



May 2017

In a nutshell:

Semester is finished. Summer intensive programmes will soon be underway. We will be in the UK and Ireland until early August.

The second semester has just finished and exams are all done. Rick has got his papers marked and joined Alanna and the kids in the UK. Let's thank God for another semester completed, and for all that has been learned. Give thanks to God for some large donations that the college received towards student fees. These covered the outstanding fees of many of the students thus enabling them to sit their exams, and faculty and staff to be paid.

Please pray for students who have now completed their courses. Some will be looking for postings where they can use what they have learned to serve people in a local church. Others will be returning to churches that have been sponsoring them through their studies. Some hope to work as missionaries or secondary school teachers. Others will do further studies. Please pray that God will help them to find opportunities to work where they can serve him faithfully, and that they will be able to use and share what they have learned. Pray that friendships that have been formed in the seminary would be able to endure and provide a source of encouragement as students face the challenges of ministry.

The seminary summer programmes will soon begin. Some students come once a year for these intensive programmes, while working the rest of the year in a church. Other full-time students use these as an opportunity to finish their courses sooner. Each module takes only three weeks, rather than a whole semester. Please pray for both students and teachers as they take part in these courses. It is a short time to take in a lot of material, but pray that important messages would be able to sink in. Pray that students would be able to fully engage with what they are learning, so that it would be a real benefit to their ministries, rather than just a hoop to jump through.

While we are in the UK we will be visiting as many of our supporting churches as we can. Please pray that Christ will guide us as we prepare what to speak about. We want to bring life in Kagoro alive to those we are talking to, to encourage you in your support of this ministry, and also to share some of what we have been learning from God.

We also want to get preparatory work done for the Semester ahead. Rick will be preparing classes and chapel programmes and hopes to work on an article for the college's journal. Alanna has finished her dissertation, which was the final piece of work for her degree. She now wants to work on being better prepared for some of her pastoral responsibilities. She hopes to seek guidance and advice from UK contacts and to work on reading and preparing materials to help with counselling and working with families in the next academic year. She would also like to do some writing to help process some of the experiences of living in Nigeria and share what she has been learning. Please pray for us as we try to fit in these aims around the framework of visiting churches and meeting up with family and friends.



We also are continuing with homeschool while in the UK. The kids have been enjoying the different experiences that they can have over here. We have had swimming lessons, observed the changes in nature as spring progresses, learned about early Irish history and legends, and hope to visit some museums in London, to reinforce some of our learning about the ancient world. The kids will also have the chance to join in with some kids groups in Banstead, and attend a holiday club and camp in Ireland in July, as well as seeing friends and family. Please pray for them, that they would renew old friendships quickly. They seem to fit in very easily with UK children of their own age. Thank God for that and pray that this would continue.

We will also be having some holiday time in late June. We pray that that will be refreshing, and help us to keep up energy for our time in the UK and Ireland, so that when we go back to Nigeria at the start of August we will be ready for the start of the new semester. Alanna, in particular, often finds our time in the UK exhausting, but we are trying to structure the next few months so that they will be both productive and sustainable. Please pray that that will work out.



Give thanks for:

- Students who have finished their courses and will be starting/resuming ministry.
- Financial assistance for students and the college.

Pray for:

- Students to make the most of what they have learned.
- A productive and refreshing time for us in the UK.

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