



BRINGING THE LOVE OF JESUS  
AND QUALITY MEDICAL CARE TO  
THE PEOPLE OF LIBERIA



WORK CONTINUES ON LAB  
EXPANSION PROJECT



JEN CHECKING UP ON JOHN IN  
HIS HOME ON A MONTHLY  
OUTREACH TRIP



CAPE TOWN, SOUTH AFRICA  
FOR A WEDDING AND TO MEET  
UP WITH JEN'S PARENTS

# ELECTION DRAMA



*Clinic staff join millions of Liberians at the polls to vote for their next president*

## Who will be the next president of Liberia...

We are sitting in the midst of a historic election. It has been over 70 years since Liberia has had a peaceful transition from a sitting president to a newly elected president (and at the time of this newsletter-Dec 4th- the election is still up in the air). The initial election took place on Tuesday, October 7th. None of the candidates took more than 50% of the votes which triggered a run-off election between the top two candidates. However, before the run-off could take place allegations of voter irregularities came out and so the country put the breaks on the second round election until an investigation could take place. After weeks of analysis the NEC (National Election Commission) decided there were not enough irregularities to trigger a re-vote so, "game on." We are now waiting for a new run-off date to be announced. The international community is focused on Liberia's actions and reactions throughout this process. So far the country has refrained from violence, in spite of all the election setbacks and is setting the example for other African nations. It's December, Christmas is right around the corner and the sitting president is supposed to step down by the end of the year... hopefully we have a replacement by then.

## Playing in the Mud

In a country that averages over 15 feet of rain per year, not having paved roads is crazy. Driving out of Rivercess is always a harrowing adventure during rainy season—this year was no exception! People wait to pass through the mud for days at a time, sitting on the side of the road while their vehicle is dug out only to get stuck again a foot later. Even the “weather proof” vehicles of the non-profit world spend half the day waiting as the not-so-mud-proof vehicles ahead of them try to clear the muddy sections. We just white-knuckle it and pray the whole way!!

## Scabies, Scabies and more Scabies

Craw-craw, Scra-gey, body itch, no matter what you call it, Scabies is a bear to have. Not to be confused with body lice, Scabies is a mite that burrows under your skin laying eggs and leaving a visible trail of itchy bumps across your body. Over the past year, Rivercess has had a large-scale outbreak of Scabies. The problem got so bad that it got the attention of the Ministry of Health and the WHO (World Health Org). Unfortunately there was not enough scabicide medicines in the country to do a mass treatment so many people suffered and tried bush medicines to relieve the problem. The Po River Clinic bought as much medicine as we could find and sent out word that we would treat Scabies for free. Over the past few months we’ve seen hundreds of patients, and the cases have decreased. We’re working with our local Community Health Aides to increase awareness on Scabies, and more importantly, how to prevent it.



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