

The Episcopal Church of Liberia

Short History of the ECL

The Episcopal Church of Liberia and the Episcopal Church of the United States have a long history of mutual involvement in the ministry of Jesus Christ. It formally began in 1836 with the sending of missionaries and the subsequent establishment of the episcopate in the years following.

A Covenant Agreement was adopted by both churches in 1979, in their respective Conventions. A part of that Covenant called for ECL to become a part of, and to give leadership to, the Province of West Africa. That was accomplished in the early 1980s. ECUSA and ECL have remained in Covenant because of our historic relationships, with both working to support the Province of West Africa.

ECL has now been through a devastating period of over twenty years of civil unrest, including a seven-year period in the ravages of war.

The Episcopal Church of Liberia

General Convention Resolution to Approve Autonomy

1979 – 66th General Convention

***See attached PDF file**

The Episcopal Church of Liberia Covenant

A COVENANT between THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF LIBERIA (ECL) and THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN THE USA (PECUSA)

Approved by the Liberia Covenant Committee October 2001
Approved by Executive Council of The Episcopal Church, February 2002

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1. ECUSA will assist ECL in the renovations of church related buildings, including such facilities as schools, clinics, and hospitals. It will also help in providing supplies and other aids, as outlined in the Five-Year Plan for 2001-2005.
2. ECUSA will continue to give moral and financial assistance to ECL in its support of Cuttington University College.
3. ECUSA will collaborate with ECL in the recruitment and training of appropriate candidates for ordination, to serve in Liberia.
4. ECUSA and ECL will work together to develop and operate outreach programs to assist Liberians who have lost their homes, possessions, and means of livelihood as a result of civil conflict. This may include providing such items as farm equipment, clothing, food, medical supplies, and the encouragement and empowerment of local small businesses.
5. ECUSA will continue to support the annual operating budget of ECL with the understanding that the amount of support may decline each year until ECL has eventually achieved full financial independence.
6. ECUSA and ECL will develop strategies to work together in partnership to accomplish these goals. Of great importance is the exchange of people to share the ministry of Christ through different spiritualities, cultures, and skills. We see parish to parish companionships to be beneficial for both churches.

7. ECUSA will render assistance to ECL in the review and updating of its Pension Plan for clergy and qualified church workers.
8. The Bishop of Liberia shall continue to be a collegial member of the House of Bishops of ECUSA. Representatives of ECL shall continue to be provided, through the Rules of Order, a "seat and voice" in the House of Deputies of ECUSA, when that body meets.
9. A Joint Committee of Consultation (the Covenant Committee), including members of ECUSA and ECL, will continue to consult, cooperate, and offer advice on a regular basis.
10. This Covenant shall be subject to review and modification as may become necessary and will continue in effect until agreement by both parties to terminate.

The Episcopal Church of Liberia
Covenant Committee Members

Episcopal Church Panel

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The Episcopal Church of Liberia Companion Diocese and Other Relationships

The Diocese of Liberia in the Church of the Province of West Africa

Other Relationships:

The Diocese of Southern Ohio

Contact: Paul Rank of OH – paulrank@cinci.rr.com

The Diocese of Western Massachusetts

Contact: Jane Griesbach for WMA – frontierproductions@charter.net

**Episcopal Missionaries Serving in
The Episcopal Church of Liberia / Diocese of Liberia**

David & Susan Copley
Diocese of Liberia

1991 - 1994

Served in the Diocese of Liberia as pediatric nurses for three years. They are both now priests. David is currently the Mission Personnel Officer at the Episcopal Church Center; and Susan is Rector of Christ Church, Tarrytown, New York.

E-mail: dcopley@episcopalchurch.org

Eric Gilder
Diocese of Liberia

8/10/2000 – Present

E-mail: egilder@hotmail.com

or E.Gilder@cepes.ro

Web site: <http://www.ulbsibiu.ro>; www.getcited.org

Eric spends three months of the year teaching at Cuttington University in the Diocese of Liberia.

Mary Barber – YASC Missioner
Diocese of Liberia

9/5/06 - 9/5/07

E-mail: oboenurse@netzero.com

Blog: <http://www.missionarymary.blogspot.com>

Served for one year in the Diocese of Liberia as Campus Clinic Nurse and Practical Instructor at Cuttington University

Robin Denny – YASC Missioner
Diocese of Liberia

9/5/06 – 9/5/07

E-mail: redenney99@yahoo.com

<http://www.geocities.com/redenney99/>

Served for one year as a Teaching Assistant at Cuttington University.

Thomas Karman
Diocese of Liberia

9/5/06 – 9/30/07

E-mail: takarman1@yahoo.com

Served as Professor and Special Assistant to the V.P. Academic Affairs at Cuttington University.

The Episcopal Church of Liberia
United Thank Offering Grants (Transferred to Province of West Africa 1982)

1955-58 Grant List

BROMLEY: Rebuild Julia C. Emery Hall: \$100,000

1955-58 Division Grants

Bromley: Julia C. Emery Hall: Equipment: \$6,500

Julia C. Emery Hall: Addition to 1955 Triennial Grant: \$19,500

Bolahun: Repairs to Hospital Wards, Bolahun Mission:4,000

Communication system for Holy Cross Mission: \$2,500

RobertSPORT: House of Bethany: Sink: \$610

Suacoco: Elementary School(Substitution for Item IV-G1. 1955-58 Budget: \$6,500

1958-61 Grant List

Suacoco: Cuttington College:Chapel: \$75,000

1958-61 Division Grants

Bolahun: Holy Cross Mission: Repairs to Hospital Wards: \$2,500

Cape Palmas: Junior High School: Equipment: \$15,000

RobertSPORT: House of Bethany: Soap Dispensers, Mattresses & Kitchen Equipment:
\$1,220

Equipment for Schools: \$10,000

Sewing Machines for Lepers (near Cuttington College): \$105

Catharine Barnaby: Physics Charts: \$80.68

Suacoco: Cuttington College: Equipment & supplement: \$1,981

Toward 2 Room Addition to Elementary School:10,000

1961-64 Grant List

RobertSPORT: Rebuild House of Bethany: \$50,000

Shello: Order of Holy Cross: \$6,000

1961-64 Division Grants

Johnsonville: St. Thomas Church-School-Chapel: 8,000

Bolahun: St. Augustine's:3 Typewriters: \$465

RobertSPORT: House of Bethany: Furnishings for kitchen, dining room, bedrooms:
\$7,500:

Furnishings: \$5,000: Rebuild House of Bethany, Increased cost for Triennial Grant: \$6,000:Furniture: \$1,000: Jeep for staff: \$3,200

Shello: Order of the Holy Cross: Increased Cost for Triennial Grant: \$1,500

Kailahun: Sierra Leone: Sisters of the Convent of St. Helena: Holy Cross Mission: \$1,000

1964-67 Grant List

Cuttington College, Suacoco: Duplex Staff Dwelling: \$40,00:Boy's Dormitory: \$ 25,000

1964-67 Division Grant

RobertSPORT: House of Bethany: Ms. Irene Lawrence: Car: \$3,003

1967-70 Grant List

Monrovia: To add facilities of the present Bishop Harris School: \$60,000

1970 Nibma: Rectory for St. Martin's on the Mountain: \$20,000

1972 Training for Evangelism: \$13,100

Theological Training Scholarships, Cuttington College: \$6,400

Parish Development Loan Fund: \$10,000

1973 Development Loan Fund for Congregations: To provide incentive loans to congregations enabling them to invest in income producing ventures: \$10,000

1975 Christian Education Project: Training of an additional Christian education staff person; also be part sponsor of the audio- visual & inter church TV ministry: \$10,000

1977 Transportation, Maryland & Kru Coast: To assist the diocese in the purchase of two land rovers for the use of the clergy in their ministry in areas inaccessible by other transportation: \$11,500

1979 Bolahun: Bolahun Agricultural Project: Toward the initial costs of developing an income producing coffee & cocoa farm which will support the Episcopal School to educate children in this remote rural area: \$22,000 (2 year)

1981 Monrovia: Diocesan Vehicle Loan Fund: To establish a clergy vehicle loan fund that includes a means of replacement, when necessary: \$30,000

1983 Monrovia: Diocesan Conference Hall: Toward building a conference center for church conventions, retreats & conferences in this diocese celebrating its se