

# THE LUTHERAN CHURCH IN LIBERIA - LCL

The Lutheran Church in Liberia was started in 1860 by Rev. Morris Officer of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of the United States in America, today known as the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. The mission began with 40 young people – 20 boys and 20 girls. The present membership is over 71,000.

The national leader of the Lutheran Church in Liberia is called bishop. The Rt. Rev. Dr. Daniel Jensen Seyenkulo is the fourth and current bishop of the LCL. Dr. Seyenkulo succeeded the Rt. Rev. Dr. Sumoward E. Harris April 2012.

The Lutheran Church in Liberia (LCL) started with and has continued a tripartite ministry: Teaching, Preaching and Healing. She currently runs over three dozen schools ranging from elementary to high school across the country and operates two major hospitals, namely Phebe and Curran.

The Lutheran Church in Liberia has nine districts (a district is comprised of several parishes) and 47 parishes (a parish in our setting is a congregation that has at least 500 members). There are over 150 congregations, 300 preaching points, two local mission fields, and one international mission field (Guinea). LCL is blessed with 76 ordained pastors, 115 ordained deacons, and over 300 evangelists whose responsibility it is to spread the Word of God and in some cases, oversee projects of the church.

We have four foreign partners namely, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Bavaria, the Church of Sweden and the Danish Evangelical Mission.

The present focus of the Lutheran Church in Liberia is to become self-supporting so as to enable us, without hindrance, to carry out the ministries that we have been blessed with. We are therefore, investing in agriculture and real estate.