



Support EFSL News February 2019

Dear praying friends,

I am currently finding a new place to live while I work away from home for two years. It has reminded me of how important homes are. It is often said 'there is no place like home'. Our physical homes and family are very important, but so too are our church homes and family. We are reminded that **'God sets the lonely in families.'** Psalm 68:6. The old hymn also reminds us that God is **'our help in ages past, our hope for years to come, our shelter in the stormy blast and our eternal home.'** Praise God!

Support EFSL Ministries

Church Roofs: Many requests have been received by EFSL from churches for assistance with church roofs. We have asked them to send us details and pictures of the current state of their church building and the congregation. So far three churches have returned their details. Support EFSL hopes to assist these churches when funds are available.

Ebola Orphans: EFSL continues to work with ebola orphans in the Bonthe District in the Semabu and Morwagor villages and also with the Heavens Home Orphanage in Joe town, Waterloo. A community nurse gives the orphans medical support and they receive food and school materials. EFSL has started to support more ebola orphans and widows in the Port Loko District in the Lokomasama Chiefdom, one of the areas heavily hit by the ebola virus disease. They live with other relatives in Bross and Thigbonor villages and are being given counselling and food. The plan is also to provide them with clothing and foot wear and to assist them to go to school as most of them don't go to school. The current dress as shown in the photographs below are their best clothing for now.



Orphans in Thigbonor



Orphans in Bross



Grandmother and orphan Grandchildren in Bross

Support to Muslim Background Believers (MBBs): We continue to provide monthly support to seven MBB's in Freetown, Makeni, Kono, Mattru Jong and Kenema. Some of the MBB's in the university continue to appeal for assistance to pay their annual fees of SLL 6,000,000 as this is still a challenge for them. Those around Freetown are provided with counselling at least once a month to continue to strengthen them in their faith, while regular calls are made to those outside of Freetown to make sure they are still connected to a local church and pastor.

Radio Ministry: EFSL member church pastors continue to host the EFSL hour on radio in Lunsar, Makeni, Kono and Bo. Pastors use this opportunity to for Bible study and sometimes teach on key topics affecting their communities such as salvation, discipleship, marriage and divorce, tithing and prayer. Calls during sessions and testimonies by callers indicates how their lives are being impacted through the programs and some do make decisions for Christ and are directed to a Bible believing church in their locality.

Study Bibles and Bicycles: Bicycles were distributed to two pastors of the United Brethren in Christ Church in Gbangbayah and Dandabu villages in the Southern province of Sierra Leone. We have also procured 12 Study Bibles to be distributed at the next EFSL travelling Bible school programme in the provinces (see photos overleaf).



Pastor Albert Swarray



Pastor Morie Amadu



Study Bibles Awaiting Distribution

Sewing Machines: Four sewing machines were distributed to a young widow Mrs. Christina Williams who lost her husband in April 2018 and also to the Door of Hope Vocation Centre for orphans, street children and vulnerable women in Wellington, Freetown.



Mrs. Christina Williams



Door of Hope Institute

The new Support EFSL website: Since the last newsletter Kevin Wiebe has worked very hard to set up a

website for Support EFSL. It's now open for everyone to see and use. I think he has done a great job, but don't take my word for it, instead I encourage you to go to <https://supportefsl.org/> and take a look for yourself! Show your friends and those who do not have access to the internet. It is still a work in progress, so we would really welcome your comments and suggestions for improvements. We plan to add more pictures of the work that EFSL does and testimonies from a variety of people in Sierra Leone as to how their lives have been changed by God with the help of your support, both in prayer and giving.



Support EFSL Trustee News: In January we said goodbye to Emmanuel Mensah, who announced that he wished to step down as a Support EFSL Trustee. Emmanuel has been involved in the work of Support EFSL since before the charity was officially set up in 2011, including being its Treasurer for some years. We thank him very much for all he has done and we wish him and his family God's richest blessing as they continue to serve Him.

Bill and Jan Roberts are both well and continue to be involved in the church and community on the Isle of Mull in Scotland. We thank God that their son Paul is recovering from recent successful surgery on his right arm/shoulder which was necessary due to a heavy fall he had on the nearby pavement 2 or 3 months before. Paul usually makes his living from playing the violin, and it may yet be another month or two before his arm is strong enough to play seriously again. Thank you for your prayers thus far. Please continue in prayer for him and his family.

Please also continue to pray:

- *That God will guide and direct Rev Titus and the leaders of EFSL as they continue to serve Him.*
- *That God will bless the expanding work with the ebola orphans.*
- *For continued good health for Bill and Jan Roberts and their family.*

'May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in Him....' Romans 15:13

Yours sincerely in Christ,
Steve Manktelow, *Support EFSL Treasurer*

*In addition to your prayers, if you want to give to EFSL so that it can continue to support the churches and people in Sierra Leone, please send your gifts to the Support EFSL Treasurer: Steve Manktelow, Blackdown Cottage, Willand, Devon, EX15 2QH. E-mail: manktelowsteve@gmail.com Cheques can be made out to **Support EFSL (no.1141005)**.*