director will oversee the distribution of these books soon.
- c. 20 pieces of books (WHERE THERE IS NO DOCTOR) On March 23 from EMAUSA. These books will be used by our Mobile Clinic Ministry. See below for details.
- d. \$1000 USD from EMAUSA as support toward our mobile clinic ministry that will be launched soon.
- e. \$600 USD from Evangelical Free Church in the USA for the purchase of additional 100 nursery palm trees to expand the ECOL palm farm in June this year.

5. ECOL MOBILE CLINIC MINISTRY:

The national leadership reached a decision to establish the ECOL Mobile Clinic Ministry as part of our outreach program. Under this ministry, a team of ECOL health worker volunteers will visit villages and towns and administer medical treatment to the sick free of charge. The team will also use the time to share the gospel with villagers before each clinic begins. Converts will be directed to the nearest ECOL church, or a biblically sound non-ECOL church if there is no ECOL church in the area, or a request to start an ECOL church will be made by the team to the missions board for immediate action if either of the two above conditions does not exist. We need a total budget of \$3000 USD for the mobile clinic ministry for this year, but have so far received \$1000 USD in donation. We hope to officially launch the program as soon as we can raise the rest of the amount. Cyrus Suah is the head of the mobile clinic ministry.

6. ECOL AGRO PROJECT:

ECOL currently operates an agro project in Tubmanburg, Bomi. We have planted 100 nursery palm trees on the farm along with other crops such as pepper and bitterballs, and received a \$600 USD donation to purchase additional 100 nursery palm trees. The palm trees will be purchased and planted in June this year when we expect frequent rainfall.

On March 14-15 an eight-man team of volunteers from 5 ECOL churches in Montserrado visited and worked on the farm. The volunteers cleared land for the planting of additional palm trees in June. The farm is in need of serious attention and we rely on the Western Region district churches to provide the support.

7. ECOL CHURCH QUOTA:

The ECOL national treasurer received no church quota during the period under review. This troubling development impeded many of our plans. Fellow believers and leaders, if our “Yes” cannot be “Yes” as a body of Christ, then what message are we preaching to the world as a church? We strongly urge that our words should match our deeds, and that we motivate our churches to honor our commitments not just for the growth and development of our denomination, but for us to also honor God and be true to what we believe and preach.

8. Obituary:

During the month under review, we received news of the home going of two key persons in ECOL.

- a. The late Pastor Sando Foday went home to be with the Lord on the week of February 7. The national leadership sent a team of 4 leaders including Pastors Paye, Senah, Jallah and Johnson to visit the bereaved family and church in Zuie, Kongba district. The memorial service is scheduled for February, but the national office provided a benevolence purse of \$10,000 LD to the widow of the deceased, and another \$10,000 LD to the Zuie Evangelical Church to help prepare for the memorial service. We will be communicating with all ECOL churches for their financial contribution for us to assist the family of the deceased during the memorial service. The late Pasotr Foday was very instrumental in the planting of churches in the Kongba district.
- b. We also received news of the home going of the late Esther Suwee, wife of Pastor Richard Suwee of Faith Chapel in Grand Bassa district. She died on March 7 and was buried on the 18<sup>th</sup>. The national leadership was represented at the funeral by Pastors Paye, Kollie, Lorpukollie, Gwole, and Women’s Ministry President, Sis. Anna Mulbah. We rased a total of \$43,540 LD and presented same to the bereaved family.

9. CHALLENGES:

The lack of payment of quota on the part of many of the churches, failure on the part of churches/pastors to pay convention fees, and the reluctance on the part of many churches and individuals to support the missionary program are our key challenges impeding our progress.

10. RESOMMENDATIONS:

- a. We recommend that the NCC come up with a fixed amount for churches to pay in support of the ECOL missionary program.
- b. We also recommend that a task force be set up to vigorously enforce the collection of the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter payment for 2017 as well as the convention 2017 fees.