

Liberian Episcopal Community USA



LECUSA



# *10th Anniversary Gathering*

AWARDS & RECOGNITION BENEFIT  
DINNER

SATURDAY, APRIL 11, 2015

@ 7:00 P.M.

*The Cathedral House*

24 RECTOR STREET ♦ NEWARK, NEW JERSEY 07102

Theme:

“HEALING, NURTURING & GROWTH IN LECUSA  
A REFLECTION ON TEN YEARS OF MINISTRY AND SERVICE”

Joel 2:24-27



# The Episcopal Church of Liberia

(Member of the Anglican Church of the Province of West Africa)

OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

P.O. Box 10-0277  
1000 Monrovia, 10 Liberia  
West Africa  
Tel: (+231) 886-516-343  
(+231) 777-070-418

Ref: BO/ECL/3/30/027/015

The President, Officers and Members  
Liberian Episcopal Community in the USA  
(LECUSA) United States of America

March 30, 2015

My Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ.

Your coming together this year in the Diocese of Newark is significant for the fact that it marks your 10th Anniversary, demonstrating your desire as a community of God's people who have met annually to celebrate the resurrection of Our Lord Jesus Christ and to review the mission of the Church which you endeavor to fulfill.

I am pleased to greet you on this your 10th annual gathering and to pray with you that this year, you again reflect on how God can use you to reaching out to your brothers and sisters in Liberia, the United States of America and the rest of the Christian communities.

I must thank you for your continuous assistance to the Ministry of our Diocese and for your support to our Clergy over the years.

I am particularly reminded of your generous support to our Ministry by reaching out to persons affected with the Ebola Virus Disease, as well as to our Clergy, through your sending to the Diocese a consignment of medical and food items during the Ebola crisis here in Liberia.

I wish you would join us that in celebrating the Feast of the Resurrection, we will continually be aware that the Ebola Virus Disease has not completely left our country and our Brothers and Sisters of Guinea and Sierra Leone and that we will renew our faith and the resilience in the Risen Christ as we zero down on the virus.

Alleluia! The Lord is Risen Indeed, Alleluia!

Faithfully yours,

The Rt. Rev. Jonathan B. B. Hart  
BISHOP

## The Liberia National Anthem

*Written by Daniel B. Warner, 3<sup>rd</sup> President of Liberia*

All hail, Liberia, hail! (All hail!)  
All hail, Liberia, hail! (All hail!)  
This glorious land of liberty,  
Shall long be ours.  
Though new her name,  
Green be her fame,  
And mighty be her powers,  
And mighty be her powers.

In joy and gladness,  
With our hearts united,  
We'll shout the freedom,  
Of a race benighted.  
Long live Liberia, happy land!  
A home of glorious liberty,  
By God's command!  
A home of glorious liberty,  
By God's command!  
All hail, Liberia, hail! (All hail!)  
All hail, Liberia, hail! (All hail!)  
In union strong success is sure.  
We cannot fail!  
With God above,  
Our rights to prove,  
We will o'er all prevail,  
We will o'er all prevail!

With heart and hand our country's cause defending,  
We'll meet the foe with valour unpretending.  
Long live Liberia, happy land!  
A home of glorious liberty,  
By God's command!  
A home of glorious liberty,  
By God's command!

*Cont. Members & Friends*

Rev. J. Jellico Bright, Sr.  
Dean and Mrs. Emmanuel W. Johnson  
Ms. Helene Johnson  
David T. & Delores Hanson  
John & Roselind Mellish  
Rev. & Mrs. Edward H. Thompson  
Rev. & Mrs. James N. Wilson  
Rev. & Mrs. James Yarsiah  
Rev. & Mrs. Wilmot Merchant  
Ms. Oretha C. Pearch  
Rev. & Mrs. Dee Wellington Bright  
Dr. & Rev. Dr. D. Elwood Dunn  
Rev. Theodora N. Brooks  
Mr. & Rev. Clifford Flemister  
Mr. & Mrs. Gerald F. B. Cooper  
Mr. & Mrs. Lionel Brown  
Rev. Christian C. Harding  
Dr. & Mrs. Bankole Jarrett  
Rev. & Mrs. David Z. Howard  
Ms. Emily V. Benjamin  
Mr. & Mrs. Paul Jones  
Rev. & Mrs. Joseph Green  
Rev. & Mrs. John T. W. Harmon  
Mr. Victor Lawson  
Arlen & Melissa Campbell-Langdell  
Samuel & Mattie-Mae Abdullai  
Ms. Marie Y. Hayes  
Mr. & Mrs. Paul Bel George  
Rev. Fr. Slewion Lewis  
Ms. Mary T. Bryant  
Ms. Kate C. Bryant  
Ms. Jo Ann Brimmer  
Leslie A. Thomas  
Ms. Philip A. Copp  
Ms. Selene Von Bartheld  
Ms. Pam Fahrner  
Ms. Diane Montellone  
Mr. & Mrs. J. H. Guess  
Ms. Pamela Guess  
J. Dinwiddie Moore  
Ms. Mary Bush M. Bryan

Ms. Juliette Greenfield  
Ms. Asatu Jallah  
Ms. Jack Cooke  
Ms. Lynette Campbell  
Ms. Joyce Jallah-Cooper  
Mr. Elijah Kollie  
Ms. Nancy Cassell  
Mr. & Mrs. Arnold F. Geblers, III  
Jack & Christina N. Nietert  
Stanley M & Patricia E. Woolley  
Ms. Sandra Jane Connor  
Bonnie Gruetzmacher  
The Honorable Jule Stokes  
Robert G. & Ann Thompson Langevin  
Peter & Mary Ann Berthrong  
Ms. Jane P. de Butts  
Ms. Janet Valsechi-Diaz  
Jose & Lisa Vargas  
Mr. Dean W. Blackman  
Joseph A. & Maria Curatolo  
Ms. Bruna Raicovi  
Dennis & Linda Micceri  
Canon & Mrs. Bruce Woodcock  
Ms. Mary Katherine Wold  
Ms. Christine H. Campbell  
Stanley & Joyce Zulewski  
Ms. Clarice C. H. MA  
Ms. Katarzyna Skalska  
Ms. Comfort Rennie  
Mr. Emanuel Wilson  
Mr. & Mrs. Jacob Willis  
Marion McPadden  
Heather - Gloves for Liberia  
MedShare – Southern Region (Kian Lawson)  
Episcopal Relief and Development (ERD)  
Global Health Ministries  
Friends of Liberia  
Center for Disease Control (CDC)  
CNN, FOX, CNBC, NBC ABC  
Embassy of Liberia, Washington, DC  
St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Lakeview, New Orleans, LA  
St. Luke's Episcopal Church, New Orleans, LA  
Dr. Eric Ehrensing, MD

## LECUSA CHAIRMAN'S GREETINGS

Alleluia! Christ is risen! The Lord is risen indeed, Alleluia! As we gather in Newark, New Jersey (April 10-12, 2015), to hold our Tenth Annual Gathering and celebrate a milestone achievement in our prestigious organization – the Liberian Episcopal Community in the USA, Acronym - LECUSA, the officers, advisors, members and I extend a warm welcome to our distinguished honorees, guests, partners and well-wishers! We most heartily thank and welcome our fellow diaspora Liberians, and friends who have joined us on this auspicious occasion. LECUSA is sincerely grateful to the Diocesan of Newark, the Canon to the Ordinary, the Wardens, vestry and parishioners of Trinity and St. Philip's Cathedral, for the great hospitality extended to us in hosting our conference!

Our theme for this 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Gathering is: **Healing, Nurturing and Growth in LECUSA – A Reflection on Ten Years of Ministry and Service (Joel 2:24-27)**. For the past nine years, LECUSA has made tremendous strides in fulfilling our mission and ministry to serve our members, partner with The Episcopal Church USA - TEC, local Episcopal and non- Episcopal congregations, institutions and organizations, friends and well-wishers, to assist and support the ministry of the Bishop and clergy, the laity of the Episcopal Church of Liberia; and our fellow Liberians at home. Joel reminds us of God's uncompromising promise and fulfilment to the Israelites to heal, restore and replenish their land and people. This same God of Israel is bringing healing, restoration, growth and prosperity to our dear motherland, Liberia, beyond "Ebola", and to our dear organization, LECUSA, beyond our 10 years of existence! "... and that I, the LORD, am your God and there is no other. And my people shall never again be put to shame" (Joel 2:27b) NRSV.

As we thank God for the enormous progress made against the deadly Ebola Virus Disease in Liberia and neighboring West African countries, we again pray for courage and resources for the leaders and people of Liberia, for LECUSA and our friends and partners here in the US to overcome this scourge. As we did during the height of the Ebola crisis, LECUSA will continue to play a significant role now and in Post-Ebola Liberia. LECUSA extends gratitude to The Episcopal Church - TEC, our partners and friends for your prayers, material and financial support during the peak of the Ebola crisis. I note with no less appreciation to members of LECUSA who paid the \$50 asked as well as supported and/or solicited further assistance in your various communities. We continue to keep the affected families and the people of Liberia, Guinea and Sierra Leone in our prayers as they seek to eradicate and overcome this deadly virus disease.

As we begin a new decade, we praise God from whom all blessings flow! The Executive Committee and I thank each and every one for your love, prayers and support as we continue to serve God's people.

Congratulations and best wishes to the members of LECUSA and to our partners! May God richly bless us and prosper the work of our hands!

Blessings and peace during this Eastertide!

The Rev. Dr. James T. Yarsiah

## Union of Black Episcopalians

Bishop John T. Walker National Learning Center  
701 Oglethorpe Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20011  
www.ube.org



**Canon Annette Buchanan, is the current National President for the Union of Black Episcopalians (UBE).** She recently served as the immediate past President for the Earl B. Scott Chapter, UBE in the Diocese of New Jersey, was also the past UBE National Secretary and UBE Mid-Atlantic Regional Director.

Within the Diocese of New Jersey she is currently a member of the Grant Advisory Board, was Chair of Communications for the 2013 Episcopal Election Committee of the Diocesan Bishop and is convener for the Urban Ministry Committee. She was a recent member of the Standing Committee and chaired the Right Onward Visioning Committee. She also served on Diocesan Council, Finance & Budget Committee and the Anti- Racism Commission. At St. Augustine's Church, Asbury Park, NJ, her home parish, she is a member of the Vestry and Worship Committee, coordinates the first Sunday Soup Kitchen and has served as Junior Warden. She also chaired the Fundraising, Stewardship, and Building & Grounds Committees. She has served on two search committees for parish Rector.

Professionally Annette had progressively responsible roles in the Telecommunication Companies AT&T, Lucent, & Avaya, beginning her career as a Software Developer and Systems Engineer and culminating as the Director of Technology Strategy & Development. She was recently the Director of Billing & Collections at the largest Visiting Nurse Association in NJ (VNACJ) and is currently a program management consultant for non-profit organizations and instructor at Middlesex College, New Jersey.

She holds a BA degree in Computer Science & Psychology from Hunter College, New York and has certificates in Non-Profit Management and Medical Billing from Rutgers University, New Jersey.

Annette's volunteer and business recognition include Leadership Excellence Award from the Black Clergy Caucus & Earl B. Scott Chapter in the Diocese of NJ; President's Award, UBE National. From AT&T, Lucent & Avaya, Services Market Group Salute to Excellence Award & Distinguished Performance Award; Services R&D Great Performance Award; BCS President Award for Team Excellence and Trailblazer Team Award.

### The Officers and Members of LECUSA, Inc.

Express sincere thanks to our Partners, Members and Friends for their generous support during our 2014 Ebola Relief Assistance to the Episcopal Church of Liberia. May God continually bless you and your ministry.

#### St. Anne's Episcopal Church

The Rev. Fr. Jim Papile, Rector  
1700 Wainwright Drive, Reston, VA 20190

#### St. David's Episcopal Church

The Rev. Mary Kay Brown, Rector  
43600 Russell Branch Pkwy, Ashburn, VA 20147

#### Trinity Episcopal Church

The Rev. Canon John T. W. Harmon, Rector & Pastor  
7005 Piney Branch Rd, NW, Washington DC 20012

#### Church Pension Group Services Corporation

445 Fifth Avenue  
New York, NY 10016

#### St. Andrews Episcopal Church, Newpaulz, NY

#### Church of the Epiphany Episcopal, Plymouth, MN

#### St. Luke's Episcopal Church, Rochester, MN

#### Church of the Messiah Episcopal (Outreach committee), Chester, NJ

#### Mission Int'l Ministry (Rev. Alfons Schirduan), Folly Beach, SC

#### Grand Gedeh Association, Inc. USA, Nottingham, MD

#### St. Mark's Episcopal Church, Port Royal, SC

#### Union of Black Episcopalians, Oakland, CA

#### Eastern Shore Chapel Episcopal, Virginia Beach, VA

#### Holy Trinity Episcopal Church, St. Pauls, MN

#### The African Episcopal Church of St. Thomas, Philadelphia, PA

#### St. Augustine Church (Rev. Jerry Edwards), Newport News, VA

#### Central Florida Chapter of UBE, Orlando, FL

#### The Episcopal Church in Okatie, Ridgeland, SC

#### Union Black Episcopalians (National), Washington, DC

#### The Episcopal Church of the Ascension, Gaithersburg, MD

#### The Episcopal Church USA - (TEC)

#### The Episcopal Church of Liberia - (ECL)

#### Canon Chuck K. Robertson (Presiding Bishop's Office)

#### Episcopal News Service - (ENS)

#### Diocese of Virginia

#### Episcopal Migration Ministries

#### Global Partnerships Office

#### Joint Standing Committee on World Mission, Executive Council

#### Finley Middleton, Former Missionary in Liberia

#### Diocese of Northern California

#### Diocese of Newark

**Congratulations LECUSA on Your  
10<sup>th</sup> Year Anniversary Gathering**

EPISCOPAL HIGH SCHOOL  
&  
EPISCOPAL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL  
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION, USA, INC.

**SAINT MATTHEW'S PARISH**

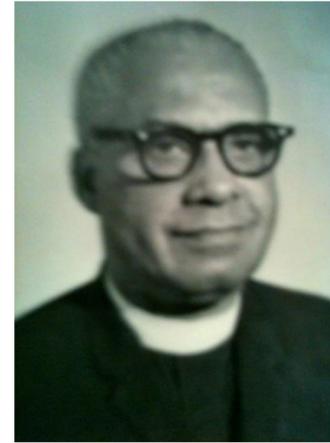
Worcester, Massachusetts

**CONGRATULATES**

Dr. Deborah Harmon Hines  
On this recognition of dedicated service  
&  
Offers thanksgiving for the ministry of  
The Reverend JOHN EDGAR FREEMAN

*"Well done, good and faithful servants..."*

**The Reverend and Mrs. Seth C. Edwards**



In 1948, the Edwards family (the Rev. Seth C., Vivian J. Edwards and their infant son), traveled to Liberia on a freighter out New Orleans. The trip took one month. Fr. Edwards had been assigned to the Missionary Diocese of Liberia and appointed first president of the new Cuttington College and Divinity School to be built at Suacoco, Central Province, Liberia. Upon arriving in Liberia, their first assignment was at Bromley

Mission. The Bishop of Liberia, Bravid Harris, also assigned Vivian to the new Teacher Training Division in Monrovia which later became the Teachers College of the University of Liberia.

Cuttington College was reopened in 1949 and classes began with 3 students: Melvin Mason, Lazaru Okeke and Randolph Sambola. Vivian was professor of English literature and composition and over the many years, through her students, amassed a vast collection of over 2000 Liberian folk narratives. Fr. Edwards, along with running the administration of the institution, taught theology and mathematics.

The Edwards remained at Cuttington until the early 1960's when Fr. Edwards was reassigned to Trinity Cathedral as its Dean. In that role, he ministered to Monrovia's elite but at the same time realized the need to deal with the flood of indigent boys coming into Monrovia. With the support of Liberia's leaders, particularly Mrs. Victoria Tolbert, Fr. Edwards established a Boy's Town at Scheiffelin where young men were taught skills such as carpentering, farming and plumbing and were provided with life skills. At the same time, Vivian joined the faculty of the College of Liberal Arts at the University of Liberia where Amos Sawyer, Florence Chenoweth, Charles Minor and David Farhat were among her students.

Fr. Edwards' greatest contribution to Liberia and the Church, however, was the identification and development of future priests and lay clergy. Many of the present day Liberia Episcopal priests, both in Liberia and abroad, are there because of his efforts.

It is interesting to note that for the 30 years the Edwards were missionaries in Liberia, Vivian Edwards never received compensation for her efforts as was the policy of the Episcopal Church for the spouses of missionaries.

## The Rt. Rev. Mark M. Beckwith



The Tenth Bishop of Newark since his consecration in January 2007, Bishop Beckwith serves on the Episcopal Church Standing Committee on Stewardship, the Board of the Episcopal Service Corps and is the current Chair of the Liberian Covenant Committee for the Episcopal Church. On the national level, he co-founded and chairs Bishops United to Prevent Gun Violence and is currently the Co-Chair of the statewide New Jersey Coalition of Religious Leaders.

A 1973 graduate of Amherst College and a 1978 graduate of Berkeley Divinity School at Yale, Mark then spent two years teaching at Doshisha University in Kyoto, Japan as the Amherst College Fellow. He subsequently served as Associate Rector of St. Peter's Church, Morristown and Rector of Christ Church, Hackensack. Before returning to the Diocese of Newark as Bishop, he spent 14 years as Rector of All Saints Church in Worcester, MA. Deeply committed to urban ministry, Mark has initiated homeless programs, soup kitchens and pro-peace coalitions throughout the years.

Mark has been married to Marilyn Olson since 1982 and they have two adult children.



## Mrs. Virginia Ginny Fecteau



Member of St. David's Episcopal Church, Ashburn, VA since 1993. I have served on many committees and many ministries and still continue in ministry work. I have two grown sons and 2 beautiful grandchildren, Leo who is a precocious 3 years old and Emily who is a smiley, happy 1 year old. They are the light of my life. My husband and I traveled throughout the United States and in Europe due to his work and we settled in Virginia. I was employed by the county of Loudoun for 27 years and worked in Mental Health both clinically and administratively.

I served on the Wounded Warriors project for a year and prior to that the relocation efforts of returning veterans from Vietnam. My other joy is the opportunity to volunteer at the Air & Space Museum at Dulles Airport. At the museum I get the opportunity to meet many interesting people from all over

the world.

Attended Northeastern University in Boston, Mass. Attended George Mason University in Fairfax, Virginia. My specialty was in Sociology.

I am the Register of the Vestry for St. David's, member of LECUSA, provide support to the children at Bromley Girls School in Liberia. A team from St. David's has been traveling to Bromley for the past 10 years and we have helped to rebuild portions of the school and spend time with the girls. We recently raised funds to purchase a 10 passenger van for the Bromley School, constructed a playground, replaced the damaged roof on the school and give our love to the girls at the school.

St. David's and the Bromley team collected supplies to fight the Ebola outbreak and with LECUSA sent a 20 foot container to Liberia. I am proud to be a member of the Bromley Team.

*Congratulations to*

**LECUSA**

*on your*

*10<sup>th</sup> Year Anniversary*

**FROM**

**SHARON AND RICHARD EASLEY**

ASHBURN, VIRGINIA

**FOR 10 YEARS AND COUNTING,  
MAY GOD'S NAME BE PRAISED!!**



**THE BLOCK FAMILY**

*The Revs. Theodora (Teddy) Brooks*

*and Paul E. Block*

*Miles and Isaiah Block*

# CONGRATULATIONS LECUSA FOR 10 YEARS OF FAITHFUL MINISTRY!

*May God continue to use you to  
make a difference in this world!*



The Vicar, Wardens, Vestry, Parishioners, Staff and Outreach Ministries

**St. Margaret's Episcopal Church, Longwood**

940 E. 156<sup>th</sup> Street, Bronx, NY 10455  
718-589-4430/4431 [smechbx@verizon.net](mailto:smechbx@verizon.net)

The Rev. Theodora N. Brooks, VICAR

*"Sharing God's love through the Word, Sacraments, our Hospitality and Outreach Ministries."*

1899-2015

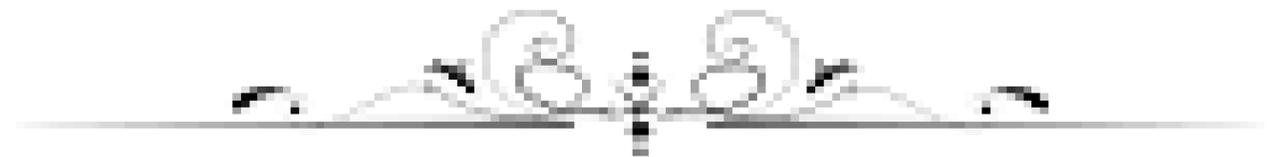
## The Reverend Canon James G. Callaway



The Reverend Canon James G. Callaway became General Secretary of the Colleges and Universities of the Anglican Communion (CUAC) on July 1, 2011. CUAC is a network of the Anglican Communion comprising over 130 colleges and universities with Anglican identity and operates from the Episcopal Church Center in New York City. Canon Callaway graduated from the University of the South, Sewanee with a BA in 1966 and went on to complete his MDiv at General Theological Seminary, New York in 1969.

He is Deputy Emeritus at Trinity Church, New York where he reestablished the Trinity Grants Program in 1980. In 1984 Trinity chose the Anglican Church in sub-Saharan Africa as their global focus. His African partnership work has taken him to twenty-four countries on the continent and in 2013 as CUAC's General Secretary he attended Cuttington's graduation. In recognition of Trinity's support to overcome apartheid, he was made a Provincial Canon of the Anglican Church in Southern Africa in 2005. In 2008 he received a DD from Sewanee in 2008 and in 2009 became a Canon of Christ Church Cathedral in Cape Coast, Ghana.

Jamie lives in New York City. He is a former president of the Consortium of Endowed Episcopal Parishes. He was introduced to Cuttington by his mentor at Sewanee and predecessor at the Association of Episcopal Colleges Arthur Ben Chitty and then by Bishop George Browne who visited New York in 1973. He and his wife were longtime friends of Mrs. Flossie Harris who lived in New York City on the Upper West Side. He is married to Mary Chilton Callaway, a professor of Old Testament at Fordham University. They have two children: Daniel, a patent lawyer in San Francisco who lives with his wife Serena and their son Samuel, and Hannah, who is pursuing a PhD in eighteenth century French history at Harvard University and Pantheon-Sorbonne University, Paris I.



## Dr. Melvin J. & Mrs. Marie J. Mason



Melvin J. Mason, B.A., M.A.T., Ed.D., D.Sc., D.D., KGC, Humane Order of African Redemption, was born in Arthington, Montserrado County, Liberia on Sunday, January 27, 1929. He received his 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Certificate from the Lutheran Muhlenberg Boys School in Millsburg, Montserrado County in November 1944. In 1948 he graduated from the Episcopal High School in Robertsport, Grand Cape Mount County. In 1949, he was the first student to arrive on campus and enroll at Cuttington College & Divinity School. He was a member of the first graduating class in 1952 (B.A. Degree in English/Biology). Dr. Mason received the M.A.T. Degree in Science Education from Yale University in 1955 and the Ed.D. Degree in Curriculum Development & Higher Education Administration from Michigan State University in 1965.

Dr. Mason's career in education spans almost half a century and around the globe. He has worked as a senior level education administrator, project director and evaluator in 15 countries in Africa, Asia, the Caribbean, and the Middle East. From 1955 – 1960 he served Cuttington as an Assistant

Professor, the first Liberian Dean of Men, the first Liberian Registrar and, from 1961-1971, the first Liberian Dean of Instruction (Vice President of Academic Affairs). Thus, he is affectionally known as "Dean Mason" to old alumni and friends.

As the Director of the First World Bank Project (USD \$9m) in Liberia (1972-1978) and the subsequent Second World Bank Project (USD \$7m), he led an international team that established the Manpower Planning Unit in the Ministry of Planning & Economic Affairs, a University Planning Unit at the University of Liberia, constructed the new College of Agriculture of the University of Liberia, Multilateral High Schools in Voinjama and in Zwedru, an Agricultural and Technical Vocation School in Monrovia, and expanded the Kakata Rural Teacher Training Institute. The second World Bank loan of USD \$7 million provided funds for technology centers throughout Liberia. A simultaneous loan from the African Development Bank provided funds to construct primary schools in rural areas in Montserrado County and more remote areas which the second World Bank loan did not cover. Dr. Mason directed all three projects concurrently.

From 1978-1988 Dr. Mason held the position of General Educator in the Cooperative Program in the Educational Financing Division (EFD) at UNESCO, Paris, France. During this time he participated as a Mission Team Member and Mission Coordinator in numerous educational studies and evaluated completed World Bank financed projects worldwide.

Dr. Mason returned to Liberia in 1988 to serve as the 5<sup>th</sup> President of Cuttington University College. During the Liberian Civil War, he established "Cuttington-in-Exile" (1990-1998) in the United States, Africa and Europe until the university could reopen in Liberia when peace was achieved. It reopened in Liberia in 1998 and the first class of the 21<sup>st</sup> century was graduated on July 28, 2002. In August 2002 he retired after serving his alma mater for 30+ years, with 14.5 years as President, the longest tenure of any President. He is the recipient of numerous awards from the Government of Liberia, civic and professional organizations. Dr. Mason has been married to Mrs. Marie J. Mason for 58 years.

Mrs. Marie J. Mason, B.A., M.A., was born on September 24, 1930 in Lloydsville, Marshall Territory, Liberia. She attended primary school in Marshall City. In 1946, she went to Suehn Mission under the sponsorship of Ms. Gladys East, an American missionary. After 6 years at Suehn, she enrolled at the Government High School in Robertsport, Grand Cape Mount County in 1952 and graduated in November 1954. She received the Bachelor of Elementary Education from Cuttington College in 1961 and M.A. in Educational Administration and Supervision from Michigan State University in 1965.

Mrs. Mason began her 28+ years of educational service in Liberia in 1961 with Practice Teaching at Sinyea Public School in Bong County. From 1962-1963 she taught at Sinyea School for three months and then was transferred to the Bong County Supervisor of School's office as the Instructional Supervisor. From October 1965 - March 1970 she taught literature and social studies at Gboveh High School and was appointed Principal in April 1970. Major accomplishments as Principal included establishing strong discipline, building a cafeteria and implementing a nutritious food program,

constructing and equipping a science laboratory, improving quality of teaching and learning, and having Gboveh students ranked with some of the highest passing rates on the National Examination. Due to her nurturing of students, they all still call her "Ma Mason."

In 1975, Mrs. Mason was appointed Assistant Supervisor for Instruction and became Supervisor of Schools in 1976, a position she held until 1986 when she was appointed Regional Supervisor of Schools for Bong, Nimba and Lofa counties. As Regional Supervisor her region had the highest passing rate on the National Examination. Due to the Liberian Civil War, she relocated to Kansas City, MO in 1991, earned her Professional Teaching Certificate, and taught in the Kansas City School System from 1991-1996 when she finally retired.



# THE SETH C. EDWARDS FAMILY CONGRATULATES LECUSA ON ITS 10<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF MINISTRY TO LIBERIA AND LIBERIANS IN THE USA

*"I expect to pass through this world but once.  
Any good therefore that I can do or any kindness that I can show  
to any human being, let me do it now.  
Let me not defer or neglect it, for I shall not pass this way again."*

*Stephen Grellet*



## CONGRATULATIONS!

Debbie,

With pride I salute and offer my congratulations for your excellent work which comes by no accident. I know you for who you are, what you have done and what you can do. You deserve this honor and I hope others will emulate your self-sacrifice and committed example of service to your brothers and sisters in Christ, especially to the Episcopal Church of Liberia.

"Excellence is never an accident." I am grateful that LECUSA has singled out my dear wife, "Mother Freeman," for such a noble honor for your invaluable contributions to our native, sweet land of liberty, Liberia, at this Tenth Anniversary Meeting.

I praise God for bringing us together and am very proud to be your husband.

Congratulations, with much love, Edgar+

Rev. John Edgar Freeman

## Emily McClain-Benjamin

Cradle Episcopalian – Bromley Mission Clayashland – 1941 ♦ House of Bethany Robertsport, Capemount - 1948  
Attending Trinity Cathedral since 1958 serving as Lay Reader and Ordained Evangelist (Bishop George D. Browne), and one of the initiators of the midday service at the cathedral under Fr. E. George King. Still serving as Lay Reader, Lay Eucharistic minister, and Daughter of the King in Episcopal churches in the USA.



I have been affiliated and working with LECUSA since 2009 in various capacities.

*"He said therefore, A certain nobleman went into a far country to receive for himself a kingdom, and to return. And he called his ten servants, and delivered them ten pounds, and said unto them, Occupy till I come." Luke 19:12, 13*

## Seth C. Edwards, Jr.



Seth C. Edwards spent his early years at Cuttington College where his parents were missionaries. At the age of 13 he was sent to a boarding school in the United States. He later attended the University of Liberia from where he graduated Magna Cum Laude with a degree in Anthropology and Sociology. After studying in France and serving in the U.S. Army in Vietnam, Seth joined the Chase Manhattan Bank where he worked for 45 years. During that time, he managed programs and projects for the Bank in a number of overseas locations including Greece, Canada, the Dominican Republic and Colombia. He has served on numerous nonprofit boards in Brooklyn and Staten Island. He retired from the Bank in 2014.

In 1995, then Bishop Edward Neuville of Liberia appointed Seth to chair a committee to develop a strategy for the reopening of Cuttington College after the civil war. Serving on the committee were Drs. Melvin Mason, Steven Kaifa, Linda Chisholm, Nevin Brown and Chancellor Rudolph Grimes. For his efforts, Seth was awarded an honorary degree from Cuttington by Dr. Mason.

Seth continues to support Cuttington by serving on the advisory committee of Friends of Cuttington.

**DEBORAH HARMON HINES, Ph.D.**



**DEBBIE HINES**

**MOTHER FREEMAN**

Since her first visit in 1979, Liberia has held a special place in Debbie's heart. Encouraged by a number of Liberian students studying at Meharry Medical College, Deborah went to visit friends, Rev. Emmanuel and Mrs. Charlene Collins and family. At the time he was the priest at St. Augustine's Church in Kakata. Monrovia was preparing for the meeting of the Organization of African Unity and the city was beautiful, thriving metropolis. Traveling out to the rural areas provided a marked contrast. A highlight of the trip was visiting the Bong Iron Mine.

Returning in 1999 with the Liberian Covenant Committee was quite a different very different story. Subsequent visits allowed Debbie to see the ravages of the war up close. Over the next eleven years with the Covenant Committee, Debbie traveled extensively throughout the country (Buchanan, Cavalla, Harper, Zwedru, Mbalomo, Robertsport, Suacoco, Phoebe, etc.) visiting churches and school. Her love of Liberia increased with each visit. It was during these visits that she met Rev. John Edgar Freeman, who is now her husband.

In 2011 and 2013 Debbie was privileged to be asked by the University of Massachusetts Medical School to be a Visiting Professor at the Dogliotti Medical School in Monrovia. Debbie taught Human Anatomy to first year medical students. Her third trip to teach at Dogliotti in April 2014 was canceled because of the Ebola outbreak. Debbie is planning to return to Liberia April/May of 2015 for another round of teaching.

Dr. Hines is heads the **School Services Department** which is home to Pre-Matriculation Programs and Matriculations Services at the University of Massachusetts Medical School. Pre-Matriculations programs include Outreach Programs to students from disadvantaged backgrounds and groups under-represented in biotechnology, biomedical research and the health professions, as well as professional development for K-12 STEM teachers in Massachusetts. Matriculation Services are: Student Financial Aid, Registrar's Office, Student ADA Accommodations, Room Reservations and Weather Watch. She is also Professor of Cell and Developmental Biology and Professor in the Graduate School of Nursing.

Debbie is very active in the Episcopal Church (USA). Her national service includes: Trustee of the Church Pension Fund (2000 – 20012); Liberian Covenant Committee (1999 – 2010); National President of the Union of Black Episcopalians (1982 – 1988); and Deputy to General Convention from the Diocese of Western Massachusetts (1992 – 2012), attending every General Convention since 1982. Locally, Debbie is a member of St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, North Grafton, Massachusetts, where she serves as chief Eucharist Minister and delegate to Diocesan Convention since 1991.

In December 2013, Debbie married the Rev. John Edgar Freeman of Liberia. They reside in Worcester, Massachusetts. Their blended family has six children and four grandchildren.

*Congratulations*

*and*

*Best Wishes!!*

*to*

**LECUSA**

*Liberian Episcopal Community USA*

**The National Maryland County Association of Liberia, USA (NAMCAL) congratulates the Founders, Past & Present Leaders, and Members of Liberian Episcopal Community, USA (LECUSA) on its 10th Anniversary of collaborative leadership among Liberian Episcopalians in the USA and for its missional engagement with the wider Episcopal Church in USA, particularly the continuous outreach assistance to the Episcopal Diocese in Liberia.**

**NAMCAL invites all Marylanders and friends to its 13th Annual Convention  
September 25-27, 2015, Rhode Island, USA**

**Congratulations and Thank you,**

**The Rev. Dr. James N. Wilson, II  
President, NAMCAL**

# CONGRATULATIONS

## TO THE LIBERIAN EPISCOPAL COMMUNITY USA (LECUSA) AS YOU CELEBRATE YOUR 10<sup>TH</sup> GATHERING

In the Diocese of Newark  
May it be Successful

*“For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for  
welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope”*  
*Jeremiah 29:11*

The Vestry and Congregation  
**Church of the Incarnation**

Sidney W. King, Jr.  
Senior Warden

Carol Harrison-Arnold  
Junior Warden

Roxanne Johnson  
Clerk of the Vestry

## The Rev. Theodora Nmade Brooks



The Rev. Theodora Nmade Brooks was born in Liberia, West Africa where she received her undergraduate degree in Theology at Cuttington University. After graduation she was ordained to the Diaconate and to the Priesthood by the Most Rev. George Daniel Browne, Archbishop of the Province of West Africa and Bishop of the Diocese of the Episcopal Church Liberia.

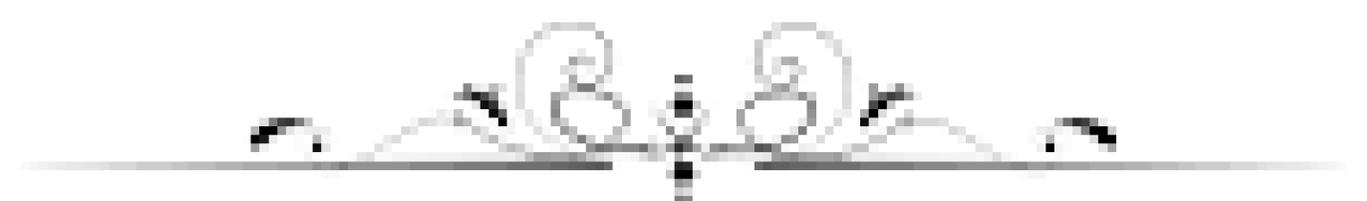
In addition to parish ministry, she worked on the Archbishop’s staff. This was a rewarding experience that Rev. Brooks believes prepared her for present and future endeavors. Because of his leadership and prophetic witness one of his many accomplishments as Archbishop was for Liberia to lead the way in the ordination of women. Theodora Brooks was the first woman ordained in the Anglican Province of West Africa.

She received the Masters of Divinity (M.Div.) degree from Virginia Theological Seminary in Alexandria, Va. and her Masters of Sacred Theology (STM) degree from General Theological Seminary, here in New York City.

Rev. Brooks is the Vicar of St. Margaret’s Episcopal Church in the Longwood community of the South Bronx and serves the Church both on the Diocesan and National levels. In addition, she serves on the Boards of community organizations located the South Bronx that are committed to community development, housing and human services; health, wellness, and self-sufficiency; food justice and economic empowerment – Banana Kelly Community Improvement Association, Boom Health, and The Balk Project.

In spite of her life and ministry here in the United States, Rev. Brooks is deeply committed to the land of her birth and the incredible ministry of the Episcopal Diocese of Liberia. As she say to herself, “My heart beats (yearns for, thinks about, wants the best for Africa!” In whatever way possible, she tries to make a difference in the lives of her sisters and brothers back home and here in the Diaspora.

Rev. Brooks is married to the Rev. Paul Erik Block, Pastor of Transfiguration Lutheran Church (ELCA) in the Bronx, and they are the parents of 2 sons; Miles-Erik Massaquoi and Isaiah Theodore Sie.



## Sharon and Richard Easley



Sharon and Richard have been worshipping and serving the Lord at St. David's Episcopal Church in Ashburn, Virginia for 18 years. Their lives together began 34 years ago in Texas. Sharon and Richard firmly believe and have seen the truth in Luke 12:48 that says – to whom much is given, much is expected. As a couple that has traveled, has seen many parts of the world, and has participated in multiple mission activities both international and domestic, they have seen that God is ever present in the lives of those that would appear to have so little. They have also seen that the harvest is plentiful but the laborers are too few. These experiences have guided the Easleys in their actions in the church as well as their service to their fellow man (and woman). Both Sharon and Richard have served actively in the Episcopal

Church – first in Georgetown, Texas and now in Ashburn, Virginia. This service included serving as vestry members, lay readers, Small Group ministry leaders, Church communications leader, Outreach ministry leader, Honduras mission team leader and also the Bromley mission team leader – just to name a few.

Sharon and Richard have traveled on eight St. David's mission trips to Honduras, and Richard has traveled on all St. David's mission trips to Bromley Mission in Liberia as a representative of St. David's. To date, Sharon and Richard serve on the leadership of both the El Hogar (Honduras) and Bromley (Liberia) St. David's international mission teams.

Richard was a member of the first St. David's Bromley mission trip to Liberia in 2005. There were 5 members of St. David's that journeyed to visit that special school with young girls that can best be described as 'God's very own.' Richard and Sharon have made four trips to Bromley over the years and have participated in fundraising activities and garnered support for the Bromley girls from churches and individuals in the United States since first returning from Liberia in 2005.

The Easleys have experienced the joy of seeing the new roof placed on the main building at Bromley, the joy of watching the excitement in the children's eyes as they saw their first playground built at the school, felt the sense of accomplishment as they completed the painting of the main entrance to the main building at Bromley and witnessed the children's happy faces as the mission team purchased and delivered brand new mattresses for the girls to sleep upon. In addition, the Easleys sang loudly with the girls as the team celebrated the children's birthdays with cake and presents for each and every child. Sadly, the Easleys and everyone familiar with Bromley also felt the deep sorrow caused by the Ebola virus and its effects on the people of Liberia and the girls and staff at Bromley.

Sharon and Richard are proud to be associated with the Bromley Mission Team and look forward to working with the Bromley School board members as St. David's support their efforts to make a positive difference in the lives of those girls that are the future of Liberia.

# CONGRATULATIONS LECUSA ON YOUR 10<sup>TH</sup> YEAR ANNIVERSARY GATHERING FROM THE FAMILY OF THE REV. FATHER CHARLES ABAYOMI COLE

*May God Continue To Bless Your Efforts In  
Ministry To Liberia And Liberians In The USA*



### **"Healing, Nurturing and Growth in LECUSA A Reflection on Ten Years of Ministry and Service"**

*"And the floors shall be full of wheat, and the vats shall overflow with wine and oil. And I will restore to you the years that the locust hath eaten, the cankerworm, and the caterpillar, and the palmerworm, my great army which I sent among you. And ye shall eat in plenty, and be satisfied, and praise the name of the LORD your God, that hath dealt wondrously with you: and my people shall never be ashamed. And ye shall know that I am in the midst of Israel, and that I am the LORD your God, and none else: and my people shall never be ashamed." Joel 2:24-27*

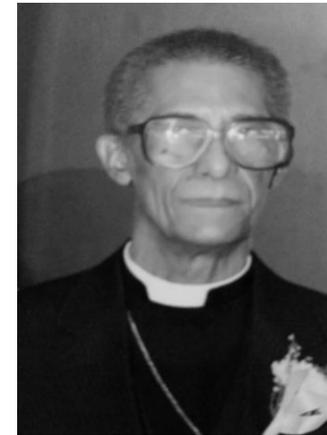


**THE RECTOR, THE REV. DR. WILMOT T. MERCHANT, II  
WARDENS, VESTRY AND MEMBERS OF  
ST. STEPHEN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH,  
NORTH MYRTLE BEACH, SOUTH CAROLINA**



On the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of your journey as an organization, we extend to the officers and members of LECUSA, our warmest greetings and congratulations. We wish you God's richest blessings as your journey continues. May all that you do in the Name of God and in service to humanity, be witness of the image of God in you. We wish for you a very successful Annual Gathering and pray that God will grant travelling mercies to each and every one coming and returning.

The Rev. Fr. Charles Abayomi Cole



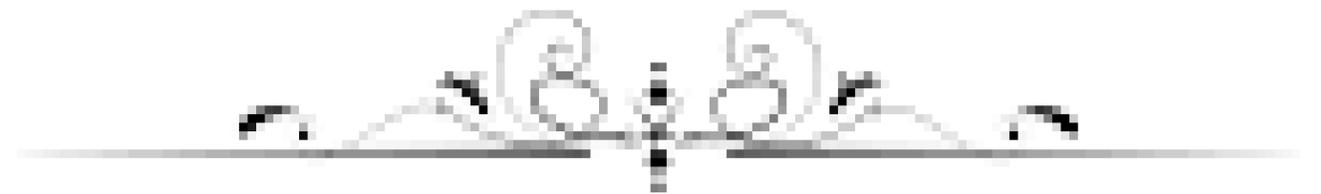
The Rev. Fr. Charles Abayomi Cole served the Episcopal church of Liberia faithfully in several capacities. His coming to join the Episcopal Church was after years of association as a clergy with other denominations, including the Methodist.

Fr. Cole was a strong believer in accountability and he used his skills from working in corporate Liberia in his position as the administrative assistant and Chaplain to The Rt. Rev. George Browne. In this office he travelled to many stations of the church as directed by the Bishop to assist in planning evangelism and creating guidelines for accountability.

He was assigned to Trinity Cathedral working closely with the then dean, The Very Regal Elisee, who later became the Bishop of Gambia. He later worked with Dean King and was concerned about the poor and marginalized. Dean King and Father Cole together visited the West Point slum area and started a chapel. He was also instrumental in bringing Life to the Episcopal Church in Bomi Hills.

When the need for a clergy to work along with others in Bolahun, Fr. Cole was again sent and worked with Fr. Korvah and others from the Holy Cross. He became an associate of this order.

While Father Cole was the priest in charge of St. Augustine's Kakata, the Episcopal Diocese of Liberia held a successful annual conference that was hosted by St. Augustine's in Kakata.





**The Reverend Sandye A. Wilson** is rector of St. Andrew and Holy Communion Episcopal Church in South Orange, New Jersey, a parish full of vitality and focused on community. She is a team player in the local and national Church; a member of the Diocesan Council (Co-convenor of the Equipping Congregations Workgroup), The Good Liturgy Committee, Diocesan Budget and Finance Committee, a member of The Commission on Ministry, a Co-president of the South Orange/ Maplewood Clergy Association, Board of the Christ Hospital in Jersey City, a member of the Diocese of Newark's Namaste Task Force on Reparations, a member of the Diocesan Women's Commission, a leader of the New Visions Initiative on Congregational Development, elected member of the Diocesan Ecclesiastical Court, a deputy to the Episcopal Church's 2012 National General Convention and Chair of the Deputation, Diocesan Coordinator/Facilitator of Fresh Start Program for Clergy in New Cures, Honorary Canon Liturgist of Trinity St. Philip's Cathedral and a member of the Planning Board Commission of South Orange. She was a member of the National Commission on the Episcopal Church and the Anglican Communion and currently serves on the Committee to nominate the next Presiding Bishop.

She has served with Presiding Bishops Allin, Browning, Griswold and Jefferts Schori on the National Executive Council for 18 years. She is a member of the Episcopal Church's national Standing Commission on Liturgy and Music.

Wilson was National President of the Union of Black Episcopalians from 1997-2004 and president of Province VI of the Episcopal Church from 2001-2004. She is a member of the Steering Committee for 20/20, the national movement to increase church participation and membership. She is on the Board of Trustees for Seabury-Western Theological Seminary, and was a consultant to Archbishop of Canterbury Robert Runcie on Racism and the Church. She was a member of the official Episcopal/Anglican delegation to the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women at the UN in 2005, and the delegation to the Nairobi Conference of the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women End of the Decade meeting in 1985.

A native of Baltimore, Maryland, Wilson has a deep Episcopalian background. She earned a bachelor's degree (A.B.) in economics, ethics and German from Vassar College, a master of divinity (MDiv.) degree from Union Theological Seminary in New York, a master of business administration (MBA) degree in church leadership and administration and a doctor of ministry (D.Min) in pastoral care and counseling from the Graduate Theological Foundation in Indiana. She has an honorary doctor of divinity degree (D.D.) from St. Paul's College in Lawrenceville, Va. She has also studied at Goethe Institute in Germany, The University of Vienna, Austria, and the Bossey Ecumenical Institute in Switzerland as a John M. Allin Fellow. Wilson was a member of the Executive Committee of the Nominating Committee for the 10<sup>th</sup> Bishop of Newark, a Member of the Council of Advice for three Presidents of the House of Deputies of the Episcopal Church. She was a member of the Board of Directors of St. Philip's Academy in Newark, the Board of Trustees of Vassar College, a Trustee of the South Orange-Maplewood Coalition on Race, a member of the Board of Trustees of Colorado Public Radio, a member of the Board of the Institute for Ecumenical and Cultural Research at St. John's University in Collegeville, Minnesota and a Pastor Theologian Fellow at the Center for theological Inquiry in Princeton, New Jersey.



***Congratulations to  
our sister in Christ,  
Debbie Harmon Hines!***

*From the people of  
St. Andrew's Episcopal Church  
North Grafton, Massachusetts*

**“Congratulations and  
Abundant Blessings  
on LECUSA's  
10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary  
and More!”**

CLIFTON  
&  
ABEOSEH FLEMISTER

THE UNITED BASSA ORGANIZATION  
(UNIBOA) MN  
REST STOP ON THE MONROVIA-BUCHANNAN HIGHWAY  
COMPOUND#1



*Put your name  
on this facility.  
Generations  
will know that  
you made a  
difference.*

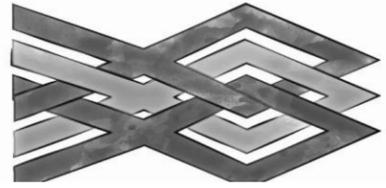
**Benefits:**

- Public Rest Rooms for everyone traveling along the highway will help to prevent the spread of germs and diseases.
- We all benefit, when our communities are clean and safe for our children - the future of Liberia.
  - We need public toilets on Liberia highways. This is the beginning.

**UPDATE: WE HAVE STARTED!**



**YES WE CAN! MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN OUR HOMELAND**



With gratitude and love to our friend

**Dr. Deborah Harmon  
Hines**

*O God, who created all peoples in your image, we thank you  
for the wonderful diversity of races and cultures in  
this world. Enrich our lives by ever-widening circles of  
fellowship and show us your presence in those who differ  
most from us, until our knowledge of your love is made  
perfect in our love for all your children, through Jesus  
Christ our Lord. Amen.*

(The Book of Common Prayer, page  
840)

Debbie, we are so blessed by your ministry and presence among us in the Diocese of Western Massachusetts, but also because you bear witness to the wider mission of the Church, and especially on behalf of the people of Liberia. Our prayers are with you and Edgar as you receive this well-deserved recognition from the

**Liberian Episcopal Community in the USA.**

Bishop Doug Fisher and  
the Clergy and People of the  
Diocese of Western  
Massachusetts



**The Newark Chapter  
Of**

**The Union of Black Episcopalians**

**Extends Sincere**

**CONGRATULATIONS**

**To The  
The Liberian Episcopal  
Community USA**

**On Your  
10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Gathering**

**April 10-12, 2015**



## CHRIST CHURCH

*Anglican · Episcopal*  
422 Main Street · East Orange, NJ 07018  
Voice: 973-678-1160 · Fax: 973-678-8777  
Website: [www.christchurcheo.org](http://www.christchurcheo.org)

*The Reverend Joseph A. Harmon, Rector*

*Christ Church in East Orange, New Jersey*

*Joins our Junior Warden*

*Yvonne Adighibe*

*In extending*

*Congratulations and Best Wishes*  
*to the*

*Liberian Episcopal Community USA*

*Celebrating your 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary*

*of Ministry to Liberia*

*and Liberians in the USA*

## Union of Black Episcopalians

*Congratulations To The Liberian Episcopal  
Community USA (LECUISA)*

*On The Occasion Of Your  
10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration*

*May God Continue To Bless Your Ministry  
To The Liberian community*

*The UBE National Board*

*Canon Annette L. Buchanan - National President*

*The Right Rev. Nathan Baxter - Honorary Chair*

**District 9**  
of the  
**Diocese of Newark**

offers its support  
and congratulations to the

**Liberian Episcopal Community USA**

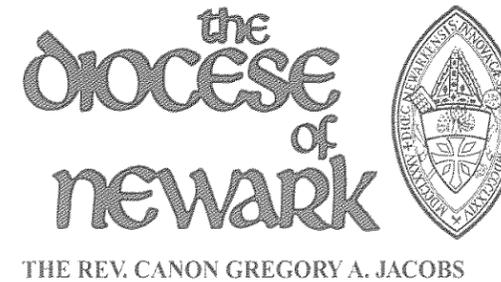
on its 10<sup>th</sup> Convention.

The District was pleased to raise \$5,000  
for chair-desks for the students of  
St. Peter's Episcopal School in Monrovia  
during Lent 2015.

**District 9**

*All Saints', Bergenfield; St. Paul's, Englewood;  
St. Andrew's, Harrington Park; St. Luke's, Haworth;  
Holy Trinity, Hillsdale; St. Paul's, Montvale;  
Holy Communion, Norwood;  
Annunciation, Oradell; St. Matthew's, Paramus;  
Atonement, Tenafly; Grace, Westwood*

***"Little children, let us love, not in word and speech, but in truth and action."***  
*I John 3:18*



*Congratulations*

*Liberian Episcopal Community USA*

*On the Occasion of your*

*10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary*

*The Rev. Canon Gregory A. Jacobs*

*Canon to the Ordinary*

*Diocese of Newark*



**The B. W. Harris Episcopal School Alumni Association-USA, Inc.**

**Congratulates**

**The Liberian Episcopal Community USA (LECUSA) on  
Ten Years of Ministry and Service**



**The B. W. Harris Episcopal School Alumni Association-USA, Inc. is  
dedicated to providing scholarships to deserving and qualified  
students and to implementing activities and projects that improve the  
total educational environment at B. W. Harris Episcopal School.**

**Gudrun Harris  
National Chair, BWHEA-USA, Inc.**

*Greetings from the*  
**Episcopal Diocese of Newark**

**In thanksgiving for  
the people and good works  
of  
the Liberian Episcopal  
Community USA  
on the occasion of their  
Tenth Anniversary**

April 11, 2015

**The Rt. Rev. Mark M. Beckwith  
*Bishop of Newark***

*Equipping congregations... Empowering people... Engaging the world... with the hope and justice of Jesus.*



St. Anne's Episcopal Church, Reston, VA

gives thanks for the

Liberian Episcopal Community USA

and celebrates

10 years of ministry to Liberia  
and Liberians in the United States

"...let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good  
works and give glory to your Father in heaven."

Matthew 5:16

Trinity & St. Philip's Cathedral

*Founded 1746*

*Welcomes*

LECUSA

*(Liberian Episcopal Community USA)*

*On behalf of the*

*Wardens, Vestry and*

*Congregation of*

*Trinity & St. Philip's  
Cathedral*

*Congratulations*

*on your*

*10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary*

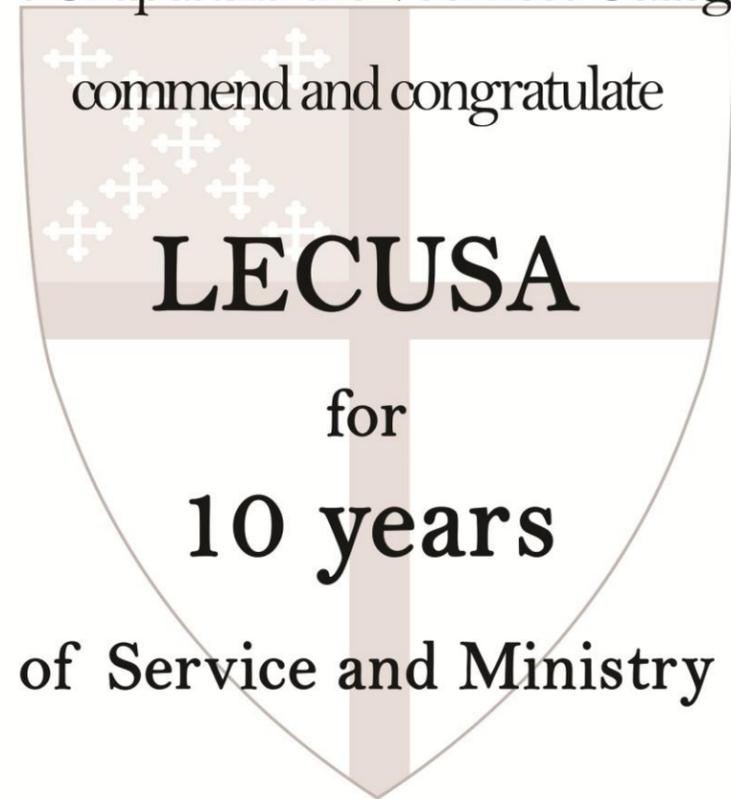
*And for serving and*

*supporting the*

*Liberian Community*



St. Philip's Chapel and the Voorhees College Family



**VOORHEES COLLEGE**  
*Changing minds. Changing lives.*

*In Loving Memory of our Beloved Clergy Members who have passed from this life to the life of perfect service in the Heavenly Kingdom of their Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Rest eternal grant unto them, O Lord; and let light perpetual shine upon them. May their souls, and the souls of all the faithful departed, rest in peace.*

Bishop Edward W. Neufville, II, Dec. 16, 1937 - Jan. 10, 2011  
 Rev. Canon Burgess A. Carr July 8, 1935 - May 14, 2012  
 Rev Canon Amos Bani Collins Oct. 26, 1926 - March 2, 2013  
 Rev. Canon Andrew O. Afolabi June 10, 1938 - Nov. 26, 2014

LECUSA'S CLERGY MEMBERS

BRIGHT, Sr., The Rev'd Dee Wellington  
 BRIGHT, Sr., Rev'd Canon J. Jellico (Retired)  
 BRIGHT, The Rev'd Wheigar J.  
 BROOKS-BLOCK, Rev'd Theodora N.  
 CASSELL-FLEMISTER, Rev'd Ernestein  
 CUNNINGHAM, The Very Rev. Chris T.  
 DENNIS, The Rev'd Maggie B.  
 FLEMISTER, The Rev'd Abeoseh M.  
 GEORGE, The Rev'd Dr. Allen S.W.  
 GREENE, The Rev'd Joseph L.  
*St. Andrew's Mission*  
 GREENE-DUNN, The Rev'd Dr. Matilda E.  
 HANSON, The Ven. Dr. John H.  
*St. Thomas, Glassboro, NJ*  
 HARDING, The Rev'd Christian C.  
*St. Paul's, Oakland, CA*  
 HARMON, The Rev'd Canon John W.  
*Trinity Parish, Washington, D.C.*  
 HOWARD, The Rev'd David Z (Retired)  
 JOHNSON, The Very Rev'd Dr. Emmanuel W.  
*St. David's, Ashburn, VA*  
 MERCER, Thomas R.  
*St. Paul's, Bronx, NY*  
 MERCHANT II, The Rev'd Dr. Wilmot T.  
*St. Stephen's, North Myrtle Beach, SC*

MITCHELL, The Rev'd John W.  
 SHANNON, The Rev'd Himie-Budu  
*St. Andrew's, Cleveland, OH*  
 SPEARE-HARDY, Benjamin E.K.  
*St. Margaret Church*  
 THOMPSON, The Rev'd Edward H.  
*P-I-C, All Souls Episcopal Church & Community Center -*  
*St. Luke's Episcopal Church- New Orleans, LA*  
 WALKER, The Rev'd Frederick Wyclif  
*St. Mark's, Suffolk, VA*  
 WOODCOCK, The Rev'd Canon Bruce W.  
 "honorary member"  
*St. Matthew's Church, Paramus, NJ*  
 WILSON, II, The Rev'd Dr. James N.  
*St. Philip & St. Thomas*  
 YARSIAH, The Rev'd Dr. James T.  
*Voorhees College/ St. Philip's Chapel*  
 RETZLAFF, Georg "associate" member

# OFFICERS OF LECUSA

The Rev'd Dr. James T. Yarsiah ..... Chairman  
 Mr. Paul ACB Jones ..... Vice Chairman  
 The Rev'd Edward H. Thompson ..... Secretary  
 Mr. John U. Mellish ..... Treasurer  
 Mr. David T. Hanson ..... Financial Secretary  
 The Rev'd Dr. Matilda E. G. Dunn ..... Parliamentarian  
 The Rev. Dr. Wilmot T Merchant, II ..... Advisor  
 The Very Rev. Emmanuel W. Johnson ..... Advisor

## PAST CHAIRPERSONS

The Rev'd Dr. James N. Wilson II ..... 2006 -2008  
 The Rev'd Dr. Wilmot T. Merchant ..... 2008-2012  
 Mr. Gerald FB Cooper ..... 2012-2014  
 The Rev'd Dr. James T. Yarsiah ..... 2014-

## HOST/PLANNING COMMITTEE

Mr. Sidney King                      Ms. Verlaine Jones  
 Mr. David Hanson                  Ms. Lydia King  
 Mrs. Delores Hanson              Ms. Dolores Macauley  
 Ms. Yvonne Adighibe

## PASTORAL CARE COMMITTEE

The Rev'd Abeoseh M. Flemister ..... Chairperson  
 Ms. Emily M. Benjamin ..... Member  
 Ms. Cynthia Gilman ..... Member  
 The Rev. Dr. D. Wellington Bright, Sr. .... Member  
 The Very Rev. Emmanuel W. Johnson ..... Member  
 The Rev. Dr. James T. Yarsiah ..... Ex-Officio, LECUSA Chairman

## SOUVENIR COMMITTEE

Mrs. Samilla Thorpe  
 Mrs. Ophelia Yarsiah

## MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Ms. Emily M. Benjamin ~ Chairperson

THE OFFICERS AND MEMBERS OF LECUSA EXTEND SINCERE GRATITUDE TO THE TRINITY AND ST. PHILIP'S CATHEDRAL PARISH FAMILY FOR THEIR KIND HOSPITALITY!

# LECUSA

## Liberian Episcopal Community USA

*Founded in 2006; Incorporated in the State of North Carolina*

### What is LECUSA?

LECUSA was originally formed by Episcopal clergy hailing from Liberia living in the United States of America on August 26, 2006 in Herndon, Virginia as the **Liberian Episcopal Clergy in the USA**, with membership opened only to clergy. The Very Rev. Dr. Emmanuel W. Johnson, former Dean of Trinity Cathedral in Monrovia; Diocese of Liberia was one of the organizers behind this effort. The Rev. James N. Wilson II, former rector of St. Thomas Church on Camp Johnson Road, Monrovia was elected the first chairman and The Rev. Dr. Wilmot T. Merchant, II former Curate of St. Stephen's Church, 10<sup>th</sup> Street Sinkor, Monrovia was elected Vice Chairman.

In 2009 during LECUSA's annual conference, in response to interest expressed by the laity to be part of the organization, membership was extended to non-ordained Liberian Episcopalians and friends of the Episcopal Church of Liberia, and the name was amended to the **Liberian Episcopal Community in the USA**.

### OUR MISSION

To connect and encourage collaboration among Liberian Episcopalians in the USA; To render pastoral care to members in times of joy and crisis; To pull our individual and collective resources for the benefit of the Episcopal Church of Liberia; To serve as liaison for the Episcopal Church of Liberia in the USA; To partner and network with appropriate agencies in achieving our objectives.

### Accomplishments over the years...

- ✓ Collaborating with other organizations, to ship 20 or 40 foot-containers of church materials, school supplies, relief items, etc, to Liberia.
- ✓ Rendering assistance (bereavement fund) to clergy families in Liberia and in the USA.
- ✓ In 2010, signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Cuttington University Alumni Assoc. of America to collaborate and support the university.
- ✓ Serving as Liaison for the Episcopal Church of Liberia to The Episcopal Church (TEC).
- ✓ The Chairman of LECUSA is now a Board member-at-Large of the Union of Black Episcopalians UBE.
- ✓ In 2011, \$5,000 donated to the Diocese of Liberia to assist with clergy housing construction in rural areas.
- ✓ In 2012, \$1,000 donation to Diocese of Liberia to assist with theological education and clergy training.
- ✓ Conduct several workshops and training for officers and members.
- ✓ Partnering with churches and organizations that are helping the Episcopal Church of Liberia.
- ✓ Continue to create awareness about the needs of the Episcopal Church of Liberia.
- ✓ Partnering with SPCK/USA to provide theological books/records for Division of Theology at Cuttington and Seth C. Edwards Theological Institute.



## Awards Program

7:00 P.M. – 7:30 P.M. .... Meet & Greet

Master of Ceremony –Gabriel I. Williams

The Welcome & Recognition of Guest ..... James T. Yarsiah  
*Chairman*

The Invocation & Blessing of Food .....Matilda E. G. Dunn  
*Parliamentarian*

7:15 P.M. ....Dinner is Served  
Chat & Chew  
Slide Show Presentation – LECUSA Past & Present

7:35 P.M. The Introduction of the Keynote Speaker ..... Edward H. Thompson  
*Secretary*

7:40 P.M. The Keynote Address ..... Canon Annette Buchanan  
*National President of UBE  
Washington, DC*

8:00 P.M. The Presentation of Awards & Recognition ..... LECUSA, Inc.  
*Officers & Spouses*

8:20 P.M. The Acknowledgements .....Representative of Honorees

8:25 P.M. .... The Liberian National Anthem

8:30 P.M. .... The Liberian Grand March

**Dance!**  
**Dance!**  
**Dance!**



## Menu

### APPETIZERS

*Seasonal Fruit ♦ Cheese & Crackers  
Fried Plantain ♦ Rice Bread*

*Tossed Salad  
Variety of Salad Dressings*

### ENTRÉE

*Chicken Breast  
Salmon*

*Yellow Rice  
Red Bliss Potatoes*

*Steamed Green Beans  
Vegetable Medley*

### DESSERT

*A Variety of Cakes & Pies  
Punch ~ Water ~ Wine*