



Support EFSL News

August 2020

<https://supportefsl.org>



MBB Regina Moriba is rounding up her first year studies in Nursing at the College of Medicine.

Dear praying friends,

I hope and pray this letter finds you all well despite the effects of the coronavirus this year. I apologise to readers who receive this letter by post as you have not had news about EFSL this year. I wrote a letter back in March, but the UK went into lockdown and I was unable to get it printed, so just those who have e-mail could receive it. This reminds me to encourage anyone who currently receives the letter by post but has access to e-mail either directly or via friends and family to receive the letter this way if they can. You can also

view all the letters and other information about EFSL on the Support EFSL website: <https://supportefsl.org>. Please let me know if you wish to switch from receiving the letter by post to e-mail.

Coronavirus has affected each one of us to a greater or lesser extent. Some of you will know friends and family who have been stricken with the virus. Meanwhile governments across the world continue to struggle to limit the spread of the virus, at the same time trying to enable a return to normal where this is possible. There has been a lot of talk about what will be the 'new normal'. What does God have to say about living through difficult times? My reading today was from the book of Lamentation. In it the prophet Jeremiah describes the situation in Jerusalem after it was besieged, and the temple destroyed. The city walls have been broken down and the buildings are in ruins; a tiny handful of people have survived. The prophet describes his experience as 'darkness rather than light' (Lam 3:2) and in Lam 3:17 he says, 'My soul is bereft of peace; I have forgotten what happiness is...'. **But, he is also able to say, 'But this I call to mind, and therefore I have hope: The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases, His mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness.' Lam 3:21-23.**

So, wherever you are in the world and whatever situation you find yourself in, I encourage you to call to mind the steadfast love of the Lord and therefore have hope. In particular let us pray for the continued work of the Evangelical Fellowship of Sierra Leone, and the churches and believers it supports throughout Sierra Leone, that they will call on the Lord. For just as he spoke to the Israelites in exile through Jeremiah, his words apply in Sierra Leone today: **'For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future. Then you will call on me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you. You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart. I will be found by you, declares the Lord...'** Jer 29:11-14a.

Support EFSL Ministries



Despite the pandemic, EFSL have continued its work with the churches and communities in different parts of the country.

Muslim Background Believers – Latest News

All the eight MBBs that Support EFSL supports (Regina Moriba, Sani Elba & Khadija, Mohamed Conteh, Jane Ganda, Esther Koroma, Martha Kabba & Michaella Jimmy) are doing well and continue to serve the Lord in their local churches.

Sani Elba and daughter Khadija.

Sewing Machines

A sewing machine was given to Tommy Sopian, a tailor in Mowagor village in Bonthe District. Tommy is the only tailor serving six small villages, and his former machine was no longer in good order.



Ebola Orphans

EFSL continues to support Ebola orphans with monthly food support and school materials. Those in exams classes in primary and secondary schools recently received educational materials to help them prepare for the reopening of schools in July and public exams.



Ebola orphans supplied with Food at the EFSL Office in Matru Jong

Ebola orphans supplied with food in Semabu Village and school materials in Mowagor village

Church Roofs

Through your support we have provided EFSL with funds to enable new roofs to be built at the following churches: Baptist Church (Tintafor, Lungi), Manyeh Community Church (Manyeh); Wesleyan Church of Sierra Leone (Masongo); Church of Pentecost (Rokupr); Church of Pentecost (Jendema); Cross Purpose Church (Koindu); New Life Ministries Church (Sengema); and El Bethel church (Kailahun).



El Bethel Church, Kailahun



Church of Pentecost, Sulima



Church of Pentecost, Rokupr

(The churches at Kailahu, Sulima, and Rokupr were funded previously.)



New Life Church, Sengema

(Funding for the church at Sengema was sent several months ago; funded more recently, the Manyeh church already has the roof trusses in place.)



Manyeh Community Church, Manyeh

Church Re-opening Sensitization Tour

The EFSL Church Ministries department has recently engaged in a sensitization tour of pastors and churches in various parts of the country on the resumption of worship services in Sierra Leone. The General Secretary, Rev Titus-Williams, and his team travelled to Kambia, Port Loko, Lunsar, Makeni, Kabala, Magburaka, Kono, Moyamba, Bo, Kenema, Segbwema, Daru, Kailahun, and Koindu to engage pastors on the guidelines issued by

government for the reopening of churches for worship services, and also to distribute soap and face coverings to pastors. Unfortunately, people in most parts of the country visited do not have access to face masks and Veronica buckets to use in their churches as instructed by the government for the conduct of worship services.

These visits have been well received and pastors and churches were encouraged. According to pastors in most of the places, Rev Titus was the first church leader to visit them during this pandemic.

They were very much excited about resuming worship services despite the restrictions, as most of them depend on local church support alone and were unable to feed and take care of their families. A pastor in Koindu told Rev Titus that he was arrested and kept in the police cell for a whole day because he was reported to the police for praying for people during the ban on church services.

Please continue to pray and give thanks for:

- ***Rev Titus-Williams and the leaders of EFSL, especially for the encouragement and help they were able to give during the recent sensitization tour.***
- ***Those churches recently re-roofed, that they will continue to be a light in their community.***
- ***Blessing and continued protection for all the MBBs.***
- ***Protection and growth for His Church in Sierra Leone, especially as they begin to re-open.***
- ***Bill and Jan Roberts and their family, for continued health and protection at this time.***

‘Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you to the very end of the age.’ Matt 28:19-20.

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)**.
Or, you can donate instantly through the website: [Donate Now](#).*