

# Van Der Dyke News

# **Encouraging the Mission Efforts** of the Church of Nigeria

April 2018 Dry Season Issue No. 3

## **Prayer Needs:**

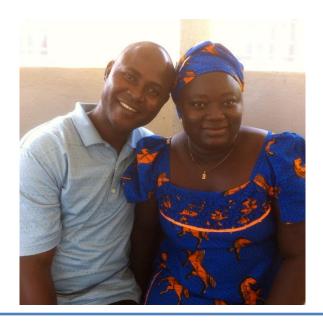
- Ask for wisdom and guidance for Rev. Ezekiel Sudu, the new Director of the CRC-N Missions Department.
- I (Mike) continue to battle with Dengue Fever and Chikungunya.
  I have been trying to follow my doctor's orders to get more rest.
  Please pray for complete recovery and renewed energy.
- Mike had the privilege of facilitating a Timothy Leadership course on Pastoral Care for 40 pastors from the Reformed Church of Christ for Nations (RCCN) on March 1-2. Plans are to continue this training twice per year for the next 2-3 years.
- We are planning to be in the USA for home service from mid-June till the end of August. Our plans are to visit our 9 supporting churches in Wisconsin, Iowa and Indiana during this visit. Pray for safety in travel and good visits with our supporting churches.
- A new missionary, Sarah
   Kluitenberg, arrived in Nigeria on
   March 31. Sarah previously
   served as a short-term teacher in
   Sierra Leone and Nigeria. She
   will be working with the
   Association of Christian Schools
   International Nigeria to help
   improve education in Nigeria.

#### **CONTACT INFORMATION:**

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### Transitioning Leadership for CRC-N Mission Board (Part 2)

Rev. Joseph Ajaver, the Director of the Missions Department of the Christian Reformed Church, Nigeria, retired on March 24. The CRC-N leadership has chosen Rev. Ezekiel Sudu to replace Rev. Joseph. Rev. Ezekiel has served as a pastor in a local congregation in Taraba State. In 2005, he was chosen to be one of the first missionaries from CRC-N to serve in Niger State of Nigeria. After serving faithfully in Niger State for about 4 years, the CRC-N leaders asked him to be the first missionary from CRC-N to work with the Christian Reformed Church in Sierra Leone. Rev. Ezekiel served as a leadership trainer with the CRC of Sierra Leone for about 5 years. He returned to Nigeria in 2014 in order to obtain his Master's degree at the Theological College of Northern Nigeria. Since finishing his Master's degree, Rev. Ezekiel has been pastoring a CRC-N church in Jalingo, the capital of Taraba State. He took over the office of Director of the CRC-N Missions Department on April 7. As someone who has served as a field missionary in Niger State, Nigeria and in Sierra Leone, we are expecting that Rev. Ezekiel will carry out his new assignment with compassion and a clear understanding of the challenges faced by field missionaries in Nigeria and neighboring West African countries.



Rev. Ezekiel and Mrs. Tabitha Sudu