

Iowa Nigeria Partnership Requests -- next two pages

The Final Semester

Five years ago the former Creston District made a long term commitment to assist a young Nigerian to attend Africa University (AU) in Zimbabwe. Cletus David is his name. Leaving his baby daughter with family friends, he journeyed to AU to begin a three year study in the Faculty of Business and Management. About half way through his studies he felt the voice of God calling to go into the field of theology, thus changing his focus. Cletus graduated in June 2009 and is now in a Master's Program. He has just returned back to the campus after an internship with Christian Care, an ecumenical, humanitarian organization in Harare. During his time at AU he had proved to be a skilled leader, organizer, and motivator for his classmates and faculty.

He says, "Our final semester is here!! How time flies!! By the grace of God I will begin registration next week January 12th to 14th. I am looking forward to a fruitful academic semester and planning on my exit from AU to uphold that which God have for me in the immediate future and years ahead. Iowa has played a very significant role in my entire journey and I continue to pray that God will reward you abundantly to next generations. Thanks a million for all of the Iowa support."

Cletus continues, "I am working on finalizing my intern report and looking forward to faculty presentation in the following weeks. The approval of dissertation topics and final research work will follow suit, I am hopeful the research work will go according to plan. I am sure this will involve travels around selected areas in Mutare and Harare particularly when I begin to collect data through questionnaires and direct interviews. I feel that financial support towards my research will help in minimizing hardship associated with dissertation particularly in the areas of traveling, printing, binding and other logistics that are on for seen. Once again, thanks for all your support."

So for his final semester he needs approximately \$1,500 to cover the expenses of his travel to collect information, typing and printing up of his dissertation will require funds that he does not have. Let's make this final semester the best one for him as he successfully completes his academic studies at Africa University and prepare to return to Nigeria to work with the UMC there.

Money for his support may be sent through your local church, to the conference treasurer, noted: INP, #230, Cletus David. Your assistance as he concludes five years of study will be a blessing for all!



School Teachers for Nigeria

Jacob Tahiru flew back to Nigeria where he will begin his internship with the Taraba State Accounting Department in Jalingo January 3. He will need to find housing and transportation while on his internship. Jacob will be in Nigeria from January to December 2011 before returning back to Africa University to complete his studies in 2012.

With three Nigerians graduating at Africa University June 11, several of us wanted to travel there to attend this ceremony but the airfare is prohibitive. In consultation with Bishop Kulah, plans are to hold a "Welcome Back Worship Service" for Cletus David, Doris David and Francis Adamu to commemorate their academic accomplishments. This will be held in June when the Iowa work team is in Nigeria. We would like to have 2011 graduation paraphernalia for the reception. Items may be brought to Annual Conference in early June.

The upcoming Iowa work trip to Nigeria is scheduled for June 12 – July 2! We ask that you prayerfully consider sharing your gifts and graces as we enhance and expand the ministries of the UMC of Nigeria. Here's what we're looking for:

Volunteer computer technicians, programmers, software engineers or anyone willing to assist computer classes and conference staff general keyboarding, reading/writing e-mails, use of the internet, instruction in Excel, Coral Draw and Facebook are desperately needed on this team.

Nursery/primary educators to mentor kids, provide teaching methods and techniques to school teachers are being recruited. Persons who have a library background to organize, classify and help at three libraries are welcome. Creative persons are being recruited to paint designs, lettering and symbols on classroom walls. In-service training/teaching on a variety of subject matter is being scheduled at the Junior Secondary School.

For further information and application form contact me at 515 266 4186 or bnmedical@aol.com.

Preparations are in place to send **TWO** containers (40 'x 8' x 8') to Nigeria on March 2. Thanks to the collection of kits at the Ingathering, Iowa churches and individuals who have donated a variety of items we will be able to fill both containers. We **DO** have room for more books (theological, primary and secondary age level), school supplies, medical equipment/supplies, white boards, classroom posters, pictures and teaching materials, robes and paraments, Bibles, knitting and sewing supplies/materials to fill up the containers. Please let me know immediately if you have any items that could be boxed, labeled and brought to Des Moines by the end of February.

2011 brings a year filled with educational opportunities for hundreds of Nigerian children and their Christian teachers in our UM Church sponsored schools. Miracles happen when student bud and bloom as learning helps make them flower! Thanks to all of you readers who have helped make Christian education possible. Let's keep on keeping on as educational programs in Nigeria need our continued support. Be blessed as your support is a blessing. Monetary support may be given through your church with notation: INP, # 230, and designation.

Beverly Nolte

PANYA

Off the main road from Numan to Bambur, Panya is a village strung out along the base of the mountains/hills with about 6750 people. Reuben Samuel Panya, the Village Wells Director, invited Linda Rowe of Bloomfield to visit his village last June. She arrived three hours later than expected on a Sunday morning due to a miscommunication but was met by the entire UMC congregation with the choir robed in preparation for a mini-service. Following this brief animated service, she, along with Beverly Nolte and two of our Nigerian co-workers, was escorted around the village to see the present open well, dug in 1989, which is unproductive in the dry season. The villagers made known to the group their priority wish for a borehole and preferably two to accommodate the large population using the well. They were then shown the incredible hospitality of Nigerians as they were invited into the "Visitor" hut for a hot dinner of rice, chicken, and vegetables, raised locally.

Realizing the desperate need for safe, potable water within many Nigerian villages, Linda had encouraged her local church to raise money (about \$5000) for a borehole in 2010 but she didn't feel they could be asked to drill two. To be able to do two wells, she has broached this need to the entire Davis County ecumenical church community who has caught the vision for a second well. The entire village of Panya will benefit from the reduction of water-borne diseases and the burden on women and girls who have to fetch water for their families. Easy access alone enables women to engage in more productive work and the girls can attend school. Panyans will welcome these two new wells thanks to Linda and the Davis County community! They also plan to become a "sister" community and help with other educational, medical and agricultural needs in the future. Well, well, well, why not challenge your church/community to provide funds for village wells?

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