

The TETTEY's in TOGO

NEWSLETTER – June 2021



Our last newsletter was in Spring 2020 and since then there has been some major changes in EMT (Eglise Methodist du TOGO – Methodist Church TOGO). The biennial Conference held on 5 -7 February 2021 was originally scheduled for October 2020,

but postponed because of the COVID 19 pandemic. Presently, EMT has an all male leadership team – from a previous all female leadership team. We bid the outgoing team farewell. It was our pleasure and honour to have worked with such a unique and exceptional team – the first all female leadership team of the Methodist Church in Africa. We pray for all of God's blessings and direction on the rest of their career.

We are pleased and look forward to working with EMT's new leadership team. Our roles remain the same – Michael to assist with project management and Joanna to assist in the development of a health department within the church. The health department has been long awaited and will consequently be of high priority.

On April 5, 2021 (Easter Monday), EMT launched its long-awaited Radio station – 'Radio Gloire A Dieu' – Glory to God Radio – the voice of the Methodist



Church in TOGO. In the words of the outgoing EMT President – Rev. Zinsou LAWSON – as she summarized the path travelled since 2000 - ***‘the night has been long but the day is coming’***. Radio Glorie A Dieu will cover a 60 km radius every day from 5am to 10pm on FM 106.7 (and over the internet). Located at the EMT headquarters, it broadcasts educational, interactive and live broadcasts in national languages (Mina, Ewe, Kabye); the Nigerian language (Ibo); foreign languages (French and English) as well as other languages when needed. Presentation of newspapers articles, interviews, music tracks, notices, press releases and advertising will be covered. We are pleased with this achievement and pray Radio Glorie A Dieu will meet its objective of witnessing and preaching the Gospel; creating and consolidating fraternal communion between churches; supporting missionary work and evangelizing holistically.

The COVID situation in TOGO seems to be under control. The figures from the Official Government Information Site, as of May 20, 2021 there were 1132 active cases; 12, 083 cured cases; 13,340 confirmed cases; 125 deaths.



As daily life seems to go on as normal, the new normal continues to be mandatory hand sanitizing before entering public buildings; mandatory mask wearing whilst in public buildings; cautionary mask wearing for formal meetings; and mask wearing in casual gatherings left to the individual's decision. Churches and schools have been regular since Christmas 2020. The

practice in EMT church services, involve social distancing seating arrangement and mandatory mask wearing – thus enabling gloriously, enthusiastic praise and worship singing sessions. Land and air borders however, are yet to be opened thus limiting road travel to neighboring Ghana and Benin.

On the family front, the girls have been blessed to have had a relatively normal school year. With mandatory mask wearing in class room's bubble settings, they have had face to face teaching, physical education sessions and even after school activities for most of the academic year. They are now in the final few weeks before summer holidays and are looking forward to a different summer experience to summer 2020. We hope to be in the UK for a few weeks to have our medical checks and pray all will go smoothly.

We thank the Global Relations Team for their support and concern for us during this period. The regular telephone calls and emails were encouraging.

We kindly request your prayers for:

- God's blessings and direction on the rest of the career journey of EMT's outgoing leadership team
- EMT's new leadership team to be effective and efficient.
- Radio Glorie A Dieu to have the required impact on the community
- TOGO to be free from COVID
- The girls to finish well for this school year
- Smooth and safe travel to the UK and back to TOGO
- A safe and healthy stay in the UK
- Smooth medical checks with favourable results