

Bishop Moses Kobbah Momoh Evangelical Lutheran Church in Sierra Leone P.o.Box115560 Sir Samuel Lewis Road Aberdeen Free Town SIERRA LEONE

18th August, 2017

Dear Bishop,

We send you greetings from the LWF-Communion office in Geneva in the name of the Triune God, our Creator, Saviour and Sustainer.

I am sending this solidarity message to you on behalf of the LWF General Secretary Rev. Dr Martin Junge, who is currently away and has shared his concerns and asked me to kindly communicate this message to you.

It is with deep sadness that we learnt about the devastating disaster that has hit your country especially in the communities around Freetown. We thank you for the update that you have been sharing in writing and through telephone conversation. We are also following up through the media and we can only say that as human beings we can barely comprehend the magnitude that this disaster has caused in the lives of many people in Sierra Leone.

On behalf of the entire Lutheran Communion, and the Communion Office in particular I wish to convey our sincere heartfelt condolences to you, the ELCSL, families and communities and in deed the entire family of sisters and brothers in Sierra Leone.

We have noted that the Christian Council of Churches in Sierra Leone has taken an encouraging step in preparing and sending the Rapid Response Appeal to the ACT Alliance; and we wish to thank you for having been part of that effort.

We want to assure you of our continued accompaniment, standing in solidarity with your people at this time in prayers, offering our gifts of being in the communion trusting in the Lord that after this has passed you will emerge with new strength to continue proclaiming the Lord even is such difficulties. On a related note, we kindly inform you that a small group of the Communion Office staff this afternoon are gathering to accompany you in prayers as you celebrate the lives of those died in this tragedy, praying for healing and restoration of life for those survived.



At this time of pain, frustration and grief, we are reminded of God's promise in the Holy Scriptures. The LORD is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit (Ps. 34:18).

We continue to stand in solidarity with all the people of Sierra Leone joining the words of Apostle Paul: "May God, the source of hope, fill you with all joy and peace by means of your faith in him, so that your hope will continue to grow by the power of the Holy Spirit" (Rom. 15:13)

May the God of consolation accompany you at this moment and in the days to come.

In Christ's love and Prayers,

Maria Immonen

Director, Acting General Secretary

LWF World Service