

Country Support

your opportunity
to partner with national leaders
and ministries

Nigeria 2016 Ministry Need: \$14,550

Funding the **Nigeria Country Support Account (CSA)** will help resource the following people and strategic initiatives:

- the Nigeria FMC as it seeks to reach areas new for Free Methodism, including Kano and Cross River States
- transportation, food and lodging costs for pastors studying at Wesley Evangelical School of Theology
- travel costs for superintendents as they circulate to all their churches
- assistance for the pastor and clinic nurse in Emi Woro (Kogi State) as they work among Fulani cattle herdsman and their families



FREE METHODIST WORLD MISSIONS

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Connect with God's heart for the world.

Nigeria



Nigeria

- Population: 177,155,754
- Evangelical Christians: 30.8%
- FM Work Opened: 1989
- Missionary: Phyllis Sortor
- Ecclesiastical Accountability: FMC-USA through Bishop David Kendall

Pioneer Annual Conference

- FM Churches: 19
- FM Membership: 1,240
- Ordained Elders: 18
- Conference Ministerial Candidates: 26

South Central Annual Conference

- FM Churches: 28
- FM Membership: 1,730
- Ordained Elders: 17
- Conference Ministerial Candidates: 24

The Free Methodist Church in Nigeria

Origins

Rev. Titus Akpan and other Nigerian Christians left their denomination in the early 1960s because animal sacrifices were included in worship services. They were determined to form a spiritual, New Testament church in southeast Nigeria. In 1962 some of the leaders ran across a tract bearing the name "Free Methodist Church." They liked the name and decided to call the new group, "Christ Free Methodist Church of Nigeria." For years efforts were made to affiliate with Free Methodists in North America but it was not until 1988 that official meetings took place. In October of that year this Nigerian group, some 1,800 people, were invited to become an official mission district of the Free Methodist Church-USA.

Present Ministries

The church is maturing in leadership. Leaders are trained through Theological Education by Extension and the modular school Wesley Evangelical School of Theology. The first International Child Care Ministries (ICCM) school, Hope Academy Ikot Ekpe, opened in September 2001. It was joined by an extension school at Ikot Ntuk in 2008. Two schools, one in Kogi and one in Ondo, serve the children of Fulani herdsmen in the north. Because ICCM schools offer a high level of education, as well as the gospel of Jesus, more schools are planned for the future.