

Help Us Finish the NCBC Library—We're Almost There!

As you may remember, we've been working diligently on the much-needed renovation of the NCBC library—a space that will serve as a hub of academic excellence, spiritual growth, and digital learning for years to come. We're thrilled to announce that the official launch and dedication is planned for mid-August!

But to cross the finish line, we need your help.

Due to increased renovation costs, we are currently \$7,000 over budget, and we urgently need to raise an additional:

\$30,000 for laptops and technology upgrades

\$7,000 for essential library furniture

That's a total of \$47,000 needed by August 1 to complete the project and equip the library for our students and faculty.

Will you help us finish strong?

Your gift—whether large or small—will directly support this transformation and ensure that the library opens on time, fully equipped and ready to serve.

☑ Give now and invest in the future of Christian education at NCBC.

Together, we can create a space where lives are changed and leaders are prepared for kingdom impact.

Thank you for your generosity!



AFRICAN HARMONY



"Impact & Inheritance: News from African Christian Schools"

At African Christian Schools, every gift creates lasting change—today and for generations to come. In this edition, we share powerful stories of transformed lives, updates from the field, and how your faithful support is building a legacy of faith, education, and opportunity across Africa. Discover how you can make an eternal impact through prayer, partnership, and planned giving.

SEEING IS BELIEVING:

Bentonville Church Members in Nigeria

Reconnecting the Roots:

Why Diaspora Christians Are Vital to the Future of Christian Education in Africa

"Why Nigeria?"

One Woman's Faith Journey to Serve"

"Evening of Impact:

The African Violet Dinner"

Meet Anna Crossno –

Leading Donor Impact Ministry with ACSF





SEEING IS BELIEVING: Bentonville Church Members in Nigeria

Greg, Daniel and I were greatly encouraged by how the Kingdom of God is growing in Nigeria and the great work the West Nigerian Christian College is doing to train new leaders in the church. It is impressive how, under the leadership of Biodun, they are finding new and innovative ways train, disciple and plant new churches and how African Christian Schools is leading the way to spread the gospel to many parts of Nigeria. The Bentonville Church will continue to partner with WNCC and ACS to support the great work.

In April 2025, Chad Wagner, President of the African Christian Schools Foundation (ACSF), had the privilege of leading a delegation from the Bentonville Church of Christ to visit West Nigeria Christian College. This visit carried deep significance, as the late James Beckloff—a beloved former missionary and ACSF board member—had long worshiped with the Bentonville congregation, which has faithfully supported the mission for many years.

Since Brother Beckloff’s passing, we are especially grateful for the chance to deepen connections with the Bentonville church family and continue this meaningful partnership. The following reflection from Alan Todd and others offers a powerful glimpse into the impact and spirit of the trip:

"Evening of Impact: The African Violet Dinner"

We held our annual African Violet Dinner on April 10, 2025 at Church of Christ Green Hills. We had an encouraging crowd with new faces, and a delicious meal! One of our Board members and his wife, Mike and Rita Cochrane, reported on the recent upgrades that have been made to NCBC’s Cato library as well as some major improvements that have come to our buildings and campus. Also Chad Wagner gave a brief update on other opportunities that will be coming to our campuses. Our evening was blessed, and we were able to raise over \$40,000 for God’s kingdom. We hope you can join us next time!



“When you give to African Christian Schools, you’re not just funding a school — you’re sending the Gospel deeper into Africa, through preachers, teachers, and church leaders who will impact souls for generations.”

HOW CAN I PARTICIPATE

Who Can Participate?

Anyone who believes in the mission of African Christian Schools and wants to make a lasting difference—regardless of income or age—can participate in planned giving. Whether you're a longtime supporter or just learning about the ministry, planned giving offers a meaningful way to extend your impact beyond your lifetime.

There are several simple and flexible ways to include African Christian Schools in your long-term financial or estate plans:

- 1. Bequests
Include African Christian Schools in your will or living trust. This can be a specific dollar amount, a percentage of your estate, or the remainder after other gifts are made.
- 2. Beneficiary Designations
Name African Christian Schools as a beneficiary of:

Life insurance policies

Bank or investment accounts

- 3. Charitable Gift Annuities or Trusts
Establish a charitable trust or annuity that provides income to you or your loved ones during your lifetime, with the remainder supporting the ministry.
- 4. Real Estate or Appreciated Assets
Donate property, stocks, or other non-cash assets, which may offer tax advantages while supporting Christian education.

HELP US THRIVE

We are so thankful for all of you who have DOUBLED their contributions on our 2025 matching campaign. Due to your generosity and donations, we have not only reached our goal of raising \$100,000 but we have raised OVER our goal this year! Many thanks to all of you who participated but also to our God who makes all things possible. To Him we give the glory.

With this matching campaign, we will use these funds to further develop our endowment for African Christian Schools so that we will be better able to withstand financial downturns and fulfill our long-term strategic goals.

Many thanks to you!



We're excited to share significant progress on our project to establish solar power grids at our West and East Nigerian college campuses. The African Christian Schools Foundation is on track with our fundraising efforts. We have finalized our letters of inquiry and are now mailing them to various foundations and potential partners, a crucial step toward providing sustainable energy for our students and faculty.

However, we still need your support to achieve our goal of \$40,000. This funding will enable us to install solar power systems that enhance our campuses' energy efficiency and reduce reliance on inconsistent power sources. By harnessing solar energy, we can create a reliable learning environment free from the disruptions of power outages.

Your contribution, no matter the size, will make a significant impact on our students' lives. We invite you to join us in this mission and encourage you to spread the word about our initiative. Together, we can generate the awareness and resources needed to make this project a success.

LET
there be
LIGHT
Solar Power update



Continued

"Why Nigeria?"

One Woman's Faith Journey to Serve"

Never before had I witnessed such sincere Christian devotion than when I was in Nigeria. Although the lectures did not begin until about nine in the morning during the week, the men would gather around half past five and begin praying with one another and singing. They would break for a little breakfast, then get back to praying, singing and devotion with each other until the program would begin. When the program was over each day, they would not hastily break away like we would here. They lingered, and once again would pray and sing and commune well after the setting of the sun. I would sit on our apartment balcony listening to the sweet, deep melody wafting in the air like a sweet smelling savor. We were told that many of the members of the village churches would meet around five in the morning during the weekdays to sing and pray and share a verse before going about their day. This was normal practice. It hit me hard that these people, who on the surface seem to have so little, who have it so much harder, carried with them so much more devotion, and hope.

Two of the things we were looking forward to during our visit was one, being able to be taken to the local markets and two, to try as much local food as possible. Our hosts were ever gracious and ensured both of these things happened.. To see all the fruits and vegetables and meats, the amazing fabrics and to interact with the stall owners. Being able to go to a local arts and crafts market where so many hand made shoes, bags,jewelry, housewares and everything in between is made. And as an ex-New Yorker, the thrill of the haggle. The food was something we looked forward to every day. Fufu is a main staple served with soups and stews.Fufu is made from cassave or yams. It is boiled and pounded into doughy balls. You use it to sop up your stew or soup. You use your hands and no utensils. It is a great cultural experience. Jollof rice is West Africa. It is a long grain rice cooked with tomato, onion, chilis, and spoices and is incredible.There are not many restaurants you will go in and not find these items, or a household not serving these items on a regular basis.I have found that so much common ground can be found sitting around a table and sharing a meal. Food is shared humanity, it is the true language of a culture.

It is difficult to put into just a few words what this trip meant to me. What the lasting effects are. How it has changed me. What worshipping with my African brothers and sisters was like. What communing with them for two weeks did to me. Taking selfies with the students, being presented with tailored clothing from the school Presidents. Being so different, yet all the same. If I could sum up this visit to these schools and my time in Nigeria it would be encapsulated by the President's Banquet.

As we sat at a table at the President's Banquet in honor of the graduating students, the student choir sang as we all got settled in. The fans blew around the smell of the banquet food cooking in the back, of body oils, of the fire still burning outside from the outdoor kitchen. It smelled of shea butter, of heavy perfume, of the jungle just a few yards away. It smelled of the dirt road and sweat. I knew and could deeply feel that this was the smell of generosity, it was the smell of love, of sacrifice and tears. It was the smell of joy, heartache and elation. As I sat silently listening to the choir sing familiar songs, but in that beautiful African tone, I realized, this was the smell of Nigeria.That this whole scene was an encapsulation of the Nigerian spirit. I was in awe and deeply moved by this moment. If you ever have the opportunity to visit Nigeria, and visit these campuses I would urge you to move out of your comfort zone,and make the trip. You will be forever touched and changed by this beautiful experience.

2024-2025 ACSF Donors

2025

Anonymous - Harold Petty, Danny Windsor, Paulette Thomas,

Tommy Pilkinton, James Williams

Helen Costello - James Costello

Ida Palmer - Lucien Palmer

Gerald Burrow - Durward & Ruby Burrow

Scott and Susan Saunders - Roger & Sara Church, Bruce & Karen Church

December 2024 donations made in memory/honor,

Roger & Mandy Myers - Jim Burton, Neal & Kay Gibson

Mike Smith - Wavell & Julia Stewart

CS Baker Trust - C. S. Baker

Mike Cochrane - James Costello

J. C. Short - Lynne Grayson



Meet Anna Crossno – Leading Donor Impact Ministry with ACSF

Anna Crossno serves as the head of our Donor Impact Ministry at ACSF, where she helps connect faithful givers to the life-changing work their support makes possible. With a deep passion for ministry and a heart for people, Anna plays a vital role in encouraging generosity and showing the true impact of Kingdom investment.

She is the wife of Dakota Crossno and a proud mother of two. Anna enjoys spending time at home with her family and finds joy in creating a Christ-centered home.

Anna holds a Bachelor's degree in Biblical Studies and is currently pursuing her Master's in Pastoral Care and Counseling. Her love for mission work and desire to see preachers thrive in sharing the Gospel drive her work in ministry. Through her leadership, she helps ensure that every gift given through ACSF fuels lasting Gospel impact.



Reconnecting the Roots:

Why Diaspora Christians Are Vital to the Future of Christian Education in Africa

As the gospel continues to flourish across Africa, one truth becomes clearer every day: the African Church is growing, but it needs trained leaders to guide it. Across Nigeria, and especially at the Nigerian Christian Bible College and the West Nigeria Christian College, hundreds of dedicated students are preparing for a life of ministry, teaching, and evangelism. But like many growing ministries, they face real obstacles—limited infrastructure, unreliable electricity, and constrained resources.

And this is where you—our brothers and sisters in the Diaspora—can make a lasting difference.

Supporting Christian education in Africa is a powerful act of spiritual reconnection. It's a way for Diaspora Christians to reaffirm their identity, heritage, and Kingdom calling. In a world where so many voices pull us apart, this is a tangible way to unite around something eternal: the advancement of the gospel.

We believe the African Church is not just a mission field—it's a mission force. And your partnership helps strengthen its foundation.

Many of our students are first-generation Christians, the first in their families or villages to pursue full-time ministry. They're studying under difficult conditions—frequent power outages, limited access to technology, and facilities stretched far beyond capacity. These challenges slow their progress, limit their potential, and delay the impact they could be having in communities across Nigeria and beyond.

We're inviting Diaspora Christians, especially African Americans and African descendants in the U.S. and abroad, to help make this vision a reality. Just \$50/month from an individual or \$200/month from a church can power classrooms, equip leaders, and reconnect you to the legacy of faith in Africa. This is more than a donation—it's a spiritual investment in the future of the African Church.

Visit: www.africanchristianschools.org

For African Christians in the United States, the UK, the Caribbean, and beyond, this is more than a charitable opportunity—it's a chance to reconnect with your spiritual and cultural heritage in a way that is deeply meaningful. The story of Christianity in Africa is one of resilience, renewal, and revival—and Diaspora Christians are uniquely positioned to fuel that revival.

You know what it means to overcome, to lead in faith, and to build under pressure. Your experience, resources, and prayers are needed—not just to fund buildings, but to build bridges between continents, generations, and the global Body of Christ.

When you give, you're not just supporting students—you're standing in solidarity with them. You're telling a young preacher in Uyo or Abeokuta that they are not alone. You're helping light classrooms, expand libraries, and raise up the next generation of African gospel workers.

www.africanchristianschools.org

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"Why Nigeria? One Woman's Faith Journey to Serve"

By: Angel Moore

Recently I had the amazing opportunity to accompany my husband, who works for African Christian Schools, to the May graduation and lectures in Nigeria. As someone who lived in Germany for six years and has traveled to about twelve countries in Europe, I was beyond ecstatic to visit a place and a culture that would be unlike any I have ever seen. As soon as my feet hit the Nigerian soil after our twelve hour flight, I knew I was in a world so unlike my own, and that there would be no way to not be changed by this experience.

I expected the May heat to hit me like leaning in too close while opening up a hot oven, but to my surprise, it was hot, but not unbearable in Lagos. If you have ever visited Florida in the spring, this would give you an idea of the spring weather there. It is no surprise that Lagos, boasting a population of about 17 million people, would have the most chaotic traffic you have ever seen. It is a delicate, loud, bustling ballet of scooters, taxis, personal cars, and commercial vehicles all vying for the road. All while local vendors walk around seamlessly selling their wares. As we drove through the bustling city, there was a mix of excitement and calm as the roads (which are mostly in bad condition) began to clear of traffic. We were headed to the West Campus. I did not realize it at the time, or even think about it, but the airport would be the last time I would see another white person for two weeks.

We spent a week at each campus, both had two differing looks and feels, but with the same lasting impression of welcome, appreciation, love and gratitude. The campuses are built on compounds, as many churches and schools in Nigeria are. There is a main gate to go through and then you are surrounded by the campus walls. Within those walls are the students, faculty, and staff, most of which live on campus until summer break. English is the first language in Nigeria, which makes communication possible, but not always perfect, as there are often a few things lost in translation. Most Nigerians speak multiple languages as they speak English and their native tribal tongue as well at minimum. This was helpful while walking around and interacting with everyone on campus.

Privilege brings on a deeper meaning when you realize the campus apartment you are staying in is one of the few campus buildings that has electricity, air conditioning, a full bathroom and kitchen and a television. All the things here in America, we literally think nothing of. It would be unheard of to go look at a home or apartment in America and there not be electricity or a full indoor bathroom. Realizing that when the sun goes down that we are one of a few buildings that had wifi and lights, and were not in the dark brought this profound feeling of gratitude and appreciation for something I thought was so basic to the forefront of my mind. Already I was being changed and we weren't even 24 hours into this two week adventure.

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