

JOYFUL PRAISE!

Celebrating 60 Years of Military Ministry in Africa

Jubilant praise marked the AMCF PanAfrican conference in Nigeria, which celebrated 60 years of military ministry in Africa. “The conference was full of joyful and engaging worship,” ACCTS staff member Leslie Fligg recounts. “The people who attended love Jesus and were so joyful in their love. It was wonderful getting to know the conference planners and MCF members.”

Attendees came from over a dozen nations in the region. Four ACCTS staff members were invited by conference planners to teach on various subjects, including prayer support and Bible study. In addition to their teaching responsibilities, staff members encouraged other military Christian participants and prayed with them regularly. Staff members from other military ministries, including CRU, MMI, and MSO, also participated.

“One highlight was giving out Bible sticks to people who were so hungry for the Bible,” Mike Fligg shares. “We gave away about 170 of these personal digital players, which come loaded with an audio New Testament. One chaplain thought of it as the best gift he’d received! We’re thankful for our partnership with Faith Comes by Hearing, which produces these audio Bibles in over 1,000 languages. I showed one man how to download the Bible from the FCBH website. He was certain they wouldn’t have the Bible in one of his native languages – Efik – and was thrilled to find out they had an Efik audio Bible!”

Frank and Ginny Cole, who help lead ACCTS’ Chaplains Interaction program, also reconnected with believers who have attended the program and got updates on their various ministries.

Many Christians in Nigeria live with the ever-present threat of terrorism. Travel is often difficult and getting to meetings can be dangerous, since mass transportation methods are often targeted by Boko Haram. Yet, as Frank Cole shares, the military Christians in the region are vital and active: “It was a wonderful to be with this group of people and fellowship with them. As a result of the conference, many are planning future ministry events. We had a lot of chances to pray with people and make good contacts for future ministry.”

Because of the conference, several people told our staff they will start military prayer groups using technology like Skype and WhatsApp – and one such group was started even before the conference ended! Many conference participants, and their military Christian fellowships, were rejuvenated by the PanAfrican conference. Please pray with the Nigerian MCF as it follows up with all participants and pray that the attendees themselves will be guided by the Holy Spirit as they share Christ with others.