

Dear Friends and Family,

We hope all is well with you. We wanted to drop you a quick line to alert you to be especially vigilant when you pray for your investment in Liberia this week. Here are the significant events that need your holy advocacy:

The LEAD conference, titled “The Way Forward: The Future of Small Business in Liberia,” is hosting business owners at an all day event February 23rd at the Providence Baptist Church. Speakers include members of the legislature, the head of the Liberia Business Association, the Minister of Commerce and Liberia's President, Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf.

--Pray that the turnout matches the quality of the event, and that LEAD's message of "Business as God's Calling" will come through.

The Nehemiah Liberia Group—the US partner to LEAD birthed out of our home church—Madison Square Church of Grand Rapids, Michigan—will have representatives visiting us, as well as other Madison Square folks this week. They arrive mid-week, will visit businesses and attend the conference, and do some other hands-on kind of activities, then leave next Wednesday.

-- Pray for traveling safety and meaningful experiences, that the visitors will see Liberia through the eyes of Christ.

Bob will be in Dakar Senegal from Sunday the 17th until Friday the 22nd attending meetings with the CRWRC West Africa Ministry Team. There, other members of the team from Nigeria, Mali, Niger, Senegal, and Sierra Leone will be getting together. A big part of our agenda will be a day-long discussion of the future of CRWRC's role in Liberia. That discussion is scheduled for Wednesday, the 20th.

-- On the 20th, pray that our meeting is guided by the Holy Spirit throughout and that our decisions be informed by His spirit.

We are any day expecting a very late container to come, loaded with books donated by many loving Canadians—including Renita's family and packed and shipped by Active Kids Canada. We now are hoping it will be even later, until after I return from Senegal to help with the hundreds of boxes of books.

--Pray that the container arrives unmolested at a good time to retrieve its contents.

Thanks to gifts that came to us in memory of Norm Katerberg, we have been able to sponsor a project we think would have delighted our dear friend. In Monrovia, there is a girl's school with 851 girls, but no playground. Inspired by Norm's boundless love of children, we decided—in consultation with the Katerberg family, to use the money for a playground. It will have two slides, three swing sets, two marry-go-rounds, three teeter totters, and a jungle gym. That gets built this week as well. Norm's son, Todd Flier, will be out with the Nehemiah group to aid in the construction.

-- Pray for safety during construction.

We thank you for your prayers!

Blessings,

Bob, Renita, Hannah, and Noah Reed