

April to June 2025
APF Prayer and Newsletter



African
Pastors
Fellowship

Impetus.



A good day at the
mobile office

From the CEO

Dear Friends,

Welcome to the Spring edition of *Impetus*. The first quarter of 2025 has been busy and productive, as I hope you will appreciate as you read our latest news in the 'Around Africa' section and the article titled 'A good day at the mobile office'.

Enjoy, and thank you, as ever, for your generous and prayerful support for APF.



Revd Dave Stedman



In the UK

Here's a list of upcoming events, trips, and APF speaking engagements:

- **Sunday 6th April**
Swalecliffe Free Church, Kent
- **Sunday 13th April**
Whitstable Baptist Church, Kent
- **Sunday 27th April**
Ashford Baptist Church, Kent
- **Sunday 4th May**
Paddock Wood Baptist Church, Kent
- **Sunday 11th May**
St Luke's Morton, West Yorkshire
- **Friday 16th May**
AGM, Long Itchington, Warwickshire
- **June**
Visit to Rwanda and Kenya planned



Want more from APF?

In the last edition of *Impetus*, we explained how we are changing the way we communicate with supporters. *Impetus* is now a streamlined eight-page journal, and more regular email and social media updates are being posted online.

To receive more regular digital updates by email instead of a printed copy of *Impetus*, please sign up using this QR code, visit africanpastors.org/connect, or tick the email box in the enclosed form and return it to us in the reply paid envelope supplied.



Around Africa

Malawi



We're delighted to welcome to the APF team Johanna Chizenga. Johanna is a TV host and content creator from Malawi where she is known for her inspiring channel 'Faith Walk'. Daughter of the late Bishop Lloyd Chizenga, Johanna is helping APF use social media and digital marketing tools to reach Christian leaders across Africa online so they hear about eVitabu and APF's other resources.



Johanna Chizenga

Uganda



In Uganda, APF are supporting Rev Canon Michael Mukhwana with academic scholarship fees as he undertakes higher level theological study at Uganda Christian University. Michael is vicar of St Andrew's Church in Bukoto, Kampala.

Annual training grants have been made to Bulogo Vocational School and Atirir Bible School, while key eight leaders from Pastors Discipleship Network continue working on the Equipped for Digital Ministry course provided by Spurgeon's College in London.



Rev Canon Michael Mukhwana



To commemorate two significant milestones – the 20th anniversary of Dave's first visit to sub-Saharan Africa and his 10th year as CEO of APF – a select team will travel to Uganda in late September. The itinerary features three rounds of golf, a safari excursion to Murchison Falls National Park, and visits to meet key APF partners and project sites. Presently, the group comprises five golfers and two non-golfers but please do get in contact if you might be interested in participating in this trip or future African initiatives.

Around Africa (continued)



Daniel Deng Bol

South Sudan



Daniel Deng Bol lives in the small city of Aweil in the far north-east of South Sudan. He frequently gathers church and civic leaders and helps them access training resources from eVitabu with the help of regular APF training grants.

A separate grant has also been made to the Diocese of Morobo so they can give bikes to diocesan clergy in remote areas.

Kenya



Rev. Walter Rutto, founder of Transformational Compassion Network, reports that following the APF conference in September, he is exploring invitations to take TCN's Theology and Development course from Kenya to South Sudan.



Somalia



An APF grant has been sent to the Christian Leaders Fellowship in Mogadishu International

Airport Green Zone for their outreach to the international hospital and important translation work to communicate the gospel to local people that use the facility.

Daniel Masiga, Chairperson of CLF Mogadishu says, "With your support and the efforts of the fellowships here, lives are being touched one at a time, bearing fruit to the glory of God."



The partnership with St Paul's Theological College in Kapsabet, western Kenya also continues. APF send regular support for the college's library and IT facilities.

Zambia



Pastor Lawson Limau remains dedicated to serving rural pastors through agricultural and theological training, and continues to be a strong advocate for eVitabu. In February, however, the Zambian capital of Lusaka experienced severe flooding, significantly impacting Lawson's home and printing business. APF quickly responded with an emergency grant but please pray for the safety and well-being of Lawson and his family, and for the restoration of their property and livelihood.



Tanzania



To broaden his ministry beyond in-person teaching and training, Pastor Heavenlight Luoga from Karagwe in north-west Tanzania (pictured below) is producing online teaching materials. These resources are also expected to enhance the eVitabu portfolio. Importantly, a grant has been provided to equip Heavenlight and his team with two motorbikes, enabling them to more effectively serve churches in their communities.



Rwanda



In order to foster APF's partnership with Wisdom Bible School, which supports pastors serving rural communities in Gakenke and Rulindo Districts in northern Rwanda, arrangements are being made for an APF visit to Rwanda in the summer.



This visit will also renew our acquaintance with Bishop Assiel (pictured) and offer a chance to engage with beneficiaries of academic scholarships awarded through Kigeme Diocese. Kigeme camp currently hosts thousands of refugees from DR Congo.



A good day at the mobile office

Imagine watching the spread of digital ministry unfold in real-time across Africa! Dave offers a glimpse into a typical Tuesday at APF, where new eVitabu registrations from across Africa demonstrate the app's growing influence and vital role.

It is Tuesday 25th February and I login to the eVitabu management system (EVM) on my phone, while I prepare a funding application, sup coffee and answer emails on the laptop. I can see dozens of new eVitabu registrations from Rwanda and remember that Rev Victor Imanaturikumwe, our most active training partner in Rwanda, is leading an in-person eVitabu induction seminar at the University of Rwanda Education Department. By the end of the day, more than 70 students from the university downloaded and registered accounts on the app.

eVitabu is exceptionally valuable to the church in Rwanda where strict government legislation around leadership training, organisational governance and building standards has resulted in thousands of church closures. Where a lack of resources makes compliance with the government regulations impossible for many congregations, APF's digital teaching and training solution is a great opportunity and enables churches to function. Throughout 2025, Victor is receiving an annual grant so he can plan as many similar training events as possible.

Meanwhile, I see several other new registrations being automatically approved on the eVitabu management system, but these new app users are from Christians living in Cameroon. As Victor is training on-campus in Kigali, Rossa Wanjiru, in Nairobi, Kenya, is delivering an online eVitabu induction for Baptist pastors in Cameroon.

As an IT specialist, Rossa has provided eVitabu support in Kenya and Uganda for several years. She is now developing a portfolio of online training options for eVitabu users from across Africa. Next week, she will gather a cohort of leaders from Reverb Network when delegates from Burundi, Malawi and Uganda will also gather online.

Returning to the eVitabu management system, a couple of new registrations catch my eye. One is a pastor from Angola and another is from Eritrea. These represent 'organic' growth in uptake of the app. Perhaps these leaders have had a recommendation, done some online research looking for training tools, or have simply happened upon eVitabu while searching online for something else.



Victor Imanaturikumwe and Rossa Wanjiru

People who discover eVitabu in this way often turn out to be some of the most engaged and innovative eVitabu users, perhaps because they are motivated and already digitally literate when they first install the app.

Being able to offer eVitabu to dedicated, but under-resourced Christian leaders like these from Rwanda, Cameroon and elsewhere is a unique privilege. It is an expression of ministry I would never have imagined pioneering. Being able to clearly track activity (not just in terms of new users but also see how users are engaging with the resources on the app) makes it relatively easy to monitor the app's impact and offer additional ministry support when it is sought.

This approach is also revolutionising how APF operates. We now have an exceptional and highly motivated network of African training partners whom we are releasing to serve their peers with training both in-person and online. While there will always be a need for UK-based APF staff to visit Africa, building on this growing network of training partners rather than delivering training ourselves is proving wonderfully effective.

As I got on with some other charity admin tasks, it was very special to see in realtime on my phone the spread of the Word of God, potentially reaching thousands of people through Victor and Rossa's efforts.

By the end of the day, I had seen more than a hundred new eVitabu registrations from four different African nations. It was a good day at the APF mobile office!

The vision of APF is to enable African Christian leaders, of all denominations, to minister effectively in thriving local churches that serve flourishing communities.

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Giving to APF

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