

First Baptist Church Kosofe reaches out to IDPs in Camp

Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) in Makurdi, Benue State, found a reason to smile when the Baptist Church contingent visited their camp in the second week of July 2018. Lack of good food, clothing, shelter and other basic amenities, with little or no hope in the nearest future, are many challenges being suffered by mostly women and children at the IDPs camps in Benue state, have made them to cry for help.

When First Baptist Church Kosofe delegates, led by Rev. (Dr.) Festus Olatunde visited IDP camps in Benue State in July 2018, residents at the area were glad to get some help, and call on other churches to do same. The visit became paramount in order to show love to the people who were denied better lives in their homes.

The purpose of the visit to the IDP camps in Benue is to let them know that the church is praying for them, and give them hope. Some relief materials were taking to them. The Senior Pastor of the Church, Rev. (Dr.) F. I. Olatunde appreciated members of First Baptist Church Kosofe for donating money and other relief materials for them.

The people in the IDP camp were very excited, they also wanted other churches to replicate the gesture. “They were happy and asked us to tell other churches to come and render assistance. These people are going through a lot of challenges, and I want to join my voice with theirs to call on other churches to show them love in giving,” reported by the Senior Pastor

In May 2018, Benue State government disclosed its intention to close all IDPs camp in the state.

Eight camps were officially designated by the state government for the rural people who fled their homes in droves on New Year's day after sustained attacks on their various communities by armed bandits in two most affected areas of Logo and Guma local councils of the state. Over 100 people were killed in the attack.

In March 2018, the State Emergency Management Agency (SEMA) indicated that no fewer than 80,450 children were trapped in eight IDPs camp in Benue.