

Rwanda Challenge 2021

Upcoming Events

**July — Prepare the second cohort of students in English and computer skills.
First cohort begins English Comp 1.**

After July 9 — RC plans to purchase a property and building for the MACU-Rwanda campus once the court in Rwanda releases the property (date set for July 9).

The New Mission

The mission of Rwanda Challenge is an **affordable** associate degree in Bible/theology for Rwandan preachers to be awarded by September 2023.

Three Obstacles for the Mission

Rwanda Challenge is focused on helping local churches meet the requirements of the new law which requires a legal preacher to have an AA degree in Bible. We have discovered three significant obstacles for many Rwandans to be able to pursue any degree in higher education.

1. A high school diploma (or equivalent) is required to enroll in a higher education program.
2. Higher education in Rwanda is delivered in English, so students must be proficient in English.
3. Most Rwandans cannot afford the cost of higher education.

Response to #1— We have chosen not to focus on high school diplomas. RC will rely on future graduates, other individuals, and other ministries to meet that need.

Response to #3 — RC has a four-phase plan in partnership with Africa Hope Initiatives and Mid-Atlantic Christian University to offer an affordable AA degree.

Response to #2 — That leaves us with the English proficiency obstacle. RC is seeking several opportunities and paths as we look for the best approach to provide English and technology training for potential students desiring to enter a degree program in higher education.

One More Delay

RC has been trying to close on the purchase of the MACU-Rwanda campus. Covid slowed things down for one year. Earlier this year we were ready to go forward with the purchase. Then the business owner informed us he was going through a divorce. This meant the court would need to release the building for sale purposes. A court date was set for June 9. One lawyer failed to show up. A new date has been set for July 9. We believe God holds the option to say yes or no to this building. For now, He continues to say wait.

English Training for Proficiency Test



Ivy Brothers and David Presley teaching English

Recent Highlights

November — A team from eastern North Carolina joined Frank to assist potential Rwandan students with English and computer skills to prepare them for the AA degree.

January — Major lockdowns in Rwanda due to Covid continued into April.

May 12-29 — Trip to Rwanda to offer the first two classes of MACU-Rwanda.

The Vision

Local church leaders throughout Rwanda who have the capacity to lead the Rwandan Church and become missionaries to neighboring countries.

Team 1

and

Team 2

Eastern US Team

A team of nine from NC, VA, and TN assisted MACU-Rwanda students and potential students with English training and the first two college classes. The ability of students to pass the English proficiency test limited the first cohort to three. Wes, the college history professor in our group, expressed it was important we began with a small group because of the number of things we needed to learn; computer/wi-fi set-up, Moodle glitches, and time required to load Logos and library in Rwanda,

Team 1 from left to right

First row: Tammy Bishop, Wes Bishop, Frank Reynolds, Ivy Brothers, David Presley

Second Row: Erika Dawson, Katie McKinney, Scott McClimans
Bane Angles arrived the next week.

International Team

From June 29—July 2, six team members are expected to land in Kigali from Budapest, NC, VA, NH, and TX. While we will work with some students on English proficiency and computer skills, our primary focus is to assist the first cohort of students with English Comp 1. English writing skills is essential for the long-term success of these students.



Prayer Requests (Phil. 1:9-11)

- Ask for wisdom and discernment in equipping Rwandan church leaders
- Thank God for providing the right team members at just the right time
- Ask God to overcome all obstacles and delays hindering MACU-Rwanda students

Financial Partners

Make checks payable to:
Rwanda Challenge

Send Checks to:
Cornerstone Church of Christ
1186 Fairview Road N.
Chatham, VA 24531

For new campus write on memo line: MACU-Rwanda Campus