

CARSA Christian Action for Reconciliation and Social Assistance



June 2010

Yesu Ashimwe! Praise Jesus!

June has been a full month for CARSA and we are pleased to keep you updated on the events of our work. We will have more exciting news to share with you soon, including the launch of our new website! We thank you for taking the time to read, for all of your prayers and many forms of support. We look forward to maintaining this correspondence with you each month.

Blessings,
CARSA

Healing & Reconciliation



Healing and Reconciliation workshops are CARSA's primary form of outreach. Workshops have reached many in various areas in the country of Rwanda. Members of CARSA's staff facilitated two workshops in the

month of June. The first was held at the IFBK Secondary School in Kacyiru. Orphans of the genocide, students from both Hutu and Tutsi families, and those coming from Uganda, Burundi and the DRC were present. About thirty students were able to share their stories with the staff, their experiences and their trauma.

The second workshop was held near Butare, where about twenty-five local leaders, pastors and community members were able to contribute. The participants shared in small groups about the benefits of diversity, pain and suffering, as well as repentance and forgiveness.

In both groups, participants found they have suffered many wounds from their families. The groups discussed about the great love of our Heavenly Father and how to move forward with better family values. After putting all pains to paper, participants had the opportunity to nail them to the cross and give them over to Jesus.

From the second workshop, CARSA was encouraged to learn that immediately following the last session, three women who, out of bitterness accused an innocent man of participating in the genocide, promptly made their way to the jail to confess and have him released. It is the hope of CARSA's staff that these workshops will initiate the process of both personal and corporate healing.



Training

For three weeks in the month of June, Diane and Denys were given the opportunity to participate in a Healing & Deliverance training organized by Ellel Ministries. The seminar covered many important topics, providing helpful teaching for their personal, work, church and community lives. One of the most meaningful lessons they learned was about the power and authority we are given through Christ, which enables us to live a holy life in harmony with one another.



Rwanda New Era Initiative

On June 30th, CARSA participated in a meeting with top church leaders from many different denominations to discuss the mobilization of the Church to recognize her failure, seek forgiveness and a new beginning over the next three years. Through the organization of workshops, seminars and conferences, the leaders hope to introduce this message to all denominations.

Intern



This month, we received an intern from the United States. Stephanie Muncy is very excited to be joining CARSA's team for three months. Stephanie graduated from Eastern University (Pennsylvania) in 2008 with a bachelor's degree in Missions & Anthropology. She is learning just how much of a process reconciliation is, and the need for it all the more in her own life, country, and throughout the world.

Prayer Requests

We would be honored if you would join us in prayer for:

CARSA's team as members plan to travel to Rusthuru in the east of DRC to facilitate a workshop in the coming months. There are areas in the east in which the present political situation is not that of total security. Also, please pray for the participants, that God will touch the heart of the people and they may be a source of healing in DRC.

The planning of the Rwanda New Era Initiative, that the message of repentance and forgiveness will be integrated within all denominations.

The election process in Rwanda, that it will go well and without violence. Please pray that it is a fair process in which the right person to lead the Rwandese people to live peacefully and continue on the road of development will be chosen.

CARSA is a non-profit organization which exists to serve the people of the Great Lakes Region in supporting their journey toward healing, forgiveness, reconciliation and sustainable holistic development.

All of this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation. I Corinthians 5:18

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