

TUMEKUTANA PRAYER LETTER

Praise the Lord O my soul; all my inmost being, praise His holy name. Praise the Lord O my soul and forget not all His benefits! (Ps. 103:1-2)

With joy and appreciation to God for the Tumekutana family, I send you warm greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ in whom we live and move and have our being.

It has been barely a year since we met at Abokobi in Ghana and we still have very fresh fond memories of our wonderful experience there as one family of Presbyterian women of Africa and partners. This month, we are gearing up for serious preparations towards our next Gathering to be hosted by our Southern African sisters in 2018. We have a work schedule covering our work as Executive and Regional Coordinators for each month right up to the Gathering. We are currently critically looking at our Constitution and fine tuning the content in terms of language to get it to its final presentable state.

To the glory of God, we have started receiving invitations to contribute to publications and to participate in conferences and meetings. We are also introducing the African Presbyterian Reformed Women's Gathering (Tumekutana) to other Ecumenical Organizations so that they would be informed about our existence and presence so that we would not operate in isolation. We thank God that the African Presbyterian Men's Fellowship has been established and we look forward to future engagements with them as and when God gives us the opportunity.

Please join us in praising God for some of the Good news we are receiving across the African continent. We thank God that some of the Chibok girls in Nigeria have been released to their families. We pray that the rest would be released as well while those who have been released would be able to rise above the emotional ramifications of their experiences while they were held hostage.

We pray for strength and comfort for bereaved families in Cameroun as they mourn the death of over eighty passengers on board the train that had a

fatal accident a few days ago. For the injured in hospital, we ask God for speedy recovery.

We pray for our sisters in D.R. Congo as they face uncertainties about the future as a result of political conflicts between incumbent government leaders and political aspirants. We pray for our sisters in Southern Sudan who live in fear as a result of fighting between political opponents. We pray for Somalia and Kenya which continue to suffer at the hands of terrorists. We pray for African countries which are withdrawing from the U.N. International Criminal Court and ask that this phenomenon would not give them freedom to engage in poor governance and oppression of citizens. We pray for Ghana as we go to the polls on the 7th of December to elect a President and Parliamentarians for the next four years. We pray for peaceful elections before, during and after the elections. We pray that candidates who have been disqualified because of errors in their application procedures would not be tempted to create problems for the electoral process.

Please pray for us, the Tumekutana leadership, for grace, wisdom and direction from God as we exercise our duties from our various locations in the midst of our busy official and personal schedules. We ask for oneness of mind; we ask for the needed zeal to persevere together; we pray for clarity of thought in all discussions that would lead to the fulfillment of God's will for African Presbyterian Women.

Hear our prayer, O Lord. Let our cry for help come to you. Do not hide your face from us when we are in distress. Turn your ear to us; when we call, answer us quickly. (Psalm 102:1-2)

Thank you and God bless you all!

Bridget Ben-Naimah (Tumekutana President, Ghana)