



TRAVELS

When I arrive in Liberia, I usually start checking with a team the next day, so each team gets a full week of my time. Weekends are for travel, recovery, and preparation for meeting the next team. I don't take time or get the opportunity to just enjoy the countryside. Last August/September trip I took some time out of the travel days to visit some sites on or near the way. I also stayed in a new location when checking with the Dan team.



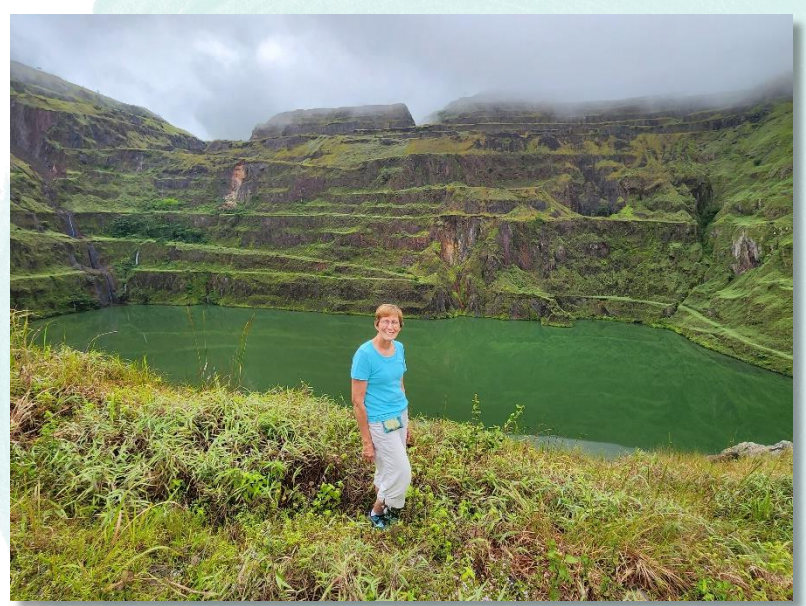
The Dan team met in Yekepa for checking. We didn't meet in Bahn because translator Levi Yentee is recovering from a stroke. Yekepa is a mining town up near the border with Guinea. It is surrounded by significant hills where the iron ore is mined. This provided some beautiful scenery.

Many of the miners stay in these pods. Rev. Amos Benda thought it would be a good experience for me to stay in one and benefit from the cafeteria which serves Western type food three times a day. His church sponsored me to stay there. I can't say I didn't miss having homecooked Liberian food.



My pod was big enough for a bed, a small fridge and narrow table with a small bathroom at the other end. We decided to do our work here most days because there is 24-hour power. We moved the table by the bed so I sat there and the two translators sat on the other side. There was no room to do it any other way. I was thankful to get out and walk after the day was done.

I walked past a truck stuck on the road. The one on the right is stalled. I wondered how the other one was going to make it by as the shoulder dropped here and any shifting of cargo would cause the moving truck to tip over. The driver expertly maneuvered his vehicle, scraping their loads slightly as he passed by.



There are several “blue lakes” in Liberia. When I heard there was one near Yekepa, I thought it would be fun to go and see it. These are lakes formed in places where mining has taken place. Even though it was cloudy, the lake did not disappoint. The area is a preserve now and a guest house is being built where people can stay. I was told there are monkeys and other wild animals that nature buffs will enjoy.



On the way up to Yekepa, we stopped at the Gbarnga Lutheran Training Center. The last time I stopped here only the foundations existed. Now the school is running daycare up to 6th grade, adding a grade per year. They also have training for adults in tailoring, soap making and baking. Proceeds from the sold products help keep the program running. A poultry farm and garden provide some income and food for the meals served daily to the children. The school has a robust library. I was told social studies books are a favorite. You can read more about the school here: <https://mailchi.mp/88ba9362ae7c/gbarnga-lutheran-training-center?e=e19dc66c48>

TRANSLATION TIDBITS

Two humorous renderings occurred recently. In Bandi Joshua 24:12 where God sends the Amorites into a panic, an idiom was used: “God sent the bees out ahead.” Think of the panic if a swarm of bees is coming at you!” The other in Maan Ezekiel 20:39 where the Good News version renders the verse “And now, all you Israelites, suit yourselves!” This was translated “All you people of Israel, dress!” Yes, we have some good times when we translate.

Thanks for keeping us on our way.

Becky

PRAYER REQUESTS

- Pray for Levi’s full recovery from his stroke.
- Praise that Charles has his prosthetic leg and is now walking.
- Pray for relief for Mary from back pain.
- Praise for peaceful elections and concession by the ruling party to the newly elected president.
- Pray for the Maan and Dan teams striving to complete their Bibles this year.

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Becky is YOUR HEART IN ACTION. She serves you as a consultant for translation teams in Liberia, West Africa by using your prayers and support to fulfill your desire to "PUT GOD'S WORD IN THEIR HANDS." Becky rejoices that she is part of your Lutheran Bible Translators team and values this special relationship.