



**REPORT OF THE  
DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT  
OF THE  
GRAND BASSA DISTRICT**

**TO THE  
183<sup>rd</sup> ANNUAL SESSION  
OF THE  
LIBERIA ANNUAL CONFERENCE  
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

**THEME: "THE LORD IS MY SHEPHERD"**

**TEXT: PSALMS 23: 1-6**

**HELD AT THE  
MT. GALILEE UMC  
LOWER HARLANDSVILLE  
GRAND BASSA COUNTY  
LIBERIA**

**MONDAY-SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 8-14, 2016**

**GREETINGS:**

It's always a pleasure to greet you, Rev. Dr. John G. Innis, our Resident Bishop of the LAC/UMC; Bro. Rudolph J. Merab, Conference Lay Leader, my fellow District Superintendents, distinguished Guests, Government Officials here present, and my fellow United Methodists of the household of faith: peace and love to you in Jesus name.

**ADMINISTRATION:**

- a. Grand Bassa District is functional through the existence of the women, men, youth Sunday school and young adult organizations. The clergy and laity are active.
- b. During the period under review, **charge conferences** were held. The charge conferences afforded us the opportunity to assess the churches and administratively made decisions which help in the growth and development of the churches on the district.
- c. For the growth and development of the district, general **district meetings** were held during the period under review. Two clergy meetings and four Executive meetings were also held. These meetings help strengthen and foster cooperation amongst members of the district.

**VISITATION:**

In the midst of the constraint of vehicle, churches on the district were visited including pastors and members were also visited. The sick, bereaved and members in distress were visited. Prayers and pastoral counseling were provided by your humble Servant.

**WORKSHOP:**

As a way to build up the human resource capacity of the district a five- day leadership workshop was held jointly by St. John River, Kakata-Farmington and the Grand Bassa Districts on July 20-24, 2015. Grand Bassa District was the prime host. Rev. Dr. Jerry P. Kulah and others were the facilitators.

**PROGRAM:**

For the period in review, the district had two programs: Home Coming Day Program was held on July 25-26 and Dumboy Festival on October 31, 2015. These programs were intended to foster cooperation amongst distance members and stimulate growth in the district.

**OUTREACH:** The Charles A. White UMC took the lead and distributed the following reliefs items to forty-eight aging persons at the Old Folks Home in Central Buchanan: thirty bags of 25kg rice, five liters Argo oil, two cartons bath soap, one carton laundry soap, one sack of salt, one large size bag of sugar, four packs vita, and a bale of used clothing.

The aged members of the District are being care for by the District Aging Committee. Food items, toiletry, clothes among other things were distributed to thirty aging members of the district.

**PROJECTS:** The district parsonage foundation is completed. We are galvanizing support to erect the walls. The blocks for the ground floor are available at the site of the project. We need six

hundred and seventy bags of cement and three hundred pieces of half inch steel rod to do the ground floor and the upstairs portion of the parsonage. It's our ardent prayer that it will be completed.

Through the Baltimore-Washington Conference of the USA, Marblee UMC new edifice foundation is completed and further progress on the walls elevation are ongoing. A gift of US\$ 6000.00 was received. Thanks to Rev. Dr. Rebecca Lannicelli and the leadership of the Baltimore-Washington East District.

The new edifice of the Bethany UMC is 95 percent completed. The walls are erected and plastered, the roof is up, window bars are in. The floors need laying and tiling, electrical and plumbing works need to be done as well as furnishing the edifice with pews among others are needed. Glory be to God for Bro. Samuel Quarshie and the entire membership of Bethany UMC for their unflinching support towards the building.

**DISTRICT CONFERENCE:**

The District Conference was held from December 9-13, 2015 at the J.C. Barnard UMC, under the theme: "Go about doing God's work," based on the text John 9:1-7. The 175<sup>th</sup> Annual District Conference was spirit filled and inspiring. The conference was graced by the visit of our Resident Bishop along with other array of guests and speakers helped to make the conference a success. The Rev. Dr. Laurence K. Bropleh was the opening speaker. Pastor Martinus N. Barnard of the Better Living Seventh Day Adventist Church was the noonday speaker. And Bro. Clarence L. Benson served as Bible Study Leader. A total of 360 persons attended the conference.

**MEMBERSHIP:** The district has 2012 women, 1576 men, 1932 youth, 1861 young adult and 2518 children. Three hundred fifty-four persons were baptized, during the period under review. Total membership for this period is 10,253.

**FINANCE:** Through the grace of God the Grand District has paid its LAC apportionment of US \$ 800.00.

**INCOME:** \$ 394,095.00 LD

**EXPENDITURE:** L\$ 383,355.00    **BALANCE:** \$ 10,740.00 LD

**WELFARE:** Through the District Superintendency Committee the district is taking care of your humble Servant stipend and housing accommodation.

**SCHOLASHIP:** During the academic 2015/2016 through the Department of General Education twenty-one members of the district are benefiting from the Department scholarship at grade level. May God bless the oversea sponsors for the investment into our sisters and brothers' future.

**GIFTS / CONTRIBUTIONS:**

The sum of US\$ 6000.00 was sent by the Baltimore-Washington East District, USA for the construction of Marblee UMC new edifice. Cllr. Oswald Tweh contributed fifty bags of cement towards the district parsonage; Cllr. Charles W. Brumskine gave forty bags of 25kg rice for the feeding of Annual conference delegates and L\$ 10,000 toward the parsonage. Bishop John G. Innis contributed US\$ 615, Rev. Dr. Emmanuel F. Bailey contributed US\$ 1000.00 and St. John River District also contributed US\$150.00 towards the district car project. Sis. Edith Wairda, Research Director, of the Ann Arbor District, USA sent your humble Servant one laptop.

**NECROLOGY:** It's saddened to report that during the period under review, the district loss ten members; may their souls rest in perfect peace.

#### **APPEAL**

To ease the transportation burden on the district, we appeal for two or three motor bikes for our pastors. We need assistance to continue the construction work of Harrisville UMC: two hundred bags of cement, ten bundles of aluminum zinc sheets, etc. The foundation is completed.

#### **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

May I use this moment to extend thanks and appreciation to our illustrious Bishop, Rev. Dr. John G. Innis for his good leadership to seek assistance and partnership for the development of the district, which has resulted into the construction of the Marblee UMC.

I am grateful to all of my pastors for their cooperation and supports; including the laity for their countless support; the District Lay Leader, Sis. Mercy J. Benson, Revs. M. Barcon Borbor, Sarah M. Watts, Sis. Tenneh S. George, Bros. Eugene Tiamaho, Chapman L. Adams, Martinus J. H. Barnard, and my beloved wife, Edith B. Simbo, for their spiritual and moral supports toward the District ministries, also, the Finance and Spiritual Growth committees, we say thank you and continue working for Jesus Christ. Thanks to Bro. Eric N. Senah for contributing financial support to Rev. Evans L. Stevenson and Rev. George B. Perkins monthly stipends. Also Bro. & Sis. Chapman L. Adams and Rev. & Rev. James T. Watts contributed to Rev. Perkins' salary. Thanks to Rev. Dr. Laurence K. Bropleh for his many contributions to the district including assistance to Rev. Peter D. Simon's salary.

Finally, we acknowledged the cordial relationship existing between the St. John River District and the Grand Bassa District Conference.

#### **CONCLUSION**

God, the Father, God the Son, God the Holy Spirit have save-guided us through the storming weather. His grace has brought us thus far. To God be the glory great things He has done.

Respectfully submitted,



Rev. Fredrick E. Simbo  
DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT  
GRAND BASSA DISTRICT

## WORDS IN PICTURES



These photos show cross section of the district parsonage foundation. The 2<sup>nd</sup> photo shows members visited the site to see the foundation completed . They thanked God and are impressed.



Cross section of the members posted with Bishop Innis at the on Saturday, December 12,2015



L-R, members congregated at the closing service, Sun., Dec. 13,2015



Food, clothes and other relief items distributed to the old folks in Buchanan, Grand Bassa County, Liberia, through the kind courtesy of Charles A. White UMC

Marblee UMC new edifice under construction from a US\$6000 gift from Baltimore-Washington East District, USA.