

Liberian Cousins Return to Offer Dentistry, Evaluate Dental Health

Drs. Ayele Cox and Yede Dennis have been practicing and teaching in the U.S. for the last couple

of decades but have made the commitment to return to Liberia and aid the government and WHO in assessing the dental needs and establishing policies and guidelines for dentistry. They are also very supportive of Trinity's potential dental therapy school and have consulted with Keith and Frieda regarding equipment for the Liberian setting. Dr. Dennis has even been able to volunteer several days at the Mercy Ships' dental clinic when they were short staffed. Keith and Frieda are thankful and excited for, and in awe of, the courage that Dr. Cox and Dr. Dennis have displayed in returning to the unknown of their home country and doing their part. Bless you both! Also arriving is a dentist from Ghana who will work with the government to establish a clinic at Redemption Hospital, where Trinity had hoped to start a satellite clinic. We are thankful for this dentist who will now fill the gap on the other side of the capital, Monrovia. We hope to aid him however possible.

Trinity Dental Donated Free Firestone Container

Through Firestone's container program, containers that would otherwise be shipped empty to the Liberia rubber plantation are offered to Liberian NGOs to ship supplies from the U.S. We were accepted and plan to help ELWA ship a new generator as well as offering space to the new local dentists trying to get new equipment here.

Chapman and Mercy Ships Surgeon to Teach Basic and Advanced Cardiac Life Support to ELWA Hospital Nurses and OR Staff

Cardiac care is non-existent in Liberia and many parts of West Africa. Keith and Dr. Bruce Steffes, a general surgeon on the ship, will help prepare ELWA staff for cardiac crises during or after general anesthesia. Trinity has ordered the proper equipment to make this possible in the OR. None of the hospital staff have had any CPR training in the past.

Opening of Clinic Delayed

With Frieda's departure a week ago for a brief leave of absence and fund raising time in Canada (even after delaying her departure for one month), she and Keith have decided to delay the clinic opening most likely until she returns in October. This is still less than six months after Frieda initially closed her clinic for this expansion and renovation. Keith will finish the details of outfitting the clinic and installing necessary equipment, manage the \$80,000 in orders currently being shipped to Liberia for the clinic, oversee construction of the staff house also due to be completed in October, and train future assistants and business staff. He will also continue to volunteer part time at the Mercy Ships' clinic, perform surgeries, and work with and orient the ship's new long term crew dentist who has just arrived with his family from Norway.



*There is much to do in and **around** the clinic. TDC helped repair the road in front of the clinic, badly eroded by rainy season, with bricks from the staff house and clinic demolition. Destruction is good for something!*



Progression of the TDC staff housing which will house the Chapman family and our short term volunteers. Our first volunteer dentist is already scheduled for October.

Wisconsin High School Student to Train Trinity Staff on Computers

Who better to train on computer skills than a 21st century high school student? Paige Calarco, a visitor of our friends down the street, will be instructing our business assistant and receptionist on basic windows and MS Office programs to aid in bookkeeping and patient management.

Patient Lost Due to Complications

We recently lost the life of one of our surgical patients due to complications with anesthesia. During a surgery treating the condition that we regularly see here known as osteomyelitis, the patient quickly began losing oxygen concentration in her blood and was not able to be stabilized, despite all efforts. This was very tragic and difficult for us and obviously for the family as you can imagine. Her family has been more than gracious and has expressed that they are simply touched to see us mourning and grieving with them. Please continue to pray for the family of this patient as well as for future surgeries that will take place at ELWA hospital.

TDC Team Asks for Prayer

Anger and frustration are two enemies that we face and attempt to control as we meet disappointment in many facets of our work almost daily, trying to establish this project in a developing country. We believe, however, that part of our job here is to model patience and forgiveness. We blow this quite often when we “blow our tops” and ask for your prayer that we can be an example to the people who also desire to see their nation rebuilt.

Thanks again for everyone’s interest, prayers, and support.

He raises the poor from the dust and lifts the needy from the ash heap;
he seats them with princes and has them inherit a throne of honor. **1 Samuel 2:8**

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