

August 14, 2009

Bishop Bennie D. Warner  
1812 NW 30th Street  
Oklahoma city, OK 73118

Dear friends and fellow travelers:

I greet you with love, hope and peace. Let me express my deep appreciation for your kind invitation to honor me at this time in my life. I am humbled and moved to know that you care to recognize me in this manner. I wish that I could be there with you personally to see you, communicate with you, to listen to you and to shake your hands and embrace you warmly with gratitude and love.

I deeply regret that I cannot be there with you in person, because of a conflict in my schedule with your dates which makes it not possible for me to be with you in North Carolina. I am scheduled to be in Providence, Rhode Island, from August 20 to the 24, 2009, to participate in a project to rebuild a dormitory on the Gbarnga Methodist Mission that was destroyed by the rebel fighters. I have to be there personally since I recently returned from Liberia and brought back images of the grounds showing the devastations.

I applaud your work and the efforts you are making to keep on the front burner the issues facing Liberia, now in the early years of the twenty-first century. Let me suggest to you to high light EDUCATION. Education in Liberia is in serious trouble in my estimation resulting from my recent observations. Your Souvenir Program reflects a variety of issues that have depth and breath, pursue them all with diligence and honesty.

Thank you again and best wishes in all your endeavors together with good health and happiness!

Bishop Bennie D. Warner  
1812 NW 30th Street  
Oklahoma city, OK 73118  
[benniedwarner@cox.net](mailto:benniedwarner@cox.net)