

MIKE & VICTORIA VAN DER DYKE | ENCOURAGING THE MISSION EFFORTS OF THE CHURCH OF NIGERIA | JOS, NIGERIA | SEPTEMBER 2020 | RAINY SEASON ISSUE #2



The rose garden in our front yard

Travel Plans

We planned to return to Nigeria on July 9 after our time of Re-Connect (formerly known as home service) in the USA. As the departure date approached, the airports in Nigeria were still closed to international flights. We contacted the airlines and were able to change our departure date to August 10. By the beginning of August, airports were still closed to international flights, so we canceled our flights and got a refund from the airline.

In mid-August the Nigerian government announced that international flights would resume on August 29. We started to look at the requirements for COVID-19 testing before departure and after arrival, when the government shifted the resumption date to September 5. We are now waiting to see how well the country is prepared for the arrival of international flights on September 5 before we book our tickets for returning to Nigeria.

Please pray that we will be able to return home to our friends and ministry!

PRAYER POINTS

- * Pray that the spread of COVID -19 in Nigeria will slow down. Pray for God's comfort for the family of one of our church elders who passed away from complications related to COVID-19.
- * Pray that the resumption of international flights at the airports in Nigeria will go smoothly on September 5 and we can return to our home and ministry.
- * Thank God that the online course at MTPI in July went well. Pray for his students who are missionaries in West Africa.
- * Pray for patience for Ryan and Jody Faber as they look forward to their arrival in Nigeria. Pray that their visas would be issued soon and that they will be able to get settled in Nigeria soon.

OUR MINISTRY

Mike serves as the Nigeria Team Leader for Resonate Global Mission in Nigeria and as an Advisor to the CRC-N Missions Department.

COVID-19 UPDATE

The number of COVID-19 cases in Nigeria continues to increase. As of September 2, 2020, there were 54,463 confirmed cases in the country with 1,027 deaths. Plateau State has recorded 2,708 cases with 30 deaths. An elder in one of our partner churches in Jos died today from complications of COVID-19. Please be in prayer for his family during this time of grief.

MISSIONARY TRAINING

Thank you for your prayers for the course on the Biblical Theology of Mission Mike taught via Zoom at Missionary Training Partners International (MTPI) in July. Despite some technology challenges, the course went really well. All of the 20 students who participated are experienced missionaries serving in various parts of West Africa. Pray that the course proves beneficial to them as they preach the gospel to unreached people groups in Nigeria and neighboring countries..

FAMILY UPDATE

Pray for our children, Joy and Brian, in Illinois. Brian's school is going to continue with virtual learning through December. Joy is working part-time as she goes to school in anticipation of opening up her own business in the fall or winter.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

Our ministry in Nigeria would not be possible without your prayers and financial support. Thank you for partnering with us as we work to strengthen the global church in Nigeria!



Palm trees on our compound

Engaging People. Embracing Christ.

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