



Support EFSL News

December 2025

<https://supportefsl.org>

Dear praying friends,

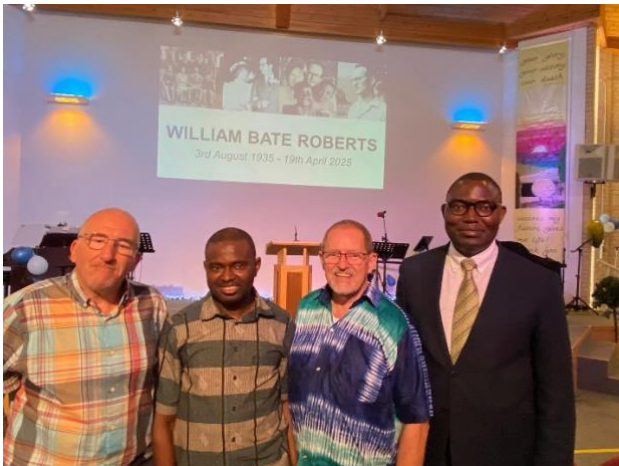
As 2025 draws to a close I am sure we can all look back and recount moments of both joy and sadness, of pleasure and pain, and of sickness and health. But through it all we have the assurance of a Saviour's love, and the tremendous prospect of seeing Jesus face-to-face in eternity. As we look towards Christmas let us remind ourselves again what the angels said to the shepherds: **"Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all people. Today in the town of David a Saviour has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord."** Luke 2:10-11. What a reason to celebrate! So, amidst all the preparations and activities, let us strive to put Christ at the centre of our Christmas and tell others about the real 'Reason for the Season'.



Bill's service of thanksgiving

On 2nd August in Weston-Super-Mare, four of the Support EFSL trustees – Ken, Steve, Francis and Harry – had the privilege to attend the memorial thanksgiving service for the life of Bill Roberts, the founder of Support EFSL and to meet some of the many people who Bill shared his life with.

There have been many tributes given about Bill, both written and spoken. Here are a few: 'a very special friend,' 'a man of admirable spiritual strength and integrity,' 'his unwavering passion was to spread the gospel of Jesus Christ,' 'a gentle soul who loved his Saviour and wanted to share that love with others,' 'a godly man who lived and guided us in word and deed to become Christlike,' 'he took no political sides in the Biafran war but remained faithful to his brothers and sisters in Christ throughout the period of the war, sharing their many sorrows and their very few (if any) material joys,' 'an amazing British man, yet in many ways he lived like us Sierra Leoneans.'



One tribute mentioned that back in his time in Sierra Leone Bill had a favourite solo he would sing: 'I'd rather have Jesus'. I am sure Bill would want us all to 'rather have Jesus'!

Travelling Bible School

From 6 to 15 November, the EFSL team – Rev Joseph Baio (known as Bajoe), Rev Ken Wiebe, Rev Gadiru Basie, and Rev Charlie Bio – led Travelling Bible School seminars at Masiaka, Taiama, and Boajibu in southeast Sierra Leone.

At Taiama, Bajoe and Charlie spoke on church administration principals and pastoral ethics, and Gadiru very effectively added to Ken's teaching by addressing marriage issues from a different perspective.

On Monday there was a pastor present who has been estranged from his wife for nine years. He went to her and told her about the teaching on marriage, and asked her to attend. She came both Tuesday and Wednesday.



First steps of reconciliation have been made. No doubt there are major issues still needing to be addressed. But, praise God, they both responded positively to the whole assembly praying for them.



Jesus Film backpack projector

In February we procured a backpack projector with the Jesus Film pre-installed with 12 local Sierra Leonean languages, which Ken and Yvonne passed on to EFSL. Through a very generous donation we were able to buy another projector backpack (which Ken presented to EFSL when he attended the TBS) to aid EFSL in its work to share the Gospel and plant churches in remote, rural communities.

Jesus Film being shown in a Susu community

1,061 people attended and 273 made decisions to follow Jesus. The film was presented to them in their Susu language. One outstanding impact was to see the chief and his family accepting Christ over African Traditional Religion – reminding us of Acts 19:17-20.



Matters for Prayer

1. Please continue to pray for Bill's family as they mourn his loss.
2. Pray that God will continue to work in the lives of all who attended the TBS. May the Holy Spirit encourage and strengthen those who received the TBS teaching and enable them to go back to their communities with renewed zeal for the Gospel.
3. Pray with thanks for those whose lives have been transformed through seeing the Jesus film, and that many more will come to faith as it taken to remote areas of SL through the use of the portable projectors.
4. For grace for the newly saved converts to remain steadfast in their new-found faith in Christ Jesus.
5. For protection for the EFSL leadership and staff, and its properties, and for more opportunities and resources to share the Gospel.

Donations to Support EFSL

It has been a while since I mentioned the ways in which you can give to the work of Support EFSL. In the UK, if you want to set up a **Direct Debit or Standing Order** to Support EFSL from your bank, please use the following Support EFSL bank details: **Account title: Support EFSL, Account number: 65482252, Sort code: 08-92-99. For cheques:** Please make cheques out to Support EFSL and send to: **Support EFSL, Blackdown Cottage, South View Road, Willand, Devon, EX15 2QH.** For those who prefer more modern methods of giving, there is also the opportunity to donate via **PayPal and JustGiving** on the SEFSL website at <https://supportefsl.org/donate>

Wishing you a joyful and peaceful Christmas, and every blessing for the New Year.

Steve Manktelow, Support EFSL Treasurer