



Gather The Fragments Bible Mission

Stephen & Laura Holt
Sierra Leone, West Africa

Field Report: June 2026

Greetings to our Family and Friends!

It's been a fast-paced few months since we last wrote to you. Laura had a 3-month follow-up appointment in Jacksonville. At that time Dr. Gonzales was not satisfied with the outcome of her first trial of intravenous immunoglobulin (IVIG) infusions. He changed her infusion schedule from every four weeks to every three weeks. They will still continue to be two days in a row, four hours each.

I returned to Sierra Leone on March 17. Unbelievably, just three weeks after I left, Laura had her first serious fall and broke her right humerus bone, close to her shoulder. The doctor called it a "nasty break," and said had it been any higher, she would have needed a full shoulder replacement. Praise the Lord! It is now in a splint and seems to be healing well. They are trying to avoid surgery which would use plates and screws. Then, just three weeks after that, Laura fell again, resulting in a serious gash in her head, requiring six staples. Her legs are becoming increasingly less stable and she has trouble walking safely, so she uses a wheelchair, even in the house.

IN SIERRA LEONE: Upon Laura breaking her arm, I was not able to immediately return from Sierra Leone due to several administrative and legal obligations needed me to be in country to see through before leaving. I will be departing from Sierra Leone on March 29 and arriving in Orlando on the 30th. Both Laura and my family need me there to assist with caregiving responsibilities.

IN THE VILLAGE: The population of Baomahun increases monthly as the mining company, FG Gold, moves steadily toward processing the mineral. Unfortunately, this means we are seeing an increase in cults of various types, spreading false doctrine among the population. Our lone lighthouse for the truth is making plans to double down on in-town evangelism. After a productive discussion with Pastor Menjor, he better sees the need for increased personal work and evangelism in our own village.

DRY SEASON CIRCUIT: With our evangelism team we assisted a few churches on the circuit. These churches already had solid plans to expand into new areas and plant churches. They asked if we would join them in their evangelistic outreach. These are churches which had already received supplies of The Advocate books and banners, along with scripture portions and tracts. I had a small team traveling with me. The remainder of this report will be photos from our excursions into these new areas.

FURLOUGH: After 17 years of service, we are planning our first furlough. Upon my return, I will begin scheduling meetings to start after August. We are eagerly anticipating the opportunity to thank as many of you as possible in person. Without your prayers and support, we could never have accomplished so much. Thank you for allowing us to be your voice in Sierra Leone.

Because He is Worthy
Stephen & Laura Holt

Scroll down for photo pages!

A Special Blessing!

We had the unexpected blessing of giving our large Betty Luken flannel graph set, along with many accessories and books, to a ministry working with special needs children. This was a blessing, especially to Laura and I could hear her tears of joy over the phone! It was a perfect fit for these often neglected and abused children. Many times these children are just put on a bus and sent away to beg or steal as they are able. Presently just a small work, it is a joy to us to help them as they try to prepare these sadly disregarded children for life as well as give them the Gospel stories in pictures! Since Laura isn't teaching children anymore, we decided to donate her felt collection so it wouldn't get loaded with termites and/or ants. We were blessed to find Nyandengoh!



In Mende Nyandengoh means *Beautiful*

Setting up Laura's beloved easel.



Using a ferry to get to Nyandengoh!

Some very grateful special needs children!



Abbreviated Dry Season Circuit

Working With indigenous pastors as they establish new church plants!

Njagbaituya



Pastor Masequoi



Below: Working with my good friend, Pastor Gbori to establish two new churches in the area of Rogberi.



Right: two men from other churches helping in the evangelism crusade

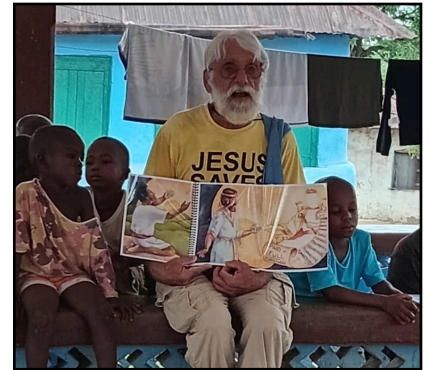


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With Pastor Lehi at Yamadu Station. This pastor is especially fun to work with because he loves to read; a rarity in Sierra Leone. I've given him many books by our home pastor, Bro James Knox, and he just devours them! I recently gave him some extra commentaries I had by Oliver B. Greene and he was thrilled! A rare find indeed. This will be the second church he's started and I won't be surprised if there's more!

Delivering a set of banners



Top: open air preaching With Bro Lehi
Left: delivering books

Witnessing at the Attaya Base in Baomahun

Attaya is a strong sweet green tea popular in West Africa. People gather at the end of the day to visit with friends.

Joseph using *The Advocate* booklet with a small gathered group at the attaya base.



Stephen dealing with some Muslim friends who had some very sincere questions about who Jesus really is. Joseph will follow up with them. Sierra Leoneans need time to think things through; salvations don't come quickly.