

# Rwanda Challenge 2024

## Upcoming Events

**October 2024 — Scott, Frank and Myra plan to share RC with eighteen churches at the Hi-Plains School of Missions (Kansas, Oklahoma, Texas).**

### Hi-Plains School of Missions

I am told there was an annual event in multiple areas of the United States when I was born (1948) called a "School of Missions." Various mission organizations were invited to a geographic location. Instead of having one location where everyone would come to hear about multiple missions in the world, the missionaries would follow each other to participating local churches over several weeks.

In 2015 Rwanda Challenge was invited to share in the Hi-Plains School of Missions (southwestern Kansas, and the panhandles of Oklahoma and Texas). The following year, by recommendation of Hi-Plains, RC was invited to the Northwest School of Missions (Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Wyoming, and Montana). The national parks were amazing, but I am exhausted just thinking about the driving.

The Hi-Plains School of Missions has invited RC back this October. The tentative schedule is to share with eighteen churches in three weeks. The Hi-Plains director has recommended that Scott, Frank and Myra represent RC. Participating churches provide an offering to be divided between six mission organizations.

### Campus Loan Update

MACU-Rwanda purchased a campus plus eleven rental units in August of 2023. The price was approximately \$450,000. When you are dealing with exchange rates, things can get confusing. After some guidance from the bank, and exchanging \$300,000, MACU-Rwanda needed to borrow \$112,500 to purchase the property. The loan was for seven years (84 months). As of May 9, 2024 we have made nine regular payments and three principal only payments. As of May 10, 2024, because of the extra payments, only 22 monthly payments are needed to pay off the mortgage. With enough special gifts, we could finish the loan this year.

I am amazed at the generosity of those who partner with us. First, I am thankful to God. Second, I am thankful for Mid-Atlantic Christian University and Africa Hope Initiatives who partner with us to provide MACU-Rwanda. Third, I am thankful to those who partner with us through prayer and financial gifts.

### Recent Highlights

**January — 4th Cohort (fourteen students) started their first two MACU classes  
First two graduates of MACU-Rwanda**

**March — Frank and Scott shared RC with churches in VA/NC**

### The Vision

Local church leaders throughout Rwanda who have the capacity to lead the Rwandan Church and become missionaries to neighboring countries.

### The Campus Journey

In September 2018 Rwanda Challenge had been teaching church leaders in all five provinces of Rwanda for eight years. The Rwanda Governance Board passed a new law that month giving existing preachers five years to obtain an accredited associate degree in Bible in order to be a legal preacher. It took several months just to discern what the law meant. It seemed the preachers did not know, many government officials did not know, and one man involved in creating the law did not seem to know. Finally a young man with a law degree was able to explain it.

Mid-Atlantic Christian University graciously agreed to partner with RC and Africa Hope Initiatives to offer the degree. Next, Kevin Larsen Ph.D. (MACU Vice President of Academic Affairs), Theophile and Frank met with a representative of the Rwanda Ministry of Education. We were informed MACU-Rwanda would need a small campus.

In January 2020 we viewed close to twenty properties in three days and decided on the unfinished "rainbow building." The owner was ready to sell, but we did not have enough funds. In 2021 we were ready to buy but the owner had a problem; his wife had filed for a divorce and had contested the sale of the building. After multiple court delays, we decided to look at other properties. In the spring of 2023 Theophile found the property and buildings pictured below. Theophile was able to close on this property in August 2023. We believe the present property provides a better situation than the "Rainbow Building." Waiting on God is sometimes hard, but always best.



Unfinished "Rainbow Building"



Eleven rental units are expected to cover the overhead of the campus.



Multi-purpose duplex campus building; classrooms, office, housing, etc.

### Prayer Requests (Phil. 1:9-11)

- Ask for wisdom and discernment in equipping Rwandan church leaders.
- Praise God for the variety of partners of MACU-Rwanda.
- Seek God for all MACU-Rwanda students, past, present, and future, to be empowered by Him to build up the Church in Rwanda and beyond for His glory.

### Financial Partners

Make checks payable to:  
*Rwanda Challenge*

Mail Gifts to:  
*Cornerstone Church of Christ  
1186 Fairview Road N.  
Chatham, VA 24531*

Support a sustainable campus by designating your gift:  
*MACU-Rwanda Campus*