



# KATERI NEWSLETTER

Published by Kateri Medical Services, Inc.

11 Church Street, Tariffville, CT 06081

Greetings from the Ven. Thomas Furrer

Summer FaithCare Mission - We Helped more People Than Ever Before

From July 23 to August 7, 2016, we conducted our annual FaithCare Medical Outreach in Kaduna, Nigeria. As in the past, this has been a joint effort between Kateri Medical Services, Inc., FaithCare, and the Anglican Diocese of Kaduna. A team of 14 people from the US joined about 100 Nigerian volunteer surgeons, consulting doctors, eye doctors, nurses, dentists, prayer counselors and crowd controllers to conduct an annual intensive medical mission.

This year, we held our main mission venue at Jacaranda Farm in Kaduna. And we also held two satellite clinics at Kateri Medical Clinic and at our new Iburu Clinic. For the past five years, we have not been able to hold our FaithCare outreach at Kateri because of security concerns. But the security situation seems to be improving and we decided to try a three-day satellite clinic at each of our existing clinics in Kateri and Iburu. This experiment worked out very well and we hope to relocate our main clinic venue back to Kateri and Iburu next year. We feel that this is a better model because it strengthens the tie between our patients and our year-round clinics. When they need follow-up care, they can return to the Kateri and Iburu Clinics.



The multiple venues for the clinics allowed us to help more people than ever before. Here are some of the statistics:

Surgeries	229
Dental Care	578
Eye Care	2,226
Eye Glasses	912
Prescriptions filled	5,024

Winter 2016

Prayer & counseling	6,810
Receiving Christ	493
Kateri Satellite Clinic	781
Iburu Satellite Clinic	801
Jacaranda Main Clinic	7,947
<b>Total People Served</b>	<b>9,529</b>



We were greatly encouraged by the success of the satellite clinics and the overall increase in the number of people we were able to assist. This is the highest number we have ever helped in our many years of doing these summer intensive clinics. We are very grateful for all of your support by prayer, moral support and donations. We couldn't have done this great work without all of you, our supporters.



## Rev. Tom Furrer is Leaving Church Pastorate – Will Be Full Time At Kateri Medical Services

Dear Friends and Supporters,

At the end of September, I stepped down as the pastor of Trinity Episcopal Church in Tariffville. But I have no intention of “retiring”. Instead, I have started working full time as President of Kateri Medical Services. Now that I have reached the age of 66, and thanks to the Church Pension Fund and Social Security, I will be able to serve in this role with no salary. Our goal is to continue to run Kateri Medical Services with as low an overhead budget as possible. Currently, about 99 cents out of every donated dollar goes to pay the salaries of medical professionals in our clinics and to buy medicine. We have had to spend a little money on website development and mailings, but we have managed to keep our overhead very low. And we plan to keep it that way.

In the days ahead we will be expanding the work of Kateri Medical Services. We now have two full-time clinics. We are planning two more for next year. In 2017, we will be doing four weeks of summer intensive medical missions instead of two. Our goal is to have 10 full time clinics built, running year round and self-sustaining by 2025.

We began this ministry, quite literally, on a wing and a prayer thirteen years ago. Since our small beginnings in 2003, we have run a clinic 365 days a year ever since. We have never missed a payroll and we have never stopped caring for hurting people through medical care. God has answered our prayers and we have grown every year. To date, we have helped more than 200,000 people with medical care and the number is growing every year. After many years of work and thought and prayer, this is what I believe God is calling me to do with the rest of my life. The challenges are daunting, but the needs are great. I hope and pray that you will continue to help us in this great work of love. Please keep praying for us. Please consider joining us for a summer medical mission. And please give generously.

Please also note the change in my business email address:

[katericlinic@gmail.com](mailto:katericlinic@gmail.com)

Sincerely yours,

Ven. Tom Furrer,

President, Kateri Medical Services.

### New Clinic at Iburu

Eight years ago, we had a dream. The local Muslim village chief in Iburu donated a large parcel of land to the Anglican Diocese of Kaduna with the proviso that the diocese build and run a medical clinic on this land. Why did he do this? Two reasons. First, he had a very personal reason. His own daughter had died on her way to a far away hospital because

there was no medical care available for her in Iburu. Second, he donated the land to the Anglican Diocese because he knew that the Anglicans could be trusted to deliver medical care. For many years, the diocese had been conducting free rural mobile clinics to nearby villages. The chief knew that he could trust them to deliver quality medical care to needy people.

When the Anglican Bishop Josiah Fearon told the Rev. Tom Furrer about this offer of land, they decided to build a clinic here when funds became available. Five years later, in 2013, the funds were raised to build the clinic and to fund a doctor and two nurses for three years. After many challenges in construction and budgeting, the clinic was completed in June of 2016.

### On Sunday, July 30, we held a Dedication Service for the new clinic.

The Clinic is dedicated to Nancy Mason. Nancy was a nurse who worked with children her whole life. When she was young, she wanted to be a missionary. But she married early and her missionary dreams were not fulfilled. While raising her children, she continued her career as a school nurse. She died about 20 years ago from cancer. In 2013, her husband, the Rev. Alan Mason, donated \$20,000 to build a new Clinic in her honor. In a sense, her work of caring



for children has continued through this clinic and her desire to be a missionary has been fulfilled.

### On Monday, August 1, we began our full time work at the new Iburu Clinic.

In the first three days, we offered free medical care to 801 people. The last of these to be helped was the local Muslim village



chief. He insisted that he be the last – not the first – to be served. He wanted his village members to be helped before him. We have received funding of **\$60,000 from another donor** (who wishes to remain anonymous) which will pay the salary of the doctor and two nurses at this location for the next three years.



## New Clinic Being Planned in Gusau

We have begun plans for building our next clinic in Gusau, a city about 4 hours drive north of Kaduna in Zamfara State. We have been friends with Bishop John Danbinta, head of the Anglican Diocese of Gusau, for many years now. We have witnessed the building of Grace International School, a diocesan secondary school, spearheaded by Africa Education Partnership. The school is in the third phase of construction and has experienced increasing enrollment. We hope to build a new clinic on property adjacent to the school which is already owned by the diocese. We hope that the school and the clinic will have a symbiotic relationship. Many of the school families are economically challenged and will need medical care. And many of the students are studying biology, chemistry and physics and aspire to be doctors, nurses and pharmacists. We hope that the clinic will be able to help the students and their families to have more healthy lives. And we hope that it will be an “on the job training” center for aspiring medical students.



Bishop John Danbinta

## New Clinic Being Planned in Kafanchan

We are also in the very early stages of planning to build a clinic in Kafanchan. We will be working in partnership with Bishop Marcus Dogo, head of the Anglican Diocese of Kafanchan – a city located about 3 hours drive southeast of Kaduna.



Bishop Marcus Dogo

grounds of a thriving secondary school and church compound in Gidan Wari – about 15 miles from Kafanchan. The school has a very large population with hundreds of orphans who are boarding students. There are no other medical facilities of any kind in this city. If we build the new clinic, we will be able to reach thousands of people who have no access to medical care.

## Photos From the Field



**Top left:** Early morning crowds waiting in line for the clinic to begin the day.

**Top Right:** Muslim woman and child after receiving medical care



**Left:** Building a “tippy tap”- a portable hand washing station used in pro-active health care demonstrations to im-

**Below:** Some members of the TEAM of U.S. and Nigerian partners after having set up the clinic prior to the first day.



Kateri Medical Services, Inc.  
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*Won't you please consider putting the Kateri  
Medical Clinic in your will ?*

***“Write the vision...if it seems slow, wait for it...the righteous shall live by faith.”***

Kateri Medical Services, Inc.— Response Form

*Please return this form with your contribution*

Please mail to: **Kateri Medical Services, Inc.** 11 Church Street Tariffville, CT 06081

Yes, I would like to help in one of the following ways:

- \_\_\_\_\_ “Sustaining Partner” - a pledge of \$1,000 per year (\$20 per week) for \_\_\_\_\_ year(s)
- \_\_\_\_\_ “Wall Builder” - a pledge of \$500 per year for \_\_\_\_\_ year(s)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Regular contributor - I will pledge \_\_\_\_\_ per month/year
- \_\_\_\_\_ One - time gift of \_\_\_\_\_

*Please make checks payable to “Kateri Medical Services, Inc.” All donations are tax deductible in the U.S.; 100% of your gift goes directly to the clinic. **Kateri Medical Services, Inc. is a 501(c)3 organization.***

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

*If you have any questions, comments, or change of address, please call: (860) 651-0201 or email  
tfurrer@trinitytariffville.org or visit our website at <http://www.katericlinic.org>*