



OUR MISSION: To assist in the development of Christian leaders in the armed forces of the world and in the establishment and growth of military Christian fellowships.

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

Joyful Praise!

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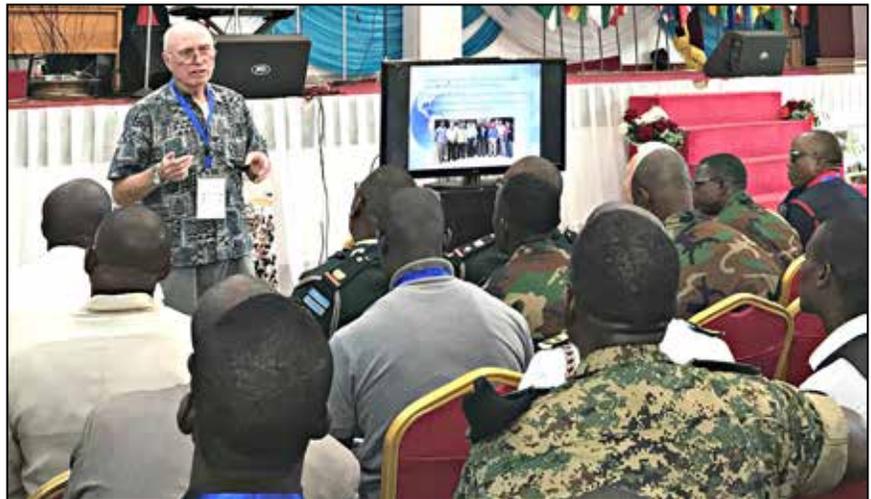
planners to teach on various subjects, including prayer support and Bible study. In addition to their teaching responsibilities, staff members encouraged other military Christian participants and prayed with them regularly. Staff members from other military ministries, including CRU, MMI, and MSO, also 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

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Joyful Praise!

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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.



Thankful for God's Abundant Blessings!



Photo Courtesy of Priscilla du Preez, unsplash

We're thankful for how God is blessing ACCTS in military ministry by: reaching the next generation (Timo from Finland was an ACCTS intern, and this year his son was a staff member at White Sulphur Springs); connections made through regional conferences (Drazen from Croatia working with the Italian MCF); Vasily Khimich of Ukraine organizing chaplaincy trips to Eastern Ukraine to encourage the troops; Moldovans meeting the physical and spiritual needs of refugees from Eastern Ukraine; and English camps in Moldova and Ukraine reaching military kids for Jesus (parents see the effectiveness of these camps, thereby providing an opening to share Christ's love with them). -- **Dick and Linda Barnes, Eastern European Coordinator/Staff**

I'm thankful for God allowing ACCTS to be part of His plan; the diversity of people, cultures, worship styles, and ways of studying God's Word around the world; the commonality of being in Christ when with other believers; learning from international Christians; our partnerships with AMCF, MCFs, MMI, and MSO; ACCTS' faithful financial and prayer supporters; the Buxtons, who started ACCTS; for the guidance and input of ACCTS' directors; international friendships that span months, years, decades; my local church body, which supports us emotionally, prayerfully, and financially; technology to reach people faster; watching others as they use their God-given talents to further military ministry; and all of God's blessings, which are too many to write down. -- **Bernhard Kaltenbach, Deputy Director**

"I'm thankful that I've seen Christian fellowship between military believers from nations that are at war, or from nations that are not politically friendly. The political situation doesn't affect their friendships, and they meet for prayer, fellowship, and encouragement. It's also exciting that there are military Christians in nations where you wouldn't expect to find them! I'm thankful for those Christians' courage and faithfulness, especially when it's not easy for them. In many nations, military men and women are still partially unreached for Christ – and some churches shy away from ministering to them! Yet there are many faithful military Christians around the world and I'm so thankful for them." -- **Sue Exner, Staff**

Karen and I are thankful for the opportunity to share in the lives of foreign international students and the building of life-long relationships; for being a part of the Lackland chapel program and those that support us in terms of prayer, service, and finances; for the opportunity to serve and how God had provided for us in San Antonio; for the jobs God has provided that allow us to have the finances to do ministry; for international partners in San Antonio that help us on a regular basis; for Bill and Suzanne Lumpkin, who mentor and support us; and we're thankful for each other and how God uses us to help and support the other in time of need. -- **Dave Wittman, International Student Ministries**

Please Pray For:

- A South Asian military Christian fellowship (MCF) meeting (2-4 Nov.) and staff ministry in several Asian nations
- The Canadian MCF's annual meeting (9-12 Nov.)
- A Welcome Home Initiative retreat for soldiers, led by Noel Dawes (12-14 Nov.)
- A South Asian MCF meeting (17-19 Nov.)
- A Pan-Indian MCF conference (23-26 Nov.)

Do you want to pray more for ACCTS? We'd be happy to add you to our weekly email prayer updates – email us at editor@accts.org and we'll add your name to that list.



ACCTS staff gathered in October for our annual meeting. Thank you for your prayers for ACCTS' ministry!

Tax Benefits through IRA Charitable Rollover: If you are 70 ½ or older and have an IRA, the IRA Charitable Rollover can satisfy the annual required minimum distribution (or RMD) and prevent you from being moved into a higher tax bracket. Discuss this option with your IRA custodian and contact Bernhard at 1-800-487-8108 or deputy@accts.org for more information.

A Season of Thanks

“I’m thankful that, no matter what problems come up in our society, God is still at work in the world – in the lives of the military Christians we know, in their MCFs, and in the civilian world around us. **Working in ACCTS, we get to see that the Gospel is truly for the whole world. It is not some kind of Western construct – the good news of Christ touches the hearts of people everywhere, in every culture.** The Gospel of Christ transcends any local problems, political issues, military conflicts, and social trends because God’s redemption and love is meant for everyone. We can take these words from the book of Joshua to heart, because they are as true today as when they were written thousands of years ago: ‘Have I not commanded you? Be strong and of good courage; do not be afraid, nor be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.’”

--Col (USMC, Ret.) Phil Exner, Executive Director



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