

MIKE & VICTORIA VAN DER DYKE | ENCOURAGING THE MISSION EFFORTS OF THE CHURCH OF NIGERIA | JOS, NIGERIA | JANUARY 2023 | DRY SEASON ISSUE #2



Thank you for sending members of the Christian Reformed Church of Nigeria's Evangelism Team to remote villages to share the gospel!

CRC-N Mission Awareness Week

Since the Christian Reformed Church of Nigeria (CRC-N) Mission Board was established in 1974, they have organized annual evangelism campaigns targeted at various parts of Nigeria. In 2021, the evangelism campaign was reorganized as CRC-N Mission Awareness Week. Mike was asked to prepare 5 devotionals that were printed in a booklet for all CRC-N churches to use.

The 2022 CRC-N Mission Awareness Week was held on December 7-11, 2022. A group from CRC-N headquarters in Takum traveled to CRC-N Gandole in CRC-N Classis Serti. Local believers joined them, and they all formed 3 evangelism teams. The teams visited 12 villages in the area. This area is very remote, so the teams could only reach the villages by motorcycle, bicycle, or by foot.

All three evangelism teams used the same strategy—open air preaching, one-on-one evangelism in homes, and praying for people who are sick and struggling to make ends meet. The teams also distributed clothes and food to those in need. In the 12 villages the teams visited, more than 300 people heard the gospel, 201 people

PRAYER POINTS

Thank God for the successful CRC-N Mission Awareness Week and the evangelism campaign in the Gandole area. Praise God for the 201 people who committed their lives to Christ and those who renewed their commitments.

Pray that evangelists can be found to disciple the new believers in the villages around Gandole.

Pray for protection for the people in the Gandole area who have been suffering from attacks by cattle herders.

Thank God that Mike is recovering well from his accident and surgery. Pray for recovery of the feeling in his right hand.

Pray that a new Regional Mission Leader can be found soon to serve Resonate Global Mission in West and Central Africa.

Pray for comfort for the Yongo and Kungaba families who have suffered the loss of family members this week.

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.



The only way to reach these remote villages was to travel by motorcycle, bicycle, or foot.



The pastors and elders prepare to travel to the villages.

accepted Jesus as their Lord and Savior, and 12 people renewed their commitment to Christ. On Sunday morning, the 5 pastors who were part of the team joined the local elders and went to 4 different villages to serve holy communion to the believers. There is a need for more evangelists to work in the villages where no evangelists have been posted. There is also a need for a healthcare center in the area to assist with medical needs. The villagers also asked for prayer as they have been vulnerable to cattle herders in the area burning their farms. They are in need of God's protection. Thank you for supporting this important work!

Mike's Recovery

Mike is recovering well from surgery on October 28 to repair a broken bone in his right elbow. He is in his eighth week of physical therapy and making good progress in gaining strength and range of motion in the arm. The lack of feeling in the ring and pinky finger of the hand has not improved. Our physical therapist keeps reassuring us that the feeling will return in time. Please pray for restoration of feeling in Mike's hand.

Interim Assignment

Resonate Global Mission's Regional Mission Leader

for West and Central Africa, Dr. Sosthene Maletougou, has started a new assignment as Africa Director of the Association of Christian Schools International (ACSI). Mike has been asked to be the interim Regional Mission Leader until a permanent person can be appointed. Please pray for strength and wisdom for Mike as he handles this new assignment and pray that the right person will be found very soon to take up this work.

Elections 2023

Elections are scheduled in Nigeria on February 25 to elect the President, Vice President and members of the Senate and House of Representatives. State and Local Government elections are scheduled for the following week. Elections always hold the possibility of violence and civil unrest. Please pray for peaceful elections in Nigeria.

Devastating Losses

We have been hit with some devastating losses in the past week. Joshua Yongo, the son of our Partners Worldwide colleague Jeremiah Yongo, passed away on January 10. Mrs. Elidah B. Kungaba, the leader of the Women's Fellowship of CRC-N Jos, passed away on January 16. Please pray for the Yongo and Kungaba families as they mourn the loss of their son and mother.

Engaging People. Embracing Christ.

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GLOBAL MISSION

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