



GREETINGS FROM NIGERIA

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Empowering Deacons for Ministry

Fikyu Nduke is a community in Ussa Local Government Area in Taraba State, Nigeria. The Reformed Church of Christ in Nigeria has strong presence in Fikyu Ndukwe. Her Deacons did not yet fully understand their role, and therefore were not equipped to minister to the poor and needy. Most of them thought their main role was to prepare and serve food to the elders at the monthly elders meetings.

For the past couple of years the Diaconal Ministry has been conducting trainings with the Reformed Church of Christ in Nigeria as well as three other Reformed Denominations in Nigeria in order for them to have a deeper understanding of the office and ministry of deacons.

On a recent Sunday, I visited and worshipped with this congregation. It was a vibrant worship. The singing was excellent, the sermon, powerful and the worshippers were full of enthusiasm. The Ndukwe community had embarked on building a

new church which might be one of the best in the entire RCCN. Work has reached advanced stage and the people have already started using it.

At the end of the service, I sat with the deacons and the widows to hear their story. The widows told of how the Deacons had encouraged them to fellowship together, save money and start a credit program for themselves. Together with assistance from the Diaconal Ministry, the Local Church and the community, the credit is growing.

Before the meeting closed, the Diaconal Coordinator, Mr. Polycarp Nyikun announced that a gift of ten thousand Naira (N10,000.00), about \$80.00 U.S., has been sent to the group from the councilor representing their electoral ward. The deacons were there to present this gift to the group.

With Deacons equipped to minister to the the poor and needy, and a church that has a deeper understanding of the office and ministry of deacons, there is hope for better things to come.



Sincerely in the Lord,

*Bulus Ali,
Diaconal Ministry Nigeria*

Prayers and Praises

Thank and praise God for Government sensitivity to security matters. Prompt response to crises situations and patrol on the roads are cases in point.

Thank God for good rains in our area so far this year.

Thank God for those who faithfully support the cause of God's kingdom



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