



Caroline and Dick Seed

Link Letter no. 80 | September 2025

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Location: South Africa



What we do: Training Bible teachers in key theological institutions across the African continent and beyond



Discovering creative ways to share the hope of Jesus with people unconnected to church

Dear friends,

A God who answers prayer

August 2025 marked our 25th anniversary of serving in mission in theological education with CMS across Africa. From 2000 and our first engagement with training pastors in the mud buildings of Wusasa in northern Nigeria, through to teaching and leadership in Rwanda, Ghana, Kenya and South Africa, we can testify that the Lord is faithful to all his promises.

This August was particularly poignant as we conducted Phase 1 of the Certificate in Teaching and Learning (TALHITE) for lecturers in Rwanda. As we reached the end of our first term in Rwanda (2005–2008), we felt burdened with the need to train theological college lecturers across the whole continent. We did not know how it would be possible but as we left we prayed that the Lord would open the doors for us to train many more.

Gradually, and without us fully understanding what was happening, the Lord moved us to different countries, giving us the background and experience we needed. Dick started a lecturer training programme in Ghana (2009–2012) and then focused on training lecturers in Kenya, Tanzania and South Sudan. By 2018, the requests for training were far more than he could cope with and the time came to move to South Africa so that we could both devote our time to training. Since then, over 300 lecturers from theological institutions from across Africa, Latin America and Papua New Guinea have completed our training courses.

Returning to Rwanda in August, 17 years after praying that prayer, was a wonderful privilege. The initial theological college with its 40 students has now become East Africa Christian College (EACC), with over 2,000 students and several departments. From 11–15 August, we joined 24 key lecturers from EACC and four subsidiary theological colleges at Lake Muhazi in the east of the country for TALHITE Phase 1. For many of the lecturers, this was the first time they had had any teacher training. Perhaps one of the most significant takeaways, however, was for the lecturers from the non-theology departments, as they realised for the first time that they could design learning and teaching with Christian outcomes rather than relying only on secular approaches. This is highly important for the future of Christian higher education in Rwanda.

Quite unexpectedly, we found ourselves staying on in Rwanda for a week after the training, waiting for the wedding of one of the original college employees who has kept in touch with us over the years. We were



Rwanda group work

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**With Jesus
With each other
To the edges**



delighted to be present at his wedding in Kigali, with photos taken outside the EACC chapel in the gardens he and Dick designed and planted in 2006. There was a real sense of the Lord's graciousness in allowing us to see the fruit of our pioneering work in Rwanda both in the training of lecturers and in the continued friendship with those we had worked with so long ago.

Back in the office at George Whitefield College (GWC), we welcomed Lee as a temporary administrator working on filing, updating and printing publications and populating our archives. This has been a perfect gift to us

as we have been without office assistance for a year. We did not realise how far we had fallen behind with the administration.

The CMS regional manager in Africa, Joan Busolo, visited GWC at the end of August. It was wonderful to share something of our lives and work with her. We then left for our annual trip to Australia for the Local Leaders International conference and research symposium. Then, in the last week of September, we went back to Indonesia to run a research methodology workshop for lecturers from theological colleges in southern Java.

We still have lots planned for the rest of the 2025 academic year. Here are some of the key prayer items:

- ▶ The online postgraduate diploma in higher theological education starts in February 2026. Over the next three months, the GWC Registry will process the applications and allocate bursaries. Dick will be working hard to complete the preparations for teaching the first two courses. Pray for the Lord's hand on all involved: facilitators, administration staff and students.
- ▶ Caroline will be going to Angola in November to run TALHITE Phase 1 at the Anglican seminary there. She will be working with some of the Brazilian TALHITE graduates from 2024, who will help with translation and teaching in Portuguese. Pray for all the arrangements to fall into place for that important new work.
- ▶ In December, we will be running Phase 3 online for the group from Zambia who did Phase 1 in June 2025. After that, we will be flying to Chile to complete Phase 3 for

the Anglican training institution (CEP) in Santiago. Pray for stamina for all concerned as we will be tired at the end of the academic year.

We are grateful for the way the Lord answers prayer in the short term and in the long term. We pray boldly, knowing that, "This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us. And if we know that he hears us – whatever we ask – we know that we have what we asked of him" (1 John 5:14-15). He is a God who answers prayer!

In Christ,

Dick and Caroline



Photos from top to bottom: Rwanda teaching practice; EACC chapel; Lee assisting Dick in the office; with CMS regional manager Joan Busolo



Discovering creative ways to share the hope of Jesus

It's so encouraging to hear stories from other CMS partners sharing the hope of Jesus with people not yet connected to churches. In England, Fiona is pioneering creative ways of connecting with people who aren't in church. And Andy's story about prisoners in Brazil finding Jesus is incredible. Read more and get inspired by more stories of hope at churchmissionsociety.org/bringhope