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"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." Jeremiah 29:11

This verse is so true for ULICAF and for Liberia International Christian College (LICC). God began working out His plans when the classes first started in March 2009 and opened the way for hope and a better future for all the students who have attended these past 15 years!

# Update on the Schwartz's Plans

For the past 4 years, Russ and Ruth Schwartz have traveled to Liberia International Christian College (LICC) to spend 4 months on the campus working in their respective areas of teaching, finance, and administration. But this year their plans were upended shortly before they were to leave on January 18 due to a kidney problem that Ruth's doctor discovered. This condition is very treatable, but they will remain in the U.S. until the treatment is completed. Although they don't know exactly when that will be, they hope to be in Liberia sometime during the 1<sup>st</sup> semester which is March – June. In her words, "I am so thankful that God allowed my doctor to discover this problem. Although I'm disappointed that I can't be there in Liberia, I know that God knows exactly what He is doing." Please pray along with us that God would heal Ruth's kidney and the Schwartz's will be able to travel soon.

## **Nursing Building Dedication**

We mentioned in the December newsletter that the LICC Nursing Building dedication is planned for March 8. At least 4 ULICAF board members plan to travel to Liberia for this momentous occasion. Not only will it be a time of great rejoicing for LICC, but also for the surrounding community. Dedications are BIG events in Liberia and since what goes on in this building can greatly improve healthcare in Liberia in the future, we especially want to thank and praise God for allowing LICC to be a part of His bigger plan! Rev. Karney Dunah, our past Executive Director, dreamed of bringing a Nursing Degree to LICC and worked tirelessly to raise awareness as well as funding for this huge undertaking. We also want to thank you our supporters and prayer warriors for your generous support over the past 4 years to make this dream a reality! Watch for photos and news about this in our April newsletter.

#### **Fence Project**

Many of you have asked about the Fence Project and how far along we are now. In our December newsletter we shared that a donor would purchase the 2 gates needed if we could raise the remaining \$6,500 to finish the fencing portion. We are rejoicing because \$6,845 was donated! Many times, building projects get changed during construction and that has been the case with the Fence Project, Ruth Schwartz had planned to assess the progress so far before making decisions on the final fencing. Unfortunately, since Ruth's trip has been delayed, construction on the fence has also been delayed. If for some reason the Schwartz's cannot be on campus by sometime in March, then Pastor Bill Sebald from Hope In The Harvest Mission, also based there at LICC, will do the assessment so that construction can resume, and he will directly oversee it. We are so thankful for God's provision for both the funds to complete it and for Pastor Bill Sebald. We are still raising funds toward Phase 3 —

construction of a new security booth. While we don't have a firm estimate of the cost for this, we believe a ballpark estimate to be somewhere between \$6,000 - \$9,000. We are also praying that God would bring a ministry that offers clean drinking water by installing a well and manual pump to come alongside the community next to the campus. Many of these community people are currently using the LICC pump for their main source of water. Once the fence and gates are put to full use, it will not only keep out the "rouges" that mean harm, but it will increase the walking distance for the community folks who use the school pump. If you know of such a ministry please let us know as soon as possible. We'd love to have this Security Project completed by the end of June.

# **Annual ULICAF Conference**

Plans are underway for the Annual ULICAF Conference, a time for both Liberians and Americans who are a part of this ministry to come together for fellowship, teaching, and renewing friendships new and old. This year we plan to meet at House of Prayer Evangelical International Ministry – **HOPE church**, 7271 West Broadway Ave N, Brooklyn Park, MN 55428. The **date is July 18–20**. Please mark this on your calendar and begin planning now so you and your family can attend this vital part of our life together as a ministry.

## **Non-Cash Donations**

We have recently received two non-cash donations which can greatly help with ministry to Liberians. In late January, another ministry donated over 1,200 pairs of prescription glasses along with glasses cases, a Lens kit and eye charts. This donation will help Bill & Holly Sebald as well as Ruth Schwartz as they work with a local eye doctor in Ganta, Liberia where LICC is located to help those who have no way to ever afford prescription glasses.

We also received a donated "library" of almost 300 books for the LICC Library. These donations will be shipped by container later this year with the hope that they will arrive on campus in December 2025. Yes – it takes a long time for donations such as this to reach Liberia, but we are so thankful for these useful items, and it is well worth the cost to ship them, and the time invested as they have the potential to change people's lives. If you have a laptop that still has life left in it, or other items you think would be of value to our ministry, please contact Ruth Schwartz (317) 850-5408. We might not be able to accept everything, but Ruth can give you more information and guidance on what items are useful.



If you would like to response or make a donation, please use the enclosed Response Form and envelope. To give **online** please visit <u>www.ulicaf.org</u>. Click **Donate Now** then click **Send** on the PayPal page. We are so thankful for every response, prayer or donation to what God has called us to do!

With a thankful heart,

Yeak Monneh

Yeak Monneh Interim Executive Director