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## EVANGELICAL FELLOWSHIP OF SIERRA LEONE'S NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 2 / ISSUE 2

28<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2020

### EFSL HANDS OVER MOLUCIA COMMUNITY SCHOOL

The Evangelical Fellowship of Sierra Leone (EFSL) in



October 2020 completed the construction of a six-classroom primary school structure with office, store and VIP toilet. The eye-catching building was handed over to the Bonthe District Educational Committee for the people of the Kumabekwe community. The handing

over was done in a very colorful ceremony on the 17<sup>th</sup>



October 2020. The school will serve and connect five sub-communities in the area. The project was funded by EFSL partner Mission Alliance.

The opening ceremony was attended by representatives of the EFSL Board, staff members and representatives of the Jong Chiefdom, Bonthe District Council, Ministry of Education, and community leaders,

In addressing the mammoth gathering during the opening ceremony, the EFSL General Secretary and CEO urged the

community members to take advantage of the facility to send their children especially the girl-child to school and not to give them into early marriages.

On receiving the keys of the school, Counselor Joseph Sivalie, expressed his utmost appreciation to EFSL for the school building which he described as the best school building constructed in the Bonthe District so far. He encouraged the community members to unite and make use of the opportunity to send their children to school. He added that Council is going to close down all makeshift schools in the community as the construction of the school building no longer leave room for such structures to exist in the community.

## EFSL PAN AFRICAN CHRISTIAN WOMEN ALLIANCE (PACWA) CELEBRATES PACWA INTERNATIONAL DAY

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On the 4<sup>th</sup> December 2020, EFSL PACWA women linked up with other women in Africa (virtual) to celebrate a successful 30th global thanksgiving at the Loko Baptist Church, Circular Road, Freetown.



Rev. Francess Boiro, preacher for the occasion and also the first National Coordinator of PACWA Sierra Leone expressed her unending appreciation to God Almighty for making it possible for a thriving reunion of PACWA women at home and abroad. She thanked all the members who worked assiduously for months to plan the reunion event amidst the COVID-19 pandemic. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic

restrictions posed by the government, the women meet every Monday virtually at 8pm to 9pm and every 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday face to face meetings at 5pm to 7:00 pm at EFSL'S head office, 35 Circular Road, Freetown.

## EFSL COUNCIL APPROVES STRATEGIC PLAN 2021-2025

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On the 11<sup>th</sup> December 2020, the EFSL Council held its final Council meeting for 2020 at the Loko Baptist Church, Circular Road, Freetown. The meeting among other issues discussed, and collectively adopted the EFSL Strategic Plan which presents EFSLs road map into the period 2021 – 2025. The plan presents a reviewed version of the values, vision, and mission statements of the organization. The vision statement now reads: ***A leading Christian voice, impacting the church, communities, and the nation of Sierra Leone*** while the Mission statement at present reads “***EFSL exists to build healthy churches and productive communities for the transformation of Sierra Leone***”

The new plan is unique as it seeks to respond appropriately to issues affecting the church, communities, and the nation of Sierra Leone as a whole. It is aligned to the Sierra Leone Medium

Term National Development Plan for 2019-2023 and ultimately to the UN Agenda for Sustainable Development Goals. (SDGs).

## EFSL DONATES TO HEAVEN HOMES ORPHANAGE

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On the 16<sup>th</sup> December, 2020, EFSL visited the Heaven Homes Orphanage at Joe Town, Waterloo, and donated food items worth over 5 million Leones in support of the orphanage children.



Mr. Daniel Kargbo who did the presentation on behalf of EFSL said the Christmas gift was part of EFSL support and care for the orphans not only in Heaven's Home but in other parts of the country. He reiterated that EFSL is committed to continuing to support in accordance with James 1: 27.

Mrs. Hannah G. Kanu, the Country Manager of Heaven's Home Orphanage thanked EFSL for such a wonderful help rendered to them in such difficult times and with a teary face thanked the General Secretary for not forgetting the Heaven's Home Orphanage as always since the Ebola days. Finally, Abdul Sesay a 13-year-old boy at the home gave the vote of thanks.

## EFSL PROVIDES SAFE DRINKING WATER FOR MOWAGOR AND KPANABUM TOWN COMMUNITIES

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The Mowagor village and Kpanabum Town communities in the Jong Chiefdom, Bonthe District were provided with safe drinking water after decades of suffering in their communities.



The provision of the wells in these communities has helped to reduce the risk of water borne diseases and the high rate of teenage pregnancy.

The chiefdom speaker, Chief Francis Kpanabum on behalf of the Paramount Chief thanked EFSL and their partners for such a humanitarian gesture to save suffering lives in their communities

as "water is life."





## EFSL PROVIDES VERONICA BUCKETS FOR CHURCHES IN BUEDU AND KOINDU, KAILAHUN DISTRICT

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As a proactive measure to join the government in the fight against COVID-19, the Evangelical Fellowship of Sierra Leone provided fifty (50) churches in Buedu and Koindu Town with veronica buckets for the washing of hands during worship services.

The situation of these churches was made known to the EFSL when the General Secretary and his team visited Koindu to sensitize Pastors to abide by the government COVID-19 regulations for worship services.

Through support from one of EFSL partners, EFSL was able to meet the needs of these churches so that they will comply with the COVID-19 regulations and also keep their members safe from contracting or spreading the pandemic in the church and the communities.

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## TVET WEEK CELEBRATION

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The Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) week celebration commenced with radio and television discussions on TVET by the EFSL TVET Image Campaign team and other TVET Stakeholders. The week's events were climaxed at the Atlantic Hall, National

Stadium. The event which was live streamed was attended by the National Youth Commissioner and staff, representative from the Ministry of Higher and Technical Education, TVET stakeholders such as the TVET Council, NCTVA, the media and other TVET institutions.

The purpose of the TVET week was to showcase the importance and relevance of TVET education for the development of Sierra Leone.



Several TVET institutions were in attendance including YWCA, EFSL REAPS, Milton Margai University of Education and Technology, Armed Forces Training Centre, Women's Vocational Training Centre etc. each displaying products from their respective training centers.

The EFSL General Secretary in his address during the occasion appealed to the government and all TVET Stakeholders to make the TVET Week Celebrations an annual event. He opined that it will help maintain and keep reminding the country of the importance of TVET.

The TVET Celebration was well appreciated by the Youth Commissioner who praised the EFSL for their hard work and passion for changing the mindset of youths and their parents about TVET.

## DISTRIBUTION OF FOOD AND LEARNING MATERIALS TO VULNERABLE CHILDREN IN BONTHE DISTRICT

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EFSL as part of its activities provided food items to vulnerable children in the Sogbeni, Jong and Imperi Chiefdoms, Bonthe District.

The children were also provided with school learning materials (uniforms, books, bags, pens, pencils, geometric sets etc.) to assist them in preparing for examination and to return to school after the COVID-19 lockdown.

Most of the children are orphans and some lived with foster parents or other relatives. EFSL also provides medical and other material support to these children to support them to become meaningful citizens in society.



## PRAYER POINTS

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- 1. Pray for unity, peace and political stability in Sierra Leone**
- 2. Pray for cooperation between EFSL and partners for the successful implementation of the EFSL Strategic Plan 2021-2025**
- 3. Pray for financial provision and partners who would work and support EFSL to undertake a research on the status of the church and the unreached people's group in Sierra Leone**

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**Happy Christmas and a blessed 2021 in advance**