



# RAFIKI

FOUNDATION  
MISSIONARY NEWSLETTER

June 2021 – Carolyn and Doug Koepke

***“The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases; his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness”  
(Lamentations 3:22-23).***



Planting new grass at the Village

Hello from Carolyn and Doug in Nigeria,

Nigeria's Rafiki schools finished term three on June 11. During the four-week school break, all resident students have gone home to their extended families, but that does not mean work ends. During the break, many of the students of the RICE Program (teacher's college) have stayed local instead of traveling back to their homes. They are employed in tilling up ground and planting about three to four acres of grass in the Rafiki Village. The rainy season has begun, and the area is turning a beautiful shade of green again.

The main power cable inside the Village had to be replaced. Since a crane was not available, lots of manpower was employed but all was accomplished in one day. Repairs to children's cottages and school buildings are underway and two buildings have been converted into first and second grade classrooms.



Power cable being replaced



Classroom conversion

One of Rafiki's Nigerian church partners, NKST, has built a small church building within easy walking distance of our front gate. About half of the Rafiki residents attend church service with us there on any given Sunday. Our children have helped lead a praise and worship time before the service begins, and Doug has been asked to preach occasionally. The church building is basically a shell, so there are plenty of opportunities for us and our children to make improvements.



NKST church

National exams for high school seniors will begin within the next month, so students were sent home with textbooks to help them prepare. National exams have great importance in Nigeria—they determine whether the student will be permitted to apply for tertiary education. All of our resident children have been studying vigorously as they see the value of higher education.

Rafiki hosted a time of intensive Bible teaching and meetings from June 28-30. While our colleagues were attending the event, a Survival Camp was held at the Home Office in Florida for those who are going to serve long-term in Africa. Rafiki holds these training sessions several times a year, so if you have been thinking about serving God in one of our 10 African countries, a phone call can be the first step. Another way to become involved is by starting a Rafiki Prayer Group. It is a wonderful way to learn more about what God is doing in the lives of His people on the other side of the world.

### Praises

- We enjoyed a wonderful furlough time with family and friends and got a clean bill of health.
- One of our college graduates is engaged and to be married in December.
- Our study of the life of Joseph has produced great participation.
- We just celebrated 34 years of marriage!

### Prayer requests

- *Safety for all of God's people in Nigeria.*
- *Seniors to prepare well for national exams.*
- *That God would call more people into the mission field.*

Serving with you at the Rafiki Village in Nigeria.

*Doug & Carolyn*

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