

MIKE & VICTORIA VAN DER DYKE | ENCOURAGING THE MISSION EFFORTS OF THE CHURCH OF NIGERIA | JOS, NIGERIA | NOVEMBER 2021 | DRY SEASON ISSUE #1



Growth & Transition in the CRC-Nigeria

The Christian Reformed Church, Nigeria continues to experience tremendous numerical growth in its churches in Nigeria. The CRC-N General Secretary, Rev. Sagarga N. Gargea (pictured above with his wife Nayela) recently reported the establishment of 8 new Local Church Councils (LCCs) in the CRC-N.

Church planting efforts in the CRC-N are started as local preaching centers and are usually supervised by the nearest organized congregation (called LCCs). Each LCC may have multiple (sometimes up to 15) preaching centers under their supervision. When a preaching center grows to the point where they have at least 100 members, they can ask to be organized as their own LCC.

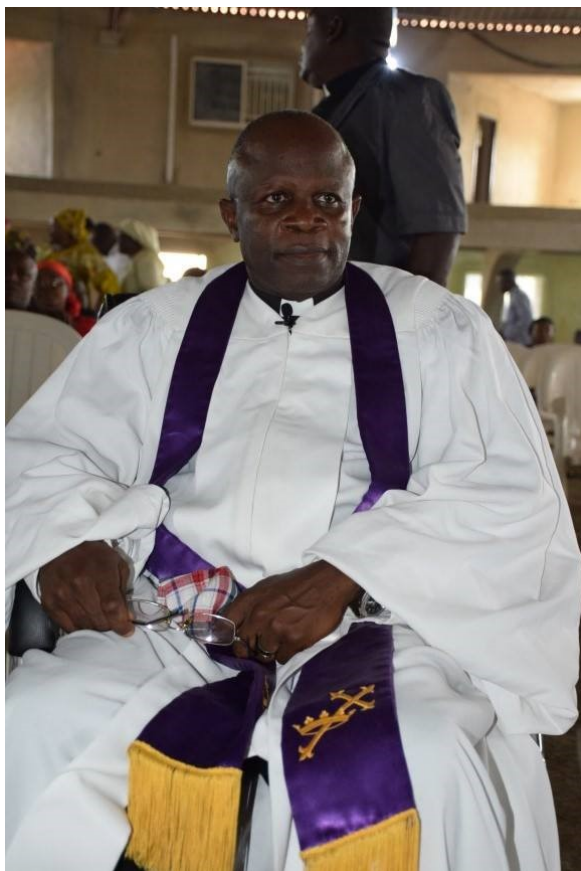
LCCs were recently established in Zaabe near the Cameroon border of Taraba State, as well as two LCCs in Wukari, Taraba State, one in Abise in Benue State, one in Makurdi (the capital of Benue State), one in both Rafin Kada and Donga-Ason in Taraba State, and the final LCC was established in Lau Local Government of Taraba State. The CRC-N now has 181 LCCs.

PRAYER POINTS

- * Thank God that Mike was able to teach an online course on Mission History for Missionary Training Partners International. There were 19 experienced missionaries from Nigeria, Kenya and Sudan who participated in the course.
- * Pray for our immigration quota renewal. We have received word that our application has been approved, but we have not received the hard copy of the quota yet.
- * Thank God for the printing of the Hausa Bible in Arabic script. Ask God to use these Bibles to bring many to salvation in Jesus.
- * Victoria has been struggling with some health issues over the past 4-5 months. She is feeling better, but she is still not at 100% yet. Pray for continued healing for her.
- * CRC-N will be observing their Mission Awareness Week on December 1-5. Pray that many will be inspired to support CRC-N Missions.

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.



CRC-N President — Rev. Dr. Caleb

Rev. Sagarga commented that, "There is so much prospect for growth in all the new LCCs. Please continue to pray for the growth of God's work in the CRC-N and thank you, Resonate Global Mission, for all the work God has enabled you to do in Nigeria. We are building on your steps. We are praying for God's continued blessings and leading on all those who served God through Resonate in Nigeria."

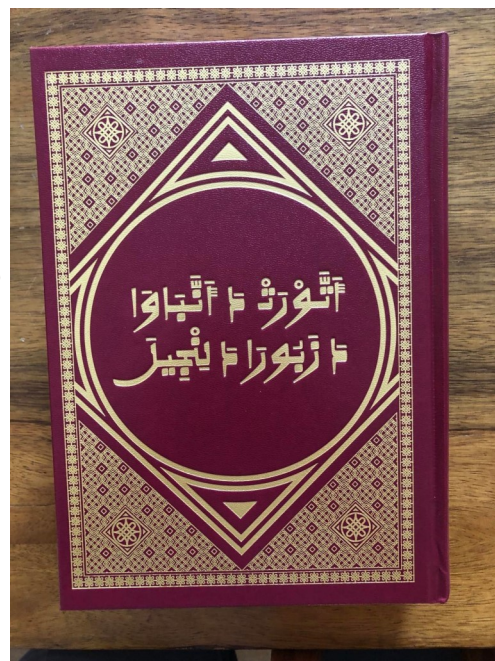
The CRC-N will be going through a time of transition of leadership in the coming weeks. The Synod of the CRC-N will be meeting on November 22-26. On November 24, an election will be held for a new President and Vice President of the CRC-N.

Rev. Dr. Caleb Ahima has faithfully served the CRC-N as President for two 5-year terms (2011-2021). Please pray for the leading of the Holy Spirit as CRC-N elects new leaders. Twenty new pastors will be ordained in the CRC-N on November 25, a farewell service for the President and Vice President on November 26, and finally a retirement service for Rev. Dr. Ahima on November 27. Pray for God's protection for delegates traveling to the Synod from all parts of Nigeria. Thank God for the growth in the CRC-N. Pray for the upcoming Synod meetings and the election of new leaders.

The Hausa Bible in Arabic Script

Resonate missionary Linda Horlings was involved in a project for a number of years to print the Hausa Bible in Arabic script. The Bible has finally been printed and we have purchased our first copies. This translation of the Bible is aimed at reaching Hausa-speaking Christians from a Muslim background and Muslims who have been taught to read the Arabic script but do not understand the Arabic language. With this Bible, these folks are able to read the Arabic script in a language they understand very well. The Bibles have been received with great joy.

Thank you for supporting our work with the church in Nigeria!



Engaging People. Embracing Christ.

UNITED STATES

1700 28th Street SE
Grand Rapids, MI 49508-1407

P (616) 726-1144
P 877-272-6205

CANADA

3475 Mainway
PO Box 5070, STN LCD 1
Burlington, ON L7R 3Y8

P (905) 336-2920
P 800-730-3490

MIKE & VICTORIA VAN DER DYKE
Jos, Nigeria

Email:

mvanderdyke@crcna.org
mvan@runbox.com
sumcrcmissionleader@crcna.org

[RESONATEGLOBALMISSION.ORG/DONATE](https://resonateglobalmission.org/donate)

Resonate
GLOBAL MISSION

A Ministry of the Christian Reformed Church