



Pastors with Bob Copeland

LIBERIA in Latin means “Land of the Free.” Freedom is unfortunately translated to mean different things to different people, sometimes resulting in a struggle for control. Within the past 30 years this “Land of the Free” has suffered through two civil wars; one being seven years in duration (ending in 1997) and the other being four years (ending in 2003). Recovery is a polite word for the challenges a people face to basically begin all over again. This attempt at the long process of reconstruction took a step backwards a few years ago when the Ebola epidemic claimed thousands of lives and threatened to spread with worldwide repercussions.



John S. Cleon, handing out gifts that Bob Copeland brought

Through the prayers of Christians around the world, God has extended grace to this small West African nation with a period of relative calm. Our churches in

LIBERIA



Teachers from the Hal Patterson School

Liberia have responded to this time of peace with the conviction that they must bring to the “Land of the Free” the message of real freedom found only in Jesus Christ. It is a message which must be spread with urgency as the Lord said, “I must work the works of Him who sent me, for night is coming when no man can work” (John 9:4 WEB).

Pastor Bob Copeland joined me in October to bring a week of training to pastors and church leaders in Monrovia. We met with 25 receptive pastors teaching them about: The Father-Heart of God (blended with distinctive Advent doctrines), sermon preparation, and intercessory prayer. We took time to speak with each participant and are glad to carry home their burdens to share with you. They ask you to pray for:

- the gospel to reach all of the provinces of Liberia;
- the two Christian elementary



Bryce Whiting with students from the Hal Patterson School

schools they have in Buchanan and in Monrovia of 110 students each;

- the health clinic they have in Buchanan. Though presently staffed with two nurses the government is requiring that they employ an MD to meet regulations. The clinic is now searching for qualified candidates and asks for our prayers that an honest MD will join them.
- The Brewerville AC Church has purchased land, but lacks the means with which to build.
- the new steps to meet their visions that came out of their annual conference in December 2016.

God loves Liberia. Let’s share his burden for them.

Bryce Whiting
Africa/Europe Area Director

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PRAYER

& Praise

January 2017



“The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom; all those who practice it have a good understanding. His praise endures forever!”

(Psalm 111:10 ESV)

Join in united prayer with other Advent Christians.

**Advent Christian
General Conference**



PRAY

1. For peace and joy throughout the world as we enter this year.
2. For continued direction for those who are planning for the 2017 Advent Christian General Conference Triennial in Charlotte for June 24 – 28.
3. For the short-term mission trips to Honduras that will happen during the weeks of January 16 – 30. Pray for safe travel for these two large groups that will conduct medical and dental clinics along with construction work and distribution of school supplies.
4. For our denominational Focus Group meeting January 30 – 31 in Charlotte, N.C.
5. For the financial support needed to fund the ministries provided through ACGC.
6. For those who are actively involved in ministry to refugees and for these displaced people to experience the compassion and love of Jesus through his people.
7. For American President-Elect Donald Trump as he is inaugurated on January 20, for a safe and smooth transition of power, and for God's wisdom and direc-

tion for all in government positions of leadership.

8. For the team (Project Barnabas) of five young people accompanied by two adults from the Takanini Community Church in Auckland, New Zealand (Garry Schache and Ernie Schache), and one adult from the United States (Patrick Forbes) as they conclude their trip at Christian Mission Ban Naratchakwai in Nakhon Phanom, Thailand, and return to their homes. Pray that this time of fellowship has brought encouragement to the ministry.
9. For everyone to celebrate all stages of life from unborn babies to senior adults as we observe "Sanctity of Human Life Sunday" on January 15.
10. For Rowena Cabrizos, Agape House ministry leader, as she travels to Japan to lead and direct the Agape House ministry in Japan.
11. For 2017 to be a year filled with many new believers for Christ.
12. For our outreach partnerships to continue to grow and be blessed.
13. For missionaries Jeff and Penny Vann as they are in the process of renewing their visa to New Zealand and that the renewal will be successful.
14. For college students as they begin their spring semester.

Praise

1. God for the faculty and staff of Aurora University as January 1 is the day our denomination celebrates the contribution this school has made and continues to make in educating men and women for leadership and service.
2. God for new believers who have come to know Christ throughout 2016. We rejoice with the angels for these decisions made.
3. God for the many churches, WHFMS and individuals who gave generously to the 2016 "Bread of Life" mission project that provided funds to purchase food on many of our outreach fields.
4. God for those who are weekly prayer supporters for our denominational ministries.
5. God for the men who have contributed to the spiritual development and growth of our lives as we celebrate "Men's Sunday" on January 29.
6. God for our supporters who have given to our 2016 Penny Crusade, special mission projects and First Responders appeals.
7. God for the partnership of the AC

churches with ACGC World Outreach through the ministry of mission teams.

8. God for our AC ministry leaders as they work to lead others to Christ.
9. God for the open doors to new opportunities for ministry in this New Year, 2017, and for those who are following God's leading.
10. God for our denominational orphanage ministries that are providing care for many needy children.

Please pray for the following ACGC Directors' and Coordinators' Activities

Pam Buchanan, Coordinator of Women's Ministries

- Jan. 27 – 28: Appalachian Pastors' Wives LEAD Team, Lenoir, N.C.

Matt Larkin, Director of Student & Family Ministries

- Jan. 28: Darkness to Light Workshop at Dulins Grove ACC, Charlotte, N.C.

Steve Lawson, Executive Director

- Jan. 10 – 23: India/New Zealand

Justin Nash, Director of Communication

Dawn Rutan, Director of Finance

Jeff Walsh, Director of World Outreach

- Jan. 10 – 23: India/New Zealand

Sam Warren, Director of Nurture

- Jan. 9 – 11: Sonlife D Conf., Orlando, Fla.
- Jan. 21 – 28: Denominational Prayer Leaders Network, San Diego, Calif.