

A New Thing!

Do You Not Perceive It?



Building on the scripture from Isaiah 43:19, "See I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it?" describes the current leadership circumstances within the Sierra Leone Initiative.

To the current and previous covenant holding Susquehanna Conference churches and to all the churches that provide or provided occasional donations to keep pastors in full time ministry in Sierra Leone and support or supported partner church development, a HUGE THANK YOU!

God always provides! For the Sierra Leone Initiative "a new thing," means new opportunities and ideas for mission as the positions of chairperson, treasurer, and team members change. THANK YOU to all who currently serve or have served during the past 16 years!

At the time of this newsletter's publication, retiring treasurer, Cathy Polan (Lewisburg District) shares the process of record keeping with Rev. Myron Jones incoming treasurer (Altoona District) and retiring Chairperson, Pam Perna (Lewisburg District) shares

records and information with incoming Co-Chair Rev. Jim Jacobs (Lewisburg on July 1 State College District). In addition to these two positions, Janet Byers (York District) joins the Initiative Team as Annual Conference Display Communicator. The Initiative also welcomes new Team members, Laura Inlow (Altoona District), Roxanne Laird (Williamsport District), and Carriann Shultz (Lewisburg District)

Consider doing a new thing for Jesus with the Holy Spirit's help and power on behalf of the pastors and parishes in Sierra Leone. Needed positions:

- Co-Chairperson
- SL Guests' Trip Organizer (2023 or 2024)
- Communications' Coordinator (written and oral)
- Team members from all districts, as the Initiative reorganizes into 3 sub-committees – Contract, Liaison between Sierra Leone and Susquehanna Conferences, and Communications within Susquehanna Conference.

Finally, God initiated a new thing in my life; I (Pam) no longer live in the Susquehanna Conference. I thank Hildergard

Sollenberger for the invitation to join the SL Initiative Team in 2007, God for providing the skills needed to Chair the Team, Jeff Fisher for leading my first trip among others to SL which planted a passion in me for the pastors and parishes of SL, all the wonderful Team members I've had the privilege to work with, and all the Susquehanna Conference churches and congregations I had the opportunities to meet and share my love for Sierra Leone. God bless you all and may you all be Holy Spirit strong as you keep God's chosen "Sierra Leone gardeners" in full time ministry as the Sierra Leone Conference with the help of the Susquehanna Conference share the Good News of Jesus "locally, nationally, and to the ends of the earth." (Acts 1:8.)

*Pam Perna,
Retiring Co-Chair Chairperson
Sierra Leone Initiative*



John 15:12
Love each other as I
have loved you

Susquehanna Covenant Churches with Sierra Leone Partner Churches

Altoona District

Centre Grove UMC, Clearfield
First Hollidaysburg UMC
Hicks Memorial UMC, Duncansville
Second Avenue UMC, Altoona
West Side UMC, Clearfield
Lake Street UMC
Pleasant Valley UMC

Kercher UMC, Kenema
Kossoh Town UMC, Hastings
Pastor Salary Support Only
Kambia UMC, Kambia
Roruks UMC, Roruks
Milton Margai Memorial UMC, Goderich
Milton Margai Memorial UMC, Goderich

Harrisburg District

Baughman UMC, New Cumberland
Calvary UMC, Harrisburg (2)
Camp Hill UMC
Chambers Hill UMC, Harrisburg
Evangelical UMC, Middletown
First Hershey UMC
First Mechanicsburg UMC
Grace UMC, Hummelstown
Linglestown Life UMC
Lykens UMC
Messiah UMC, Shippensburg
Perry County Cluster
Saint Johns UMC, Grantville
Shepherdstown UMC (3)
Youngs UMC, Mechanicsburg

Bishop Humper UMC Peacock Farm
Bell Memorial UMC, Mokonde
Lower Bambara UMC, Panguma
Pastor Salary Support Only
Price Memorial UMC, Freetown
Moyiba UMC, Kissy Brook
Calvary UMC, Taiama
Pastor Salary Support Only
Gaston Memorial UMC, Yengema
Pastor Salary Support Only
Grace UMC, Kailahun
Rogers UMC, Bo
Kwellu UMC
Grace UMC, Kissy Mess Mess
Largo Kassanima UMC

Lewisburg District

Browns UMC, Cocolamus
Hummels UMC, Middleburg (2)
Mountain View/West Snyder Charge
Paxtonville UMC
St. Andrews UMC, Milton
Trinity UMC, Danville
Turkey Valley UMC
Witmers UMC, Port Trevorton (2)

Albert Margai Mem. UMC, Gbambatoke
Albert Margai Mem. UMC, Gbambatoke
Albert Margai Mem. UMC, Gbambatoke
Tombodu UMC
Zimmi UMC
Trinity UMC, Baoma
Pastor Salary Support Only
Old Wharf UMC, Wellington

Scranton/Wilkes-Barre District

Elm Park UMC Scranton
Maple Lake UMC, Spring Brook Township

Mattru Jong UMC
Saint Matthews UMC Magburaka

State College District

Faith UMC, Bellefonte
Grace UMC, Lewistown
Runville UMC

Mango Brown UMC, Pa Lokko
Gendema UMC
Hope Memorial UMC, Hanga

Williamsport District

First Muncy UMC
Park UMC, Coudersport
Pine Street UMC, Williamsport
Trinity UMC, Jersey Shore
Holy Trinity UMC, Troy
Pastoral Family

Weaver Memorial UMC, Bonthe
Campbell Town UMC
Gallow UMC, Masorie
Boajibu UMC
Hastings UMC
Pastor Salary Support Only

York District

Aldersgate UMC, York
Bethany UMC, Dover
Calvary UMC, Dillsburg
Calvary UMC, York
Chapel Church, Felton
First Chambersburg UMC
First Hanover UMC
First Marion UMC
Fishing Creek Salem UMC, Etters
New Creation Community UMC, Dover
Otterbein UMC, Mt. Wolf
Stewartstown UMC

Kayima UMC
Kercher UMC, Kenema
Taba UMC
Valunya UMC
Fitz John UMC, Yoyema
Leader Memorial UMC, Bo
Pastor Salary Support Only
Makump Bana UMC
J Hal Smith UMC, Jaiama
Bishop Bangura Mem. UMC., Motema
Pastor Salary Onl
Lowoma UMC

Sierra Leone

Initiative Team

Susquehanna Conference

Jim Jacobs, Co-Chairperson
Pam Perna, Co-Chairperson
Chris Wagner, Recording Secretary
Cathy Polan, Retiring Treasurer
Myron Jones, Incoming Treasurer
Rev. Jeff Fisher, SL Trip Leader
Paul Amara
Marsha Curry-Nixon
Donna Thomas
Jo Marie Warner
Janet Fischer-Byers
Laura Inlow
Tiffany Holland
Roxanne Laird
Carriann Shultz



**Two are better than
one because they
have a good return
for their hard work.
If either should fall,
one can pick up the
other.
Ecclesiastes 4:9-10**

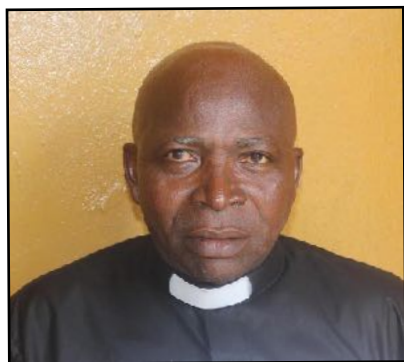
Sierra Leone

Initiative Team

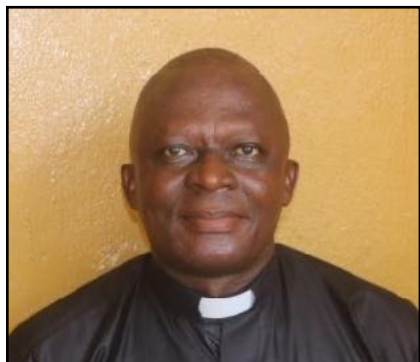
Sierra Leone Conference

Rev. Solomon Rogers - Administrative
Assistant to the Bishop
Phileas Jusu, Director of
Communications
Rev. Winston Ashcroft - Director of
Connectional Ministries
Director of Development - To Be
Determined
Leonard Gbloh, Director of Primary
Schools
Joseph Pormoi, Director of
Secondary Schools -
Lydia Jalloh, Financial Officer
Ethel Sandy, United Methodist
Women

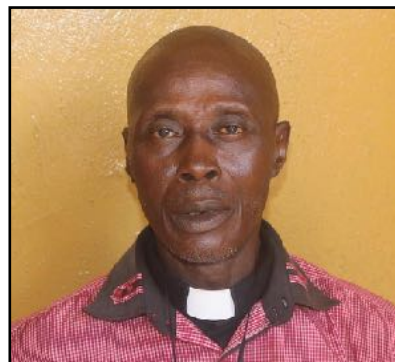
Sierra Leone Partner Pastors



Rev. Joseph Kamara
Galow UMC Masorie
Pine Street UMC Williamsport



Rev. Henry Macavoray
Bell Memorial UMC Njala
Calvary UMC Harrisburg



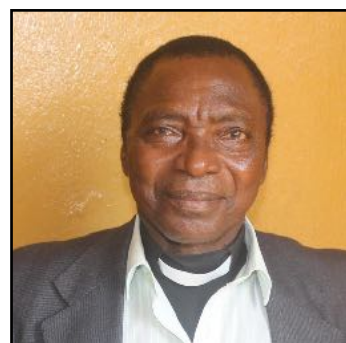
Rev. Dominic Kanu
Zimmi UMC Zimmi
St. Andrews, Milton



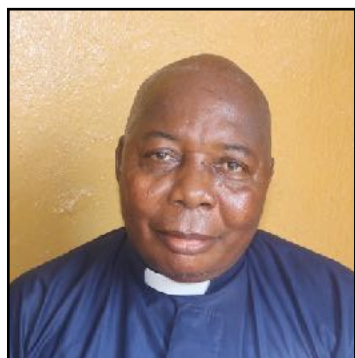
Rev. Basiru Mansaray
Price Memorial UMC
Evangelical UMC Middletown



Rev. Christopher Lahai
Lower Bambara UMC
Camp Hill UMC



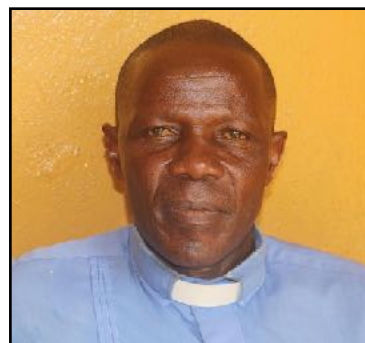
Rev. Sembu Kamara
Hastings UMC Hastings
Trinity Windfall Parish, UMC
Troy



Rev. Solomon Smith
Gaston UMC, Yengema
Linglestown Life, UMC



Rev. Matthew Kainyande
Bishop Weaver Memorial UMC
Bonthe
First Memorial UMC Muncy



Rev. James Solleh
St Matthew's UMC Magburaka
Maple Lake UMC Spring Brook

Sierra Leone Partner Pastors



Rev. John Williams
Calvary UMC Taiama
First UMC Mechanicsburg



Rev. Daniel Seneh
Grace Kissy Mess Mess
Shrpherdstown UMC



Rev. Francis Jenkins
Grace UMC Kissy Mess
Mess Shepherdstown
UMC



Rev. Francis Charley D.S
(Temporary placement)
Rogers UMC Bo
Perry County Cluster



Rev. Alice Maama
Fitz John UMC Yoyema
Chapel Church, Red Lion



Rev. Janet Kamara
Leader Memorial UMC Bo
First UMC Chambersburg



Rev. James Bendu
Kambia UMC
2nd Avenue UMC, Altoona



Rev. Dominic Jimisa
J Hal Smith UMC,
Fishing Creek Salem
UMC Etters



Rev Anthonette Amie Babo
Kwellu UMC
St. John's UMC Grantville



Rev. Christopher McCauley
Grace UMC Kailahun Covenant UMC
Messiah UMC Shippensburg



Pastor Osman Koroma
Kossoh Town UMC
Hastings
First UMC Hollidaysburg

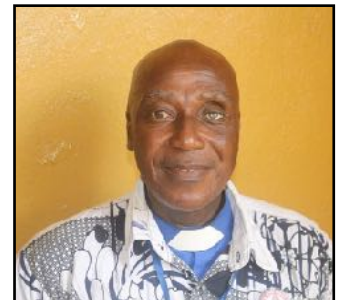


Rev. Letticia Pettiquoi
Moyiba UMC Kissy Brook
First Hershey UMC



Rev. Timothy Kamanda
Tombodu UMC
Paxtonville UMC

Rev. Hindowa Simbo
Boajibo UMC
Trinity UMC, Jersey Shore



The prayer of a righteous person is
powerful and effective.
James 5:16

Sierra Leone Partner Pastors



Pastor Solomon Vandy
Mattru Jong UMC Rutile
Elm Park Scranton



Evangelist Alimamy Turray
Mango Brown UMC, PaLoko
Faith UMC Bellefonte



Rev Ibramin Ansumana
Gandorhun UMC
Mt. Olivet UMC
Mechanicsburg



Rev. Charles Ngele
Bishop Humper UMC
Baughman UMC
New Cumberland



Rev. Sahr Komba
Bishop Bangura Memorial
UMC Motema
New Creation Community
UMC Dover



Pastor Emmanuel
Ndahin
Lowoma UMC
Stewartstown UMC



Rev. Mabel Kainyande
Bishop Weaver UMC Bonthe
First Muncy



Rev. Dr. Edwin Momoh
College professor working
with Rev. Solleh at
Magburaka UMC
Not on our payroll.

Initiative Full Time Payroll Pastors



Rev. Mariama Bockari
1st Makeni UMC
District Superintendent



Rev. James Boye-Caulker
Western District
Superintendent



Rev. Ndapi Saffa
Kono District Superintendent
Koidu Joint Parish



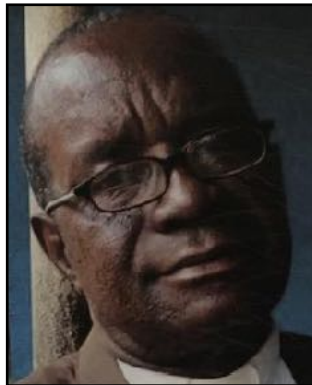
Rev. Davidson Foray
Trinity UMC Moyamba West
District Superintendent

Sierra Leone Initiative Pastors

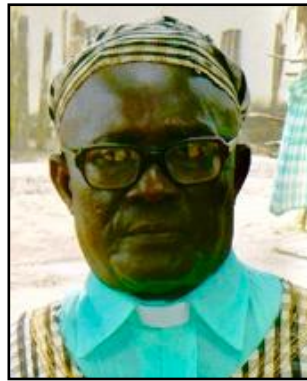
Unlike Susquehanna Conference pastors who receive their salary from their appointed church, Sierra Leone pastors receive their salaries from the SL Conference Office. The collection of salary funds from covenant holding Susquehanna Conference churches pays some pastors stationed at SL partner churches and some pastors who qualify for salary support because of their full time status. Thank you for your support of God's "gardeners" in SL.



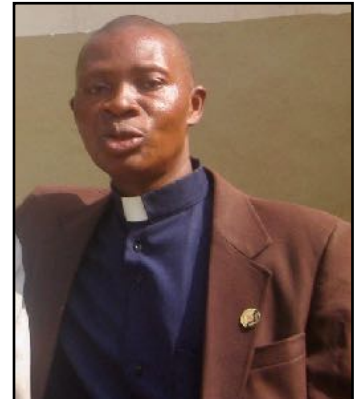
Rev. Emmanuel Pawa
King Memorial UMC Freetown



Rev. Andrew Forbie
Leader UMC Bo



Rev. Daniel Charley
Moriba Town UMC Rutile



Rev. Paul Jusu
First UMC Makeni
Assistant



Rev. Saffa Jengo
Shenge UMC



Rev Daisy Gbloh
Baughman UMC
Freetown



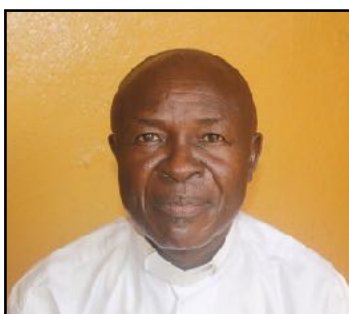
Rev Alice Lassayo
Associate
King Memorial UMC
Freetown



Rev. Elizabeth
Kamara Hallowell
Memorial UMC
District
Superintendent



Rev. Michael Koroma
Njagbwema UMC



Rev. Edward Mammie
Charles Davies UMC
Assistant Pastor



Rev. Samuel Mansary
King Memorial UMC
Second Associate



Rev. Emerson Laggah
Brown Memorial UMC
Freetown



Rev. Christian George
Lungi UMC

Sierra Leone Initiative Pastors



Rev. Gertrude Dunbar
Musselman UMC



Rev. Michael Columbo
Wesley UMC Pajuhén



Rev. Tamba Momoh
Asbury Bottom Oku



Rev. Judith Gaima Banya
Kailahun District Superintendent
Bawaila UMC

**Therefore go and make disciples of all nations,
baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son
and of the Holy Spirit,
Matthew 28:19**

What Can Our Church or I Do To Help in Sierra Leone (SL)?

Pray, Pray, and Pray for the SL Pastors and Church Congregations!

Choose to become a covenant holding Church or Cluster with the Sierra Leone Initiative, contact co-chairperson Jim Jacobs, jjacobs@susumc.org

Encourage your youth, UMW, UMM, or Sunday School Classes to unite and fund raise for the pastors and parishes of SL

Send volunteers to SL to establish a relationship with your partner church's congregation and pastor if you chose to have one

Create a communication chain with your partner church (letters, email, WhatsApp, ask your Mentor/Advocate to help or the Co-Chairperson of the Initiative) jjacobs@susumc.org

Find out if anyone from your church connects with your Church's Mentor/Advocate from the SL Initiative Team (every covenant holding church has one)

Keep news and pictures about SL in your bulletin, newsletters, and on bulletin boards

If unable to take a covenant, donate occasionally, the need for pastor salary support remains significant!

Church Happenings

The congregation at New Creation Community Church in Dover, PA was able to supply funds to put on a new roof on the church as well as installing a ceiling and new floor. Several other improvements such as doors and windows have been made at the church



Solomon Brima looks over the school supplies that children of New Creation Community Church in Dover, PA provided through funds raised during Vacation Bible School. Money that was raised allowed the purchase of books and school supplies for the children

Bishop Bangura Memorial UMC sister Church of New Creation Community Church, Dover, PA



Lower Bombara UMC Panguma sister Church of Camp Hill UMC



The Market Dedication- March 7, 2022

The main goal of this year's visit by a five member team from Camp Hill UMC was to officially dedicate and open the new market building that has been in the works for 6 1/2 years. This market was the desire and vision of the community and was named and dedicated to Amadu Ndoeka, Sr. who was our dear friend and liaison in Sierra Leone and in Panguma, where we often stayed at his house. We dedicate this market in his name and for the Glory of God.



Recently a team from the Camp Hill United Methodist Church returned to their sister church, Lower Bombara UMC, in Panguma Sierra Leone, West Africa to rejuvenate the relationship that suffered a 3-year break due to the Covid pandemic. The five-person team consisted of Jim Clahane, Marsha Curry-Nixon, Beth Notarfrancesco, Denise Paran and Mark Vickery. Confirming the commitment to the community was the primary focus for the trip although they were also able to spend time with the church, schools, hospital and dedicating a community market.



The dedication of the community market was a highlight of the trip for many. Two widely loved and respected leaders, Bishop John K Yambasu and Amadu Ndoeka Sr went on to rest with their Lord and Savior during the building of the market and so the dedication of the Amadu Ndoeka Memorial Market became as much of a day of memory and honor as joy and commencement.



The team also spent time re-visiting a long-standing scholarship program in which the church has raised and invested over \$340,000 over 12 years in the education of students within the UMC schools in Panguma. This partnership is helping to improve the education and opportunity for education to children living in Panguma with the hope of bettering the lives of families one child at a time.

The team returned home encouraged by the many ways they saw God at work throughout their journey and credits the Sierra Leone Initiative for opening the door for the development of this relationship which has changed lives on both sides of the Atlantic Ocean to and for the glory of God.

How To Donate Funds Designated for Partner Church Development-

Send church development funds (all funds other than for your covenant amount) on that same church treasurer's report form but indicate as designated project funds and the amount of the development funds for your partner church

Very Important, please email the Initiative's treasurer indicating your church sent XX amount above your covenant for XX development, this includes building funds, scholarship funds, wells money, Bibles etc., treasurer.sli@gmail.com

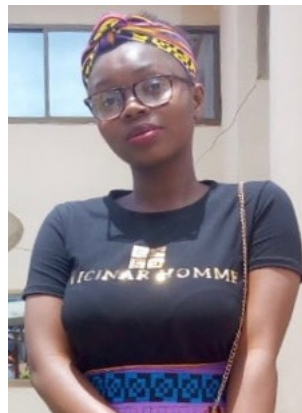
Tombodu 2022 Newsletter

An Elderly Lady and A Young Adult Members' Dreams Fulfilled

Imagine keeping your focus on God during a two hours plus worship service knowing the only nearby place to “relieve” yourself was “in the bush”! During a congregational meeting with two Susquehanna Conference covenant church guests, Desiree and Pam, a question was asked of the TomboduMC members: What are your dreams for Tombodu UMC? Many ideas were shared, but two stood out – the and young adult scholarships. Two years of planning lead to the completion of a three-stall bathroom being constructed along side of the church building and the beginning of a scholarship program.



Paxtonville UMC's contact from Tombodu, Sam Fandy, kept the congregation updated on the progress of the build with pictures, videos, and WhatsApp chats. The Tombodu UMC congregation figured out how to provide water to the bathrooms by tying into the well from the local clinic. There is no well on the church property. The second development provided was 7 scholarships – one economics university degree, one National Higher Degree in Human Resources, and 5 teacher degrees. Mary graduated this spring 2022, Ann, Victor, Moses, S. Fengai, and Kallie are in their last semester/model, and Sam will graduate in 2023. A new round of scholarships begins this fall and technical student scholarships will be added to the program. Relationship building with partner church members although difficult at times changes lives, physically (sanitation), spiritually (Sierra Leoneans depend on God, they teach us to depend more on Him), and financially (7 trained individuals who before had no means of getting training for good jobs). To God Be the Glory!



How To Donate To the Sierra Leone Initiative's Support for Pastors

Send covenant holding churches' donations to the Conference Office, 303 Mulberry Drive, Mechanicsburg, PA 17055

Use your church treasurer's monthly report form (there is a line item for the SL Initiative, Advanced Special #8030) list salary/covenant funds only by amount, not SL church name.

A Sierra Leone Learning Opportunity

Who? All Covenant Churches' Congregants and Churches or Individuals interested in Sierra Leone's Pastors and Churches

What?: Sierra Leone Initiative Picnic Supper

When? 4:30 pm Sunday, June 26, 2022

Where? Paxtonville UMC Pavilion 1281 Paxton Street Paxtonville, PA 17861 (1 mile south of Rt 522)

Why? To learn more about the 2022 trips to Sierra Leone (Jeff's Fisher's trip in January and Camp Hill's trip in April). A possible 2023 Sierra Leone Trip

How? Bring your pictures or letters received from your partner church and a food offering for the picnic supper to share

Questions: Contact jjacobs@susumc.org or pam04sierra@gmail.com.



The Susquehanna Conference Sierra Leone Initiative Team bids Pam Perna a sincere thank you for her years of hard work as Chairperson of the SLI. As she noted on the front page of this newsletter, "A New Thing is Happening". We wish her God's Grace and Love in her new endeavors. Thank you, Pam.

