

SIERRA LEONE INITIATIVE UPDATES

JANUARY 2019 TRIPS TO SIERRA LEONE

This year three different groups traveled to Sierra Leone to visit partner churches to renew and solidify relationships between congregations, check into current construction projects, conduct training in agricultural ideas, hold congregational meetings to seek insights into the dreams of partner church congregations, and to share in worshipping Papa God. Teams from CrossPoint, First Mechanicsburg, and the Initiative's yearly trip, which included individuals from First Hollidaysburg, New Creation Community, and Paxtonville UMC experienced wonderful visits. Reports in the next SLI Newsletter.

In addition, two of the three teams attended the Partner Conference, a meeting of United Methodist conferences and related organizations that provide mission support in Sierra Leone. Susquehanna Conference hosted the Inaugural Conference in 2010. The group meets every other year to share experiences; Ebola prevented the 2014 meeting. 2019 was hosted by Sierra Leone. Among the representatives were individuals from the greater Washington, D.C. area, North Carolina, Minnesota, Indiana, Norway, Germany, and Susquehanna Conference. More information coming in the next newsletter.

Immediately after the Partner Conference, the Sierra Leone Annual Conference met for 4 days and one of the teams attended. Celebrations of the Mission work done in SL and the 10th anniversary of Bishop Yambasu's episcopacy occurred. Report in next newsletter.

ONGOING SALARY DEFICIT REPORT

Deficit reduced from \$52,734 to \$28,000. All donations to support the full-time pastors in SL are greatly appreciated! Become a covenant church or give a one time donation. **The current Initiative covenant churches cannot supply the complete salary needed for all the full time SL pastors! Can your church help?** Contact Pam at 570-837-9062 or pam04sierra@gmail.com